

STILL A PIPE DREAM.
POLITICS.

The Daily Iowan

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ETHICS & POLITICS

HEALTH CARE

VACCINE DEBATE ROILS ON



Lilia Fuortes receives an immunization shot in her thigh at the UI Children's Hospital on Tuesday. Lilia received her shots at her six-month checkup. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

By ALEKSANDRA VUJICIC
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As cases of measles hit 17 states and Washington, D.C., Iowa has yet to be touched by the highly contagious, sometimes fatal disease in the last four years.

The state requires the immuniza-

tion of all children before they may attend public schools, with two major exceptions. Those exemptions have slowly been on the rise.

If parents object to vaccinating their children against infectious diseases, such as measles, they may apply for religious or medical exemptions, and it seems as though more families have taken this into

consideration. The state has seen an increase in the number of exempt students, although they account for a miniscule portion of the student population.

Several state legislators, members of the health and human services appropriations subcommittee, said

SEE VACCINE, 5

UISG bill sparks controversy

By NOELLE ALKHAWAJA
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The University of Iowa Student Government legislation regarding diversity and inclusion passed, virtually unanimously, at a Senate meeting Tuesday.

However, some tension did arise because of differing opinions between UISG members and the UI Faculty Senate.

"This resolution should be passed today unanimously," UISG Vice President Jeffrey Ding said during the meeting. "It should be a strong stance by student government."

The Diversity Inclusion Education at Large Bill, a piece of legislature written by Sen. Sri Ponnada (a former *DI* writer), has two main goals — re-evaluation of the general-education program with a focus on the values, society, and diversity requirement as well as hiring staff to conduct training in diversity and inclusion at the UI.

"It's not just diversity, but a big emphasis on inclusion," Ponnada said. "You

SEE UISG, 5

Tenured positions falling

By BILL COONEY
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The number of tenure-track positions has decreased at the University of Iowa, but the other state public universities have experienced the opposite.

"At Iowa, we're seeing a very similar trend as other Big Ten schools when it comes to tenure-track positions," said Kevin Kregel, the UI associate provost for faculty.

According to a recent state Board of Regents' report, the UI had 1,453 tenure-track positions in 2014, down from 1,557 in 2004.

In contrast, Iowa State University had 1,262 tenure-track positions in 2014 compared with 1,230 in 2004. The University of Northern Iowa also saw growth of tenure-track positions, from 533 in 2004 to 550 in 2014.

"Overall, we've actually seen an increase of 323 faculty during that time," Kregel said.

Tenure means professors cannot be terminated without just cause.

In order to achieve tenure, professors must publish research, attract grant funding, establish a strong scholarly reputation, and teach classes.

Tenure track refers to positions that

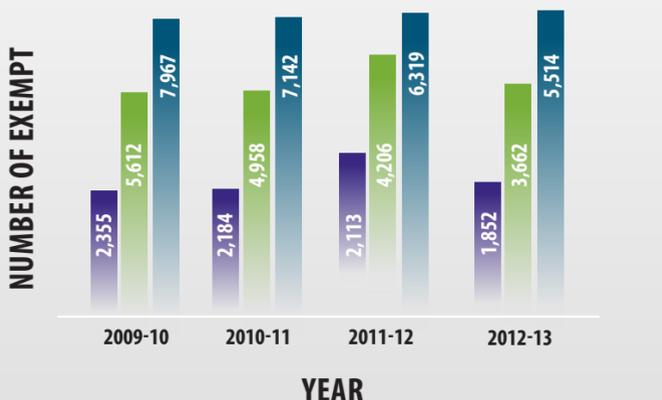
SEE TENURE, 5

'THERE'S NOT AN EASY ANSWER; THERE'S NOT AN EASY SCENARIO!'

—NATHAN PRICE, ASSISTANT CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF PEDIATRICS

K-12 EXEMPTIONS TO IMMUNIZATION BY YEAR

STUDENTS MAY BE EXEMPT FROM IMMUNIZATION FOR EITHER MEDICAL OR RELIGIOUS REASONS.



Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

Designed by Taylor Laufersweiler

WEATHER

HIGH 28 LOW 3

Cloudy, strong, blustery winds, wind chill revisits to see if anything has changed.

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CONCERTED ACTION



UI junior Connor Hood hands out fliers for SCOPE's upcoming concert featuring Big Gigantic and Cherub at the IMU on Tuesday. The concert is scheduled for 8 p.m. April 13. (The Daily Iowan/McCall Radavich)

ETHICS & POLITICS EDUCATION

Education vote sparks debate

Senate votes to pass 4 percent increase in education spending.

By **ALEKSANDRA VUJICIC**
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The Democrat-controlled Iowa Senate has voted to pass a 4 percent increase for supplemental aid for K-12 schools over the next two years.



Bisignano
senator

The allowable growth increase would require an additional \$212 million for the 2015-16 academic year and the following year as well.

This will require negotiations to be made by a joint conference committee consisting of members from both chambers, after the Republican-controlled House approved a 1.25 percent increase for the 2015-16 school year. The House's growth rate would equate to roughly

\$100 million in additional funding.

Sen. Tony Bisignano, D-Des Moines, said he thinks 4 percent is adequate but not enough.

"It keeps us on a very slow incline to the national average," he said. "I wish we could do more. I don't know if we can financially."

Sen. Jake Chapman, R-Adel, said the 4 percent hike is not appropriate for the state because he believes the state doesn't have the funds. And he said that when he asked Democratic senators where the state will make cuts or generate enough revenue to fund the increase in aid, they didn't really give a response.

"The reality is from fiscal 2002 to today, six

times we have set state supplemental aid at a percentage, and we don't fund it at the end of session, after our educators have already set their budget," he said.

Bisignano spoke on the Senate floor Tuesday to address opponents' concerns, referring to cuts in commercial property tax, which were passed two years ago.

He said the legislation spent "way too much of the future's money" and it's the reason the state is strapped for any type of funding improvements. He recommended rolling back those tax cuts and so Iowa isn't investing in out-of-state businesses.

"We have basically restricted anybody's ability to move forward in any area, based on that commercial property-tax funding," he said. "I'd be elated if we could settle school funding by 4 percent, but the sad fact is that we will be

downward of that." Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Coralville, said the state should have a higher figure, but 4 percent is a good starting point based on budget constraints.

Chapman, who has five children under the age of 8, said it's ingenious for legislators to vote for something for a political reason knowing it can't be funded, noting the state is already faced with a deficit of more than \$2 million next year, and a 4 percent increase in aid would push that figure to \$515 billion.

"We don't run Iowa like D.C.," he said. "D.C. is bankrupt; it continues to put money on the credit card. We don't do that."



Dvorsky
senator

METRO

Mason talks student enrollment, housing

President Sally Mason discussed her priorities for the next five-and-a-half months with University of Iowa enrollment.

"Provost [P. Barry] Butler has done an outstanding job in terms of increasing applications and enrollments for next fall," Mason said during Tuesday's Faculty Senate meeting.

UI has seen a 10 percent increase in student admissions over last year, or nearly 1,400 more students.

Mason doesn't believe an influx of students will cause problems in student housing, she said.

"I don't anticipate housing being a limiting factor on the university growing," she said.

UI is constructing a dorm on the West Side of campus — Petersen Hall — which is scheduled for completion by May.

The UI also plans to build a new dorm on the East Side of campus.

"Our current housing system [as it stands] is undersized, but it's safe to say it always has been," Mason said.



Mason
president

Barta discusses state of athletics

Athletics Director Gary Barta spoke to members of the Faculty Senate on the current state of the Athletics Department.

"We continue to have great success in many areas," Barta said during the Tuesday meeting.

In terms of academic success, student-athletes have a graduation success rate of 89 percent, he said. "Our student-athletes graduate," Barta said. "Our student-athletes are doing well in the classroom, doing well in earning their degrees, do very well socially, and spend hours volunteering."

Financially, the Athletics Department has a budget of \$84 million. None of its funding comes from state money.

Faculty survey results revealed

Members of the Faculty Senate on Tuesday wanted to know how to best use the results of a UI survey.

Kevin Ward, an assistant vice president for Human Resources, delivered the results of the Iowa Survey.

Iowa Survey asked faculty what it means to be employee at the University of Iowa; 69 percent of faculty



Chapman
senator

members responded.

From the results of the survey, more than 92 percent of faculty surveyed recommended UI as an option of employment, with 85 percent having great things to say about unit.

While a large number of faculty members recommended the university for employment, only a small percentage said there were opportunities for influence.

Twelve percent said there were opportunities for promotion, and only 12 percent said there was a support balance of work and personal responsibilities, Ward said.

"The devil is in the details," said Shelly Campo, an associate professor of community and behavioral health.

Thomas addresses upcoming presidential search

Alexandra Thomas, the president of the UI Faculty Council, gave an update to faculty members on Tuesday regarding the search to find a replacement for President Sally Mason.



Thomas
UI faculty president

"I am pleased to announce that there will be opportunities for faculty to contribute [in the search], which will take several forms," she

said. "First the screen and search committee will take several faculty members."

Thomas, the Faculty Senate president-elect will join the 21-member committee along with five nominated faculty members appointed by state Board of Regents.

Thomas also said faculty members would be given the opportunity to look over the list of finalists.

"The finalists will have come to campus and have meeting with stakeholders," Thomas said.

Faculty members are also encouraged to attend open forums that the university is holding to voice their opinions on the search.

— by Brendan MaGee

CR man charged with theft

Authorities have accused a Cedar Rapids man of writing bad checks. Jereme Williams, 33, was charged with second-degree theft on Dec. 8, 2014.

According to online court documents, Williams wrote three checks for \$2,030.96.

The checks were returned because of non-sufficient funds, and Williams signed a certified letter to pay on Jan. 2.

Williams had 10 days to comply, but he reportedly made no attempt to pay for the merchandise.

Third-degree theft is a Class-D felony.

— by Alyssa Guzman

BLOTTER

Devwon Bledsoe, 29, 1211 E. Burlington St., was charged Monday with interference with official acts.

Jamal Fleming, 25, 1211 E. Burlington St., was charged Monday with interference with

official acts. **Brian Matthes**, 43, 418 Dakota Trail, was charged Tuesday with OWI and possession of a controlled substance.

Daniel Sorenson, 28, Coralville, was charged

Tuesday with public intoxication. **Nicole Terpenning**, 41, Wilton, Iowa, was charged Tuesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

The Daily Iowan

Volume 148

BREAKING NEWS

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COURSE PACKS

Newcomers get past first month in House

By **REBECCA MORIN**
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With a month into Iowa's 86th legislative session, new members of the state House of Representatives have officially gotten their feet wet.

Currently, the House consists of 43 Democrats and 56 Republicans, with 11 representatives being first-timers.

Rep. John Wills, R-Spirit Lake

Wills said this first month has been tough, but that's why he wanted to be a representative. For the legislative session, he said, he hopes to help develop the budget, especially with how much funding will go to schools.

In addition, Wills said, he is an advocate for Homebase Iowa and hopes to see it continue.

"It was really great to hear those words, our troops and airmen are at the highest state of readiness than they ev-

er been," Wills said. "It was music to my ears because of my 25 years of my military service."

Rep. Terry Baxter, R-Garner

Baxter said he hopes to help the legislature produce a balanced budget. He said he is concerned with a potential increase in the gas tax and hopes to do a lot of work regarding secondary roads.

"It's incredible learning curve, so much to get my arms around," Baxter said. "It's like getting your doctorate for free."

Rep. Mike Sexton, R-Rockwell City

After spending 12 years in Iowa Senate, Sexton said he isn't new to the game.

He said he is working on one bill that protects his constituents on over-regulation and over-taxation.

"I have a pretty good

idea how this place works," Sexton said.

Rep. Brian Best, R-Glidden

Best is the vice head of the Transportation Committee and also serves on the Economic Growth, Human Resources, and Natural Resources Committees.

The Daily Iowan was unable to get in touch with Best.

Rep. Charlie McConkey, D-Council Bluffs

McConkey said this month has been the "busiest but most rewarding time of my whole life."

During this session, he said, he wants to mainly focus on education, and he is working to help fund allowable growth as well as expand preschool for 4-year-olds.

"When you first get here, it's like trying to get a drink of water out of a fire hose," he said.

Rep. Steve Holt, R-Denison

Holt said this past month he has felt a lot of solemn moments in addition to moments of urgency.

"It's been very exciting; on Jan. 12, when I raised my hand to be sworn in, it was a very special moment for me," Holt said. "Last time I did that was when I was 18 and joined the Marine Corps."

He said he is working on a bill to allow parents to take children to the shooting range to teach them how to shoot.

Rep. Zach Nunn, R-Bondurant

When Nunn's old Future Farmer's of America chapter stopped by the State Capitol, he said he took them to the top of the building, where they could see all the way out to their hometown.

"The best inspiration isn't always who came before me as mentors but

the young people," he said.

Nunn said he is working to have the Legislature invest in sustainable education at the K-12 level and postsecondary schools.

Rep. Timi Brown-Powers, D-Waterloo

Brown-Powers said she is kept at the Capitol from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. on most days but feels like her time so far has been rewarding.

She said in addition to working for education, she has tried to help some of her constituents, such as veterans, who said they would like to see that word seen as a proper noun.

"Progress is slow here, so you have to celebrate the little things," she said.

Rep. Ross Paustian, R-Walcott

Paustian represents Scott County and is the vice chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

The *DI* was unable to get in contact with Paustian.

Rep. Norlin Mommsen, R-DeWitt

Though his first month has been fast-paced, Mommsen said as the time goes on he hopes to focus on infrastructure funding and water-quality issues.

"I was a little concerned about everyone being like 'that freshman got you moment,' but everyone has been very supportive," he said.

Rep. Abby Finkenauer, D-Dubuque

Finkenauer said it was great to be back at the Capitol after working as a legislative assistant in past years.

She said she is working on bills addressing student-loan debt, in addition to allowing tax credit for businesses that help back student loans.

"They want to help you, and they get that it can be overwhelming," she said.

Is where a baby is born
more important than when?

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OPINIONS

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

— FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

COLUMN

Keep the 'Net neutral for all



Jacob Prall
prall.jacob@gmail.com

Through net neutrality, the FCC wants to protect your right to cruise the Internet without corporations slowing you down or shutting you out. Imagine a documentary becomes available on Netflix about some morally reprehensible behavior by a telecommunications company, say, AT&T. Without net neutrality, AT&T could simply shut off your ability to observe that content.

Net neutrality, or the equal treatment of content, allowed for a young Mark Zuckerberg to form Facebook. Sergey Brin and Larry Page, founders of Google, also have net neutrality to thank.

Voices in Congress with telecom backers argue that government intervention hampers innovation. They argue that the government doesn't belong in this sphere. That telecommunication companies should have the capability of charging for different speeds or content.

The Supreme Court agreed with those voices last January when it struck down the FCC's net-neutrality proposals. That being said, the last go was hastily thrown together and ill conceived. This proposal incorporates all the legal ground suggested by the Supreme Court. Net neutrality's fate will be decided Feb. 26.

Without net neutrality, the price of entry for new companies and entrepreneurs would increase dramatically, choking innovation and expansion. It would also give advantage to the massive corporations that can afford the broadband speed. Further, companies such as Verizon and Google have both come out stating that the FCC's guidelines will not affect their investment strategies.

Telecommunication corporations should not have the power to impose tariffs on data and act as gatekeepers to information. It would be like having to pay to get into the library and then being told how fast you can read, while wealthier patrons get to read at their pace and gloss the premium section.

This isn't just an economic matter but a matter of social justice.

Technological innovation leads to increased productivity. An increase in that good's supply decreases the costs. Lower costs give more people access. Electricity gave whoever controlled it the power to illuminate darkness. More electricity was made, and therefore more people could access it.

The web increases the productivity of information. Information and knowledge lead to better lives and better prospects, especially for the disadvantaged or disenfranchised.

Throwing away net neutrality would hurt communities with the least the most. Schools wouldn't be able to afford being connected; there could be no searching for jobs or posting to sell items online for the jobless and financially insecure.

Net neutrality levels the playing field in a profound way. In our society, wealth is highly concentrated at the very top of the social classes. Without net neutrality, both wealth and information would concentrate there. That is a dystopia.

Fear of government regulation is understandable. In this instance, however, regulation merely means protecting against monopoly. There is plenty of precedent to safeguard against monopoly. Economic stagnation and stifling prospects are two things the US can't afford.

The economy can't grow forever; we should look to stabilizing it. Without the power of equal competition on the ground level, small businesses and start-ups would be squashed.

EDITORIAL

U.S. needs forceful response to ISIS

ISIS has killed yet another American hostage: Kayla Mueller, who had been held captive by Islamic militants for more than 18 months and has died under unclear circumstances.

Like the previously slain Peter Kassig, Mueller worked in Syria, assisting with humanitarian work.

In November 2014, the *Daily Iowan* Editorial Board stated the opinion that ISIS is representative of a national-security threat against the lives of Americans both at home and abroad, and because of this threat, greater force should be deployed to combat the terrorist organization.

This belief has not changed. It is clear from the repeated killings of Americans by ISIS militants that further action must be taken to prevent further bloodshed from occurring. It is time for Congress to bring this issue to the floor for President Obama to issue a formal Authorization to Use Military Force.

If action is not taken by Congress to deploy new authority against the terrorist regime, more Americans could suffer unnecessary deaths; White House spokesman Josh Earnest has stated that there are more American hostages being held in the region.

An important step in doing issuing such an authorization will be for Republicans and Democrats to work together to reach a conclusive plan of attack that is cohesive with what the administration

is seeking. What that all will entail will be ultimately left to be determined through discussions on the floor. The final text of such an agreement is still being drafted, and as of now, lawmakers expect a vote to take place in March.

The process in writing these sorts of agreements is not known for its expediency. It's important, however, that Congress move uncharacteristically fast to pass this measure, because the chance of death for American hostages grows each day.

In addition to those being held captive, justice must be served for the previous killings, which consisted of American journalists and humanitarians.

U.S. policy is to never make ransom payments for American hostages, nor is it the policy to negotiate with terrorists. Because of this, it is imperative that controlling the reach of ISIS' continued violence be done with an effective military strategy.

A reason for hesitation is the potential opening up of a Pandora's box that could escalate to another long, major war. This is a concern, especially given that Obama has made it a point to reduce U.S. involvement in the Middle East during his term.

Specific restrictions and parameters must be outlined in the bill in Congress to curtail the prolonged effects of military action abroad. It is clear that ISIS presents a threat to U.S. hostages, but that would also be the case for U.S. military forces if and when they are deployed.

COLUMN

Catholic Church action overdue



Marcus Brown
marcusbrown@gmail.com

In a definitive step toward long overdue action by the Catholic Church, the commission advising Pope Francis is looking into the possibility of sanctioning bishops involved in the perpetuation of indecent behavior in the church.

The 17-member commission led by Boston's Cardinal Sean O'Malley met to discuss issues of "accountability" when it came to sexual abuse that extends beyond the proprietor to include those members of the clergy with proximity to said is-

sues. The commission is making a point to hold members of the church accountable for their actions, given that as of now, bishops can only be dismissed by the pope, according to church law.

I applaud the pope for addressing this issue and at least giving the appearance of making tangible steps toward solving the issue in the larger context of the ramifications for church members indirectly involved in sexual misconduct. Discussing matters of culpability should and must include not only the individual perpetrator but also any other involved party. The larger culture of sexual misconduct must be addressed rather than placing all efforts on slamming down on individual cases.

When an institution as large as the Catholic Church gives the impression to the public that it is complicit or at the very least looking the other way, it creates an atmosphere of mistrust and apprehension. This atmosphere will increase the doubt cast on the institution's ability to maintain expected levels of transparency and responsibility. Building trust needs to be the church's primary concern because without it, any progress made will be marred by connotations of hypocrisy and suspicion. Once trust has returned, efforts made by the Catholic Church to combat this issue will be taken at full face value.

Part of what has made this the issue of sexual misconduct by

members of the clergy so difficult to deal with is the pervasive public conceptions of the church's handling of internal affairs. More than anything, the church must reaffirm its ability and willingness to deal with this issue in every facet of its existence. Anything less than that will reek of duplicity and more of the problem the pope's commission seeks to address.

Given the nature of these crimes and the prominence they carry, the people want to see that this is being taken care of impartially. The Catholic Church has a responsibility to the community it comprises, but its responsibility to adhere to the rules and regulations that govern society as a whole far transcends that.

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COLUMN

Not exactly designer babies



Joe Lane
joseph-lane@uiowa.edu

Last week, the UK House of Commons voted heavily in favor of allowing scientists to create babies from the DNA of three people. Should the House of Lords approve the bill, the United Kingdom would become the first country to allow genetic modification of embryos.

The purpose of the law is to protect children from inheriting mitochondrial defects from their mothers that can result in diseases including, but not limited to, heart, kidney, and liver failure.

When I first received this news, my mind immediately flashed to advanced-placement biology. Amid a plethora of knowledge so vast that I had trouble remembering anything from

other classes was the fictional movie *Gattaca*.

The film tells the story of a young man with the desire for space travel. However, because he was born on the edge of a time when genetically modified babies became the norm, he had not been modified to eliminate negative characteristics and implant positive ones. Thus, he was considered of a lower class and forbidden from space travel.

Every time a story of genetically modified embryos enters the popular media, the first thought in many peoples' minds is that humans are playing too large of a role in their evolution. And while the headline of this story first induced this fear for me, the facts of this story have converted me to a proponent.

John Manak, a UI associate professor of biology, said, "To me, this is kind of a no-brainer; you're basically correcting a fundamental genetic defect without manipulating the actual nuclear DNA, which

is solely responsible for controlling who that individual will become."

In the quest for bettering the human race through genetics, it was simply a matter of time before genetic manipulation of embryos became a possibility.

The fear persists in many; however, that this legislation is a slippery slope toward a world of genetically modified humans. The important thing is to take this step in genetics research for what it is and not what it may become. As Manak said, "In a sense, what we're doing is providing — similar to when you do an organ transplant — the means for allowing sustenance and development of the individual affected with the disorder."

At its core, this procedure is similar to a transplant. And like transplants before it, it is the obligation of the medical and scientific communities to do their best to save and benefit the lives of the humans with the science of the time.

Rather than changing humans from one form to another through nuclear DNA manipulation, this procedure simply allows for life.

Despite my lingering fears of "designer babies," I agree with Manak when he says, "I would certainly hope that it would come to the U.S., provided that the procedure is deemed safe and effective."

So long as a separation exists between the intentions of human genetics to sustain life and the creation of genetically superior individuals, embryonic genetic manipulation is a good thing.

While I find myself wishing, almost daily, that I was just a few inches taller, I wouldn't give up who I am today for that opportunity. The culmination of our physical appearances, personality, and experiences is what makes us who we are. And although these limitations may present us with adversity, they are also often the cause of advancement in the human race.

VACCINE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

they feel confident in the rules regarding immunizations, because more than 95 percent of Iowa children are immunized.

But some say the rise in the number of religious exemptions creates a gray area between a public-health concern

and people's religious rights.

"I think [the exemptions] have to be as tight as possible and still not infringe on somebody's religious rights," said Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Coralville.

Rep. Lisa Heddens, D-Ames, said this could potentially pose a need for health considerations. Her biggest areas of concern include people's health, which could put them and others in

danger if they are not vaccinated, but she also recognizes the need for separating church and government.

During the 2012-13 academic year, there were 7,967 exemptions for K-12 students. Religious reasons accounted for the bulk of those exemptions at 5,612, according to the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Rep. Linda Miller, R-Bettendorf, said she doesn't see

this as an issue that requires a change in law, especially in a state that allows parents to be the ultimate decision-makers in charge of their children.

But any time there's an exemption, there is also a threat of creating a loophole in the system, in which people could take advantage of the exceptions, said Rep. Sally Stutsman, D-Riverside.

Medical exemptions must

be signed by a physician; if people seek religious exemptions, the vaccination must be at odds with a "sincere religious belief and not based merely on philosophical, scientific, moral, personal, or medical opposition to immunizations" in order to be approved.

Nathan Price, a University of Iowa assistant clinical professor of pediatrics, said he backs religious freedom

but certain circumstances, involving highly contagious and highly fatal diseases, should be taken into greater consideration.

"There's not an easy answer; there's not an easy scenario," he said. "I think we should be aggressive with immunizing, and I think we should be aggressive with talking to people and finding out why they're not immunizing."

UISG

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

might learn about [diversity] in a class, but you don't necessarily learn how to interact with it or appreciate it."

The UI curricula once included a section of general-education requirements called "cultural diversity"; however, after the restructuring of these requirements in 2011, this category "got merged and turned into

values, society, and diversity," Ponnada said.

With the bill's passage, the items included in the legislation are recommendations for the university, not binding measures.

One issue that provoked tensions was the timing of the bill and the Faculty Senate's wishes to hold off passing it right away. The members of the faculty group hoped to make the bill more collaborative.

"It's a very long process," said Kathryn Hall, the di-

rector of undergraduate programs and curriculum in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "It's a complicated one, and it requires transparency from the faculty."

The Faculty Senate hoped to table the bill while it worked with UISG to "reach the same goal" but be "in on the conversation," UISG President Patrick Bartoski said.

"They wanted us to take a step back, work with their working group and then put it back on the floor as a joint

thing," Bartoski said. "We're trying to make sure we don't step too close to taking away academic freedom."

Despite the Faculty Senate's desire to work out specifics and details of the bill, UISG members voted on the bill Tuesday night.

"Shared government is not about consensus," Ding said during the meeting. "It is about debate and resolution."

UISG worked with student groups such as the International Student Advisory Board, NAACP,

Asian American Coalition, Associated Residence Halls, among others.

"It's what the students that we've been working with want," Ding said. "It's a really needed piece of legislation to show that we do need more diversity and inclusion education at the University of Iowa."

After the legislation was passed, there was still some concern about relations with the Faculty Senate.

"They want the same thing we want, they just want to

start a working group and put it on the floor in two weeks," Bartoski said. "It's my job on the external side to make sure we don't ruin our relationship with the Faculty Senate."

Despite potential consequences from quickly passing the legislation, Ding said the legislation could have a big effect.

"Great student movements have sparked great changes in history," Ding said. "People will notice the legislation that is passed here."

TENURE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

are on the way to acquiring tenure, such as an associate professor.

Kregel said the majority of the new faculty positions are for either clinical positions at the University Hospitals and Clinics or specialized teaching such as lecturers.

"The tenure track is stable, which is good, because that's a hallmark of a research institution such as Iowa," Kregel said. "By bringing in clinical positions and lecturers, we're reflecting the needs of the students and making sure we keep a lower student-teacher ratio in the classroom setting."

Iowa State plans to add 130 more tenure-track posi-

tions this year because of increased enrollment, said Rob Schweers, the ISU director of communications.

That university has grown by thousands of students over the past decade.

"It's really a variety of factors, including a growing interest in the research of big data and business analytics on campus," Schweers said. "In order to keep the student-to-faculty ratio down in these new classes, we've had to, and will continue to, hire new tenure-track positions to fill that need."

The UI is taking steps to grow enrollment as well.

Scott Jaschik, the editor of *Inside Higher Education*, said he thinks fewer tenure-track positions are being created nationally.

"It costs colleges a lot less to hire non-tenure-track faculty, such as an adjunct

professor, than it does to hire tenure-track faculty," he said.

He said course offerings by semester have a lot to do with fewer tenure-track positions.

"This also gives them the ability to hire and fire at will, which you cannot do with tenured faculty," Jaschik said. "These adjunct professors may not be on campus as much, which may make them less available to students. This can get in the way of students developing academic relationships with their professors."

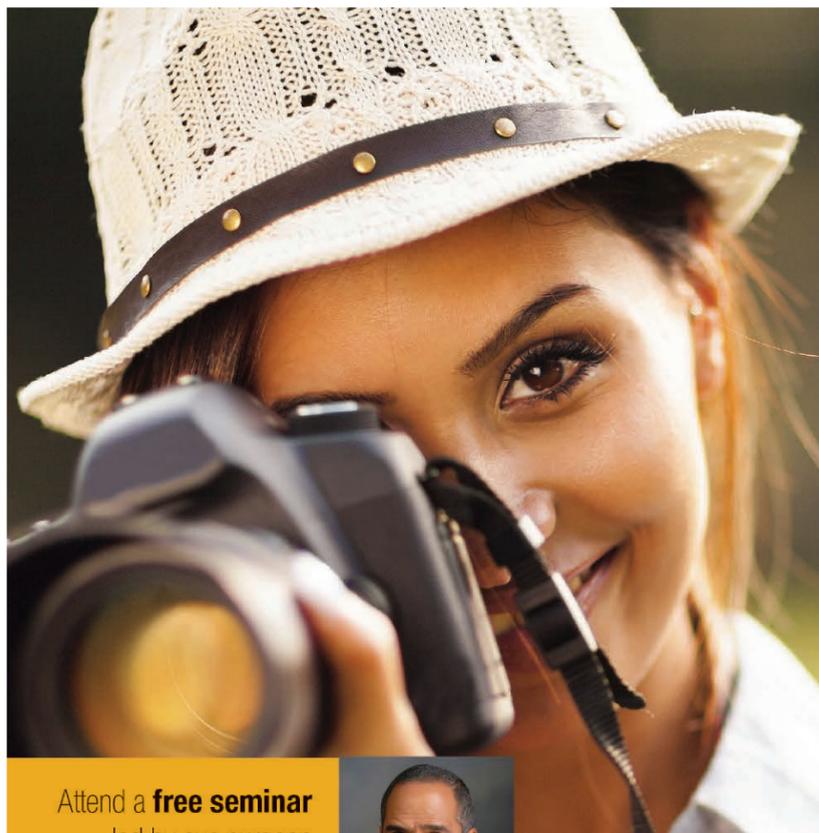
He thinks tenured positions provide a lot of benefits to students during their time at college.

"[Hiring non-tenure-track faculty] also takes away the experience of taking an introductory class

with a certain professor as a freshman and taking more advanced courses later from the same professor," Jaschik said.

How universities manage their faculty resources is becoming an increasingly important topic, Kregel said.

"This is going to an important topic of discussion going forward for all universities in the future, not just Iowa," he said.



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POLITICS



Photo illustration by Joshua Housing

MARIJUANA SUPPORT NOT SO HIGH

By **AARON WALKER**
aaron-walker-1@uiowa.edu

Don't expect much of a change in 2015 to Iowa's laws governing marijuana use after last year's law allowing the medicinal use of cannabis oil but not access to the drug itself.

Currently, Iowans have no legal access to marijuana in any form, and it's unclear when that could change. Lawmakers' deliberation on this issue appears futile, because House Republicans will likely defeat any bill this session.

Several Iowa senators have introduced separate bills concerning the reclassification of criminal offenses, the reduction of criminal penalties, and the distribution and availability of medicinal cannabis; a bill in the House calls for the decriminalization of the drug.

They say discussion is what should help place Iowa's access to marijuana on the horizon.

Iowa lags behind 23 states and Washington, D.C., which have legalized medical marijuana. Four of those states, and Washington, have legalized the drug for recreational purposes. Given the lack of support among Iowa's lawmakers, it's clear that any other form of marijuana legalization is still a long ways off.

Medical

Last year, Sen. Joe Bolkcom, D-Iowa City, pioneered a bill that allows doctors to prescribe non-intoxicating marijuana-based oil for epileptic patients. The legislation allowed the prescription but not the production or distribution of cannabidiol. Bolkcom is working on a comprehensive bill that would set provisions for producing, processing, and dispensing medical cannabis.

Members of both parties agree that marijuana legislation will face an uphill battle in the Republican-controlled House.

"[We're] going to have to work hard in the House; it's going to be a challenge," Bolkcom said. "I think advocates for medical cannabis will have to work very hard to persuade Republicans in the Iowa House that we should help suffering Iowans."

Sen. Walt Rogers, R-Cedar Falls, said he believes there is little bipartisan support for marijuana legislation in the Republican-controlled House.

"The Senate does have several bills in the hopper; several members want to expand the cannabidiol [accessibility]," said Rogers, who was a co-head on the Cannabidiol Study

Committee. "In my opinion, I don't see that happening. I don't see any bill in the House this year to get that done."

Reclassification

Sen. Steven Sodders, D-State Center, has introduced three bills in the Iowa Senate pertaining to marijuana possession and reclassification.

One bill reduces the punishment for possession of fewer than 42.5 grams with the intent to sell from a Class D felony to an aggravated misdemeanor.

Another reduces the punishment for possession of small amounts of cannabis, five grams or fewer, from a serious misdemeanor to a simple misdemeanor punishable with no more than 30 days in jail and/or a \$625 fine.

"It's sort of touchy subject any time you talk about reducing penalties; especially with drugs involved, it becomes difficult," Sodders said. "We'll end up having more than one subcommittee meeting to educate other lawmakers on why this law makes sense."

The last bill reclassifies cannabis from a Schedule I drug to Schedule II. This reclassification would imply — or one might infer — that cannabis might provide some potential medical benefits.

Sodders said he believes these bills would mainly benefit the disproportionately affected minority populations in Iowa.

"[Marijuana reform] can have a large effect on minorities in prison and a positive impact for those folks and potentially keep out some people who would normally go to prison.

"We still need to achieve public safety and get folks to make sure they don't get arrested again for the same crime," he said.

Sen. Julian Garrett, R-Indianola, met with Sodders and four other senators earlier this month to discuss two of the bills introduced. He said there would likely be some support across the aisle in the Senate.

"I would think the one regarding possession might be a little less controversial than the one regarding intent to sell," Garrett said. "I just don't have any idea what the House may do; I'm [going to] guess both have a good chance, but I just don't know about it."

Decriminalization

Rep. Bruce Hunter, D-Des Moines, said he hopes his bill, which would decriminalize marijuana in the state, would begin the House's discussion, but he has little faith it will

pass this year. Decriminalization would change the possession of marijuana from a criminal to a civil offense.

"[The bill] probably is not [going to pass] this year, but what it will do is get the conversation started of what we should be doing as far as treating small amounts of marijuana, especially in the minority community," he said.

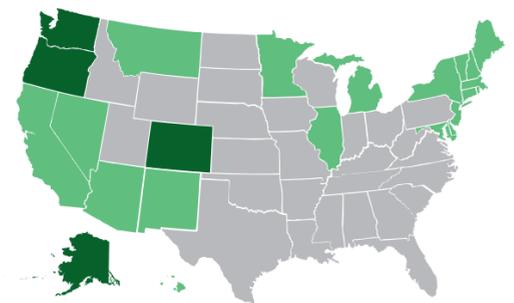
Decriminalization of marijuana would be a much larger change in policy, because it would reduce penalties for possession under 1 kilogram from a criminal offense to a civil offense.

Despite many Republican House members' disapproval of the legislation, some will approach the issue and other marijuana-related topics without preconceived notions.

Rep. Linda Miller, R-Bettendorf, a member of the Cannabidiol Study Committee, said she isn't opposed to further discussion on the topic.

"I just basically try to keep an open mind; you have to take a look at everything individually," she said.

MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION



- states that allow medical marijuana
- states that allow medical marijuana and recreational marijuana
- states that don't allow either

Twenty-three states and Washington, D.C. have legalized medical marijuana. Four states, and Washington, have legalized recreational marijuana.

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Biden to speak at Drake

Vice President Joe Biden will speak at Drake University on Thursday, marking the potential 2016 candidate's first visit to the state this year.

Biden will speak to members of the Drake community in the campus' Sheslow Auditorium. He's expected to talk about the administration's plans for the economy.

"One of the hallmarks of education at Drake is the ability to connect our students with highly accomplished practitioners in a broad range of fields," Drake University President David Maxwell



Biden
vice president

said in a statement. "This is a wonderful chance for our students, faculty, and staff to hear from and interact with the vice president."

The Harkin Institute for Public Policy and Citizen Engagement, the Drake University Student Senate, and the Drake Department of Political Science are sponsoring Biden's visit.

Biden was most recently in Iowa to encourage voter registration and campaign for Democratic Senate candidate Bruce Braley.

Those with authorized Drake IDs can obtain tickets for the event through tonight. Attendees must go through airport-like security and have a ticket to attend. Tickets are free.

Biden is expected to speak at 11 a.m., and the remarks will run for roughly an hour. Doors for the event will open at 9:30 a.m. and close at 10:45 a.m.

— by Kristen East

GOP hopefuls to return to Des Moines

Potential Republican presidential candidates will return to Iowa April 9 to attend the eighth-annual Homeschool Iowa Day at the State Capitol.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, and former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum are said to have confirmed their invitations.

The event is in participation with the Network of Iowa Christian Home Educators.

Organizers of the event have targeted a number of Republican lawmakers to attend the event and discuss topics regarding society and education.

"We've invited a number of Christian conservatives to hear from Iowa's home educators about issues that concern us and share their vision for Iowa and our country,"

Network of Iowa Christian Home Educators President Justin Lavan said in a press release.

The organization is Iowa's only statewide group dedicated to helping Christians who choose to homeschool their children.

The event will commence with family activates at the Capitol, with more than 1,000 people expected to attend. That afternoon, the group will gather at the Holiday Inn Airport to watch these possible candidates participate in a roundtable discussion.

Lavan said the event will be hosted by radio personality Steve Deace, and additional speakers are definitely a possibility.

— by Aaron Walker



Huckabee
former governor

NOTEBOOK

CONTINUED FROM 10

With just three home games left in the regular season, Bluder and her team will have the opportunity to finish unbeaten at home, a

perfect 16-0 when playing in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

The last time an Iowa women's team went undefeated at home was the Viv-

ian Stringer-coached 1993 squad, which went to the Final Four in Atlanta.

Home-court advantage has been all that and more

for the Hawkeyes in 2015.

"I think it's just the crowd more than anything," freshman Whitney Jennings said. "It's

almost like they're an extra player out on the court with you. They all make it a tough environment for other teams to play in."

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM 10

whole new level."

Woody sees track as a sport in which the three months during summer can either make or break an athlete.

"You have three months

there where you can either make huge strides going forward, or you can take huge strides backward," the director said. "Mitch decided to take huge strides forward, and it's really paying off now."

Although Woody praised Wolff for the hard work he put in over those three months, the runner said he

was doing what anyone else would have done. Rather than seeing it as work, he enjoyed his time spent lifting and running on the track.

His hard work has paid off. The Plainfield, Illinois, native took first in the men's 600 in Ames on Jan. 24. Wolff also has a tight grasp on the first leg of the men's 1,600-meter

relay, which he led to victory at the same meet.

That spot in the relay gives Wolff even more drive to continue to train as he has. As a junior at Plainfield South High School, Wolff was a part of the Illinois 3A state championship 4x400 relay team. He said being in the same event at Iowa is "a dream."

"The 4x4 is the last event, and it feels like everyone is cheering for you. To lead that off is a great honor," Wolff said. "Our team is so deep in the 400 that anyone on our team could step up and be a part of it, so I'm just so excited."

Middle-distance and men's relays coach Jason

Wakenight hopes Wolff's indoor events will benefit the athlete for the 400-meter hurdles once the outdoor season begins.

Wakenight said he can easily see Wolff being a finalist at the Big Ten outdoor championship in the hurdles, and it would not surprise him if Wolff challenges to win.

GYMNASTICS

CONTINUED FROM 10

has averaged just 13.400 in three routines — down more than a point from his average last season.

Currently, the junior from Hawthorn Woods, Illinois, accounts for 9.05 percent of the team's points, good for fourth on the team.

His importance is of the highest caliber; his skills can mean the difference between a middle-of-the-pack and a great team in the sport's toughest conference.

"Athletically, he's one of our powerhouses," freshman Anthony Van Aacken said. "As his back starts to get stronger, I think you're going to see him put up some huge numbers."

The coaching staff continues to push Loochtan to get better, physically and mentally. This year the parts are in place

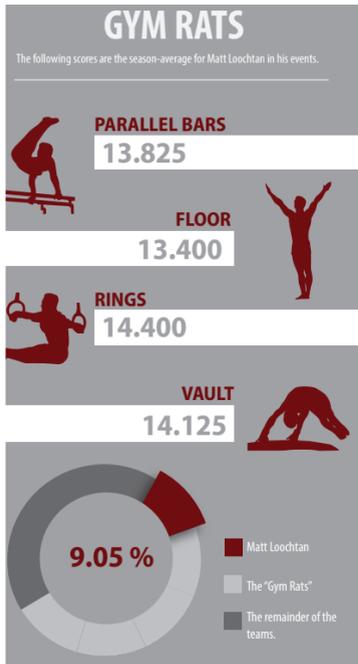
— they just need their All-American back to his normal self.

Despite a few lackluster performances, Big Ten and national foes should be wary. The junior showed some promise against Illinois on Feb. 7, scoring 14.400 on the floor exercise and 14.850 on the still rings.

Junior all-around gymnast Jack Boyle, who came into the program with Loochtan, knows as well as anyone how pivotal Loochtan's performance is going forward.

"He helps us out on our weak events; he's kind of the perfect gymnast for our team,"

Boyle said. "I don't think he understands how huge he is for us; he gets us some real big points."



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A. 5 minutes
B. 32 minutes
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Directed by Alan MacVey

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Trigger Warning: This production contains discussion of sexual violence which may be triggering to some people.

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DAILY BREAK

the ledge

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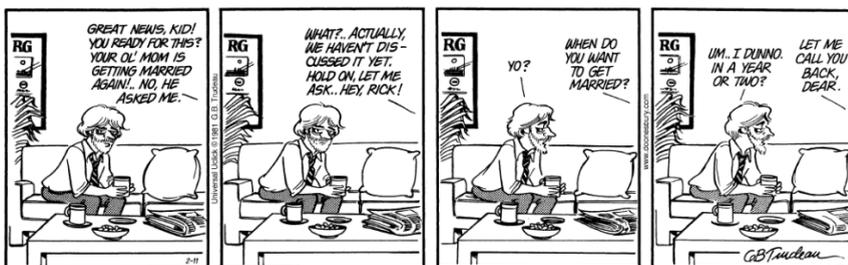
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Andrew R. Juhl thanks PS, TD, DH, ZZ, and AT for contributing to today's Ledge.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



DILBERT

by Scott Adams



NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEV



today's events

- **Hawkeye Lunch and Learn**, "Embracing the Future and Preserving the Past: The 21st Century Research Library," John Culshaw and David McCartney, IMU Iowa Theater
- **Microbiology Lecture**, "Bacterial cell division: structure and function of a widely conserved family of cell wall binding proteins," David Weiss, 12:30 p.m., W323 Chemistry Building
- **Anatomy/Cell Biology Seminar**, "Understanding the Unfolded Protein Response Signaling Network During Chronic Stress," Javier Gomez, and "TFAP2A operates in parallel with MITF to activate melanocyte differentiation genes," Hannah Seberg, 1 p.m., 1-561 Bowen
- **Staff Council Meeting**, 2:30 p.m., 2520D University Capitol Center
- **Is Graduate School for Me?**, 3:30 p.m., 208 North Hall
- **Joint Astrophysics/Space Physics Seminar**, "Truthiness in Astronomy Textbooks: When Science is Only Human," Kenneth Gayley, 3:30 p.m., 309 Van Allen
- **Good Kids**, Mainstage Series, 8 p.m., Theater Building Thayer Theater

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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 2/11/15

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

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

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- 8-9 a.m. Morning Drive
- Noon-2 p.m. Sports Block
- 5 p.m. KRUI News
- 6-7 p.m. Iowa Comedy
- 7-8 p.m. Abby and Ian's Show
- 10 p.m. -Midnight Into the Void

mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

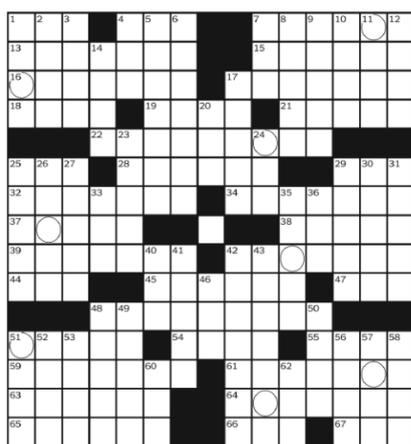
Edited by Will Shortz No. 0107

When this puzzle is done, the circled letters, reading from top to bottom, will spell something that belongs in the center square.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Blubber
 - 4 Smartphone relative, for short
 - 7 Allergy sufferer's concern
 - 13 Maze runner?
 - 15 Item used by 13-Across to navigate the 22-Across
 - 16 Visibly upset ... or happy
 - 17 Slangy word of regret
 - 18 Pink-colored, to Pedro
 - 19 Org. for seniors
 - 21 Late TV newsman Garrick
 - 22 Home of the [circled letters]
 - 25 -like
 - 28 Registered workers?
 - 29 Poli-___
 - 32 Like some breaking news, nowadays
 - 34 Goes on and on
 - 37 "Me, too"
 - 38 Sharon of Israel
 - 39 Announcement at an airport
 - 42 Worker with a beret, maybe
 - 44 QB's goals
 - 45 First-timer
 - 47 Began a relationship
 - 48 Ruler of 30-Down
 - 51 Spatter catcher
 - 54 5:2, e.g.
 - 55 "My bad!"
 - 59 Front-___ (some washing machines)
 - 61 JFK-based carrier
 - 63 Avoid, as the [circled letters]
 - 64 Daughter of 48-Across who helped 13-Across
- DOWN**
- 1 Kool-Aid packet direction
 - 2 "I'm in for it now!"
 - 3 They're placed in Vegas
 - 4 Soup veggie
 - 5 Resistant to wear and tear
 - 6 Analyzed
 - 7 Sports dept.
 - 8 "Give me a ___"
 - 9 Tell it to the judge
 - 10 Dante's "Inferno"
 - 11 Constructed
 - 12 Old TV's "Queen for ___"
 - 14 Circus balancer
 - 17 Like some punk rockers' hair
 - 20 Basics of education, colloquially
 - 23 End of Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," e.g.
 - 24 Intel org.
 - 25 Where ___ (a happening place)
 - 26 Weapon used to slay the [circled letters]
 - 27 Catches word of
 - 29 Earthquake
 - 30 Home of the [circled letters]
 - 31 Key
 - 33 U.K. record label
 - 35 San ___
 - 36 Hosp. scan
 - 40 Many a girl's middle name
 - 41 They stick together in the playground
 - 42 Third-largest French-speaking city in the world [hint: it's in Ivory Coast]
 - 43 Some salon workers
 - 46 Iraq war subj.
 - 48 Big name in the film industry
 - 49 Bumbling
 - 50 Japanese noodles
 - 51 Quaffs in pints
 - 52 Sit (for)
 - 53 Campaign
 - 56 88, e.g., familiarly
 - 57 Give up, at least for now
 - 58 Ooze
 - 60 ___ Speedwagon
 - 62 Constantly twirling a lock of hair, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

B	O	T	T	L	E	A	M	P	S	G	Y	M
O	H	I	O	A	N	M	E	A	T	O	O	O
O	N	T	O	U	R	Y	O	G	A	D	O	W
P	O	S	T	D	O	C	W	E	D	I	D	I
A	T	B	A	R	A	L	P	A	L	A		
B	A	R	N	A	R	D	O	R	A	T	A	D
I	P	A	D	A	M	I	N	T	Y	N	U	D
T	E	N	N	S	C	A	L	E	D	R	A	W
D	A	B	E	V	E	E	N	E	M	Y		
G	E	N	I	U	S	Y	A	L	T	A		
R	E	A	L	T	O	R	F	E	R	T	I	L
A	R	M	T	R	O	D	G	A	I	N	T	I
P	I	E	T	O	N	I	D	O	T	O		
H	E	S										



PUZZLE BY GREG JOHNSON

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horoscopes

Wednesday, February 11, 2015
by Eugenia Last

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Make whatever changes are necessary to improve your standard of living. A residential move or personal investment will help you reach your financial goals. Deal with institutions, corporations, or government agencies to get all your paperwork in order.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** What you do to help those in need will result in satisfaction and high returns. A romantic relationship will lead to a much closer bond if handled with care. Your determination will be enough to win favors and improve your reputation.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Stand your ground, and refuse to let anyone limit your dreams. Avoid individuals who pass responsibilities your way or try to guilt you into doing more than your share. A change of plans will leave you stranded. Emotional ultimatums can be expected.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Don't stop until you reach your destination. Network and socialize with your peers; you will be offered an opportunity. Change should be welcomed with open arms. Share your ideas with someone special, and your relationship will flourish.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Travel, and check out real estate or an activity that intrigues you. You will learn from the people you encounter. A change in the way you do things or the way you live will be beneficial. Greater prosperity is heading your way.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Delegate jobs to someone you trust. You have more to offer than you realize, and if you partner with someone who is just as able as you, there is no limit to what you can achieve. Thrive on change; it will impress onlookers.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Do the best job possible. A good idea can turn into a lucrative endeavor. Strive for perfection and uniqueness, and you will receive recognition. A romantic tie to someone special will ease your mind and boost your confidence.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Catch up on domestic duties, or make personal improvements. What you have to offer will change someone's opinion of you. A change of plans will give you more time to enjoy your favorite pastimes. Romance and sharing will enhance your personal life.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Fight for your rights, and stand up to criticism. Do your own thing, and give others the same option and privilege. Someone you least expect will have something important to contribute. Offer positive suggestions, and ask pertinent questions.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Focus on the present, and put the past behind you. Check out new opportunities, and take advantage of what's being offered. Get in touch with someone who has something to contribute, and you will develop a prosperous partnership.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** A spiritual, physical, or emotional trip will pay off. Get involved in conversations that will help you understand your current situation. An uncertainty you face will be cleared up, allowing you the chance to move ahead with your plans.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Money, settlements, or legal contracts should be dealt with responsibly. A relationship will be enhanced by a decision you make. A change to your standard of living will help you accomplish your dreams, hopes, and wishes.

Anger is one letter short of danger.
— Eleanor Roosevelt

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Mail or bring to The Daily Iowan, Adler Journalism Building, Room E141. Deadline for submitting items to the calendar column is 1pm two days prior to publication. Items may be edited for length, and in general will not be published more than once. Notices which are commercial advertisements will not be accepted. Please print clearly.

Event _____
Sponsor _____
Day, date, time _____
Location _____

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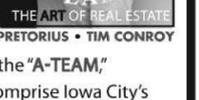
Memo

To: All prospective home buyers and sellers
From: Terri Larson and Jayne Sandler
RE: Buying and selling of homes

Are you looking to end the renting cycle? (Are YOU making someone else's mortgage and property tax payments and have nothing to show or deduct?)

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TWO bedroom,

NOTEBOOK



(Left) Iowa guard Samantha Logic drives to the basket during the Iowa-UNI game in Carver-Hawkeye on Nov. 25, 2014. The Hawkeyes defeated the Panthers, 73-45. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert) (Center) Iowa guard Whitney Jennings shoots a lay-up during the Iowa-Michigan game in Carver-Hawkeye on Jan. 22. Iowa beat Michigan, 76-70. (The Daily Iowan/John Theulen) (Right) Iowa center Bethany Doolittle recovers the ball in Carver-Hawkeye on Dec. 11, 2014. The Hawkeyes defeated the Cyclones, 76-67. (The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)

HAWKS SET FOR MARATHON

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

Iowa women's basketball coach Lisa Bluder met with the media on Tuesday afternoon to discuss her team's upcoming clash with Nebraska on Thursday, as well as a number of other issues related to the team.

The Black and Gold have a 19-4 record, 10-2 in the Big Ten. The team will try to defend its No. 14 ranking this week against the Huskers before returning home to host Indiana on Feb. 15.

There's no place like home

With a 30-point effort in the team's win over Wisconsin on Sunday, Sam Logic added another virtuoso performance to an already memorable senior season.

The Racine, Wisconsin, native got a chance to play in front of her family and friends in her home state

for perhaps the last time in her career as a Hawkeye. Of course, she put on a show.

"She certainly loves to play in her hometown and against Wisconsin," Bluder said. "Her family brought more than 100 people there to watch her play, so naturally, she put on a show for them."

And while it was certainly a special moment for Logic, a few of her teammates will be able to enjoy the same hometown spotlight in the coming days.

Senior Bethany Doolittle will also get to play in her home state one last time when the Hawks head to Minnesota on Feb. 17.

"I think it's a special game for me, especially since I'll actually be in my hometown for the last time in my career," she said. "My mom so trying to get a bunch of family to come down, and we always travel well, so there should be a lot of energy in the building."

Compressed schedule

After playing in Nebraska on Thursday night, the Black and Gold will fly home to prepare for their home tilt against Indiana, then travel to Minnesota the following day.

An off day usually scheduled for rest will instead be filled by travel, a less-than-ideal situation for the Hawkeyes.

"It's kind of a marathon week beginning Thursday for us," Bluder said. "We really have to be careful with our players' legs in practice this week. Luckily, the first two games are pretty normal; it's just that third one that has me a little bit nervous."

Defending Carver

The Hawkeyes have only four losses on the season, all of which have occurred on the road.

SEE NOTEBOOK, 7

GYM RATS

Matt Loochtan looking to rebound

By **CHARLIE GREEN**
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Over the course of the week, DI staffer Charlie Green will provide an in-depth look at five core individuals on the Iowa men's gymnastics team who typically combine for more than 50 percent of the team's points. Each athlete holds a defining characteristic that contributes to the team's successes in addition to his quantitative contributions in competition.

Things just haven't been the same for junior Matt Loochtan since he tweaked his back a few weeks ago in practice.

Although he competed in the team's opener, he reinjured himself and was limited for the next two meets to rest and heal up.

He is arguably the most talented man on the team, and the Hawkeyes need Loochtan to hit his stride in the near future to make the squad that much more dangerous.

"That's what I need him to do," head coach JD Reive said. "To get in there and be the baller he can be, do those harder routines, and put up the 15s that he's capable of doing."

Last year at nationals, Loochtan finished seventh on the still rings, earning him All-American honors. He is the only Hawkeye on the roster with that distinction, and he did it as a sophomore.

Last season, he knew he was going to hit every set. He was that confident. But in the early part of this season, he has shown skepticism before routines — possibly a result of fewer sets practiced in the wake of his back injury.



Iowa gymnast Matt Loochtan runs through a rings routine in Carver-Hawkeye on Feb. 1. Loochtan is All-American on the rings. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

And because his opportunities to practice are down, so is his morale, but Loochtan looks ahead.

"I'm hoping to add more than 3 points to our total score," he said. "On floor, I can put on another 2 or 3 points by itself."

In 2013, Loochtan's freshman season, the Hawkeyes advanced to the NCAA team finals by just 0.2 of a point. If he learned anything from that season, it's how pivotal the little points can be when the final score is tallied.

"Every tenth counts," Loochtan said. "That year, any one stick or step could have fluctuated, and we would not have made it."

But Loochtan hasn't been giving the

team those tenths. On the vault, Reive prefers to include two routines with higher start values. While they are harder to execute, if done successfully, it rewards the team with more points.

On Feb. 7 against Illinois, Reive gave the nod to Loochtan to try the more difficult vault, but he fell on his landing. He received a 13.950 — a less-than-stellar score from an All-American.

But what Loochtan can do is impressive. He owns the school record on the floor exercise with a 15.650, previously set by Matt McGrath in 2011. But this year he

SEE GYMNASTICS, 7

The Wolff of track street

By **COURTNEY BAUMANN**
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After battling injuries throughout much of his time as a Hawkeye, Iowa track and field junior Mitch Wolff is healthy and running like a man possessed.

Wolff was a short distance, high hurdler for nearly nine years before Director of Track and Field Joey Woody made the decision to move him strictly to the 400-meter hurdles.

"We were training him as a high hurdler and a 400 hurdler, but the only time he would get hurt was when he was training or competing in the high hurdles," Woody said. "I made the decision last year going into the outdoor season and said, 'Let's just eliminate the high-hurdle work, and let's just focus on getting you healthy, getting you strong, and preparing you for the 400 hurdles.'"

Because he had an internship in the weight room, Wolff was able to continue his work with strength trainers last summer.

"He pretty much lived in the weight room," Woody said. "He got really strong, and now, he's really taken himself to a



Wolff
junior

SEE TRACK, 7