

UNDERDOGS? BLUDER'S BUNCH IS SET TO FACE BAYLOR. SPORTS.



The Daily Iowan

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015

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Coming together for stricken students



Banners hang on the Beta Mu chapter house of Sigma Nu on North Dubuque Street on Wednesday. The banners ask support fraternity members Rodric Jackson, who was diagnosed with a stage-3 brain tumor, and Andrew Mogni, who was placed in a coma after a 40-foot fall while in Italy. (The Daily Iowan/ Joshua Housing)

By **BENJAMIN TOWAR** | benjamin-towar@uiowa.edu

After tragedy struck two Sigma Nu brothers, the fraternity and Iowa City community have come together to search for solutions.

University of Iowa students and Sigma Nu fraternity brothers Rodric Jackson, who was diagnosed with a stage-3 brain tumor, and Andrew Mogni, who was placed in a coma

after a 40-foot fall while in Italy, are both at the center of the fraternity's philanthropy.

The fraternity brothers quickly took to their phones and social-media accounts looking for ways to help.

"We all wanted to do something so we put out as many ideas as possible," Sigma Nu President Mark Parise said. "We had a meeting ... we figured out how to centralize all the funds

SEE STUDENTS, 3

Assault response detailed

By **CARLY MATTHEW**
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Students and community members were offered a unique opportunity Wednesday night to better understand the programs available and the processes involved when someone chooses to report sexual assault on campus.

In efforts to better support survivors, the Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator sponsored an event that walked interested University of Iowa students through the sometimes complicated options available.

"What we hoped that it would show is that it's a multidisciplinary process," said Monique DiCarlo, the coordinator of the office.

DiCarlo and representatives from four other offices involved in the process of aiding victims or investigating sexual assault presented two hypothetical situations — one in which a student received unwanted compliments and gestures from a university instructor and one in which the student was "groped" during the instructor's office hours.

The representatives explained a wide variety of actions the theoretical student could take through the various offices.

"Our goal is to provide them the most options available, because they didn't have options at the time of the assault," said David Visin, the interim assistant vice president for the UI police.

Whom victims report assaults to can be important in ensuring they achieve the outcome that benefits them the most.

"I support one person and that is the survivor, the person who asked for

SEE ASSAULT, 3

Jimmy John's stretches out downtown

By **GRACE PATERAS**
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Customers hoping to sit and enjoy their lunch or dinner at Jimmy John's will soon have more space to do so.

Jimmy John's, 130 E. Washington St., is in the process of expanding the restaurant and remodeling. The new shop, doubled in size, will take the space where Dobby, a boutique shop, used to be.

"Having bigger space allows more people to come in and enjoy their lunch here," said Dale Anderson, the Jimmy John's general manager. "It will free up a lot of congestion here, because right now it's just one long room."

Anderson said customers sometimes feel crowded in the shop when the restaurant is busy.

"Especially at night, when you get a huge crowd of people here, people are walking to get their sandwiches," he said. "People are also with their sandwiches trying to leave. This should free up a lot of that congestion."

University of Iowa sophomore Domini Genovese said she goes to eat at

Jimmy John's a few times a week but usually takes her meal to go. She said her and her friends have discussed how small the seating area currently is, and they would be more likely to eat there if there were more seats.

"It's really tight, and it's really inconvenient," Genovese said. "There's not a lot, so it's very limited to eat there."

Another Jimmy John's customer agreed. UI freshman Anna Sweeney said she goes to the restaurant once a week, whether she eats it there or takes it to go.

"It's just really tight in there, and when you're sitting in the back it's very small and enclosed," she said. "Sometimes, it's full, and you can't find a place to sit."

Since Jimmy John's started doing business at the downtown location in 2001, it has never undergone a full remodeling. The expansion and remodeling is overdue, Anderson said, and it has been in discussion for a while.

"The process has been going on for a couple of years now," he said. "The



Jimmy John's employee Alyssa Grycko makes a sandwich on Thursday. The restaurant will expand into the building next to it, and the establishment will double in size. (The Daily Iowan/John Theulen)

initial plan was to just remodel this store, then the opportunity arose when Dobby left to expand next door, and we jumped on that."

The new side of the restaurant will be done within a month, Anderson said. The way they planned the remodel-

ing will allow the establishment to not close.

"[The new side] will be the prep area, where we make all of our sandwiches," he said. "So when they get done, we

SEE SUBS, 3

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SALING THROUGH SPRING



A pair of bright orange heels sit next to a sign at Ragstock on Thursday. Ragstock in Iowa City is holding a huge spring clearance sale. (The Daily Iowan/Lexi Brunk)

County aims for grant

Johnson County hopes to secure grant money to study law-enforcement.

By **BEN MARKS**

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If all goes according to plan, Johnson County might soon receive a \$150,000 grant to study disproportionate minority contact in the legal system.

Johnson County grants and communications specialist Mickey Miller presented information about the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge Grant to the Board of Supervisors on Thursday and got its approval for submission.

The grant was launched in February by the MacArthur Foundation, which provides grants for social improvement and is designed to reduce over-incarceration in American jails.

The grant, Supervisor Terrence Neuzil said, would fund an “independent study of our practice of law enforcement policy” that would look at the minority populations incarcerated in Johnson County, arrest rates, and other contact with police forces,

as well as provide a recommendation for how to solve potential issues.

“This is moving in the right direction,” Supervisor Mike Carberry said. “We have been moving in the right direction, but this will really be the point of the spear.”

The county has budgeted \$30,000 in fiscal 2016 for the purpose

Because the county only budgeted \$30,000 versus the \$150,000 the grant would give, receiving the grant would allow the county to increase the scope and quality of the study, Neuzil said.

Another benefit of the grant, Miller said, is that it’s not a match grant, meaning the county doesn’t have to match any

would consist of the MacArthur Foundation selecting the 10 most promising grant winners out of the pool of 20 and awarding them two- to five-year implementation grants at \$500,000 to \$2 million per year.

The implementation grants, Miller said, would help the county put into practice the recommendations the study suggests.

“We’ve done the study, we’ve determined where you can improve, and now we’ll help you get there,” she said.

The grant is due March 31 and the award decision will be at the end of May.

“To address this issue as a collective community, with not just one government, this is a great opportunity,” Neuzil said. “So let’s hope the MacArthur Foundation people realize that this could really help this community so much more with having the kind of resources we could have.”

“We have been moving in the right direction, but this will really be the point of the spear!”

— Mike Carberry, supervisor

of conducting the same study; however, the supervisors have put the project on hold until they know if they will receive the grant.

“If we don’t get the grant, we’re still going to spend the money to get the same work done; we’d just prefer to do it for free,” Supervisor Rod Sullivan said. “Our commitment to this topic is not grant-dependent; we’re going to do this either way.”

of the funds it receives.

This is the first time a study such as this has been funded at the county level, Neuzil said, although lesser studies on this subject have been conducted in the county before.

Although only 20 grants are given nationwide, Miler said, if the county receives the first \$150,000 grant, it then opens up the possibility of the county being selected for the second round. The second round

METRO

Man faces drug charge

Authorities have accused an Iowa City man of possessing marijuana.

Andre Walker, 21, was charged with controlled substance violation on Jan. 27.

According to online court documents, officers acquired a search warrant to search Walker’s apartment.

Upon searching, they found several ounces of marijuana, a digital scale, and marijuana paraphernalia.

Walker allegedly admitted to the items being his.

Controlled-substance violation is a Class-D felony.

— by Alyssa Guzman

Man charged in attack

Authorities have accused a Cedar Rapids man of assaulting a man.

Marquise Monnahan, 19, was charged with willful injury — causing bodily injury on Dec. 7, 2014.

According to online court documents, Monnahan was identified by two witnesses and the man as being the main aggressor who was involved in an assault

that took place on Davenport Street.

Witnesses stated Monnahan punched the man in the face and continued to punch him until he was knocked to the ground. Monnahan continued to punch and kick the man while he was on the ground.

While the man was on the ground, he tried to protect his face with his hands but was kicked in the face, causing his head to hit the concrete.

The man suffered numerous marks, scrapes, and bruising to the left side of his face, as well as bruising to his jaw, which limited his ability to open his mouth and speak. He also received numerous staples on the back of his head to seal the wound from his head hitting the concrete.

Willful injury — causing bodily injury is a Class-D felony.

— by Alyssa Guzman

AIB plan accepted

The AIB College of Business received written communication that the Higher Learning Commission would approve its teach-out plan.

The release from AIB stated a full

report and notification of the teach-out plan would be available on their website next week.

AIB now can host transfer fairs for students on campus.

— by Nick Moffitt

Crisis Center gives update

Becci Reedes, executive director of the Johnson County Crisis Center, presented its annual update to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors on Thursday.

“It’s been a remarkable year for us,” she said.

Among this year’s updates has been a significant increase in call volume to the center.

The center runs a 24-hour Crisis Line, as well as an online Crisis Chat service, and since last year, Reedes said, calls have increased 11 percent and chats have increased 40 percent.

In addition, she said, the center is doing 20,000 more assists than it was six years ago.

“Twenty thousand additional services over a six-year period of time really

puts a significant strain on our financial resources and our ability to provide those services. Twenty thousand more visits . . . means more staff, more parking, more volunteers,” Reedes said.

More parking space is one of the main reasons the Crisis Center joined the 1105 Project last year, a collaboration among three human-service agencies.

The Crisis Center Food Bank has also received more than 4,000 new visitors this past year for a total of 50,879 in fiscal 2014.

Reedes said her best “guesstimate” on why the numbers have risen so much is that the Crisis Center has done a better job of promoting itself, and she said she doesn’t believe the upticks have to do with increased need in the community.

The center also received a record breaking 70 “suicide in progress” calls this year, a rise Reedes said followed the overall rise in calls they’ve received.

Additional center updates include the newly developed Mobile Crisis Center, the creation of the Johnson County Hunger Task Force, and the Crisis Center’s partnership with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

— by Ben Marks

BLOTTER

Scott Barcz, 39, Trinity, Florida, was charged Wednesday with OWI and possession of an open container of alcohol in a vehicle.

Judy Carbaugh, 55, 1627 Burns Ave., was charged Thursday with OWI. **Darcel Downing**, 26, 422 Brown St. No. 16, was charged Wednesday with

public intoxication and interference with official acts. **Anthony Hutchinson**, 23, North Liberty, was charged Sunday with criminal mischief and obstructing

emergency communication. **Gyulia Small**, 45, 1550 Ginter Ave., was charged Wednesday with disorderly conduct.

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BREAKING NEWS

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Budget cuts crunch State Historical Society

By KENDREW PANYANOUVONG
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Iowa City's Historical Society faces an uncertain future due to operation hours, staff, and funding cuts.

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs is conducting a comprehensive assessment of the entire permanent collection of assets until late June through early July. The study is a staff-driven implementation with goals of modernizing and digitizing the state archival and libraries, said Jeff Morgan, the public information officer for the Cultural Affairs Department.

Early results of the assessment resulted in cuts

made to the Historical Society's budget, operation hours, and funding for staff.

Many people, including local and university historians, are concerned that the Iowa City location, which has been open since 1857, will soon shut its doors for good.

"We don't know what's going to happen to these records, and it seems that the Department of Cultural Affairs doesn't care much about the collections," said Tyler Priest, a UI associate professor of history and geography. "It's getting to a point we have to try to save it or give up on it. We've had a massive outpouring of support; it shows that it means a lot to people."

Located in the Centennial Building, 402 Iowa Ave., the Iowa City institution is now only open two days a week for people to

view research collections and preservations.

Currently, there are four staff members at the Iowa City center. Priest said in 2000, the Iowa City Historical Society had a staff of 20.

As of July 1, there will only be two staff members remaining.

The collection of Iowa's history includes letters, diaries, newspapers, maps, and documents, and more than 1 million photos are in the hands of the Cultural Affairs Department. Priest said the agency will attempt to digitize, downsize, or possibly reduce many of the historic preservations, which was once housed in the Schaeffer Hall.

Priest has recently started a petition on Change.org against the reorganiza-

tion plans and budget cuts in an effort to restore funding for the State Historical Society of Iowa Libraries and Archives.

With just fewer than 2,000 signatures as of Thursday evening, the petition continues to grow day by day, Priest said.

Iowans risk being severed from their past be-

cause it could possibly affect access to important historical information and documents.

"I signed the petition because another student who had gotten information for research from there encouraged me to sign," she said. "I think it's really important for our history to be preserved."

modern practices to ensure collections for future generations and preserve Iowa's history to make it more findable and accessible.

"It's a very exciting time for [the Historical Society]," he said. "We are looking forward for the collections assessment and process."

The Cultural Affairs Department aims to relocate collections from the Iowa City branch to the State Historical

Building in Des Moines, where a \$55 million bid was proposed to renovate a wing of the building that already houses the Historical Society's collections.

Priest said the plan could entirely affect not only eastern Iowa and other historic sites but Iowa City and the UI as well.



Priest
associate professor

'We don't know what's going to happen to these records and it seems that the Department of Cultural Affairs doesn't care much about the collections.'

— Tyler Priest, UI associate professor of history and geography

cause of the drastic operation hour and staff cuts, he said, and he hopes that the Iowa Cultural Affairs Department will notice that Iowa's history is at an ultimate risk.

UI junior Liz Darnall, who signed Priest's petition, says it's important for other students to be aware of the situation

Morgan said that planning for the assessment began in December 2014. In February, the collections assessment actually began, and public hours were cut.

Morgan said for the Cultural Affairs Department, the outcomes for the assessment are that the Historical Society adopt

STUDENTS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

that we raise and had people know where to donate ... it all kind of led to our philanthropy."

The result of the scramble is "Kickin' It For a Cure," a kickball tournament and philanthropy event that will be held at noon April 11. The annual event, which usually raises money and awareness for the American Heart Association, will direct the funds toward assisting the brothers and their families.

"This year, I've been in contact to have a representative [from the American Brain Tumor

Association] at the actual event ... to help raise awareness on the day of so we are also supporting a bigger cause," said Tommy Lau, the fraternity's philanthropy head.

While the tournament lies a few weeks ahead, the philanthropy event has got its feet on the ground through the sale of jerseys and wristbands win the fraternity house.

The jerseys sport the brothers' names on the front and back, and the wristbands are embedded with the phrases "PrayForMogni" and "PrayForRodric" on both sides. The Sigma Nu house is also adorned with banners displaying

the phrases under the second-floor windows.

Two gofundme.com sites have been set up for the brothers online, one for Jackson and his family, the other for Sigma Nu's Kickin' It For a Cure.

As of Thursday evening the amount raised between the two crowd-funding efforts was more than \$10,000.

Rodric Jackson

Since his leave from classes, Jackson has been in contact with the fraternity both personally and through his mother, who posts updates on the fundraising page. The latest update mentioned frequent trips to Iowa City for radiation treatment.

Jackson's fraternity brothers report that, despite his condition, he has remained in high spirits. His brothers say that he frequently cracks jokes with nurses or sends them humorous Snapchats while undergoing treatment.

"He's a strong kid," said Trevor Heimke, a Sigma Nu fraternity brother and UI junior.

Andrew Mogni

Heimke told *The Daily Iowan* that Mogni was studying at John Cabot University in Rome when his fall occurred.

Mogni, who has been in a coma since the fall, has been moved back to the United States (Northwest-

ern Hospital in Chicago) after being hospitalized in Rome. The nurses in Rome dubbed Mogni "The American Gladiator" in reference both to his physical fitness and will to "hold on," Heimke said.

Parise said updates from Mogni's mother say the family has seen limited responses from him since he was placed in a coma. When the Mogni family enters his hospital room, faint twitches and muscle reactions can be seen.

On one such occasion, Mogni's brother took his hand, imploring him for a response, only to be answered by his fingers starting to close around his brother's.

Parise said Sigma Nu is thankful for the support from the community as well as the rest of the UI greek community, which has purchased wristbands, donated money, and designed posters for the house.

"It's cool to hear about a positive coming together of multiple greek chapters for a common cause," Heimke said. "You hear a lot of negative fraternity and sorority stuff, so it's great to hear a positive."

The two fundraisers can be found by visiting gofundme.com/kickinitforacure and gofundme.com/kqhwlw.

SUBS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

will move all of our stuff over there and transition so we don't have to close at all. Then we'll shut this

side down, and this side will eventually be a seating area."

Six to eight weeks after the first part of the transition is complete, the planning assumes the whole project will be finished.

The building Jimmy

John's is located in is part of a trust managed by MidWestOne Bank, said Nick Pfeiffer, a marketing officer at the bank, in an email. The bank encourages growth for any business, he said.

"MidWestOne Bank is

very supportive of the growth of all types of business in the downtown area, including retail, dining, nightlife, and professional," he said. "Downtown Iowa City offers a multitude of those outlets and continues to find ways

to support even more."

The color theme and other details of the new Jimmy John's are expected to stay similar to the current schemes. Additionally, staff size should stay about the same, except for one extra night

staffer to monitor the seating area.

"In about three months, we should see a completely different, big, store," Anderson said. "It's past due. I'm just excited to have a clean store."

ASSAULT

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

our services," Rape Victim Advocacy Program Director Jennifer Carlson said. "Whether or not the student comes forward, that doesn't affect the services they can get from us."

Other departments must remain neutral.

"We take the criminal complaint and the information. We gather as much evidence as we can," Visin said. "We're a neutral fact-finder."

He said people who have received reports of sexual assault typically would not

have to reach out to the UI police unless they are certain officials, such as coaches, resident assistants, deans of students, or other authorities.

These mandatory reports do not share the victim's name against her or his wishes and instead are made into reports that include general information such as the time and place of the assault for the sake of collecting statistics and being transparent, he said.

"This is always a work in progress," Visin said. "These are goals we're working towards indefinitely."

The group's focus was university-oriented, especially

in regard to informal resolutions versus formal investigations.

Carlson said one of the big differences between a criminal investigation and internal action is the time frame.

"The university's system moves faster than something that would go through the criminal-justice system," she said. "Also, the standard of proof is much lower in the university setting."

Carlson noted that she believes the survivors don't have vengeful attitudes toward those who assault them and simply want them to be held accountable. Therefore, she said, sanctions through the university

can be more "palatable" to the survivor than criminal punishment because they often know the assailants and previously had a relationship with them.

"They know this individual was not a monster 365 days of the year they had interactions with them," Carlson said.

Overall, she said, she was satisfied with the event and the information the group was able to present to those in attendance.

"I thought there was a great response from a mixture of students, faculty, and staff that we could see in the audience," she said.

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— FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

COLUMN

Restore voting



Jack Dugan
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It has been estimated that roughly 5.3 million Americans have lost their right to vote as the result of criminal convictions. This is a staggering number, considering the popular vote of last presidential election was decided by a similar difference, with President Obama winning by 4.98 million votes.

If disfranchisement of ex-cons is of a number significant enough to sway presidential elections, then why do we leave these individuals gagged after they've served their sentences? The right to vote is the bedrock on which the democratic machine is built, and to revoke this right from a citizen is, to put it simply, not democratic.

The Democracy Restoration Act, introduced in the current 114th Congress by congressional Democrats and will hopefully be enacted by the 115th, is a step toward repairing our crippled democratic engine. This act, if passed, would allow Americans with criminal convictions to participate in the election system once again, and given that ex-cons become citizens eligible to be taxed the moment they're released, rightfully so.

These individuals could be anyone like the recent machete mall-raider to that old friend from high school who makes extra cash selling dime bags of dirt weed to his neighbors between shifts at the Kum & Go. Of course, most would agree that after serving the federally mandated sentence given to those selling small amounts of controlled substances, one ought to be able to vote on the laws that have already so heavily

affected their life. As for the former? Well, he'll probably spend the rest of his days in solitary confinement dreaming of late-night cutlery infomercials, so I don't think we'll have to worry about him.

Disfranchisement was a tactic used to hinder the progress of minority communities in the shameful Jim Crow era of our nation's past, and the revocation of suffrage of ex-cons is the grimy residue of that history. With the statistically biased drug war waged on those same minority communities in this day and age (a 2010 ACLU report found a black person is 3.73 more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than a white person), it is essential that we acknowledge the importance of remedying those residual aspects, such as the disfranchisement of ex-cons.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., has introduced a limited version of the bill, which would reinstate the right to vote for nonviolent offenders only. Perhaps this is a compromise worth settling for, but I stand by the notion that any individual who lives under our laws or threat of punishment and incarceration of law should have a voice. How democratic is a nation that not only has one of the highest incarceration rates of a developed nation but also strips those people of the most essential and important aspect of a democracy: the agency to vote for those laws which have destroyed their lives?

Even then, with dismal voter turnout, the national average sitting at an embarrassing 36.4 percent (which the *New York Times* has said as "the worst in 72 years") for this term's midterm elections, why not let those who wish to take part in our democratic system vote? Our democratic system is struggling in so many ways, and this bill acts as patchwork on the fraying fringes of a crippled voting populace.

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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.

EDITORIAL

Afghans need U.S. troops

The defining moment of the 21st century for nearly all Americans came in the ninth month of its first year. Sept. 11, 2001, changed the trajectory of nearly every facet of life in the United States and around the world.

Perhaps the most notable of these was the beginning of the U.S. war in Afghanistan. Since President Obama took office in 2009, he has often talked about slowly pulling American troops out of the hostile country. Yet this past week, the *New York Times* reported that the president plans to maintain troop levels through this year.

Despite the desire of most Americans — including the *Daily Iowan* Editorial Board — to bring home American troops as soon as possible, the board believes that this is the correct move. Because of the obvious need for a maintained U.S. military presence in the region and that this move confirms our commander-in-chief's ability to adapt to changing circumstances, the Editorial Board agrees with the president's actions.

According to the *Times*, the president plans to keep 9,800 troops in Afghanistan to aid with counterterrorism CIA operations and to train Afghan soldiers. That level of troops, under the current plan, would be in place through the end of this year.

The original plan, according to the *Times*, was that by 2015, Afghan Special Forces would have largely taken over the role of targeting Taliban operatives — a measure that has proven effective in controlling the insurgency.

However, as the article explains, even these Special Forces are still heavily reliant on their American counterparts.

The reality is that the situation in southern Asia and the Middle East has become more dy-

namic than officials once anticipated. With the rise of ISIS and the apparent resurgence of terrorist activity, removing U.S. troops would prove far too detrimental to progress.

Obama's ability to react to things in recent years in Afghanistan have not proceeded exactly as anticipated should be viewed as positive by people on all sides of the debate. A commander-in-chief who reacts to a given situation as it is (as opposed to as it was at the outset) is no doubt valuable.

Of course, this move by the president is the center of much debate between Republicans and Democrats. According to CNN, Republicans may call Obama out on using the troops in Afghanistan as a political move rather than on legitimate battlefield conditions.

Obama's political motives would likely be based in wanting to keep Afghani President Ashraf Ghani Amadzai at the helm. Given that he requested a greater U.S. troop presence, some Republicans have not taken to these actions so kindly.

Yet the truth of the matter is that even if Obama's motives are somewhat politically driven, the politics merely support the continued diminishing of terrorist activity in the region.

As Scott Smith of the U.S. Institute of Peace puts it, according to CNN, "There is a very strong bipartisan consensus in Washington and on the Hill that it may be worth reconsidering this decision [to stay committed to ending the war immediately]."

As the length of the U.S. war in Afghanistan approaches 14 years, the restlessness of Americans and Afghans alike is palpable. But to pull out before the country is stable may serve only to destroy those 14 years of work and sacrificed American lives.

COLUMN

Stop forced marriages in U.S.



Hannah Soyer
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Until I had read the recent *New York Times* article "Woman breaks through chains of forced marriage and helps others do the same," I thought that such things were only in faraway countries such as India, China, or those in the Middle East. However, according to a 2011 survey by the Tahirih Justice Center, there had been 3,000 known or suspected cases of forced marriage in the past two years in the United States.

Apart from those people directly involved in the arranged marriages or those involved in the religious

communities that practice them, I am sure that this was the first many people had heard of such an abhorrent crime happening right here in America.

People may question my use of the word "forced" over "arranged," but it is important to realize that in the case of marriages, they mean the same thing. Indeed, "arranged" may be a term used to make the act appear less violent.

But can a marriage really be a violent thing? Yes. Also according to the study done by the Tahirih Justice Center, girls as young as 15 are being forced into marriages in the United States, more likely than not under threats of ostracism, beatings, and even death. Once they are in the marriage, it is practically impossible to divorce, as most of the communities that practice forced mar-

riage (Orthodox Jewish, Muslim, Mormon, Sikh, etc.), do not allow women to divorce their husbands.

Fraidy Reiss, the woman profiled in the *New York Times* article, was married for 15 years to a man she had been forced to marry because of the Orthodox Jewish community that she grew up in. Since her divorce, which was a long and difficult to obtain, she has founded an organization called Unchained At Last.

According to its website, Unchained At Last is the only nonprofit organization in the United States that works to help women and girls avoid or leave forced marriages. The website also says it estimates that the number of women and girls forced into marriages to be a lot higher than the number given by the Tahirih study, simply be-

cause of the sheer size of the communities mentioned earlier.

There have not been many studies done on forced marriages in the United States, which is probably because it has received so little coverage. As a result, girls and women who are forced into these situations are looked over and marginalized. What does this say about America's (slowly) progressing approach to feminism? Not much.

How can we expect to successfully fight for women's equal pay when there are still women in this country unable to access the freedom of being able to marry who they want (as long as it's a man)? This is why it is so important to make this a national issue, one that needs to be talked about and one that needs to be addressed.

COLUMN

Riding the Cruz to the heart of U.S.



Jacob Prall
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"God's blessing has been on America from the very beginning of this nation, and I believe God isn't done with America yet," shouted the Cruz. Yes, indeed, freshman Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, has thrown his hat into the presidential candidacy ring. Or perhaps rodeo would be more fitting for this occasion.

No matter what you hear about the Cruz, know this for certain: He is a passionate man. Wielding the gauntlets of evangelism and staunch conservatism makes him a very attractive candidate. To a narrow group of voters, maybe, but attractive nonetheless.

In fact, he may do very well right here in Iowa. According to the *New*

York Times, in 2012, 47 percent of voters in the Iowa caucuses identified as "very conservative," and 57 percent identified as "evangelical or born-again." I can see it now.

The tea party conservatives of Iowa all swooning and swaying in unison like the vast fields of corn to the sweet sound of Teddy's tongue.

Yes, Cruz could be the grass-roots candidate for you. He dons crimson Harvard gowns, a polished Princeton ring, and black ostrich-skin cowboy boots ("argument boots," his words, not mine). If that doesn't scream grass roots, I clearly don't understand the concept of grass-roots politics.

There are naysayers out there who don't believe the Cruz has what it takes. But who are they? Liberals? Softy Republicans? The Establishment? Well, yes. It's well-known in Washington that the elites of the GOP, those with the power to make or break a campaign, are

not waving "Cruise Cruz" banners. In fact, very few in Washington are.

A sampling of headlines from *Foreign Policy* magazine, *Slate*, and *GQ* are telling in where Congress stands on the Cruz: "Why Senate Republicans Hate Ted Cruz," *Slate*; "The Most Hated Man in the Senate," *Foreign Policy*; "Ted Cruz: The Distinguished Wacko Bird from Texas," *GQ*.

But what do these left-wing liberal outlets know? What's not to like about Cruz? He's intelligent, handsome, and an impressive orator. What more do you want from a president? He almost became an actor as a young man but was talked out of leaving for Hollywood. He could be our next Ronald Reagan.

And he's clearly up-to-date and hip with the kids. His speeches include quotes from "Duck Dynasty," Darth Vader, Dr. Seuss, Ashton Kutcher (UI represent), and "The Little Engine That

Could." The Cruz is oozing wholesome Americana. His favorite movie? *The Princess Bride*. I love that movie, too. Humpdinck. True love. Rodents of unusual size.

Sure, he may have spearheaded the campaign to shut down the government last year. Not a super-cool move, I admit. And yes, he is likened to Joseph McCarthy for his extreme beliefs and his schoolyard-bully antics. And of course senior members of his own party have smeared him. But he's gotten ahead in Washington, unseated an establishment Republican in a runoff election last cycle, and has become an American sweetheart in the eyes of many potential voters.

He's either doing something right, or getting incredibly lucky. Whichever it is, Cruz has set sail. It's too late to talk him out of it now. And as he fades on the horizon, we can all stop and think. Will this end like a Disney cruise or like the Titanic?

New York City gas explosion injures 12



Firefighters spray water on a collapsed building in New York City's East Village on Thursday. An apparent gas explosion leveled an apartment building, partially destroyed another, and launched rubble and shards of glass across streets. (Associated Press/John Minchillo)

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press

NEW YORK — An apparent gas explosion leveled an apartment building, largely destroyed another and launched rubble and shards of glass across streets in the heart of Manhattan's trendy East Village on Thursday, injuring a dozen people. Smoke could be seen and smelled for miles.

Restaurant diners ran out of their shoes and bystanders helped one another to escape the midafternoon blast, which damaged four buildings as flames shot into the air, witnesses said. Passers-by were hit by debris and flying glass, and bloodied victims were aided as they sat on sidewalks and lay on the ground, they said.

"It was terrifying — absolutely terrifying," said Bruce Finley, a visitor from San Antonio, Texas, who had just taken a photo of his food at a restaurant known for its French fries when he felt the explosion next door. "It just happened out of the blue. ... We were shaking even an hour, hour and a half later."

Mayor Bill de Blasio said preliminary evidence suggested a gas explosion amid plumbing and gas work inside the building that collapsed was to blame.

A plumber was doing work connected to a gas service upgrade, and inspectors from utility Con Edison had been there to check on a planned meter installation an hour before the fire, company President Craig Ivey said. But the work failed the inspection, partly because a space for the new meters wasn't big enough, and the inspectors said gas couldn't be introduced to that part of the building, Con Ed said.

The state Department of Public Service was monitoring Con Ed's response.

The fire happened a little over a year after a gas explosion in a building in East Harlem killed eight people and injured about 50. A National Transportation Safety Board report released last week said a leak reported just before the deadly blast may have come from a 3-year-old section of plastic pipe rather than a 127-year-old cast-iron segment that came under scrutiny in the immediate aftermath.

De Blasio noted no one had reported a gas leak before Thursday's blast. Con Edison said it had surveyed the gas mains on the block Wednesday and found no leaks.

Bystander Blake Farber, who lives around the corner, said he'd been walking by the building and smelled

gas seconds before the big blast.

Firefighters continued pouring water on the buildings for hours after the explosion, in an area of old tenement buildings that are home to students and longtime residents near New York University and Washington Square Park.

Firefighters said at least 12 people were hurt, four critically, some with burns to their airways. De Blasio said it didn't appear that anyone was missing.

"We are praying that no other individuals are injured and that there are no fatalities," he said.

The area was evacuated, and the city's health department advised residents to keep their windows closed because of smoke so thick the buildings disappeared from

view. At least one family sought help at an American Red Cross relief center set up at a school.

Adil Choudhury, who lives a block away, ran outside when he heard "a huge boom."

"The flames were coming out from the roof," he said. "The fire was coming out of every window."

The flames shot as high as 50 feet into the air, witness Paul Schoengold said.

The explosion was so forceful it blew the door off a cafe across an avenue and left piles of rubble on the sidewalk. Finley said his son helped to lift debris off a man so he could escape the restaurant where they had been eating.

One person was lying on the ground, being attended to by passersby who were holding his head still.

Stemming STEM trend

By CINDY GARCIA
cindy-garcia@uiowa.edu

Keeping STEM majors in their respective programs has been a challenge for campuses across the nation, and new University of Iowa programs are attempting to tackle the problem with more technology.

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, 55 percent of students in science, technology, math, and engineering fields leave their major by either switching to a non-STEM field or leaving postsecondary education without earning diplomas.

"Often, these large courses are primarily composed of

first-year students, so the uneasiness of an unfamiliar classroom setting is compounded by the challenges of adjusting to college life," UI chemistry lecturer Russell Larsen said. "Further, for many students, STEM courses are particularly challenging. Often the grading standards and the workload are substantially different from those that they have experienced in high school."

The UI has initiated several programs geared toward alleviating the problems. Among these is the research being done by Samuel Van Horne, a research specialist in the Instructional Technology Services Office of Teaching, Learning, and Technology, on a widget called Elements of Success, a customized dashboard found on Iowa Courses Online for students tak-

ing General Chemistry I.

The dashboard includes a summary of a student's current score, a student's current percentile rank and predicted final grade, and feedback about performance in on-line homework.

Van Horne said 70 percent of students in the course access the dashboard, and 74 students responded to a survey about it.

"Overall, they were very positive about having access to this information," he said. "They found it helped them know their current standing. They said

'They see this as more exciting and understand that they are learning for the long-term.'

— Jean Florman, director of the Center for Teaching

they'd be interested in having this type of information for other classes."

For the performance on online homework section, the difficulty of problems and how long it took to solve them was recorded.

Student-admissions records helped the dashboard give an estimate on students' final grades based on their performances in class, their previous performances on standardized tests, and their performances in high school.

"There is potential to iterate it more broadly as long as there is the time to do it," Van Horne said about the possibility of adapting the dashboard to other courses. "It does take significant resources to say we're going to use it on a large scale."

The Elements of Suc-

cess widget is not the only tool the UI has implemented to improve students' performances.

The Transform, Interact, Learn, and Engage program was launched almost five years ago. The program provided classrooms with circular tables to encourage group work. Laptops, flat screens, and white boards all help communication. The professor or teaching assistant also stands in the middle of the room instead of the front.

TILE's setup encourages active learning, often difficult to generate in a traditional lecture environment.

"Students frequently comment that they

have to work hard in these courses because they must come to class prepared and then dive in to apply, analyze, and synthesize the course content with their peers and the instructor," said Jean Florman, the director of the Center for Teaching.

According to statistics from 2010 to the present, 17,310 students have enrolled in the TILE program, and 258 instructors have been trained.

For the current spring semester, the UI has 123 courses and sections in TILE classrooms.

"But students also clearly appreciate how the in-class team-based learning challenges them to push their thinking to higher levels," Florman said. "They see this as more exciting and understand that they are learning for the long-term."

UniverCity Neighborhood Partnership OPEN HOUSES

Sunday, March 29 ♦ 1 - 3 pm

Tour two homes currently for sale through this City of Iowa City program and learn how you can participate.



318 S. Lucas

2 BR, 1 bath, 698 sq. ft. plus garage. Renovations: New kitchen, bathroom, and refinished wood floors. Down payment assistance available.

\$137,000

725 E. Davenport

2 BR, 1.5 baths, 1,332 sq. ft. Renovations: New kitchen and updated bathrooms. Down payment assistance available.



\$156,000

www.icgov.org/UniverCity



DOC DASH
CARVER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
IOWA CITY, IA

The Doc Dash is a 5K run/walk and children's Doc-ling Dash to support the Iowa City Free Medical Clinic and the University of Iowa Mobile Clinic.

It is open to the public and takes its route through the hospital campus and surrounding neighborhood. Supported by the Carver College of Medicine for 26 years, this year's race will take place at 9 AM on March 28th.

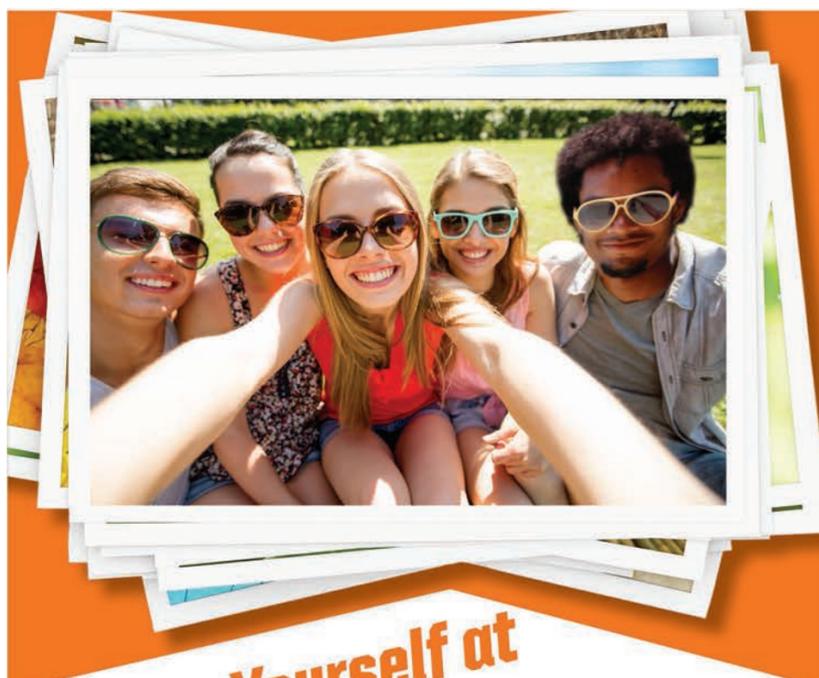
Register TODAY at
[www.UIDocDash.com!](http://www.UIDocDash.com)

Prices
\$20 - Prior to March 22nd
\$25 - March 22nd - March 27th
\$30 - Race Day (beginning at 7 AM)



9 AM
SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH
375 NEWTON RD, IOWA CITY

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Doc Dash in advance at (319) 384-3022.



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Life's Calling™

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.



Things you would love to say to an ex:

- We all have a purpose in life. I thought mine was discovering yours.
- There was a time I expected nothing from you but fidelity, but that gave way to a time where I expected everything from you but fidelity.
- We should go for a walk someday. You should go for a walk every day.
- I'll admit to this on your behalf: in all the arguments we ever had, you were always a good loser. Perfect, actually.
- With regard to our relationship: I've never been happier to see something to end in my entire life, and I sat through *Baby Geniuses 2*.
- Conversations with you should have been required to come with a safe word.
- I think about you as I would my childhood slinky: completely useless, but delightful if falling down a flight of stairs.
- I always respected how you could spend hours at a time in front of the mirror, admiring your own beauty. I mean, the things I could accomplish if I had but a fraction of that imagination.
- You had all the grace and joie de vivre of a sand wedge. (Don't get excited; nobody said "sandwich.")

Andrew R. Juhl could really go for a sandwich all of a sudden.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



DILBERT

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEW



today's events

- **Brian Lee**, piano master class, 10:30 a.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **A Little Lunch Music Concert Series**, noon, 2780 University Capitol Center
- **Exploring Majors Fair**, 12:30 p.m., IMU Main Lounge
- School of Urban & Regional Planning Open House, 3-5 p.m., 351 IMU
- **Biology Seminar**, "Using patient-specific stem cells to develop treatments for inherited blindness," Budd Tucker, 4 p.m., 101 Biology Building East
- **"Live from Prairie Lights"**, Riley Hanick, nonfiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- **David Werden**, euphonium, 7:30 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **Frank Almond**, violin, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- **Interstellar**, 8 & 11 p.m., IMU Iowa Theater
- Theater Arts Reading, **Nice People**, 8 p.m., Theater Building Theater B
- **Campus Activities Board Casino Night**, 10 p.m., IMU Second-Floor Ballroom

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

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

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE 3/27/15

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

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 a.m.-9 a.m. Morning Drive
- 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Ian and Abby Show
- 10 a.m.-noon Win with Uwin
- Noon-1 p.m. MLB Fantasy
- 2 p.m.-4 p.m. The Lit Show
- 4 p.m.-5 p.m. Staff Infection
- 5 p.m.-6 p.m. KRUI News
- 7 p.m.-8 p.m. Healthbeat
- 8 p.m.-10 p.m. The Cathartic Arc

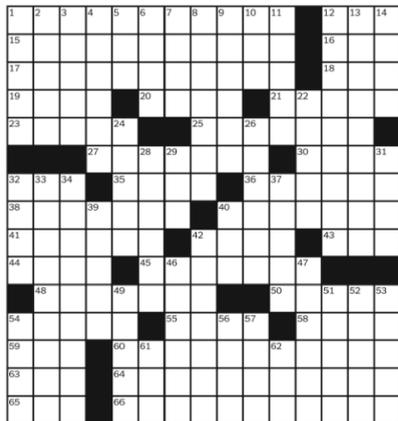
mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0220

- ACROSS**
- 1 Buxom
 - 12 Bid
 - 15 With 17-Across, the B-side to "A Hard Day's Night"
 - 16 Motorcyclist who became a rebel
 - 17 See 15-Across
 - 18 Ill, now
 - 19 Suffix with gas
 - 20 Such ___ is
 - 21 Country whose largest city is Cotonou
 - 23 Religious leader who met with Attila the Hun
 - 25 Kershaw with three Cy Young Awards
 - 27 Hotel clerk's handout
 - 30 Shul fixtures
 - 32 Narrows: Abbr.
 - 35 Speeds
 - 36 Mysterious figure in "I Am the Walrus"
 - 38 Violates a court rule
 - 40 Like George W. Bush vis-à-vis Sylvester Stallone
 - 41 Asperger's is a form of it
 - 42 ___ Amasova, "The Spy Who Loved Me" Bond girl
 - 43 Sheltered side
 - 44 Many a deadbeat's car, eventually
 - 45 Need for an iTunes Store account
 - 48 Sporter of an eagle insignia
 - 50 Orphan in Byron's "Don Juan"
 - 54 Ordeal
 - 55 Glassmaker's oven
- DOWN**
- 1 Some exercise equipment
 - 2 Schooldard retort
 - 3 Halloween spirit
 - 4 Main enemy in the Mario games
 - 5 Streak
 - 6 Island due south of Livorno
 - 7 Some punches
 - 8 Stand-up routines
 - 9 Schooldard report?
 - 10 Temporal cusp
 - 11 Annual event for 3-year-olds
 - 12 Pretend nothing is wrong
 - 13 Washing woe
 - 14 Sharp
 - 22 Story of a building, in France
 - 24 Gives off, as confidence
 - 26 Roger's cousin?
 - 28 Worker who thrives on strikes?
 - 29 Participants in Britain's question time, briefly
 - 31 Dagger of yore
 - 32 Critical unit?
 - 33 "Ripped from the headlines" genre
 - 34 Compound in some 33-Down stories
 - 37 Tech service with over half a billion users
 - 39 Cousin of a contrabass
 - 40 Sketchy program, for short?
 - 42 In buckets
 - 46 Jai alai ball
 - 47 Adored by
 - 49 Blends
 - 51 Home to Shoshone Falls
 - 52 Play makeup
 - 53 Man's name meaning "manly"
 - 54 Unspecified news source, often
 - 56 [Giggle]
 - 57 College from which Steve Jobs dropped out
 - 61 Brainteaser
 - 62 HuffPo's parent



- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | U | B | A | S | W | A | N | M | F | A | | | | |
| O | M | N | I | P | H | O | T | O | T | I | L | T | | | |
| T | A | F | T | S | E | E | Y | A | A | R | I | A | | | |
| C | R | A | C | K | E | R | P | I | A | E | E | K | | | |
| O | N | I | O | N | P | A | I | R | P | L | A | N | E | | |
| M | A | R | I | E | A | N | C | P | A | W | A | T | | | |
| | | | | N | E | D | N | A | U | S | E | A | T | E | |
| A | W | | | U | R | A | L | S | | | Y | E | N | | |
| B | R | E | A | T | H | E | S | | | | E | E | G | | |
| S | E | N | N | A | | S | | | S | | L | O | O | P | S |
| C | A | T | A | L | | A | L | | L | | E | C | H | E | |
| E | T | C | | L | E | A | | | R | O | A | S | T | E | R |
| S | H | O | E | | A | R | G | | | | B | A | N | E | |
| S | E | L | F | | S | E | E | | | | A | V | O | N | |
| D | D | T | | T | A | E | B | O | | | D | O | M | E | |

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/studentcrosswords.

horoscopes Friday, March 27, 2015 by Eugenia Last

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Work on self-improvement, creative endeavors or getting your priorities straight. You can make positive changes if you are honest about what actually needs to be done. A serious discussion will improve a relationship.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Your personal interactions through groups you join or volunteer with will lead to new friendships. Consider taking a short trip if it will inspire you. A change of scenery will do you a world of good.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** An offer presented will not turn out to be as exciting as you are led to believe. Don't hesitate to ask questions or negotiate. Take a look at your motivations for making a career move. It's important that you control the outcome.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Emotions will surface, making your mood swings difficult to deal with. Try to contain your feelings, especially when dealing with business-related discussions. Make productivity and clear communication your goals.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Keep a watch over what others do and say. Staying on top of your situation will be half the battle. Finding a way to do things differently and more efficiently will make the difference between success and failure.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Love is highlighted. Make an effort to accommodate someone special, and you will find new ways to strengthen your relationship. Don't let an outsider interfere in your personal life. Call the shots and make things happen.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Let things unfold naturally. Keeping the peace and going with the flow will make your life easier. Don't let emotions take over in the workplace. Behaving inconsistently will not work in your favor. Choose your words wisely.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Engage in conversations with people you find motivating and inspirational. The boost you get and the creative ideas that come to you will push you in a direction that is fruitful. Someone you love will help you reach your goal.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Refrain from getting involved in a risky venture. You are best to go it alone when it comes to financial endeavors. Focus on home, family and improving your standard of living. Don't incur more debt. Put your personal papers in order.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't get caught up in other people's problems. If you meddle, you will end up being blamed for the outcome. Focus on your life, your home and the people you care about most. Spend quality time with the ones you love.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Revive an old plan or goal. You can make extra cash if you make a couple of changes that fit a need in your community. Take care not to take on too much physically, emotionally or financially.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Put your plans into motion before someone has a chance to suppress what you want to pursue. Making personal improvements will encourage you to be more outgoing and will attract people who want to be a part of your life. Love is highlighted.

You may be able to fool the voters but not the atmosphere. — Donella Meadows

NOTEBOOK
CONTINUED FROM 10

Arena are guaranteed a firsthand view of some of the best talent the NCAA has to offer. Featuring a lineup that would make even Don King jealous, the Iowa/Baylor game will be full of stars.

The matchup will feature All-Americans Sam Logic and Melissa Dixon as well as Big 12 leading scorer Nina Davis.

“Obviously, Davis, an incredible player,” Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said. “Player of the Year in the Big 12, is only a sophomore, and she’s so effective offensively, shooting 58 percent from the field. That’s an incredible number. And so she’s obviously something that we have to be wary of.”

But what does an elite player such as Logic look for in an individual?

“I think that you get your teammates more involved, like I said before, that’s what I think makes a great player,” she said. “I like watching pass-first point guards, so getting to play against one at that elite of a level, obviously leading the nation in assists, as you said, it’s just fun.”

Home away from home

Iowa will be without its greatest advantage,



Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder speaks to the media during the first day of the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Tournament in Oklahoma City’s Chesapeake Energy Arena on Thursday. The Hawkeyes are set to play Baylor at 6:30 p.m. today. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Going 18-0 at home this season, the Hawks were an unstoppable force when playing at home this season.

And while Oklahoma City is a long ways away, Bluder and the team have done as much as they can to give the game a home-court feel.

“I know a lot of players brought a piece of the net that we cut down from Carver,” Bluder said. “We did cut down the nets in Carver because we were celebrating our first Sweet 16 in a long time and going 18-0 on our home court.”

It doesn’t stop there. The Hawks have also brought along the Tigerhawk logo that every mem-

ber of the team taps before exiting the locker room on game days.

“We have a tradition where we always — in our locker room, we have a sign that’s a Tigerhawk that every one of our players slaps on the way out of the locker room,” Bluder said. “We’re leaving everything else behind when we hit that Tigerhawk, and we’re giving everything we have to the Iowa Hawkeyes right then.”

Hawks make history

This season is the first time Bluder has reached the Sweet 16 since taking over at Iowa in 2000-01, and the first time the

Hawks have gotten this far in the NCAA Tournament since 1996.

Needless to say, the team could not be happier to finally get over the postseason hump.

“It’s an incredible feeling just to be here, and we think we’ve earned it,” sophomore Ally Disterhoft said. “We played two great teams in the first two rounds and made it here for a reason. There has been a lot of excitement around this team. We’re just hoping we can make some waves down here.”

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How do you STAND UP?



I got my friend away

FEATURE
CONTINUED FROM 10

everybody should be for the Hawkeyes, kind of the low man on the totem pole here with the other coaches.”

The Hawks capped off a historic season last weekend; the team beat American and Miami last weekend to finish their home slate 18-0.

Now, Iowa will face its toughest challenge of the year away from the friendly confines of its home court and most of their fans.

The Hawks deserve to

be alive this late in the game, but it’s up to the team to show that the underdog tag is one they are capable of shedding.

“I think from the beginning of the year, we felt like getting here was something we should be at both talent-wise and experience-wise,” senior Sam Logic said. “We had a lot of good games to put ourselves in a good position, seeding-wise.”

And while it’s no secret that a Sweet 16 berth was a goal the Hawks have had all season, Bluder and her team are far from satisfied.

“Too often, you see teams set goals, and

when they reach them, it’s like, ‘Well, it’s over now,’” Bluder said. “We did not want that to happen. We believe we can go further, and on Monday, we quickly reset our goals and set our sights on moving on.”

Standing in the way of those goals? Baylor, a team that does just about everything well and one that some experts are picking as the odds-on favorite to win it all in Tampa on April 7.

“We know that their transition offense is extremely good and that they like to get out and push the ball,” Bluder said. “Their rebounding

at both ends of the floor is impressive as well.”

Undaunted, the Hawkeyes still have confidence in their game plan and couldn’t be more eager to prove the skeptics wrong.

“We’re more than capable, and I think we’re just excited to get out there and show people what we can do at this level,” senior Bethany Doolittle said.

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BASEBALL
CONTINUED FROM 10

9-1, the Hawkeyes have cooled to 5-5 in their last 10.

“We played terribly,” said senior Jake Mangler. “Didn’t hit with runners in scoring position, didn’t execute pitches, didn’t play very well at all.”

Hitting with runners in scoring position proved to be a big problem for the Hawkeyes against Bradley.

The Hawkeyes left seven runners stranded in scoring position in that game, a recipe that does not brew success.

If the offensive struggles continue, the Hawkeyes could be in trouble with Indiana. The Hoosiers pitching staff has a 2.84 ERA, which is good enough for third in

the conference, and those pitchers have struck out at least 10 batters in five of the last six games.

“There were times we couldn’t score a run with one or two base runners and fewer than two outs,” head coach Rick Heller said. “We had a lot of opportunities.”

The 14-6 Hawkeyes need to play with more confidence, their coach said.

“To go out today and see what you saw, you hope it’s just a bad day,” Heller said.

It may have been a bad day for the Hawkeyes. However, the Hawkeyes cannot afford more of those days against the Hoosiers. Indiana is 76th nationally in batting average at .284 and has hit 14 home runs on the season.

Iowa has struggled lately against the Hoo-

siers, with Indiana winning the last eight games and outscoring the Hawkeyes 71-31 during that stretch.

Getting the offense clicking will be key for Iowa, but so will pitching.

Iowa’s pitching staff struggled against Bradley, and if it continues to struggle, the 16-5 Hoosiers will give the Hawkeyes trouble.

“Guys were trying to do more than they were capable of,” said junior Connor Grant, who started the game. An additional seven pitchers were used in the game.

“You saw [against Bradley] how that can go awry,” Heller said. “We’re going to have to pitch better.”

While there is a little discrepancy in just how good the Hoosiers are — they’re ranked 19th by



Iowa infielder Jake Mangler ducks to avoid a pitch during the Iowa-Bradley game at Banks Field on Wednesday. Bradley won, 5-2. (The Daily Iowan)

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Iowa gymnasts face test



Iowa junior Jack Boyle performs on the rings in Carver-Hawkeye on Jan. 24. (The Daily Iowan/Sergio Flores)

By CHARLIE GREEN
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The men's gymnastics Big Ten Championships will begin tonight in State College, Pa., with a logjam of teams in the mix for the title.

For Iowa, it's a chance to show the conference and the nation where it stands.

The meet represents a final tune-up for the Hawks before the NCAA's next month, and after seeing production dip in recent meets, the No. 8 Hawkeyes want to build some momentum.

"Hopefully, we hit our stride going into this weekend, and our next two meets be our high scores," junior Jack Boyle said. "Last year, we kind of hit our peak the meet before the postseason, so hopefully, this meet and the one after will be the high points."

Planting a seed

The competition, though, is much more than a warm-up for the Big Dance — it also has implications on seeding. The Hawkeyes' ranking by the College Gymnastics Association is based on a four-score average. That average places them just outside of the top-six teams that will advance to the final day.

Of course, seeding doesn't mean a team is predestined to perform to its implied standard, but where the Hawks land could have a significant effect on their road to the final day

of team competition.

Staying in the seventh or sixth spot will would put them in the second grouping at nationals, meaning they would not square off with No. 1 Oklahoma on the first day.

"If we stay at 7, if not beat Minnesota and move to 6, then we'll be in a good spot," junior Andrew Botto said.

The gymnastics association will count each team's score twice from this weekend, giving Iowa an opportunity to cement a favorable spot for the NCAA finals.

Anyone's game

Right now, the Big Ten is up for grabs, unlike last season, when Michigan was the clear favorite.

Host Penn State is No. 2 in the country, and it has fared far better at home than on the road this season. In fact, all scores have been higher at University Park, where Iowa posted a season-best 435.700 on Feb. 27.

Penn State is only No. 4 in the coaches' poll, suggesting a consensus that generous judging at home has padded its four-score average.

That's not to say that judges have been biased, however, as nearly every team has had a higher output than normal while facing in the Nittany Lions in State College.

But with seven Big Ten teams finally competing at the same meet, a clearer picture of the top tier of the conference will come into

form — one free of averages and the opinion of coaches.

Penn State's score of 432.100 two weeks ago at Nebraska was especially telling. The Nittany Lions fell to a surging Minnesota squad, which in the past month has beaten Iowa twice — passing the Hawkeyes in the rankings and garnering serious momentum heading into the Big Tens.

Michigan and Illinois have been the consistent top dogs this year, especially after Penn State's point drop-off at Nebraska. Michigan ranks fourth and Illinois fifth in four-score average, but in the coaches' poll, Michigan ranks third.

These are the two favorites to win the conference, with the Gophers picking up steam and Penn State still looming as a threat. The Hawkeyes aren't far behind and with a strong meet could easily slip into the top three.

No. 9 Ohio State has been inconsistent this year, but is fewer than 2 points behind the Hawks in the four-score average.

The outlier is Nebraska, which is the only Big Ten squad ranked outside of the top 10.

"I honestly believe that this meet this weekend is anybody's meet for the taking," Iowa head coach JD Reive said. "I don't think anybody has separated themselves out completely from another program."

Tennis' pivotal weekend

By BLAKE DOWSON
blake-dowson@uiowa.edu

The No. 54 Hawkeye men's tennis team (9-4) faces its most pivotal set of matches to this point in the year this weekend as they take on Michigan (3-10) at 6 p.m. today and Michigan State (10-9) at 11 a.m. March 29.

Sitting at 1-1 in the Big Ten, the set of matches over the weekend can either propel the team into the upper tier of the conference or force the Hawkeyes into playing catch-up.

That, along with Iowa's playing two of its six Big Ten home matches this weekend, amplifies the importance.

"We said right before spring break that the next three and a half weeks were key in order to make the NCAA Tournament," interim head coach Ross Wilson said. "This weekend is a huge part of that."

The Hawkeyes certainly have all the parts to get to the NCAA Tournament, with a solid core of players who complement the team's star, senior Matt Hagan.

"Frankly, the last few years, Iowa has been near the bottom of the Big Ten," freshman Jake Jacoby said. "But this year is different. We already beat Wisconsin, a team we lost to last year."

The ever-tough Big Ten stands in Iowa's way of an NCAA berth, and first up

on the weekend's docket are the Wolverines.

"[The Wolverines] are really good, they're talented," Wilson said. "They're a team with a lot of talented guys, and if they would have pulled out a couple wins early, they might be ranked."

The Wolverines' 3-10 record so far is deceiving. They have played against six ranked teams and managed to notch a win against then-No. 22 Memphis.

All-time, the record between the schools is 49-8 in favor of Michigan, and the Hawkeyes will be after just the ninth win over the Wolverines in the last 100 years.

If Iowa is able to pull out a win, it very well could come from a doubles point, something both Wilson and Jacoby pointed to as being a vital part of the meet.

"This weekend is all about doubles," Wilson said. "It's going to dictate how we play out in singles. Grabbing that momentum is always a key."

Michigan State will bring its own set of challenges to the Hawkeyes. The Spartans have a roster loaded with upperclassmen that have experience playing in the NCAA Tournament.

Michigan State has picked up wins against then-No. 55 Elon and No. 50 Penn State. "[Michigan State] is a solid team 1 through 6," Hagan said. "They play with a lot of fire and energy, and we're going to have to compete hard."

With a quick turnaround

between matches, the Hawkeyes took extra precautions during the week to avoid fatigue.

Jacoby said the team's conditioning was cut back from twice to once this week, and the break on Saturday would be used to mentally prepare for Michigan State.

"We just wanted to keep our bodies fresh during the week," Jacoby said. "We may hit for about 30 minutes on Saturday, get an ice bath in, but other than that, we want to relax on that day off."

The next three days can either make or break the Hawkeyes season. Two wins against Big Ten opponents to boost their conference record to 3-1 would make for a great weekend.

However, Iowa cannot afford to lose and fall behind the blue bloods at the top of the conference.

"We play in one of the toughest conferences in the nation," Wilson said. "We need to take care of home court this weekend and put our name toward the top."

Iowa's weekend matches

Where: Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex
When: 6 p.m. today vs Michigan, 11 a.m. March 29 vs Michigan State



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Memo

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

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Distance to Downtown 40 min 16 min

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\$205,000



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DI CALENDAR BLANK

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The Iowa seniors Kathryn Reynolds, Sam Logic, Melissa Dixon, and Bethany Doolittle walk off the plane after landing in Oklahoma City on Wednesday. Iowa is set to play Baylor today in the Chesapeake Energy Arena. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

Hawkeyes relish being the underdog

FEATURE

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

OKLAHOMA CITY — Iowa women's head basketball coach Lisa Bluder and her team aren't exactly used to playing the underdog role.

After all, the Hawkeyes spent much of the season ranked among the top-20 teams in the country, and they boast one of the most potent offenses in the Big Ten as well as the NCAA.

This weekend, however, the Hawks are in the company of some of the nation's elite squads,

including 2012 national champion Baylor, which they face today.

Playing as the underdog for the first time in quite a while, the Hawks couldn't be happier for the opportunity to pull off a major upset.

"We know we're coming in as the underdog, but my team kind of likes that," Bluder said. "We're kind of the last ones to the party because the other three schools are used to being in this environment every year."

The Hawks are in the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1996, with this being Bluder's first trip as

the Hawkeye head coach.

"[The other three coaches] are used to being here and actually have all won a national title except for me," Bluder said. "So

SEE FEATURE, 7

Iowa vs. Baylor

When: 6:30 p.m. today
Watch: ESPN2

NOTEBOOK

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

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Iowa women's basketball team met with members of the media on Thursday to discuss their upcoming clash with Baylor today in Oklahoma City.

The Hawks are on their deepest postseason run in almost 20 years; they will face a Baylor squad that some are picking to win it all.

Star power on display

No matter the outcome of the game against the Bears, fans in attendance at Chesapeake Energy

SEE NOTEBOOK, 7

RECAP

Hawk swimmers miss in 400 relay

Iowa finished 19th in the 400-medley relay and did not qualify for the B final.

By **IAN MURPHY**
ian-murphy@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's swimming and diving team had high hopes for the first day of the NCAA Championships in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center on Thursday.

The Hawkeyes needed to place in the top 16 of the field of 24 in the 400-medley relay to make it back to the finals for a chance at a second swim.

However, that didn't materialize. The Hawkeyes finished 19th at 3:10.03, adding almost a second and a half over their seed time of 3:08.56.

Had the foursome of senior Grant Betulius, junior Roman Trussov, freshman Jerzy Twarowski, and sophomore Jackson Halsmer swum to seed, they would have qualified 16th and put the Hawkeyes on the board in the team race.

"It's disappointing," head coach Marc Long said. "We would have liked to make the top 16 and score points."

To rebound for today's swims, which include the 200-medley relay, the Hawkeyes say they will put the race behind them.

Betulius, who split a 46.60 as the leadoff leg, said the Hawkeyes would do speed work to be prepared for the next sessions of swimming.

He, like Long, said he was disappointed in the swim.

"It's tough knowing we would have made it back with what went at Big Tens," Betulius said. "We just have to move on."

A bright spot for the relay came in the form of Halsmer's 43.70 anchor leg. Halsmer looked strong through his 100, and although it was not enough to bring the Hawkeyes back, it does indicate



Swimmers dive into the pool during the 400-medley relay during the NCAA swimming championship in the Campus Wellness & Recreation Center on Thursday. (The Daily Iowan/Peter Kim)

good things coming in the other relay. The rest of the relay, however, was off.

"We really don't know. It felt fast," Trussov said. "It's hard to analyze."

He said the relay felt strong through the first 50, but faded over the second half. Again, that bodes well for today's 200-medley relay, but did not for the 400, in which the Hawkeyes needed that second-half speed.

"Me and Jerzy, something went wrong," Trussov said. Trussov split a 52.76 in the breaststroke, while Twarowski was 47.00 on the butterfly leg.

Now, the Hawkeyes turn their attention to the other medley relay. Betulius has the 100 backstroke, and Trussov has the 100 breaststroke.

"We want to be top 16 in the 200

medley and get honorable mention All-American," Betulius said.

Betulius especially has a good shot at making the finals. He said the 200 medley relay will be good to help him warm up for his individual 100 backstroke. Heading into preliminaries, Betulius is seeded eighth.

The senior said the relay will have moved past Thursday's performance and be ready to go the second time around in the shorter distance.

"These guys will be ready to go, me included," Betulius said. "It was disappointing, but we have another shot [today]."

Follow @IanFromIowa on Twitter for news, updates, and analysis from the NCAA Championship meet.

Baseball faces tough Hoosiers

Indiana enters as the No. 19 team in the country and by far Iowa's toughest series.

By **IAN MURPHY**
ian-murphy@uiowa.edu

When Iowa baseball takes to the diamond at Banks Field this weekend, it will be against its toughest competition to date.

The Hawkeyes start a three-game series with Indiana today, and the Hoosiers enter as the No. 19 team in the country, winners of 13 of their last 14 games. They're coming in hot, too, coming off a midweek win over No. 7 Louisville on Wednesday.

On the flip side, Iowa is coming off a midweek loss to Bradley that players and coaches called a terrible performance, and they know they will need to play their best baseball against the Hoosiers. After starting the season

SEE BASEBALL, 7

Iowa vs. Indiana

Where: Banks Field
When: 3 p.m. today, 2 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. March 29
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