

Politics

Corbett embraces underdog role

Cedar Rapids Mayor Ron Corbett takes on incumbent Gov. Kim Reynolds in the 2018 GOP gubernatorial primary campaign.

By MOLLY HUNTER | molly-hunter@uiowa.edu

A year out from the 2018 gubernatorial election, and the Iowa Republican Party is throwing its weight behind Gov. Kim Reynolds, but Ron Corbett, the Republican mayor of Cedar Rapids and candidate for governor, remains undeterred.

"I am an underdog," he said.

But with 13 years in the Iowa Legislature, the last five of which the 56-year-old Corbett spent as speaker of the House, and eight years as mayor of Iowa's second largest city, Corbett said his experience is equal to Reynolds'.

Corbett's biggest struggle will perhaps be the uphill battle against an incumbent governor.

"All the party establishment and the donor class has rallied behind Kim," he said.

Jeff Kaufmann, the Republican Party of Iowa chair, declined a *Daily Iowan* request for comment.

Before Terry Branstad was nominated to be the U.S. ambassador to China, most observers didn't think he would run for re-election in 2018, said Tim Hagle, a University of Iowa associate professor of political science. Reynolds, 57, was expected to run but not as an incumbent.

"In Iowa, we kind of like our incumbents, so it makes it harder — even for the other party — to run against them ... When there's an open seat, you have more interest," Hagle said. "Now that Branstad is gone and Reynolds is the governor, for all intents and purposes, that makes her the incumbent."

So far, Steven Ray, the mayor pro tem of Boone, is the only other Republican to announce he will run against Reynolds.

Patrick Wronkiewicz of the UI College Republicans said members of his group think Reynolds, as the incumbent, has the best chance to win the 2018 gubernatorial election.

"Our organization as a whole endorsed Gov. Reynolds for the election above all the other candidates and potential Republican candidates," Wronkiewicz said. "Ron Corbett would be better than any of the other Democratic nominees, but we like Gov. Reynolds' chances."

Hagle said Corbett's low statewide name recognition will be another challenge.

"That was one reason, when he published his book [*Beyond Promises*], he went around the state on a book tour," Hagle said. "Ostensibly to talk about the book and political stuff, but it was also a way for him to try to increase his name recognition."

Corbett faces other obstacles, too.

"The financing is a part of this as well," Hagle said. "Kim Reynolds has a pretty good war chest at this point and will certainly be doing additional fundraising over the next year or so."

Corbett is sure he's going to be outspent, but Hagle said Corbett hasn't done too poorly himself.

Donations and pledges to Corbett's campaign have reached nearly \$1 million.

The money will help Corbett get around the state, which is what he'll need to do if he wants to be a

serious challenger to Reynolds in the Republican primary, Hagle said.

The primary campaign should also give Corbett another chance to increase his name recognition.

"It's usually good to have a primary," Hagle said. "It

can be a danger because if you have a nasty primary and the candidate ... comes out damaged, politically or financially, then that can hurt for the general election."

Primaries also give candidates a chance to get in shape politically, helping them hone their message, he said.

Corbett's "core four" issues are tax reform, health care, education, and water quality.

"Iowa is a slow-growth state. ... We're starting to see the signs of a slow-growth state manifest itself in the state budget," Corbett said. "We need to modernize our income-tax system and provide more growth for our state and more budget stabilization."

Corbett said he plans to introduce tax reform using a grass-roots approach to decision-making.

"It takes a little more time, because you have to go out, and meet with people, and talk to them about their issues, and try to build

consensus," he said. "Sometimes, top-down works faster, but you get problems."

Corbett said the state of Iowa's health-care industry is a result of top-down decision-making.

"Many of the providers today are getting squeezed by the managed-care organizations on their reimbursement rates, [and] beneficiaries are being denied services by the managed-care organizations because of the restrictions that they're putting in place," Corbett said. "That was a result of a top-down decision. I'm going to try to change that."

Iowa's performance in K-12 education is another important issue for him.

"We used to be No. 1 for K-12 education.

... People stayed in Iowa because of that, people moved to Iowa because of that," he said. "We've allowed ourselves to incrementally get to the middle of the pack, and I want to get us back to No. 1."

Corbett is also a strong supporter of the 3/8 penny tax for the Natural Resources and Outdoor Protection trust fund.

"If that were to be funded, we would have the resources to improve our water quality and take care of some of the flooding issues that Iowa seems to have almost every year," he said.

Right now, Corbett said, the burden for conservation and water quality rests on farmers and their ability to invest in sustainable solutions on their own.

"Our water-quality efforts shouldn't be based on the price of corn," Corbett said. "It has to be ongoing, it has to be sustainable, and that's the beauty of the trust fund."

Corbett might be an underdog, but he doesn't see

Career working in public service:

- Clarke County treasurer for eight years
- Iowa state senator, 2008-2010
- Lieutenant governor under Gov. Terry Branstad, 2011-2017
- Governor of Iowa, 2017-2018
- Took over governorship at the end of May from Branstad, who became the U.S. ambassador to China
- First female governor of Iowa

himself as a fringe candidate.

"I'm not a renegade Republican, but I'm not a rubber-stamp Republican, either," he said. "I'm a conservative Republican with an independent streak."

THE DAILY IOWAN

ETHICS & POLITICS
INITIATIVE

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

Email daily-iowan@uiowa.edu with story ideas, press releases, or reader comments.

McConnell admits defeat on health bill

After rigorous debate, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., on Monday conceded that Republicans' proposed replacement for the Affordable Care Act would not pass.

Before his concession, McConnell remained firm, calling for the Senate to vote on Monday that would enact an automatic repeal of Obamacare without replacement, but that failed.

"Regretfully, it's now apparent that the effort to repeal and immediately replace the failure of Obamacare will not be successful," McConnell said in a statement on Monday night.

McConnell said Senate Republicans will continue to work toward a repeal of Obamacare, which he said will have a two-year delay to provide what he calls a stable transition period to a patient-centered health-care system that gives Americans access to quality, affordable care.

Iowa Republicans are following McConnell's lead. Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, contended that he's heard from many Iowans who have been failed by Obamacare.

"I'll look at what options for votes come before the



contributed

Senate and decide what makes the most sense for Iowans," Grassley said in a statement. "I'd like to have the chance to vote for a motion to proceed so 100 senators would have the opportunity to debate health care."

If that motion succeeds, Grassley said, he would decide how to vote on the bill, and the Senate would take it up, depending on which bill it is and whether

Senate Republicans would be able to amend it.

"I hope the state of Iowa gets an answer soon on the waiver proposal that would help people in dire straits this fall," Grassley said. "If nothing is done, the 72,000 Iowans on Obamacare will face hardship keeping their insurance this fall."

— Madeleine Neal

The Daily Iowan

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News To Know



'Underdog' contender hopeful for 2018 GOP race

Cedar Rapids May Ron Corbett prepares to run against Gov. Kim Reynolds in the 2018 Iowa Republican primary. **POLITICS, 7**

Peters announces run for U.S. Congress

Chris Peters will kick off his campaign as a candidate for Iowa's 2nd District on July 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Old Capitol Senate Chamber. Peters ran against, and lost to, Rep. Dave Lobsack, D-Iowa, last November. Lobsack's term expires in 2018.



Peters candidate



Iowa State Fair adds food to lineup

A list of more than 40 new food items being offered at this year's fair was announced. The fair runs Aug. 10-20 in Des Moines. The new items include: chocolate lava cake, pancake tacos, bomb pop lemonade, bubble tea, fruit & chocolate fondue, peanut butter popcorn, bacon cheese fries, and more.

Uber encourages safety

Uber has launched a public-awareness campaign to increase safety while using the ride-share app. Before getting in a car, the company says, riders should verify the make and model of the car, the license plate, and the photo and name of the driver.

Walsh switches sports

After recovering from a handful of injuries, Hawkeye junior Tessa Walsh has decided to leave gymnastics behind for the water to pursue rowing. **SPORTS, 10**



Walsh junior

WEATHER

HIGH 91 LOW 73

Mostly sunny, heat index values around 101, mostly calm.

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Federal funding for research ebbs

The UI has reported an increase in external funding supporting research, though federal funding for research is trending downward.

By **MARISSA PAYNE**
marissa-payne@uiowa.edu

Federal funding for research is dwindling by millions, and although the University of Iowa's push for philanthropic donations is paying off, it might not be enough to make up for the decrease.

The UI reported on Monday an estimated 1 percent increase in total external funding — including gift commitments and charitable grants from the UI Foundation — from



Reed VP for research

\$551.9 million in fiscal 2016 to \$557.7 million in fiscal 2017. Nonfederal funds supporting research increased from \$437.9 million to \$443.3 million.

Despite the rise in funding from outside sources, support from federal agencies has been trending downward by an average of 1.4 percent over the past decade, said Dan Reed, the UI vice president for

Research and Economic Development, in a press release. In fiscal 2016, the UI received \$240.3 million in federal research funding; that total fell to \$224.4 million in fiscal 2017.

Reed said in the release this trend is precisely why universities should promote "creative, ambitious, and interdisciplinary research proposals."

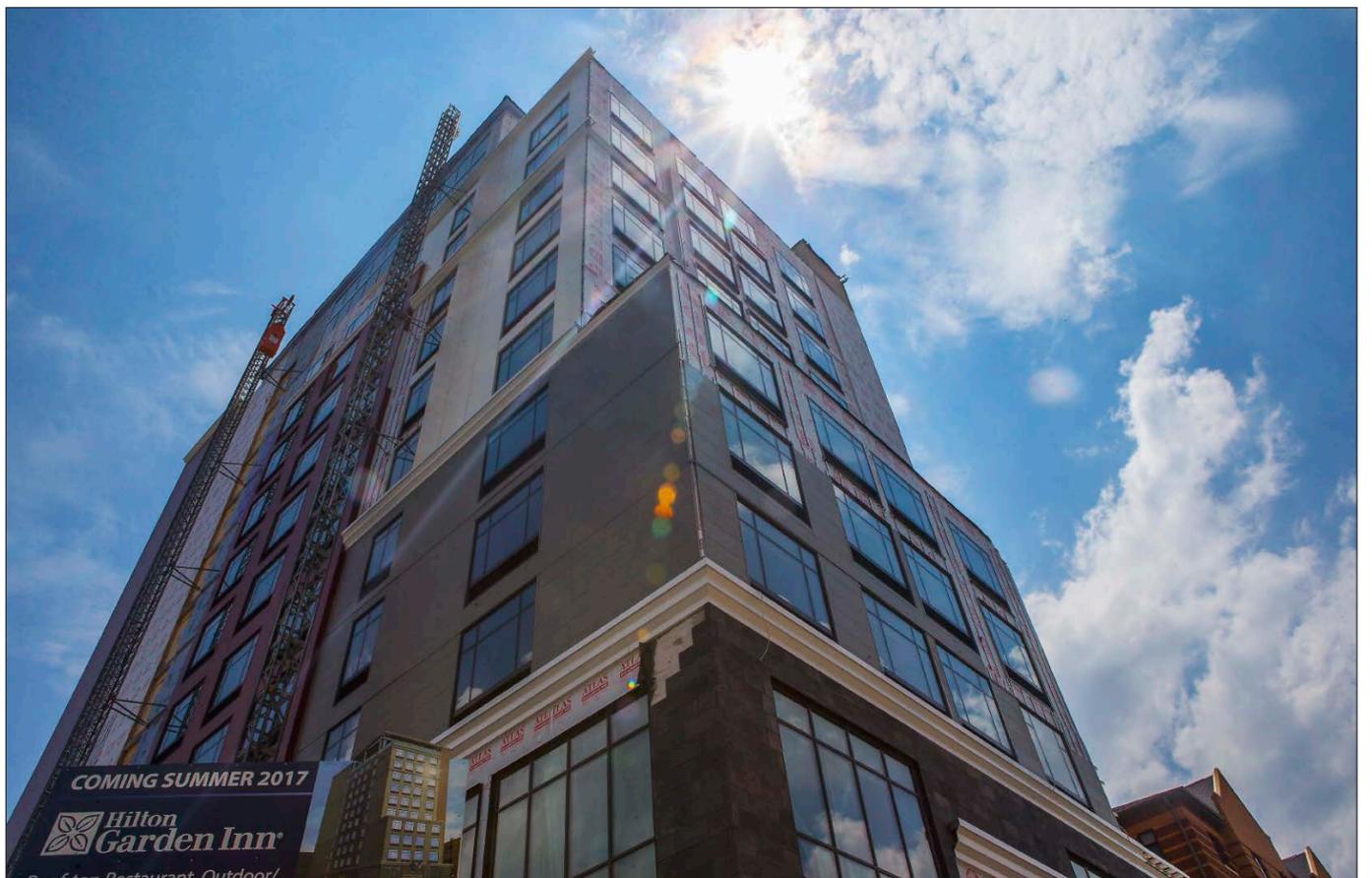
"Discovery — especially the game-changing variety — is fueled not only by money

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A room with a Vue for IC

The Iowa City Downtown District expands skyward with the Vue, a new rooftop bar and restaurant.

By **JAMES GEERDES** | geerdes-james@uiowa.edu



Joseph Cress/The Daily Iowan

The Hilton Garden Inn on Clinton Street is seen on Tuesday. The 12th floor of the hotel will feature a rooftop restaurant/bar accessible to both Hilton rewards members as well as guests and community members. The hotel expects to open to the public in October 2017.

The Iowa City skyline is slowly filling with new buildings, and now, that downtown expansion is aimed skyward with the Hilton Garden Inn's new rooftop bar and restaurant, the Vue.

Kinseth Hospitality is tackling the project, hoping to create the premier hotel and rooftop bar location in Iowa City.

The Vue is taking reservations for Jan.

1, and Ben Kinseth, the director of operations for Kinseth Hospitality, said the hotel should open in October.

"The original vision was to do a hospitality project," Kinseth said. "We focused in on what would fit well downtown. And there was no Hilton Garden Inn. It's a great fit for what the downtown needed. We had a high rise, and we decided that a world class

rooftop bar and restaurant would fit the downtown well, and we hope it will be a great project."

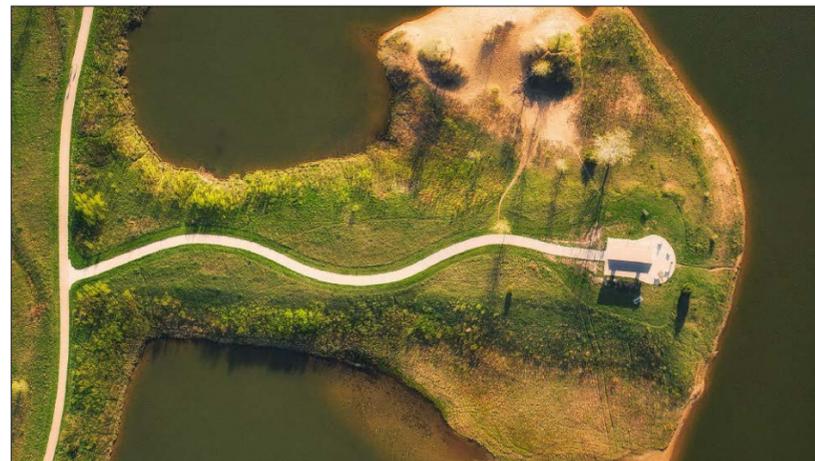
The planned 12-story building will be capped by the restaurant, which will be the first of its kind in Iowa City.

"The overall idea is to create something

SEE VUE, 3

City pedals ahead with bike plan

The Iowa City Master Bike Plan aims to connect the city for cyclists new and old.



contributed

In this aerial photo, recreational bike paths and structures can be seen at the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area.

By **DENISE CHEESEMAN**
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Biking around Iowa City is about to be a lot more accessible.

The Iowa City City Coun-

cil discussed the bike plan yet again during its work session Tuesday before its regular meeting.

Consultants from two design and planning firms, RDG and Alta, created the

plan with the help of the city staff and public feedback collected during the last seven months, Metro assistant transportation planner Sar-

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ETHICS & POLITICS Iowa Politics

Ernst officials hear from Iowa City

Regional directors from the Sen. Joni Ernst's office visit the Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn St., on Tuesday morning, discussions ranged from voting rights and accessibility to the future of health care in Iowa and in the United States.

Sam Pritchard, a member of Ernst's office, led the event, which was held because "Iowans know what Iowa needs," said the event website. Ernst's

By **JAMES GEERDES**
james-geerdes@uiowa.edu

For Iowa City liberals, party lines have become increasingly clear.

When the regional directors for Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, hosted traveling office hours at the Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn St., on Tuesday morning, discussions ranged from voting rights and accessibility to the future of health care in Iowa and in the United States.

Sam Pritchard, a member of Ernst's office, led the event, which was held because "Iowans know what Iowa needs," said the event website. Ernst's

SEE ERNST, 2

INTO THE FOLD



Hieu Nguyen/The Daily Iowan

Jade Offerman folds an item at the Silver Spider on Tuesday. Offerman, who has worked there since February, said she likes the Silver Spider because she gets to meet different people and the store has many cool items.

Ped Mall to welcome art with shade

A temporary art installation designed by local artist Hannah Givler should bring shade and welcoming feelings to downtown.

By **MOLLY HUNTER**
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Iowa City residents can expect to see an art installation take over the Pedestrian Mall space that free Sunday morning yoga sessions has used since June.

"Back in January, we started this whole process with a community survey asking the community members what they wanted to see in Black Hawk Mini Park temporarily from July until October," said Betsy Potter, the Iowa City Downtown District operations director.

The survey asked community members to list organizations people would like to see the district partner with, she said.

"Everyone that was mentioned in our survey we in-

ited to a larger workshop," Potter said. "About 16 of those mentioned partners showed up and we walked through ... what they would like to see in the space."

Potter said the needs established by the workshop were programming, temporary amenities, and art.

"About 98 percent of the comments were based around art, whether it be temporary art or art elements," Potter said. "So we knew right there we needed to focus our energy on bringing some sort of art element to Black Hawk Mini Park."

Following the survey and workshop, Potter said, the Downtown District met with local art partners to come up with a temporary installation.

"Public Space One had

mentioned that it is a great thing to bring art to the area, but it maybe needs to have another component to it because this space is really in need of shade and seating and staging," Potter said.

The district recommended Hannah Givler, a local artist and University of Iowa lecturer in design and sculpture to design the installation.

"I believe that architectural space can convey meaning. I believe that it can contain ideas and share stories and also affect social behavior and share history," Givler said. "So when I was met with the possibility of developing a proposal for this site, I thought about the current climate of social anxiety on a local and national level. What I wanted most was to design a space that would be welcoming and

facilitate belonging."

From that idea, she developed a structure influenced by the American foursquare homes popular in the Midwest between the 1890s and 1930s. The homes are known for their square, boxy design.

"Using the house form, I modified the design slightly so that every face of the building is an entrance," Potter said.

Givler said American foursquare houses were some of the most affordable homes of the time, often distributed as "kit houses" that could be ordered and distributed through a catalogue.

Givler said she intentionally left the structure's design open, light, and flexible, outlined with minimal steel framing.

The structure's design is

ERNST

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

office will host three of these events in each of Iowa's 99 counties this year.

Ernst did not attend the meeting, but the attendees were told all concerns would be passed along to the senator. Approximately 30 community members were present.

"My role here is to take your concerns and comments and share them with the senator and the rest of her team," Pritchard said.

In May, Iowa became one of 33 states to enact voter-identification laws,

which are set to go into effect by June 2018. Signed by then-Gov. Terry Branstad, HF 516 requires voters to present driver's licenses, military IDs, passports, or state-issued voter-identification cards at the polls. The law also drew audience attention.

"I'm really concerned about voting access and voting rights, now that we have a new voter ID law in Iowa. The rollout is looking confusing," UI graduate student Brynn Bogert told Pritchard. "I'm really concerned about people who don't have Iowa driver's licenses and when they'll be able to get their alternate IDs."

The meeting took place amid the Senate's standoff on the GOP's proposed replacement for the Affordable Care Act. On Tuesday, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky, announced it had failed.

"It's got to be horrible for the doctors to figure out how to get care for their patients, and how to get it paid for, let alone just doing the right thing for their patient," said Holly Sanger, a U.S. veteran.

Despite Sanger's political affiliation, she said, she still expects Ernst to work in her favor.

"I know [Ernst] is a Republican senator from Iowa, but she represents all of

us," Sanger said. "She took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. It's time for her to do that."

For two-time cancer survivor Barbara VanRheenen, affordable treatment is also a concern with the GOP's efforts to repeal the ACA.

"When my husband and I got married, we decided to do the grown-up thing and get life insurance. But unfortunately, I had a pre-existing condition, and I was in the high-risk pool," VanRheenen said. "No insurance company would give me life insurance, and when I finally did find one, the premiums were too high for me to afford."

BIKES

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

ah Walz told *The Daily Iowan*. The goal of the plan is to make Iowa City safer and more appealing for current and would-be cyclists.

"We have a lot of people who are comfortable biking, but we have more folks that would like to bike to get to the places they need to go, and so we want to make sure they can do that safely," Walz said.

To formulate the plan, Walz and the consultants held two public workshops, conducted online surveys, and asked cyclists to map out where they currently bike, where they would like to bike, and which areas are problematic or intimidating, she said.

"The idea is to get people from the places where they are to the places where they need to go on the routes that make most sense," she said.

Walz said that infrastructure and facility updates will be combined

with fun and educational events to reach out to those in the community who may be wary or nervous about taking to the road.

And they certainly have reason to be. According to the Master Bike Plan draft, 138 cycling accidents occurred between 2011 and 2015, with 67 percent resulting in an injury of some kind.

Conditions are usually much safer on roads with designed spaces for bikes, but Walz said, "We have some streets that we have bike lanes either on, or planned, but right now they're disconnected."

Cyclists also have to contend with such barriers as the Iowa River, Burlington Street, and Highway 6, she said.

"How do we get people from East Campus to West Campus, or from south of Highway 6 to north of Highway 6, especially kids or people in the industrial area?" she said. "How can we ... get them across that highway safer and more efficiently so that they can take advantage of ed-

ucational opportunities, extracurriculars, economic opportunities?"

The proposed plan includes maps of "community-identified barriers to bicycling," as well as proposed maps of trails, bike lanes, road signs, and other methods that can be used to connect the existing bike infrastructure.

A seamless bike system allows a bicycle to become a viable transportation option for anyone.

"It can have benefits for people who are economically challenged," Walz said. "We have issues with kids wanting to participate in afterschool programming and sports, people trying to access jobs, who maybe don't have regular access to a car or for whom transit it not always an ideal option."

A significant portion of Iowa City's population — students — can also benefit from bikes being affordable.

"For many students, instead of driving and worrying about parking, which has a ton of costs, biking is a lot lower cost ... it's a

way for students to get off campus instead of being confined to one location," said Gustave Stewart, University of Iowa Student Government's vice City Council liaison and bike intern for the Office of Sustainability.

Making biking more accessible to everyone will help the city achieve its goal of having 5.5 percent of the city's residents commuting via bike and also dovetail with the city's reduced greenhouse-gas emissions goals, because fewer people will be driving.

City Councillor Kingsley Botchway is excited about the plan, he said, if a little critical.

"If we're doing it for the 5 percent that is part of the [League of American Bicyclists] Gold Standard, that's good, but if we're really talking about reducing carbon emissions and talking about how we can be environmentally friendly, bike friendly, let's see that number at 20 percent, 50 percent," he said. "Let's push for a goal."

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BREAKING NEWS

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20 feet tall and 40 feet across at its widest, with the base a little under 2 feet high, Givler said. It would include a railing around the perimeter and an ADA accessible ramp with two stairways for entrance on the sides.

"Our hope is that we can start construction here soon and then it can stay up until the end of Octo-

ber," Potter said.

City Councillor Susan Mims said at Tuesday's meeting that she likes the idea of temporary things that will draw people to downtown.

"I really like the experimental nature of what the district has been doing, and this is just another instance of it," Mayor Jim Throgmorton said.



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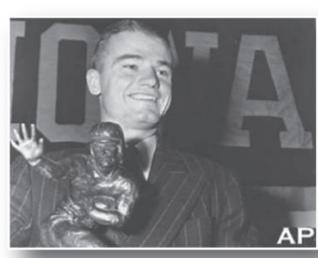
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RESEARCH

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

but by vision, imagination, and cooperation,” he said. “It’s about forging new frontiers of discovery and innovation and promoting a culture of creativity that inspires and motivates.”

UI President Bruce Harreld said at the June 8 state Board of Regents meeting at the University of Northern Iowa that the interaction of students, faculty, and staff in the areas of graduate and professional programs, research, and outreach create the value students seek from the institution.

“As we work to implement our strategic plan, these three distinct ar-

reas of our university that support the success of our students will be the focus of our investments,” he said. “These future investments — while they may not seem directly related to the success of our students — most certainly impact them in very profound ways.”

One of the key goals of the UI’s recently approved

only hinder the discovery that will address those challenges. President Trump’s proposed budget for fiscal 2018 includes funding cuts to agencies such as the National Science Foundation, NASA, and the Environmental Protection Agency that fuel science and medical research.

UI interim Provost Sue Curry told *The Daily Iowan* the cuts would not

‘It will not be possible for philanthropy to replace federal and state research funding; it’s too big of a hole.’

— Lynette Marshall, UI Foundation president and CEO

strategic plan for 2016-21 is to perform high-impact research through identifying the “grand challenges of the 21st century,” supporting curricular innovations, and investing in research centers, among other tasks.

But there is concern that this trend of declining federal funding will

completely stop the research enterprise, but for the UI, it would become a matter of competition.

“It’s just going to be more competitive and fewer dollars, so how do we continue to compete in that environment and what opportunities and resources can we bring



Nick Rohlman/The Daily Iowan

UI interim Provost Sue Curry speaks to UI President Bruce Harreld during a state Board of Regents' meeting on June 8.

as a university to encourage successful research with our faculty,” she said.

There are people who care deeply about the research that people conduct at universities, but the scale of support federal

agencies provide is “dramatic” and could not solely be made up by philanthropy, UI Foundation President and CEO Lynette Marshall told the *DI*.

“It will not be possible for philanthropy to replace federal and state

research funding; it’s too big of a hole,” she said. “... We need as a society to continue supporting and investing in basic and applied research to continue our position in that arena nationally, internationally.”

VUE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

unique in Iowa City, a focal point,” said Michael Wilson, the food and beverage manager of the restaurant. “We would like to be the rooftop restaurant of Iowa and the surrounding area.”

The hotel itself is a \$34 million project located on 318 S. Clinton St., and, besides the rooftop bar and restaurant, it will feature a pool in the basement, 114 rooms, a fitness room, and other amenities, while the rooftop offers a unique experience.

The Vue features a spacious interior, with a

terrace overlooking the south and west sides of downtown. The restaurant plans to have local beverages on tap, Wilson said, and approximately 40 menu items.

Downtown District Executive Director Nancy Bird said she has increased her staff to brace the district for the increased foot traffic from the hotel.

“We want to make sure that the conferences and the people the hotel brings will be well-supported by the downtown,” Bird said.

The rooftop bar and restaurant is being constructed in hopes of integrating it to the downtown experience Iowa City offers, Wilson said.

“Our motivation is that we’re trying to create a singular experience for downtown Iowa City,” he said. “When you’re on top, we’re trying to create a feeling of escape.”

That “feeling of escape” will be unmatched in Iowa City, Kineth said, in part because the hotel offers a unique atmosphere and a height advantage that will create the feeling.

“It’s premium space and the best views in Iowa City,” Kineth said. “It will just be unbelievably cool when it gets opens.”

Kineth sets his sights high.

“Hopefully, it will be the premier rooftop bar in the Midwest and,



Joseph Cress/The Daily Iowan

Construction continues on the Hilton Garden Inn on Tuesday. The 12th floor of the hotel will feature a rooftop restaurant/bar.

hopefully, the country,” he said.

The proximity to the downtown gives it an advantage, and Kineth

said he is ready to embrace the traffic.

“I think it’s going to be a big catalyst for an already thriving down-

town,” Kineth said. “There will be a lot more people [from] out of town coming to the downtown.”

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Opinions

COLUMN

Religion as a trend fails again



TRAVIS COLTRAIN
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Religious freedom is one of the founding ideals of this country. In the United States, an individual has the freedom to identify with any religion, whether that be as a member of the First Church of Cannabis or a member of the Church of Satan. America was formed with religious freedom very much in mind, and that battle continues to this day.

A lot has changed since the witch hunts of the Early Modern Period, when an estimated 35,000 to 100,000 people were executed under the pretense of being witches. Now, more than 400 years later, we have pop-culture icons using once-taboo religions as a way to gain popularity.

Recently, from Buddhism to Satanism, select religious have become trendy. This is where an issue that comes with religious freedom comes into play, the power to participate in a religion because it is viewed as cool or trendy. This can lead to unrealistic portrayals of a religion because those who simply jumped on the bandwagon are doing it for popularity reasons, not necessarily because they have a true understanding of the religion.

A prime example of this is Matt Skiba, the lead singer of the rock band Blink-182. Recently, Skiba told *NME Magazine* in an interview, "I had a bad feeling about that event [Fyre Festival]. I consider myself a pagan and a witch. With every inch of my energy, I wanted Fyre not to happen ... I used my witchy ways, and it seemed to work. I'll take responsibility, and everyone can blame me."

However, this is untrue for two reasons. The organizers of Fyre Festival, Billy McFarland, who co-founded the event with rapper Ja Rule, have since

been charged with fraud, in which they admitted the festival was a disaster because they spent all the money on promotions and advertisements, meaning it was doomed to fail before Skiba and his "magic" had anything to do with it.

The second reason is the more important one: Skiba is known as practicing LaVeyan Satanism and has been open about that since 2005. While to many people Wicca and Satanism seem to be pretty much the same thing, that couldn't be further from the truth.

The one key difference between the two religions is belief.

LaVeyan Satanists are actually atheist and do not believe in God or Satan, they simply view the idea of Satan as a symbol for individualism. However, Wiccans do believe in a god and goddess, and some variations of Wicca actually worship numerous gods.

Ironically enough, on the Church of Satan's website under the Frequently Asked Questions section, it clearly states when asked if they are allied with Wicca, "Satanism is an atheist philosophy, hence it is not congruent with any other philosophy or religion which endorses the belief in supernatural entities."

This showcases Skiba and his "witchy powers" had nothing to do with the outcome of Fyre Festival, and he was just using Wicca as a steppingstone to put himself in the spotlight. Furthermore, his statement conflated paganism with Satanism, which can lead to more confusion and stigma about two belief systems that are already usually misunderstood.

America gives us the opportunity to learn and experience a vast number of religions, and while it is great to explore and learn about as many religions as possible, we also have to respect their ideals and not simply view them as a trendy statement.

A religion isn't a trend, it is an ideology that needs to be treated with respect, even if it promotes ideas that you do not agree with.

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COLUMN

Beguiled, bemused, and befuddled

By DOT ARMSTRONG
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When I finally saw *The Beguiled*, my excitement waned after the first 15 minutes of dewy mansions and frayed petticoats. A dark fairy tale about white Southern women, with no people of color in sight? Something felt distinctly, disturbingly anachronistic about this — and it wasn't the corsets.

It's a trite feminist tale, beginning with the arrival of a wounded Yankee soldier (Colin Farrell) at Farnsworth Seminary (run by an imposing Nicole Kidman, populated by a host of diaphanous young actresses), and ending with the assertion of the power of the patriarchy. OK, fine. I stayed, of course, through the passion, and betrayal, and (spoiler alert) emasculating amputation, and (bigger spoiler alert) manslaughter because I wanted to know why Sofia Coppola made the darn movie in the first place. Turns out Coppola's film is a remake of a 1971 movie by Don Siegel, which in turn was an adaptation of a 1966 novel by Thomas P. Cullinan. What?

Having never read the novel nor watched the original film, I went into the theater quite blind — like many other viewers, no doubt. I had no idea that there were two black women missing from the plot. Coppola trimmed them out like weeds to allow the white ladies to blossom. I hope my innocence and subsequent research will assist you in making the call on Coppola's



contributed

artistic choices. Some sources cry "whitewashing." Others defend Coppola's delicacy in tiptoeing around potentially stereotypical portrayals of black folks. Coppola, to her credit, articulated her motivations and ideas for the film in a concise essay published on IndieWire, but I'm not persuaded.

Though Coppola makes a convincing case for her gloss of slavery and erasure of black characters, she's got a history of subtracting people of color (*Bling Ring*) and avoiding the messy bits of history (*Marie Antoinette*). Look those movies up, and you'll see what I mean. There's something coy, blithe, and unnervingly true to form about the way she pruned the problematic racial material from the typical plight of Southern belles pent up with their passions.

OK, back to the mysterious invisible wom-

en of *The Beguiled*. According to an article in *Slate*, Coppola combined Edwina, a biracial teenager, with Harriet Farnsworth, sister to Martha, resulting in the Edwina played by Kirsten Dunst; the slave girl Mattie (Hallie, in the Siegel film) was straight-up subtracted.

Coppola, an expert in portraying wealthy, disillusioned white women, stuck with what she knew — for better or worse. She defended herself with careful sentences about her concern with correct portrayals of slaves, her need to develop the drama between the main (white) characters, and her contempt for the stereotypes perpetuated by the original characters she excised. Coppola made one important point in this essay: Evidence does support her hazy vision of upper-class Southern white ladies isolated and altered by the ravages

of war. Yes, such a phenomenon had its own intriguing struggles and maybe deserves a cinematic re-enactment. But Coppola breezes past any hint of the complicated facts of the Civil War with three damningly simple words: "The slaves left." That's it? Highly suspect. Slavery did not just disappear when the Union soldiers descended upon the plantations.

I'd allow an exploration of Southern femininity if it weren't at the expense of two black characters. I respect Coppola's sensitivity to her own limited perspective and her vision of a house of women divided by dire circumstances, but she missed a crucial opportunity to restore nuance to the typical Southern narrative. A word of advice for anyone looking to make another Civil War film: Historical fiction can't escape the thorns and tangles of actual history.

COLUMN

Some scars might never heal



WILLIAM SMITH
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Sometimes, the hardest thing to do is tell someone with big dreams they can't follow them, simply because the world is not yet ready for change. To stomp on a person's goals not because of any rational reason outside of "other people will take offense to this."

My sister is a part of the Hope Summer Repertory Theater, a troupe through Hope College, and it recently put on the play *Curious George: The Golden Meatball*. In the play, the lead role of the curious little monkey went to Chaz Sanders, a 26-year-old man. My sister said all of the children who have come to see the show so far have loved Sanders in the role.

However, some adults have problems with the casting. You see, Sanders is a black man playing the role of George among a predominantly white cast, and that's where problems arise.

Historically, black people have often been compared to monkeys as a way demoralizing the community by making them seem savage and animalistic. So when George is played by a black man in the largely white conservative town of Holland, Michigan, the role can be seen as highly racist.

When I first heard about a black man being cast in the role of a monkey, I was furious. I saw this as a direct attack on the black community. I believed that having a black man por-

she would agree with me that this crossed a line, especially considering that my sister was teased in elementary school and even called "gorilla" by her classmates.

But in her eyes, the play had nothing to do with race. Sanders was just an actor doing his job, trying to bring a smile to children's faces. When I told her my opinion about this, she asked me how can the world truly progress if it's stuck living in the past? Why does casting an actor as a monkey

LaBeouf unleashed a flurry of profanities and racial remarks at a black police officer. This is coming from a man who claims to believe in equal rights, who prides himself on being liberal. To add even more irony to the situation, while LaBeouf was being arrested, he made negative comments about the president and said there was a problem of black men being shot by police.

While LaBeouf was clearly intoxicated and very much in the wrong with his self-righteous statements, this situation and the one with my sister's play are not completely different. Both of them aren't

intentionally trying to be racist, yet both scenarios are perceived as such. And yet while it's easy to hate LaBeouf for being a bigot, it's harder to be mad when my sister does make a fair point about freedom of self-expression.

I have stated before I believe America is broken in regards to equal rights, and I stand by the opinion today. Now, however, I find myself questioning where can we draw the line between self-expression and prejudice of all kinds, racism included.

'Why does casting an actor as a monkey who is just trying to make kids happy have to be racist?'

traying a naïve, trouble-making monkey was completely crossing the line.

It wasn't until my sister called me in tears because the president of her college made her tear down all the promotional posters and fliers for the play because college officials had received complaints about their being racist that I started to think about this in a different light. My sister being upset by having to remove the posters caught me off-guard. I thought

who is just trying to make kids happy have to be racist?

I feel like I failed her. I failed her because I didn't have a response other than, some things people can't forget. I wish I could tell her racism is gone, that the world is completely equal and anyone can do anything. But then I look back at the world. And I know it's not true.

For instance, on July 8, actor Shia LaBeouf was arrested for public drunkenness, and while being arrested,

For Cook, Baer, work, work, work on game

Two Hawkeye basketball players, Nicholas Baer and Tyler Cook, have used Prime Time to fine-tune their games.

BY JORDAN ZUNIGA
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After last season's somewhat disappointing finish, the Hawkeye basketball players have spent the summer focusing on improving.

It is no shock that 12 Iowa basketball players have participated in the Prime Time to keep tuned up for the upcoming season.

The Prime Time regular season ended on July 13 and it's time to check in on how two of the Hawkeyes did this summer.

Tyler Cook



Joseph Cress/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Tyler Cook leaps over a defender to grab a rebound during a Prime Time game in the North Liberty Community Center on July 13.

Last season, Cook had an extremely successful freshman campaign, putting up a stat line of 12.3 points and 5.3 rebounds.

This summer, he has focused on his offensive game, working on his mid-range shot and post game in order to be more versatile for the upcoming season.

One offensive move that Cook has put a lot of time into this summer is his step-back jumper, hoping it can become one of his go-to moves.

Not only is he focused on versatility but also how he can improve physically. Most athletics programs have strict nutrition plans to keep their players healthy and able to keep up with the rigorous workouts, but Cook he has decided to cut out sugary foods as well as soda from his diet.

His roommates do not even bring them into the apartment.

knowledge of the game [has improved the most this summer]," Cook said. "I've been scoring the ball from all three levels much more efficiently. I can recognize different ways guys are playing me. Also, I'm able to read defenses; overall, I think I'm a much smarter basketball player and more consistent."

Figuring that Cook will be a big part of the Hawkeye basketball team this winter, Iowa fans should be excited by the hard work the 6-9 forward has put in this summer.

Nicholas Baer



Joseph Cress/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Nicholas Baer drives toward the hoop during a Prime Time game in North Liberty on July 9.

At the end of last season, the Big Ten named Baer the Sixth Man of the Year.

The former walk-on is accustomed to needing to prove himself, but that won't be the case this season; he figures to be a staple in the Hawkeyes' rotation this season.

Last year, Baer finished the season averaging 7.5 points, 5.8 rebounds, 1.7 assists, 1.4 steals, and 1.3 blocks per game.

If you thought Baer might take this summer lightly, you couldn't be more wrong; he has worked tirelessly this summer to become a better scorer.

"I saw a huge improvement in Baer since the season ended," Cook said. "With Pete [Jok] being gone, we're going to need some more scoring, and Baer has really taken that to heart. Not only is he taking more shots, but he's making more

shots. His bag of tricks has gotten so much larger."

This summer, Baer has averaged 25.3 points, 11.8 rebounds, and 5.7 assists; unfortunately, Prime Time does not count steals or blocks, but fear not, Baer has had no shortage of those this summer.

The draw of making it

to the NCAA Tournament that has driven him this off-season, he said.

"It's always been a personal and team goal to make it back to the NCAA Tournament," Baer said. "I think everybody has to make big strides and im-

provements, and we've really done that collectively as a team."

Each of the last two seasons, his game has grown, and it seems as if next season, Hawkeye fans will once again see an improved Baer.

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WALSH

CONTINUED FROM 8

me this summer,” Walsh said. “I love being outside on the water. The coaches have been great, giving me the opportunity to try different things, even in my first few weeks. Rowing is an intense, physical sport, and I’m enjoying pushing myself to catch up with my new teammates.”

With obvious differences between the two sports, Walsh has found her bearings and begun to reclaim her balance in an entirely

new atmosphere.

Though obstacles may be lurking, she is not one to shy away from challenge and adversity.

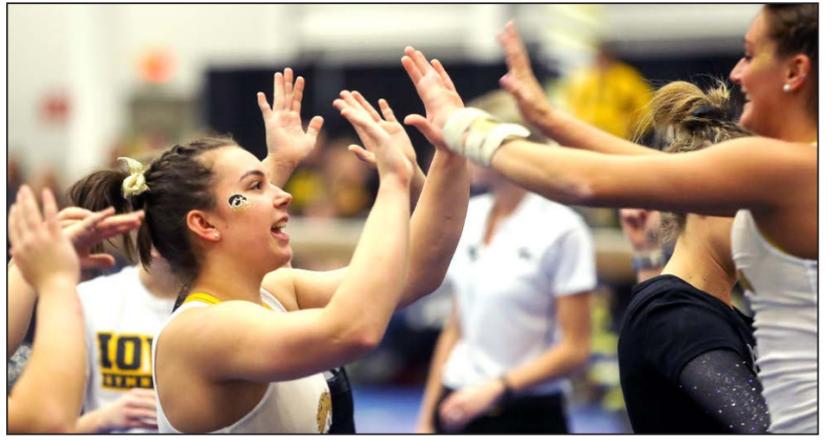
“Even though gymnastics is considered a team sport, it is also very much an individual sport,” Walsh said. “Everyone does her own routine, one person at a time. Whereas in rowing, you must be in perfect sync with everyone in the boat. The biggest challenge so far is making sure that I’m in sync with everyone around me.”

Upon the conclusion of the Henley Regatta, the Hawkeyes will re-

sume normal training in mid-August to prepare for their fall regatta schedule.

Walsh joins the squad after its impressive run this past spring, landing a 15th-place finish at the National Championships in West Windsor, New Jersey.

“I’m excited to take on this challenge,” Walsh said. “And because Iowa rowing is coming off a successful season, I’m looking forward to the chance to be part of something great here. All of the hard work at practice makes it all worthwhile; there truly are no fans like Hawkeye fans.”



File Photo/The Daily Iowan

After a successful vault, Hawkeye Angel Metcalf high-fives teammate Tessa Walsh during the Black/Gold meet in the Field House on Dec. 3, 2016. Walsh is currently training with the rowing team after two years as a GymHawk.

CROWL

CONTINUED FROM 8

The games will be Io-

wa’s chance to prepare for its unique opportunity to represent the USA National Team both at the National Baseball Congress World Series and

at the World University Games in Taipei, Taiwan. “Getting to represent your country is an unbelievable feeling,” Crowl said. “Something words

can’t even explain. It’s an honor of the highest form, obviously; our team goal is to win a gold medal for our country.”

For Crowl, its more than

an opportunity to represent his country, it’s also a time to prove that he

deserves a spot in Iowa’s starting lineup come next spring.

NEUSTROM

CONTINUED FROM 8

Neustrom is one of four players named to the All-

Star roster from the Big Ten.

He will be joined by Minnesota’s Micah Coffey, who happens to be his teammate, as well as Nebraska’s Luis Alvara-

do and Ohio State’s Ryan Feltner.

First pitch for the All-Star Game is set for 5:05 p.m. at Clem Spillane Field in Wareham, Massachusetts.

After the game is over, Neustrom will rejoin the Hawkeye baseball team as they gear up to play three home tune-up games at Banks Field, with the first on July 25.

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- **Business Intelligence Meeting**, 1:30 p.m., 2520D University Capitol Center
- **Iowa City Farmers' Market**, 5-7 p.m., Chauncey Swan parking ramp
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Charles Holdefer & Anthony Varallo, fiction**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- **National Advanced Driving Simulator: Driver Distraction, John Gaspar**, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **JailBus, Dryad, & Blank Spell**, 8 p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington
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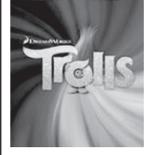
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VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Professional opportunities arise in conversation with your network. Forge ahead, and talk about the possibilities. Get expert support for the tricky stuff. Obsess over details.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): News affects your decisions over the next few days, especially regarding travel or studies. Plan your route. Your wit and cleverness attract new opportunities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Work together with your partner to keep accounts current over the next few days. Discuss financial priorities, and align on a course of action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Compromise comes easier over the next few days. Coordinated efforts get through. Be receptive. Listen to your elders. Make future plans together.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Over the next two days, get your ideas into motion. Share them far and wide. Communications pay off. Talk about your work and health.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Have fun with family and friends through tomorrow. Share resources and chores. Relax and entertain each other. Learn from the ones you love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Discuss what could be possible for your home with family today and tomorrow. Invest in efficiency. Share ideas and solutions. Implement the best ones.

Today's Birthday (07/19/17). Renewal and family growth come to your house this year. Care for yourself so you can care for others. Financial teamwork with family and partners provides a positive balance. Autumn love inspires the following year. Put in the effort for thriving partnerships. Create a dreamy romance.

Wednesday, July 19, 2017
by Linda Black

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 7/19/17

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

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

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The New York Times Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Terra ___ (old name for Newfoundland)
 - Symbol for torque
 - Malfunction
 - 1977 Lucas film
 - Jewish organization known for its outreach work
 - Dish featuring corn chips as a main ingredient
 - Regarding this matter
 - Took top honors
 - 1871 Eliot novel
 - Stamp collector's unit
 - Immigrant's course, for short
 - Syllable in oldies songs
 - Off-axis
 - Dial, e.g.
 - 1924 Gershwin composition
 - Self-referential
 - Bush denizen, for short
 - Lead-in to boy
 - 2010 Bush autobiography
 - Coupling device
 - Heavily involved
 - Actor Robert of 1970s-'80s TV's "Quincy, M.E."
 - Early platform for The Legend of Zelda, for short
 - Colony members
 - 1970 Harrison song
 - Wife, with "the"
 - Looking skyward
 - Easy way to get information on something nowadays
 - Raising of spirits?
 - Exclamation that describes 13-, 20-, 30-, 39- and 51-Across
 - Fire
 - ___ chi ch'uan
 - Gymnastics event, informally
- DOWN**
- [Warning: explicit content]
 - Other, in Oaxaca
 - Pointless
 - ___ does not surpass nature, but only brings it to perfection": Cervantes
 - Access
 - Bum ___
 - Amazon category
 - Secretary of state during the Korean War
 - Place to find solutions in school
 - Plantation of book and film
 - Some paid rides
 - Aid in quitting smoking
 - Word before Day or World on magazine racks
 - Capital of Qatar
 - Scrape or cut
 - Office of the Vatican

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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57								58			59		
60										61			
										62			
										63			64

PUZZLE BY ANDREW ZHOU

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 25 Place for a 12-Down | 34 Suffix with major | 48 "And the ___ goes to ..." |
| 26 Sloughed off | 38 "Poor venomous fool," in Shakespeare | 50 Celebratory cry |
| 27 Like the baby in a 9 1/2-month pregnancy | 40 Playwright Eugene | 52 T.S.A. tool |
| 29 Highland patterns | 41 Flying pest, slangily | 53 Letters associated with a rainbow flag |
| 31 Like the Atacama Desert among all places on earth | 42 Polish dumpling | 54 Just |
| 32 "___-hoo!" | 46 Shock jock Don | 55 Baltic capital |
| 33 Magazine founder Eric | 47 Sort with a high-energy personality | 56 Modern education acronym |
| | | 59 High throw |

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.

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 ★★★★★

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DI CALENDAR BLANK

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Minnesota softball coach Jessica Allister calls it quits, heads to Stanford

The University of Minnesota has announced that softball head coach Jessica Allister will leave the Gophers and head to Stanford.



Allister coach

Allister, a Stanford alumna, has been with Minnesota for seven years; none of them tops the 2017 season.

The Gophers ended the season with an astounding 56-6 record as well as a national ranking. Allister was also named the Big Ten Coach of the Year as she led the team to its fifth-consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance.

But Stanford is where she wanted to be, apparently. She turned down a contract extension from Minnesota that would have made her one of the highest-paid coaches in the Big Ten.

While at Stanford as a player, Allister held the record for games played as a catcher, and she led the Cardinal to two College Softball World Series.

Hawkeye Tweets:

The Iowa Hawkeyes (@TheIowaHawkeyes) tweeted:

"Single-game ticket information for 2017 @HawkeyeFootball: #FightForIowa"

Iowa Women's Golf (@IowaWomensGolf) tweeted:

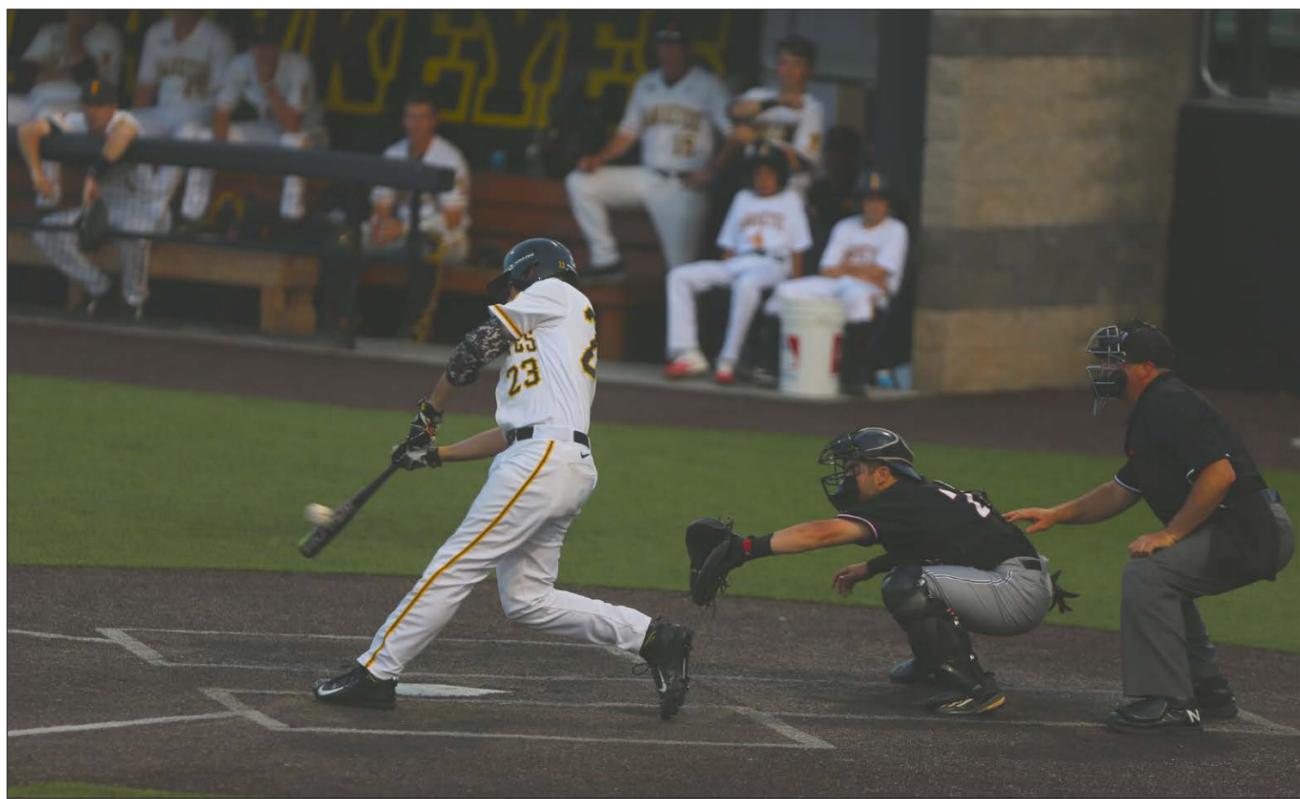
"@MorganKukla5 is competing at the Illinois Women's Open this week. Make the #Hawkeyes proud, Morgan!"

Iowa Gymnastics (@IowaGymnastics) tweeted:

"It's been a long time coming but please join us in wishing a Happy 21st Birthday to @mdrenth17"

Future is now for Crowl

Hawkeye Kyle Crowl is doing everything he can this summer to turn last year's success into a tradition.



Iowa infielder Kyle Crowl makes contact against Omaha at Banks Field on May 16. The Hawkeyes pulled off another comeback win with 3 runs in the eighth inning and 2 in the ninth in a 9-8 victory. File photo/The Daily Iowan

By JORDAN ZUNIGA
jordan-zuniga@uiowa.edu

For Hawkeye baseball fans and rising sophomore Kyle Crowl, this past Iowa baseball season is one they won't forget anytime soon.

Crowl may have looked on from the Iowa bench for the most part, but last season's experience has him anxious to prove himself worthy of a spot in the lineup.

The main point is to help get his team back to the position of repeating last season's success.

"Winning the Big Ten Championship is something I'll remember for the rest of my life," Crowl said. "It's one of those things you tell your kids about. My personal

goal for next year is to get back to the Big Ten Championship and see how far we can go."

Being a freshman on an extremely talented team last year meant limited opportunities for Crowl; he got only 33 at-bats and managed only 2 hits, one being a 2-run homer in his first college at-bat against South Florida on Feb. 18.

Because of his limited opportunities, Crowl has been doing everything he can with his summer-league team, the Quincy Gems.

So far, Crowl's wish for more at-bats has come to fruition. Through 27 games, he has 108 plate appearances. So far, he has posted a .269 average with 4 homers and 15 RBIs.

Last season, Crowl split time between shortstop and third base; he expects next season will be more of the same.

With guys such as Jake Adams and Mason McCoy finding new homes in the pros, Crowl knows it will be up to guys such as him to take their place.

"We have to replace a few guys who were vital parts of our lineup and pitching staff [last season]," Crowl said. "Our sophomore class hopes to leave a mark. We want to be the team that takes Iowa back to the College World Series and help lead our future into a team that can constantly get back to the College World Series and win numerous Big Ten Championships."

His summer team plays in

the Prospects Summer League, which is also the league in which fellow Hawkeye sophomore Justin Jenkins is spending his summer.

"I talk to him all the time," Crowl said. "He's one of my good buddies from Iowa. It's been a really fun summer for both of us, so it's fun to talk about how were doing."

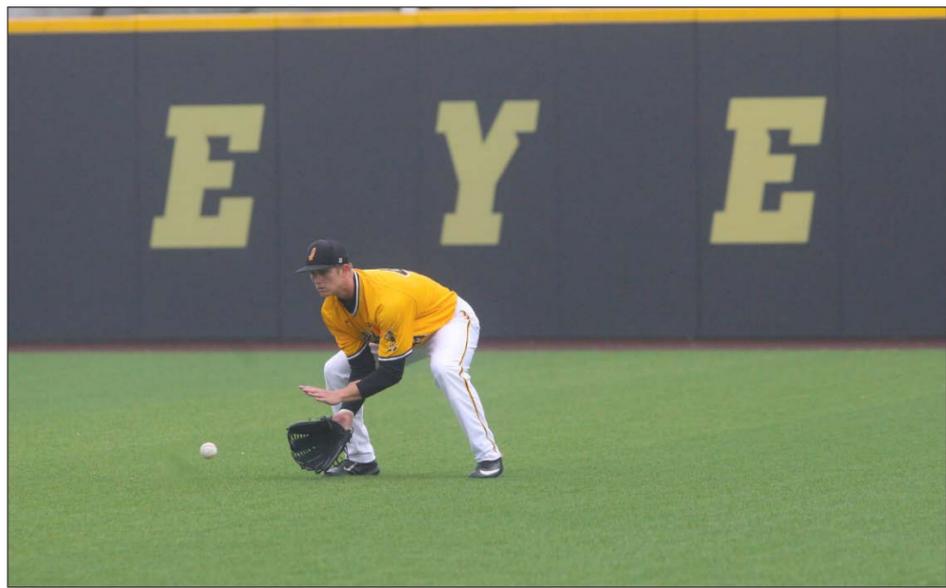
Both Hawkeyes will be with their summer teams until they return to Iowa City July 25 for the first of three games that Iowa is scheduled to host.

All three will take place at Banks Field starting at 7 p.m.; the other two games will be played July 27 and Aug. 10.

SEE CROWL, 6

Neustrom makes Cape Cod All-Star team

After leaving his mark on the Hawkeye baseball team this past spring, Iowa junior Robert Neustrom is going above and beyond in the Cape Cod Summer Baseball League.



Iowa right fielder Robert Neustrom fields a ground ball against Purdue at Banks Field on March 27. The Hawkeyes defeated the Boilermakers, 7-2, taking the series, 2-1. File Photo/The Daily Iowan

By JESS WESTENDORF
jessica-westendorf@uiowa.edu

Iowa baseball and its fans should be excited, especially after last season's performance and the plans to represent Team USA in the 2017 World University Games in August.

But amid the excitement, Hawkeye right-fielder, Robert Neustrom has another reason to celebrate.

On Tuesday, Neustrom was named as a Cape Cod League All-Star by the summer college league.

After Iowa's season ended after its great run to the NCAA Houston Regional, Neustrom took his game to the Cape Cod to play for the

Hyannis Harbor Hawks.

Since joining the team, the rising junior is hitting .294 in 27 games with 4 doubles and 3 home runs in 85 at-bats.

Not only is his bat hot, he leads the Hyannis Harbor Hawks with 15 RBIs and 14 runs.

Last season, Neustrom became a front-runner on the Hawkeye team.

He started all 61 games, 60 in right field and one in center. At the plate, he averaged .310 with 79 hits, 41 runs, and 55 RBIs.

At the end of last season, he was named second-team All-Big Ten.

In the Cape Cod League All-Star Game,

SEE NEUSTROM, 6

Walsh finds balance on the water

Former Hawkeye gymnast Tessa Walsh has hung up her leotard and traded the balance beam and bars for boats and oars.

By MEGAN SPRENGELER
megan-sprengeler@uiowa.edu

Hawkeye junior Tessa Walsh has decided to leave her gymnastics days behind and listen to the call of the water; she will pursue a new sport at the Division I level: rowing.

After working to make a full recovery following a handful of taxing injuries, Walsh knew her days as a college gymnast were numbered.

The Naperville, Illinois, native initially chose Iowa to continue gymnastics and education after falling in love with the contagious Hawkeye spirit that immerses the charming college town of Iowa City.

A computer-science major, Walsh came to Iowa, following in her mother's and father's footsteps.

Daunting as it may seem, the former gymnast is eager to tackle the new challenge.

"Being a Hawkeye means a lot to me, and staying at Iowa was the only option," Walsh said. "I was literally jumping into this sport not knowing a thing about it. I love taking on new challenges, and rowing was the perfect opportunity to try something new and exciting. It's been an awesome experience so far, and I'm very excited to continue rowing and learning all about the sport."

The squad has trained vigorously this summer as part of a U.S. rowing pipeline U23 selection camp, set to race internationally at the Canadian Henley Regatta Aug. 6-13.

Though summer poses as a good transition phase, Walsh joins the team at, perhaps, one of the most difficult times of the year — the team is training in small, one-person or two-person boats, which are tougher to stabilize.

"The Iowa rowing family has been so welcoming to

SEE WALSH, 6