



TOP: Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house. MIDDLE: Sigma Nu fraternity house
 BOTTOM: Delta Chi fraternity house

UI removes 3 more fraternities

Three more fraternities in addition to Kappa Sigma lost their registered student organizations statuses for hazing and alcohol policy violations.

BY KAYLI REESE
 kayli-reese@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa on Thursday removed Delta Chi, Sigma Nu, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon from their status as registered student organizations. On Wednesday, the university had yanked Kappa Sigma's status.

"The University of Iowa is very proud of the fraternity and sorority system, but we have high expectations," said Melissa Shivers, UI vice president for Student Life and interim chief diversity officer, in a press conference. "We're responsible for students' health, safety, and well-being, and that's something we will not compromise."

SEE FRATS, 2



Lily Smith/The Daily Iowan

INSIDE



The Daily Iowan will not publish a print edition during the UI winter break. Publishing will resume on Jan. 14, when the spring semester begins. For breaking news and sports coverage, along with coverage of Iowa facing Mississippi State in the Outback Bowl, read online at dailyiowan.com.

Go to dailyiowan.com to see the latest news.



Quarterbacks, special teams grade out
 Nate Stanley saw peaks and valleys throughout the season, but ultimately, the positives outweighed the negatives. On the special-team front, a game-winner to end the season capped off a year with solid kicking, returning, and punting.



Tune in for LIVE updates
 Watch for campus and city news, weather, and Hawkeye sports coverage every day at 8:30 a.m. at dailyiowan.com.



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Roosevelt closure forces youth program to relocate

The social-emotional athletics development program for youth launched last month; now, the only location it has known will close.



Nick Rohlman/The Daily Iowan

Fifth Ward Saints North founder Carlos Honore works with students and volunteer coaches during a wrestling practice at the Roosevelt Education Center on Monday. Fifth Ward Saints provides social services alongside a variety of sports and activity-based afterschool programs for at-risk students.

BY CHRISTOPHER BORRO
 christopher-borro@uiowa.edu

Members of Fifth Ward Saints North are considering finding a new location to call home after the Iowa City School District announced that the Roosevelt Education Center would close at the end of the academic year.

The program officially launched on Nov. 5, allowing fifth and sixth-grade students to receive social-services care while participating in football, bas-

ketball, wrestling, dancing, cheerleading, and both visual and performing arts.

Fifth Ward Saints is named after the Fifth Ward neighborhood in Houston, where founder and CEO Carlos Honore launched the initiative in 2009.

Honore described some of the students as having learning disabilities, schizophrenia, or behavioral disorders and said the care and instruction his organization provides will better prepare them for their

SEE CLOSURE, 2

Gamers hope to bring new varsity sport to campus

UI gaming student organizations join to develop an e-sport community with hopes to rebrand into a competitive sport.

BY ALEXANDRA SKORES
 alexandra-skores@uiowa.edu

Some students have formed a group to expand their passion for gaming into what they hope will become a varsity sport at the University of Iowa.

Student organizations involving e-sports, multiplayer video games played at a competitive level, have been prominent at the UI for a few years. Now, the student organizations Esports at Iowa and UI League of Legends Club will soon team up to form a larger organization inclusive of all competitive gaming.

Chase Sommer, the president of the Esports at Iowa, said the group's overall goal is to establish e-sports as a varsity sport — similar to the D-1 athletics at the UI — with a large arena, practice facilities, and state of the art technology for the members to compete with colleges all over.

"We want a large arena where people would fill it up like they would a football game," Sommer said. "We have developed it as our five-year goal and are making the moves to establish it at Iowa."

The group has begun to meet with key decision-makers, Sommer said, including various UI faculty members who want to make gaming prominent at the university and develop strategies to increase the audience for gaming here.

"It really is about the competition at the college

SEE GAMERS, 2

PRIME CUT



Sid Peterson/The Daily Iowan

James Friday, the owner of Friday's Barber Shop, located on the North Side, cuts Brett Lybarger's hair on Thursday. Friday has owned the shop for almost 51 years, and Lybarger says he cuts "the best flat top in Iowa City."

FRATS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The decision followed a two-month UI investigation that found numerous violations of university policy and the Fraternity/Sorority Life moratorium, including tailgating.

The fraternities will not be recognized as fraternities or registered student organizations, the release said. Disciplinary action for individual students could occur if the decision is not followed.

The UI chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon had previously closed on campus in 2012 after the chapter was found responsible for hazing and failing to follow Sigma Alpha

Epsilon policies. The Sigma Alpha Epsilon colony came back to campus in the fall of 2016.

Kappa Sigma International Fraternity also voted to revoke the UI chapter's charter on Wednesday for violating fraternity and university policies on hazing and alcohol.

Shivers said the details of Kappa Sigma's hazing cannot be released at this time.

"Parents and families send their loved ones to the UI with the expectation that their safety, health, and well-being will be the top priority," UI President Bruce Harreld said in a press release. "These decisions honor that expectation."

Fraternity houses on campus are owned and operated by private owners or housing

corporations connected to fraternities, Shivers said. The UI does not decide what happens to the current residents now that these chapters will not be recognized on campus.

While Shivers said she regrets the timing of the information — coming on finals week — it comes at a time in which students can find alternative housing over winter break should it be decided they cannot live in the houses.

Investigations into other fraternities that were temporarily suspended have now ended. The suspensions began on Nov. 2. Shivers said the suspensions provided an opportunity to look into all allegations brought to the university's attention.

The fraternities that have

been placed on probation are Acacia, Beta Theta Pi, Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Sigma Pi. The probations will remain in place until the fall of 2019.

The UI placed Phi Delta Theta on deferred suspension, which will be in place until the fall of 2020.

No evidence was found to find Phi Kappa Psi and Sigma Chi responsible for any of the allegations.

Besides Kappa Sigma, all fraternities were informed of their status throughout the day Thursday.

Shivers said any student who wishes to may appeal any of the initial decisions by filing a written notice of appeal to the UI Dean of Students Office. This process

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BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6030
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Fax: 335-6297

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Send address changes to:

The Daily Iowan,
100 Adler Journalism Building,
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2004

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CLOSURE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

future social and emotional development.

"It was just a football team when we started, and we were just giving the kids something positive to do after school," Honore said.

Jan Leff, the co-chair of the Fifth Ward Saints North board and a former School Board member, served as Honore's tutor when he was a student at Iowa City West.

When he spoke to his alma mater's 2017 gradu-

ating class, he announced the creation of Fifth Ward Saints North to service the Iowa City community.

"The community is behind us, 100 percent," Honore said. "They believe in what we're doing, and they see a need in a program like ours."

For its pilot program, Fifth Ward Saints North accepted 10 students from each of five elementary schools deemed to be at-risk: Alexander, Kirkwood, Lucas, Twain, and Wood. The plan is to eventually raise that number to 40 kids per school.

The program has operated in Roosevelt since its

inception. However, the school's boiler has given out, and its water quality was recently deemed inadequate.

Still, Fifth Ward Saints North volunteers did not expect the closing.

"We were surprised when we learned that we were going to have to move," Leff said. "On the other hand, if you look around, Roosevelt is crumbling. It's a difficult building ... because most of the doors are locked. Nobody can go anywhere without a key fob that allows them entry."

Honore and Leff said they have been searching for another building, per-

haps a church or a different school, to host their program.

"It could be more ideal, and I think the School District is willing to work with us," Leff said. "They said they'd be able to find another place."

Because Roosevelt is situated on a steep hill, Leff described the difficulty snowplows have reaching it as one reason it is such an expensive site to maintain. Coupled with the aging infrastructure, the future of Fifth Ward Saints North in its current location is uncertain.

Honore was adamant that the program will con-

tinue regardless of where it is located. He said a goal for the organization is to keep all the children involved under one roof so they can continue to grow and learn together as a team.

"We need to determine what priorities we're not

willing to lose ... when we go to a different facility," said Dawn Ealy, board chairperson for the organization. "It doesn't mean that we have to [move]; it's just going to be very hard to replicate what we have here."

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GAMING

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

level," said Ryan Skrzypek, a co-captain in the game Overwatch for Esports at Iowa. "We can do that from the comfort of our own apartment or homes. It's about increasing everyone's knowledge about us and bringing it to a more local level."

The group of gamers has played many college e-sport teams, including University of Cincinnati and Boise State. Both groups have traveled to various gaming facilities to play at a competitive level.

Skrzypek's co-captain, Dylan Montigney, a UI Esports community manager, said the group tends to travel as much as possible to compete with other gamers.

"Back in September, we traveled to Davenport to a gaming facility called Paradigm," Montigney said. "We played a showcase against Iowa State before the football game."

Krishna Gandikota, the president of the UI League of Legends Club, said many of its players already participate on a college level. Unfortunately, Gandikota said, the Big Ten Network conference players do not receive enough funding to be consistent enough with their gaming.

"We compete with vari-



Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Ryan Skrzypek, Chase Sommer, Nathan Charles, Dylan Montigney, and Krishna Gandikota pose for a photo in the IMU on Monday.

ty programs that that give their players full scholarships, new equipment, whereas our players who are expected to play at that level don't have that," Gandikota said. "Rebranding allows us to talk to faculty members and say, 'Here are our assets, here are the games we perform really well in,' and in turn, we can give the university name recognition."

Together, the various groups of gamers have de-

veloped the Strategic Esports Initiative Committee, which comprises 12 faculty members and hopes to continue the momentum for e-sports at the UI. The engagement from famous figures' investments in e-sports, such as Michael Jordan or Drake, has caught the committee's eye.

The group said Division-2 and Division-3 schools have funded e-sports more than Division-1 schools, which

group members believe to be the key to success for these schools.

Currently, Iowa's e-sport scene focuses primarily on League of Legends, Overwatch, and fighting games.

"This sport is growing immensely and getting recognition from stations like ESPN," said Nathan Charles, the vice president of Esports at Iowa. "People will accept it if you get it out to them."

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SNOW - PINIONS

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Is *Die Hard* really a Christmas movie?

Two columnists debate whether the classic action film can be considered a film to enjoy during the holidays.



AUSTIN YERINGTON
austin-yerington@uiowa.edu

Yippee Ki-Yay and happy holidays

"Welcome to the party, pal," yelled my apartment's TV as we put up our Christmas tree this year. Why? you may ask. Because *Die Hard* is not only an amazing movie, it's also one of the rare action Christ-

mas movies in the world.

Yes, *Die Hard* is a Christmas movie. Everything from its Santa-decorated robber/terrorist with writing saying, "Now I have a machine gun HO-HO-HO," down to its festive use of RUN-DMC's Christmas classic, "Christmas in Hollie."

This film has aspects that truly makes it ring out as a Christmas movie, its soundtrack being a big selling point. Of its 11 tracks, five of them are Christmas songs.

Another aspect is the main plot is kicked off due to the holiday. John McClain is only in California because his wife works at Nakatomi Plaza. This makes him travel

from NYC to LA to be with his family for the holiday.

But McClain must first stop at the Nakatomi Corp.'s Christmas party, and that's when Hans Gruber enters with his robbers. The plot can only happen on Christmas, thus making it a Christmas movie.

Not only does this film have Christmas as a central plot point (reason that McClain is at Nakatomi Plaza), it also focuses on the value of family and why we tell the people in our lives we love them. Most of all it has an amazing maverick cop stopping terrorist/robbers. Yippee ki-yay and have a happy holiday season.



MARINA JAIMES
marina-jaimes@uiowa.edu

Die Hard may be a classic, just not a Christmas classic

As an avid fan of all things Christmas, I find *Die Hard* on the very bottom of the list of movies to watch before the holiday season ends. Unlike others (including my own mother), I'd have to agree that *Die*

Hard falls very short of being considered a Christmas movie.

Christmas, the Christian holiday marking the birth of Christ, is celebrated in many movies and music. While sometimes the true meaning of Christmas is lost in those platforms, most forms of music and movies at least emphasize the giving aspect of the holiday if they do not showcase the religious aspect of the season.

Even humorous movies, such as National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation*, incorporate the importance of gratitude and family during Christmas. A favorite of mine, *It's a Wonderful Life*, perfectly showcases the

meaning of the holidays and power of prayer in a touching film. There is just no way the message of "everytime a bell rings, an angel gets his wings" compares to "Yippee-Ki-Yay" (with gunfire sounds in the background).

That characters in *Die Hard* are held hostage during a company holiday party does not qualify it as a Christmas movie. As viewers, we would not have noticed if there was lack of snow, a Christmas tree, or a holiday party to appreciate the plot of the movie. If the Christmas aspect of *Die Hard* is so easily erasable, it is safe to say that the movie should not be classified as a Christmas movie.



BY AJ BOULUND

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

To tree or not to tree, that is the question

Which type of Christmas tree is one of the burning questions in the holiday season. Well, we hope it's not burning.



NICHOLE SHAW
nichole-shaw@uiowa.edu

Get whatever kind of Christmas tree you want

As Christmas approaches, families and friends are setting up their decorations to spur holiday cheer during the cold month of December (cold at least in the northern climes). A question that frequently surfaces this time of year is whether it's better to get a real Christmas tree or a fake one.

The answer: It doesn't really matter.

Environmentally, one choice is not better than the other. Cutting down trees is not always bad for the environment. In fact, the Christmas-tree industry is huge and is treated much like farming in the United States, in which the trees are often grown as crops. Every time a tree is cut down, a new one is planted in its place. So, the trees are renewable.

In fact, growing the tree

is better for the environment, because it cleans the air and provides watersheds and habitats for wildlife, according to the *New York Times*. The trees are also not cut down from forests on a large scale, and Iowa has an average of around 100 tree farms, according to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

A fake tree is also great for the environment if you plan on keeping it for more than five years; 80 percent of Americans display fake Christmas trees in their residences, according to a survey for the American Christmas Tree Association. PVC (polymerizing vinyl chloride) and steel serve as the main ingredients that go into making Christmas trees, and they often end up in a landfill. However, the American Christmas Tree Association reports if people keep their trees for more than five years, then waste is reduced — landfills haven't had to worry about increasing greenhouse-gas emissions and water and energy use when disposing of real trees.

Both are also good for the economy, so pick your fighter, because the only Christmas tree you should put up this year is the one you want.



COLLEEN MAHONEY
colleen-mahoney@uiowa.edu

Living Christmas trees aren't just about the season, it's about family

Picture it:

A family sitting in the living room, "It's a Charlie Brown Christmas" is on, and they're all enjoying hot chocolate on Christmas Eve. Charlie and his friends find a little, living tree, and make it beautiful, make it their own for Christmas, even though it's not big and fancy, like some of the fake trees they've looked at.

What a sweet show, the family might think. And then they look at their own tree. It's plastic. It was pre-decorated. There was no time spent decorating it, just time spent assembling it.

Sure, it might be a little cleaner. And it might be a little less expensive. But when so much of Christmas has moved away from spending time with family

and moved toward quick-fix purchases, perhaps it wouldn't hurt to move back toward natural trees.

I can think of many times as a child, my family and I the day after Thanksgiving would go to the Christmas

tree farm, and we'd pick out a tree and cut it down. We'd bring it home, stand it up, and pull out the decorations. Christmas music would play. We'd spend time together as a family.

Living Christmas trees are

not about the season, they're about spending time with family. With this season turning plastic, let at least one thing remain: the time spent with those we love, even if it's just to decorate a little old Christmas tree.



BY AJ BOULUND

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A year in review: 2018 in Iowa politics

A synopsis of what happened in 2018 in the political sphere: budget mayhem, fetal-heartbeat bill, Kavanaugh, and women elected.

BY EMILY WANGEN
emily-wangen@uiowa.edu

MARCH: State budget cuts hit regent universities

Following cuts to the state Board of Regents in the fiscal 2017 budget, Gov. Kim Reynolds approved \$10.9 million in additional budget cuts to be equally divided between the University of Iowa and Iowa State University in March for fiscal 2018.

By the session's end, Reynolds approved a bill that provided for a \$8.3 million funding increase in fiscal 2019, leaving \$2.6 million unrestored.

In response, the UI announced a construction moratorium (which ended in September) to defer \$5.5 million from the general-education fund budget. The UI also closed seven centers in July, including the UI Labor Center, and reduced funding to three more. The closing of the centers will save the UI \$3.5 million which will stay within the respective colleges and units, UI officials said.

"I think we've got a point of view that the institutions of higher education are an expense to be cut, they're not an asset to be invested in," UI President Bruce Harrelld told *The Daily Iowan* on Dec. 7. "I've been pretty vocal over three years saying I think that's wrong-headed. I think we can do better for the economy, I think we're a major driver of the economy, and as we cut it, it has a negative impact."

MAY: Governor signs fetal-heartbeat bill; litigation ensues

The Iowa Legislature passed

the fetal-heartbeat bill, which has been called the "most restrictive abortion bill in the country," on a 29-17 vote in the Senate and a 51-46 vote in the House, mostly along party lines. From there, the legislation went to Reynolds' desk, and she signed it into law.

"I understand that not everyone will agree with this decision. But if death is determined when a heart stops beating, then doesn't a beating heart indicate life?" Reynolds said in a press release following the signing of the bill. "For me, it is immoral to stop an innocent beating heart."

Shortly thereafter, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland filed a lawsuit, challenging the constitutionality of the law.

In December, the *DI* reported that the case was heard in a District 5C courtroom in Des Moines, where Judge Michael Huppert did not rule on a motion for summary judgment that had been filed months prior. He said he would rule within 60 days.

OCT.: Iowa senator presides over controversial Brett Kavanaugh confirmation

What was supposed to be a smooth Supreme Court confirmation process turned into a highly publicized hearing when former D.C. Circuit Court Judge Brett Kavanaugh faced three accusations of sexual misconduct when he was a teenager or in college.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Iowa Republican Chuck Grassley, held hearings in which the senators heard from university Professor Christine Blasey

Ford, who accused Kavanaugh of sexual assault when they were in high school.

"We got to take these examples of sexual assault very seriously, and she's charged him, and we also have a request from Kavanaugh that he wants to give his side of the story," Grassley told reporters during a conference call in September.

Kavanaugh went on to be confirmed to the high court by the Senate Oct. 6 on a 50-48 vote.

NOV.: Women, Dems make waves in midterms

On Nov. 6, voters across the nation went to the polls for the 2018 midterm elections. Iowa elected the state's first female governor, Reynolds, to a full four-year term. She had taken over the office from Terry Branstad in 2017, when he became U.S. ambassador to China.

Iowans in the 1st and 3rd Congressional Districts voted out two Republican incumbents, Rod Blum and David Young, and replaced them with state Rep. Abby Finkenauer and public servant Cindy Axne — the first women to represent Iowa in the House of Representatives.

With the election of two Democrats, Iowa's congressional delegation will be split evenly along party lines: Republicans Sen. Joni Ernst, Grassley, and Rep. Steve King, and Democrats Axne, Finkenauer, and Rep. Dave Loebsack of the 2nd District.

On the national level, Democrats regained control of the U.S. House. Republicans will continue to control the Senate.



Zach Boyden-Holmes/The Des Moines Register

Alice Clapman, a lawyer for Planned Parenthood, urges Judge Michael Huppert to declare Iowa's fetal-heartbeat law unconstitutional during hearing in District Court Dec. 7.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Gov. Kim Reynolds addresses supporters at the Hilton in Des Moines on Nov. 7. Reynolds defeated Democratic gubernatorial candidate Fred Hubbell by around 3 percentage points.

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Hawk divers to jump into the big time

Two Iowa Hawkeye divers will head down south to Atlanta to compete in the USA Diving World University Trials.

BY TANNER DESPLANQUE
tanner-desplanque@uiowa.edu

Iowa will send two divers to the USA Diving World University Trials, which will be held Dec. 16-21 in Atlanta on the Georgia Tech campus.

Freshman Sam Tamborski from the women's team and sophomore Anton Hoherz of the men's will represent the Hawkeyes. Tamborski qualified as a 2018 USA Diving national finalist on the 1-meter and a 2017 USA Diving national finalist on the tower. Hoherz qualified after he placed in three events last season at NCAA Zone D Championships.

Those who advance will compete at the World University Games in Naples, Italy, from July 1-8, 2019.

The competitions are filled with former Olympians, but both Iowa divers have looked good all season.

Just the week after the Iowa women defeated Iowa State on Dec. 7, Tamborski was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week.

This marks Tamborski's first career weekly honor; she finished as the runner-up on the 3-meter (321.10) and third in the 1-meter (career-best 294.05). Both scores were NCAA Zone Diving standards.

Tamborski's 1-meter score ranks her No. 86 in NCAA Division-1 standings. She is ranked higher in the 3-meter — No. 33 with a score of 341.85 that earned her third place at the Hawkeye Invitational on Nov. 16.

Hoherz has also had a spectacular season so far. He



Iowa diver Anton Hoherz takes off from the 3-meter board in the preliminary rounds of the Hawkeye Invitational on Nov. 15 in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center.

David Harmantas/The Daily Iowan

is ranked in the top 50 in all three diving events.

In the 1-meter, he sits at No. 50 with a score of 341.80 on the second day of the Hawkeye Invitational. Hoherz sits somewhat better in the 3-meter, ranking 31st (391.40).

That score was good enough to earn him first place when Iowa had a dou-

ble dual against Denver and Michigan on Nov. 2.

Hoherz's best event this season seems to be the platform. He currently ranks 11th in Division 1 (365.55), which earned him first place in the Denver and Michigan meet.

The World University Trials will not affect either diver's season, but it is further motivation for them.

To be able to represent the Iowa among some of the top athletes at universities all around the world is a big honor.

If either diver qualifies for the games, it will be the first time diving coach Todd Waikel has had someone at the World University Games since 2010-11, when he was coaching at the Indiana.

After the trials, the men will take on Notre Dame Jan. 12 at the Campus Rec to kick off 2019, while the women will face Illinois on the road on Jan. 11.

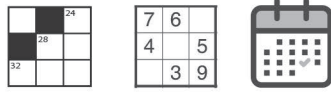
The Hawkeye men will then begin the Big Ten season at home when Wisconsin comes to town on Jan. 19 at 11 a.m.

The divers have the NCAA

Zone D Diving Championships on March 11-13 before the swimming NCAA Championships March 27-30 for the men and March 20-23 for the women.

To stay up to date with the USA Diving World University trials, the event will be streamed on Facebook Live through USA Diving's Facebook page.

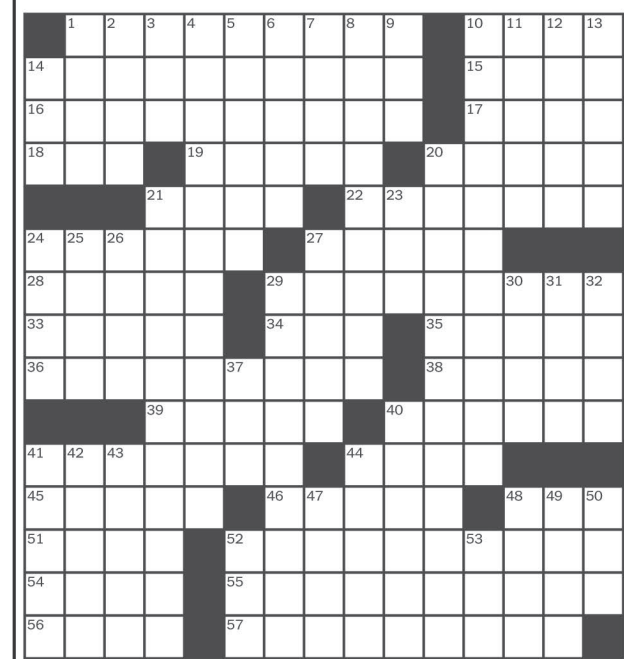
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| 34 Old Speckled Hen, for one | 13 Impression |
| 35 Dispenser item | 14 Take a sip of |
| 36 "The Devil's playthings" | 20 Breaking it might be cause for celebration |
| 38 Crinkly fabric | 21 Fair fare |
| 39 Provides, as aid | 23 Complimentary composition |
| 40 Calls funny names, say | 24 Wine town in Piedmont |
| 41 "Vamoosel!" | 25 Follow the script |
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| 45 Butterfly chrysalises, e.g. | 27 Gets into 8shape? |
| 46 Fishing basket | 29 Common Christmas decoration |
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| 56 Group that counts six U.S. presidents among its former members | 41 First U.S. company to be valued at \$1 trillion |
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| | 53 You: Ger. |

Down

- 1 Rep
- 2 Agreeable answer to an invitation
- 3 "Jingle Bells" contraction
- 4 Sentry's query
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- 6 First-aid brand
- 7 Urgent letters
- 8 Adjusts the parameters of
- 9 General direction of I-77: Abbr.
- 10 Times Square, you might say
- 11 Setting for "Siddhartha"
- 12 ___ friends

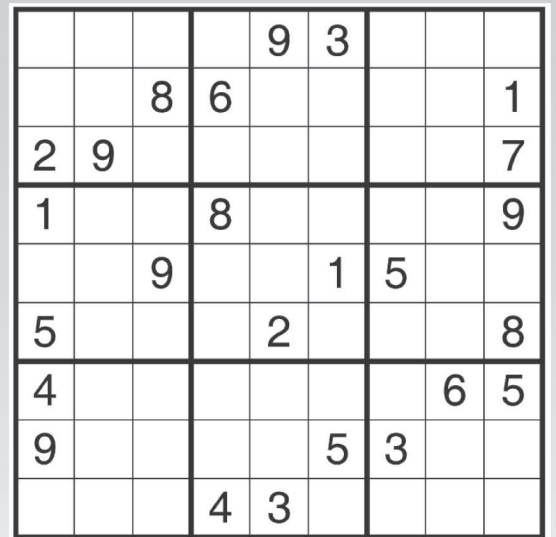
SOLUTION ON PAGE 2

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WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY

- **Finals @ IMU: Carbs & Caffeine Breakfast**, 6:30-10:30 a.m.
- **Graduating Senior Show, School of Art & Art History**, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., W540 Visual Arts
- **Building Community, 50th Anniversary (2019) of Stanley Museum of Art**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 376 IMU
- **Biochemistry/MSTP Ph.D. Defense Seminar, Sean Tompkins**, 1 p.m., 2117 Medical Education & Research Facility
- **Graduate College Doctoral and Masters Commencement Ceremony**, 7 p.m., Hancher
- **College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and University College Commencement**, 9 a.m. Saturday, Carver-Hawkeye
- **College of Nursing Commencement**, 9 a.m. Saturday, Hancher
- **Tippie College of Business Commencement**, 1 p.m. Saturday, Hancher

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FRIDAY SCHEDULE

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| Kyle & Co. 10-11am | CIC Radio 5-6pm |
| Full Court Press 2-3pm | KRUI FC 6-7pm |
| Friday Feeling 3-4pm | REAL SAD BOI HOUR 10-11PM |

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WOMEN'S
CONTINUED FROM 8

Lately, however, it's been all Iowa — the Hawkeyes are 15-1 in their past 16 meetings. This next one should just add to the victory column.

No. 23 Michigan State

The Spartans should prove to be the Hawkeyes' toughest challenge over winter break. Michigan State is riding high after an upset of then-No. 3 Oregon on Dec. 9.

Last season, Iowa eked out a 71-68 overtime win against the Spartans, and if they hope to win again, they'll need to shut down Michigan State's Jenna Allen, who averages 16.3 points a game

along with 7.3 rebounds.

Nebraska

The Huskers have gotten off to a rough start so far this season. They have a 4-5 record, but that doesn't mean this won't be a tough game for the Hawkeyes.

Nebraska has faced some tough opponents, and it dominated Iowa last season, winning both times the teams played each other.

Maddie Simon will be the player for Iowa to look out for. She torched the Hawkeyes last year, putting up 19 points in each match.

Wisconsin

After two seasons in which the Badgers totaled just 9 wins, they are off to their best start since the 2009-10 season at 8-3.

Rebounding and defense have

sparked Wisconsin to its fast start. The Badgers rank second in the nation with 473 rebounds while holding opponents to a 13th-best 32.8 percent shooting to go along with their 5 blocks per game.

Purdue

While they may not be the best team in the Big Ten, the Boilermakers will be no pushover for the Hawkeyes.

Purdue is led by a trio of starters who all can put up points. Dominique Oden leads the group with 15.1 points per game, with Karissa McLaughlin (14.0) and Ae'Rianna Harris (13.2) right behind her.

It's a crucial few weeks for Iowa as it transitions into Big Ten play. The Hawkeyes will want to jump out to a good start to put themselves in a good position come March.

MEN'S
CONTINUED FROM 8

Ben Jacobson, most recently a 23-13 finish in 2015-16.

In fact, Northern Iowa pulled off one of the biggest upsets in the NCAA Tournament in 2010, when it beat No. 1 overall seed Kansas to move on to the Sweet 16.

Because Jacobson has consistently led the Panthers in the right direction, this is a game Iowa can't overlook.

"This is definitely a game they probably mark on their schedule," point guard Jordan Bohannon said. "A lot of guys on that team, they want to be in our shoes, they want to

play for Iowa, I'm sure. For them to have the chance to play against us, we're going to get their best shot."

One of the main Panthers Iowa will have to keep its eyes on is freshman guard A.J. Green.

He has played alongside Iowa forward Joe Wieskamp, and many Hawkeyes are familiar with him from the Prime Time League. Green even hit a game-winner against Bohannon's Linn-Mar team in high school in a substate final in 2016 that sent Cedar Falls to the state tournament.

Green leads the Panthers with 15.8 points a game, the only player on the team averaging in double figures, to go along with 3.1 rebounds, 1.4 assists, and

a 34 percent mark from behind the arc.

He is supplemented by such solid players such as Wyatt Lohaus and Luke McDonnell, but Iowa knows that Green will be the go-to guy for the Panthers.

"His game is pretty complete — he can dribble, pass, and shoot, he's got size, he can score in bunches, he can load people up," Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said. "He's always played the game with great confidence, and sometimes you see that not translate, but that's not been the case with him. He's kind of playing with the same kind of confidence and aggressiveness that he always has. It's sort of been a seamless transition."

SPECIAL
CONTINUED FROM 8

That's a touchback on 48.6 percent — almost 7 percentage points better than



Smith-Marsette

Iowa's opponents this season. Where Iowa did even better, though, was in the return game. I h m i r Smith-Marsette was the best kick returner in the conference, and he earned the Rodgers-Dwight Return Specialist of the Year award from the Big Ten.

He had 19 returns, gaining 557 yards, which averages to nearly 30 yards per return. His average of 29.32 ranked third in the country this season, and his 50.6 return

yards per game ranks 17th. Iowa's kick-return unit averaged 33 yards or better in four games this season.

On punt returns, Kyle Groeneweg proved to be a more than viable option. On his 23 returns, he gained 234 yards (10.17 average), resulting in 19.5 punt-return yards per game.

His best game came in Iowa's 63-0 win over Illinois. Groeneweg returned six punts for 103 yards — both marks season-highs for him — and he also took a kick back to the house for 6 points.

In that same game, Iowa blocked a punt. Credit to A.J. Epenesa for the chaos, as usual.

As far as punting went, Colten Rastetter appeared to have put his woeful 2017 campaign behind him early on. In the first game against Northern Illinois, he averaged 53.8 yards per

kick on his four attempts.

Through Iowa's first seven games, Rastetter had just two games in which he averaged fewer than 41.5 yards per kick.

But as the season wore on, his leg seemed to wear out as well. In the final five games, Rastetter had 25 punts for 906 yards. That's a 36.2 average, nothing to be proud of.

If you're hunting to find other miscues in the special-teams game, Iowa also had a blunder against Wisconsin in the Big Ten opener. A muffed punt and a fumble by Groeneweg ended up being pivotal moments in a game in which every score mattered.

Nevertheless, aside from a few gaffes here and there, Iowa's special-team play took a major step in the right direction, at least compared with last season.

QBS
CONTINUED FROM 8

week span, and it legitimately looked like he was going to break Chuck Long's program record of 27 passing touchdowns in a season after Stanley had racked up 15 through six games.

If Stanley manages to toss 2 scores in Iowa's Outback Bowl battle against Mississippi State on Jan. 1, he would become the only quarterback in Hawkeye history to throw at least 25 touchdowns in two different seasons.

However, Stanley didn't break Long's mark.

Stanley combined for just 1 touchdown pass in the next two games, and that is where his season lows come in.

He threw 1 touchdown

against Maryland, which was impressive in itself, considering the windy conditions, but he didn't find the end zone against Penn State on Oct. 27.

Against the Nittany Lions, Stanley completed an abysmal 36.7 percent of his passes (18-of-49) for 205 yards and 2 interceptions.

Stanley suffered a thumb injury in the loss, hitting it against a Nittany Lion helmet, and the rest of the season was marred by injury speculation and a couple close losses.

Stanley bounced back in his final two games, however, tossing 5 touchdowns and 330 yards.

"He didn't get down on himself," Iowa quarterback coach Ken O'Keefe said. "If anything were ever to happen, it's next man in. That's our philosophy. Nobody flinches, and the next man goes. Simple as that."

ly smart guy, so he knows where to go right away to try to fix things and improve."

The backups seem to have been improving as well. Both Peyton Mansell and Spencer Petras found their way onto the field in 2018.

Mansell completed 5-of-8 passes for 83 yards and a pick on the season, and Petras attempted 1 pass.

O'Keefe let out a laugh about Mansell starting the bowl game but said he would be confident in his backup. He said Mansell can make the throws needed but doesn't have the on-field experience.

"I would be [comfortable]," O'Keefe said. "If anything were ever to happen, it's next man in. That's our philosophy. Nobody flinches, and the next man goes. Simple as that."

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Sports

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HAWKEYE UPDATES

Cordell Pemsal returns

Iowa forward Cordell Pemsal will be able to play when the Hawkeyes take on Northern Iowa in the Hy-Vee Classic on Saturday, Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said Thursday.

Pemsal was expected to undergo surgery after finals week and miss the rest of the season, but he ended up being a surprise activation against Iowa State, where he put up solid numbers.

The Dubuque native racked up 8 points, 6 rebounds, an assist, and a block in an energy role off the bench against the Cyclones.

He also got involved in a scuffle with Iowa State's Michael Jacobson during the chippy game, giving the Hawkeyes a jolt.

Pemsal's status remains day-to-day, McCaffery said, but he has been practicing, although he's somewhat limited.

McCaffery said it's a possibility that Pemsal would play the rest of the season, but it's up to him.

"It gives us more depth, and he's a different kind of player," McCaffery said. "I think you saw it the other night when we played Iowa State what he brought to the table. He's a competitor, he's an experienced guy, he's got some versatility. It's clearly a benefit."



Pemsal

Two GymHawks named to Big Ten Watch List

Iowa junior Charlotte Sullivan and senior Nicole Chow were named to the Big



Sullivan

Ten Women's Gymnastics Watch List, the conference announced Thursday.

Chow was named second team All-Big Ten after winning four beam titles and one all-around, competing in all of Iowa's meets.

She set career-bests with a 9.850 on vault and a 39.325 all-around score.

Sullivan was named to the All-Championship team at the Big Ten Championships after finishing third in vault with a career-best score of 9.875 and eighth with a 39.275 in all around.

The Hawkeyes will start the season at Auburn on Jan. 4, 2019.

Weekend Sports Schedule

Men's Basketball (Des Moines)

- Saturday vs. Northern Iowa - 6 p.m.

Women's Basketball (Carver-Hawkeye)

- Dec. 16 vs. Northern Iowa - 2 p.m.

Diving (Atlanta)

- Dec. 16, USA Diving World University Trials - all day

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A lot of guys on that team, they want to be in our shoes. They want to play for Iowa, I'm sure."

- Iowa point guard Jordan Bohannon on how Northern Iowa players approach games against the Hawkeyes

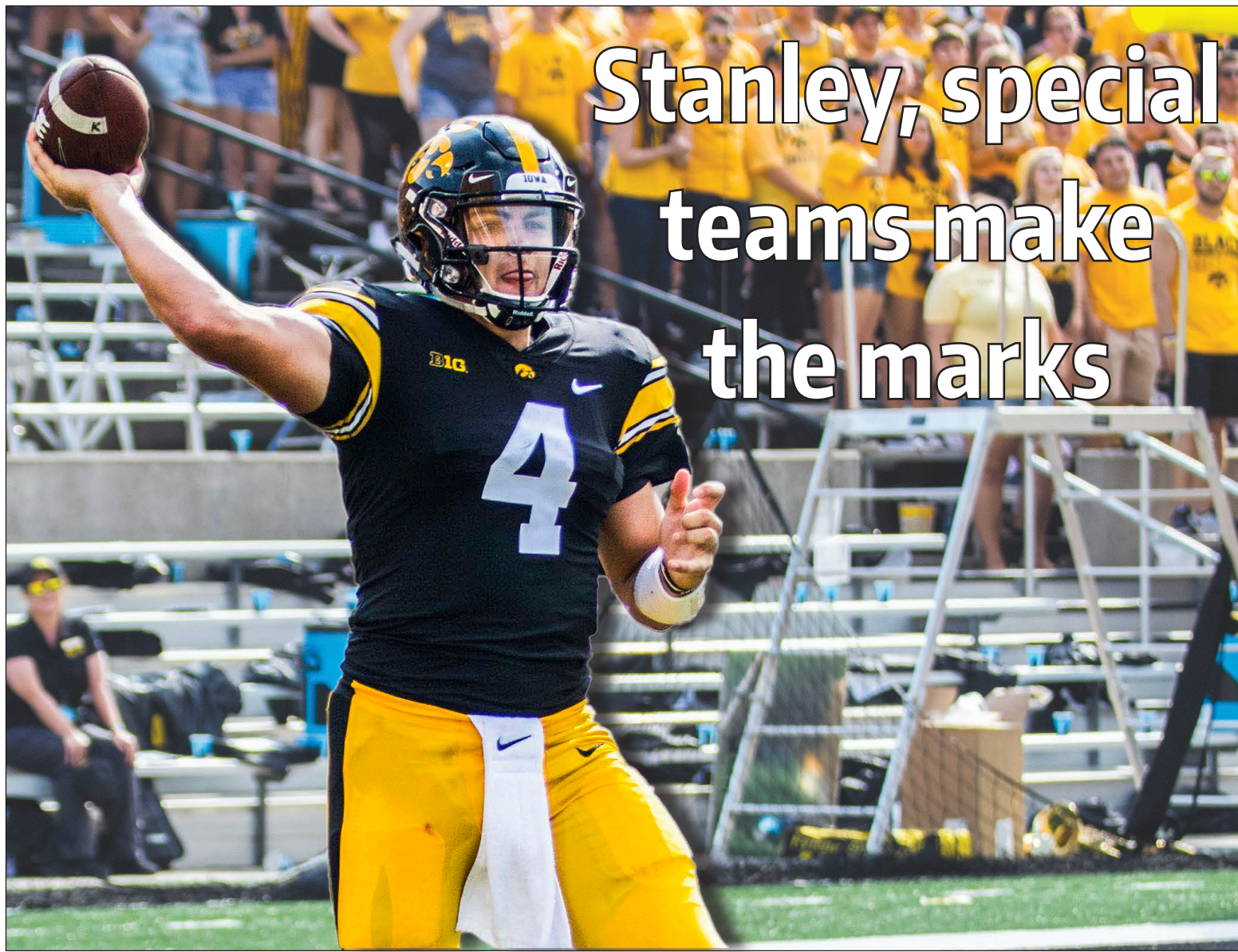


STAT OF THE DAY

Jordan Bohannon is one 3-pointer short of becoming the seventh Hawkeye to make 200 3s in his career.

1

3-pointer short of 200



Stanley, special teams make the marks

Iowa's kicking, kick-return, and punt-returns units had a solid 2018 season.

BY ADAM HENSLEY
adam-hensley@uiowa.edu

B+

The final play of Iowa's regular season was a game-winning field goal from Miguel Recinos as time expired against Nebraska. That's a pretty solid ending to game No. 12 and also a lasting impression on Iowa's special teams.

Recinos ended up having one of the better seasons from a Hawkeye kicker. He made 15 of his 20 attempts (75 percent) and didn't miss a single extra point all season long.

Clutch gene factors into the grade as well — Recinos did miss a kick against Nebraska, but he drilled the game-winner as time expired.

"I would never say this to Coach [Kirk] Ferentz, but I always seem

to be better after I miss one," Recinos said after the game. "After I missed that one, I kind of got in a frame of mind — it just gets easier for me to block everything out because I kind of get angry. For me, that anger is positive."

Kickers who perform well under pressure tend to be remembered fondly.

Recinos also did his part to make sure opponents had no shot on kick returns. On his 72 kickoff, Recinos landed touchbacks on 35.

SEE SPECIAL, 7

Nate Stanley had a lot of ups and downs throughout the season, but the positives outweighed the negatives.

BY PETE RUDEN
peter-ruden@uiowa.edu

B

At times this season, Nate Stanley completed passes that made fans truly believe in the NFL hype that surrounded him entering the season.

At other times, that notion was preposterous.

No matter what happened at times, though, the positives outweighed the negatives as Stanley posted another solid season under center.

Stanley threw for 2,638 yards and 23 touchdowns in 2018, and his yardage was up from 2,432 last season, which includes his numbers from Iowa's Pinstripe Bowl victory over Boston College.

There were times this season where Stanley looked next to im-

possible to stop. Take his performance against Indiana on Oct. 13, for example.

Stanley tossed 6 touchdowns in a 320-yard effort, completing 21-of-32 passes. He finished with a season-high quarterback rating of 205.3 against the Hoosiers.

That wasn't it, though. Just one week before at Minnesota, Stanley threw 23-of-39 for 314 yards and another 4 touchdowns.

For those counting at home, that's 10 touchdowns in a two-

SEE OBS, 7

Iowa set for final Classic battle

The Hy-Vee Classic is coming to an end, but there's still one more game to be played for Iowa.



Megan Nagorzanski/The Daily Iowan

Iowa guard Jordan Bohannon gets ready to drive or pass against Iowa State at Carver-Hawkeye on Dec. 6. The Hawkeyes defeated the Cyclones, 98-84.

BY PETE RUDEN
peter-ruden@uiowa.edu

For six years, Iowa and either Northern Iowa or Drake have collided in the Hy-Vee Classic at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

Previously known as the Big Four Classic, the event has served as a staple in college-basketball schedules in the state. But when the Hawkeyes take on the Panthers in Des Moines at 6 p.m. Saturday, it will be the seventh and final rendition of an Iowa tradition.

"A little bit [bittersweet]," said forward Nicholas Baer, who had one of his first breakout games at the event in 2015. "I've

always taken pride in being able to play other in-state teams. Just being an Iowa kid, that's something that I've always had. I'm a little sad to see it going away, but I understand with 20 league games, some changes had to be made. Just enjoying this last chance that we have."

Coming off another in-state rivalry game against Iowa State that got a little chippy at times, Iowa is in the midst of four-straight nonconference games before it visits Purdue Jan. 3.

Northern Iowa posted a 4-5 record to start the season, but the Panthers have consistently had success under head coach

SEE MEN'S, 7

No break for Hawkeye basketball

Iowa women's basketball has a lot of action coming up over winter break.

BY JORDAN ZUNIGA
jordan-zuniga@uiowa.edu

After a week off for finals, the Iowa women's basketball team is gearing up for a six games over winter break.

The Hawkeyes enter the stretch riding a three-game winning streak and a 7-2 record. The games will start with Iowa finishing out its nonconference slate with two in-state opponents — Northern Iowa on Dec. 16 and Drake Dec. 21.

Then, the Hawkeyes will kick off their Big Ten schedule with a game in East Lansing to take on the Michigan State. After that, they will come back to Carver-Hawkeye for games against Nebraska and Wisconsin, and they will end with a game in West Lafayette against Purdue.

Let's take a look at the upcoming stretch:

Northern Iowa

This year will mark the 17th-straight season the two teams have met. Almost all of those matchups have been dominated by Iowa.

The Hawkeyes have won 11 straight against the Panthers and lead the overall series, 21-2.

One thing Northern Iowa has done well this year is hit its free throws. The Panthers rank 17th in the country in free-throw percentage with a mark of 78.4. If the Hawkeyes keep them off the line, they should be fine.

Drake

Just another in-state opponent that Iowa has beaten up on over the past several years. The Drake-Iowa rivalry dates to 1974, with Drake leading the all-time series, 26-24.

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