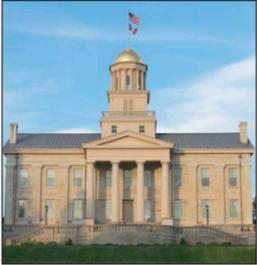


## INSIDE



**Cosplay gives UI students a transformation**  
Cosplay – costume play – is an outlet for people to show their passion for all things anime, cartoon, video game, science fiction, and fantasy. There's a small but steady presence of UI students who find joy in the transformation cosplay provides.



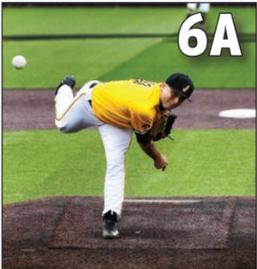
**Third provost finalist withdraws candidacy**  
The third finalist in the search for a new UI provost was expected to visit campus today for a public forum. The UI announced Wednesday the candidate accepted another offer and withdrew from consideration. The fourth finalist will visit the UI on Feb. 7.



**Professor earns grant to continue research on the cerebellum**  
Assistant Professor Krystal Parker, a cerebellum researcher, earned a \$2.1 million grant to further research on disproving what is believed about the brain.



**Iowa women's basketball aims to keep winning streak alive**  
Hawkeye women's basketball is on a five-game winning streak and in that run, it beat Michigan on Jan. 17, 75-61. The Wolverines will get their rematch today, though, and it will come in Ann Arbor. Three of Iowa's four losses have come on the road, so the Hawkeyes will have to learn to adapt.



**Breaking down Iowa baseball's 2019 roster**  
Hawkeye baseball will head to Florida in just under two weeks, but the team will look different from recent years. With numerous producers having departed, Iowa needs players to step up to reach the levels it aims for.



**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](http://dailyiowan.com).



# UI student's death believed to be weather-related



UI police found UI student Gerald Belz unresponsive on campus on Wednesday morning. He later died at the hospital.

BY GAGE MISKIMEN  
gage-miskimen@uiowa.edu

A University of Iowa student died on Wednesday after being found outside on campus by police.



Belz

According to UI police, on Wednesday at approximately 2:48 a.m., officers discovered UI student Gerald Belz unresponsive behind Halsey Hall.

Belz was transported to the hospital where he later died. The investigation is still ongoing, but the cause of death is believed to be weather-related. No foul play is suspected.

Local weather reports stated the temperature around the time Belz was found was minus-23 degrees with a

SEE STUDENT, 2A



TOP: UI police take down caution tape in the alleyway behind Halsey Hall, where UI student Gerald Belz was found unresponsive early Wednesday morning. (Katelyn Weisbrod/The Daily Iowan) BOTTOM: Halsey Hall is seen on Wednesday. (Nick Rohlman/The Daily Iowan)

## For 25 years, dancing 'For The Kids' at UI

After 25 years, Dance Marathon has continued to see growth in numbers of participants as well as in donations received for the children in the hospital.



Denise Powell/The Daily Iowan

"Dancin' the Night Away" at Dance Marathon 2000.

BY KELSEY HARRELL  
kelsey-harrell@uiowa.edu

University of Iowa students have packed themselves into the IMU Main Lounge to dance their hearts out "for the kids" each year for the last 25 years.

The first Dance Marathon raised \$31,000 to support 26 families. Last year, Dance Marathon 24 raised a record-breaking \$3 million for the kids in the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital.

In Dance Marathon's 25-year history, the organization has raised \$24,548,224.34. After four years of involvement, UI Dance

Marathon adviser Tracey Pritchard has seen the organization grow and change every year, she said in an email to *The Daily Iowan*. The group has seen more dancers participating, more donations, and more community and corporate partners, she said.

The Dance Marathon leadership creates a new vision each year, allowing it to continue to grow and achieve new things, Pritchard said.

When she started working with Dance Marathon, Pritchard said, she didn't expect the organization to change her as much as it did.

SEE DANCE, 2A

## ETHICS & POLITICS IOWA POLITICS

# University presidents pitch higher ed funding

The leaders of Iowa's public universities make the case for funding to ensure graduates are 'future ready.'

BY EMILY WANGEN  
emily-wangen@uiowa.edu

The presidents of the state Board of Regents' universities — Iowa State University, the University of Iowa, and the University of Northern Iowa — met with Iowa lawmakers at the State Capitol on Tuesday to advocate for a funding boost in fiscal 2020.

Overall, the regents have requested an \$18 million increase in funding — \$7 million each for the UI and ISU, and \$4 million for UNI — for the three public universities to fund resident undergraduate financial aid.

In the last two decades, Iowa's regent universities have seen the revenue composition shift from being funded by two-thirds state appropriations and one-third tuition to roughly one-third state funding and one-third tuition, regents' documents show.

The changing revenue makeup and rising tuition rates has prompted students to fund their education with student loans. According to data from the Iowa College Student Aid Commission report, referenced in the UI's presentation to the subcommittee, UI graduates from the class of 2016 had an average of \$27,715 in student-loan debt. The university reports that 45 percent of its students graduate with no student-loan debt.

SEE EDUCATION, 2A

TOO COLD FOR COLD CUTS



Nick Rohlman/The Daily Iowan

A note announcing closure because of weather is displayed in the window of Mama's Deli as the sun rises over Iowa City on Wednesday. Many downtown businesses closed as air temperatures reached as low as minus-22 degrees, with wind chill temperatures below minus-50 degrees at times.

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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# Campus life under the vortex

UI NiteRide and the UIHC emergency department saw more activity on Wednesday, but campus was quiet as temperatures stayed dangerously cold throughout the day.

BY KATELYN WEISBROD  
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“[Emergency Department employees] said that they feel that the actions that have been taken, including the cancelation of classes, offering options such as working from home, and suspending mail delivery, have all contributed to minimizing the potential impact of the extremely cold weather,” Moore said.

What is the polar vortex?

The extreme cold has been largely attributed to the polar vortex, the low-pressure region of the atmosphere surrounded by the rotating jet stream.

Former UI geography professor Pete Akers described the polar vortex as “a top spinning very quickly,” constrained over the North Pole. But, when this vortex weakens and the jet stream loses velocity, he said, it is as if the top is slowing down, wobbling. When this occurs every few years, the vortex can descend into mid-latitude regions, such as Iowa.

“For a historic cold wave like Iowa is [experiencing], a weak polar vortex isn’t enough,” Akers said in an email. “You also need several other weather factors to



Nick Rohlman/The Daily Iowan

A lone pedestrian braves the cold on the T. Anne Cleary Walkway on Wednesday.

align, such as having a pool of cold air in Canada, a snow-pack present on the ground, the focus of the cold invading air to be on Iowa, etc.”

Though this cold snap may lead some to challenge

the phenomenon of global warming, Akers points out that there is research indicating that increasing global temperatures may lead to a weaker polar vortex.

And temperatures have

reached well above average in 2019. Earlier this month, Iowa City saw temperatures above 50 degrees for a few days, and this weekend’s forecast includes highs above 40 degrees.

“Bitter cold outbreaks in Iowa will still happen in a warmer world,” Akers said. “They are less likely, and it is harder to break all-time cold records, but they will still happen.”

## STUDENT

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

wind chill of around minus-50 degrees.

On Monday, the UI announced the cancelation of

classes starting on Tuesday at 5 p.m. through Thursday at noon.

Belz’ father Michael Belz told other media outlets that doctors have told him alcohol was not found in Gerald’s system at the time of his death. He also said Gerald

was Snapchatting his girlfriend late Tuesday night, and in those messages told her he was going to bed.

Gerald Belz was a pre-medicine major in his second semester, but was considered a second-year student. He was a Burge Hall resident.

He was from Cedar Rapids and graduated from Kennedy High School where he played football. Kennedy’s principal Jason Kline released a statement on Twitter about Belz’s death.

“Prayers go out to all affected by this tragedy,” the

statement read. “Rest in peace, Gerald.”

Kline said counselors will be available for Kennedy students when they return to school for any support they need.

The UI will also have embedded counselors available

on Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

in the Burge Private Dining Room, according to an email sent to UI students on Wednesday. University Counseling Services will also offer individual appointments and other resources for students.

## EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The trend of dwindling funding has left university leaders skeptical about a funding increase, but they approve of Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds’ budget proposal.

In her budget recommendation for fiscal 2020 and 2021, she outlined her hope to fully fund the regents’ request with an \$18 million appropriations increase. Ultimately, this is just a recommendation; it is up to the state Legislature to pass a budget for the upcoming fiscal years.

“The governor’s budget supports many of the board’s top initiatives,” Regent Executive Director Mark Braun wrote in a statement following the release of Reynolds’ budget proposal. “With this level of funding, our universities can continue to provide the accessible, top-quality education that Iowa students deserve.”

UI President Bruce Harreld told *The Daily Iowan* in December 2018 there seems to be a view that higher education is “an expense to be cut,” but he thinks the universities are “a major driver of the economy, and as we cut it, it has a negative impact.”

He said that when advocating for the UI in Des Moines, the university can highlight micro issues, such as research and economic development.

“... Research adds new people, and those people join our community, they buy homes, they buy automobiles, their kids go to our schools, so that’s how you grow an economy,” he said.

“... We’ve got a lot of faculty around here with incredible insights, and we’ve got property and patents, and the next question is what do we actually do to invest and build jobs and build economic growth in Johnson County,

Linn County, eastern Iowa, around that, and I think there’s a lot that we can do.”

Sen. Herman Quirmbach, D-Ames, whose district includes ISU, said that while he hopes the Legislature approves the governor’s funding request, it won’t be enough to offset two rounds of budget cuts totaling \$35 million in the previous two budget years.

“That’s only putting back slightly more than half of what’s been cut in the past two years,” Quirmbach told the *DI* on Tuesday.

Sen. Tim Kraayenbrink, R-Fort Dodge, the chair of the education appropriations

subcommittee, predicted that of Reynolds’ total education budget, the Legislature would not quite match but would come close to funding almost all of the proposal.

The UI’s presentation also emphasized how the university prepares graduates to be “future ready,” keeping in line with the Future Ready Iowa legislation Reynolds championed in 2018. The law aims to ensure 70 percent of Iowa’s workforce receives education or job training beyond high school by 2025.

A 2016 Iowa Workforce Development report highlights jobs that require degrees such as physician

assistants and operations research analysts that are projected to grow in the coming years — fields in which the UI says it has programs in place designed to build and educate the workforce needed to meet Iowa’s skilled-labor demand.

“In all of our universities and community colleges — they are all responsible for training our younger generation and second-career students to be employed,” Kraayenbrink told the *DI* on Tuesday.

Julia DiGiacomo, Marissa Payne, and Sarah Watson contributed to this report.

## DANCE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“I encourage others to get involved in whatever way they can, because every single individual can make a positive change,” she said. “Our families battling pediatric cancer at the hospital need us, and it never ceases to amaze me what one person can do to change the life of a child.”

After seven years of being involved with Dance Marathon, UI Dance Marathon adviser Brock Cavett said the support for the organization from the families involved has continued to grow. New family events have been created and more fundraising events occur than in the past, he said.

“I just feel like there’s been such a movement nationwide,” he said. “So not only is UI Dance Marathon big, but dance marathons across the country continue to grow and get support.”

This year, Cavett said, the organization has worked with alumni from the past 25 years to highlight the group’s milestones. Officials have looked at where Dance Marathon has been in the past and how that’s made it a successful organization, he said.

When Executive Director Charlie Ellis started with Dance Marathon, the organizers were focused on reaching the dollar-amount goal, he said. Now, they focus less on having a goal to reach and

more on raising as much money as they can for the families.

This year through the “Shape Your Impact” campaign, Dance Marathon wants people to know that no matter how large or small, the action is, people can make a difference, Ellis said.

“Obviously with Dance Marathon, there can be a lot of sadness, there can be a lot of tragedy, misfortune, whatever you may come across, but also, watching 3,000 college students band together to

fight for somebody they don’t even know is something that really gives me hope for this future generations,” he said.

Since her sophomore year of high school in 2009, Sara Petersen, a child-life-event specialist at Stead Hospital, has participated in Dance Marathon. And since then, she’s seen the hospital construction finish and now sees the organization’s work from inside the hospital.

Her involvement in Dance Marathon is part of the rea-

son she wanted to work at the hospital, she said. Now, she sees some of the patients who were involved with Dance Marathon when she was a student, she said.

“I think just every year seeing the number of students who come and support it is just incredible and that it doesn’t change,” Petersen said. “Which is crazy, because we can be removed, you know, five years, and to see it growing even since then is just so cool.”



# Opinions

COLUMN

## UISG recognizes the need for intellectual diversity – others should follow suit

UISG plans to improve the lopsided representation it currently has with its members. Its dedication to equal representation is what our political climate needs more of.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan  
Students shoot hoops on the T. Anne Cleary Walkway on Sept. 26, 2017. UISG hosted tables at which students could register to vote.



**MARINA JAIMES**  
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Last week, the University of Iowa Student Government revealed the outcome of demographic assessments done on its members based on their colleges and ideologies.

As a very vocal conservative student at the UI, I was not surprised to see that out of the entirety of student government, 5.48 percent of representatives identified as moderate-conservative and 2.74 percent identified as conservative. I was surprised to see that these numbers were released and alarmed members of UISG, enough for some to advocate fixing disproportion-

ate representation through possible external auditing and college-apportionment tickets.

As reported in the *DI*, the solution currently given to balance ideologies is to enlist the Office of the Vice President for Student Life in conducting an audit of its members. This is a step in the right direction and should be supported by all students who wish to have equal representation in the only institution that governs the undergraduate student body.

It's refreshing to see this, especially in an era in which college campuses are demonized as liberal safe spaces. This label might be overused, but it is given with good reason. The Trump presidency has exposed a multitude of bigoted ideas from left and right sides of the aisle, with the left side dominating the outlook of many universities.

In October 2017, the Iowa State Democratic Socialists of America chapter came

under fire for threatening to shoot President Trump and advocating for the hanging of all capitalists. The release of the demographic assessment shows that UISG is willing to advance a conversation that is nonexistent at many universities, even ones as close to the UI as Iowa State.

UISG is not only looking to better represent its constituents but discouraging group-think — an action that can create a civil environment for all ideas and tolerance for all ideologies among students. Dedication to equal representation should not stop here — many areas of the UI should follow this lead and encourage a balance when considering political ideologies.

On Jan. 30, the UI faced a lawsuit from the Christian student group Business Leaders in Christ, a case that questioned if the university violated the rights of the group when the school removed it off campus for requiring student leaders to

embrace all religious beliefs of the organization.

This controversy made national news in December 2018 as the Justice Department filed a statement of interest in the case, believing that the UI denied First Amendment rights to the group. Many argued that this decision was political and saw it as liberal versus conservative in nature.

Whether the UI was found to have violated the rights of the Christian student group, it should be a reminder that the country's eyes are on the university, and the decisions it makes — politically motivated or not — will be scrutinized if found to favor some political leanings and disregard others.

As critics are ready to label the university as a liberal safe space, it is good to see UISG members are prepared to end a trend seen in so many colleges and promote intellectual diversity that could be the solution to the hostile political climate we're in today.

GUEST OPINION

## More than two certainties in life

As this Iowa legislative session commences, education funding remains a top priority.

Benjamin Franklin is attributed with saying "there are only two certainties in life: death and taxes." And I am not here to contradict this well-known historic figure, but we all know there are other certainties in life as well.

One certainty is that every Iowa legislative session starts with a parade of politicians promising to increase school funding in one way or another. Another certainty is that the Iowa City School Board, like many others across Iowa, will submit legislative priorities to increase state funding and/or supplemental state aid. Next comes the cascading arguments as to where the money will come from.

I propose giving local school boards more flexibility over the major categorical funds they already receive. Removing the state mandates applied to this categorical fund will have the same result as an increase in supplemental state aid by as much as 4.5 percent without appropriating a penny more of taxes for education. My specific suggestion is to allow local school districts to have greater flexibility with their TLC (Teacher Leadership Compensation) funding.

The TLC program was established to achieve goals in attracting and retaining effective teachers, promoting collaboration, rewarding professional growth and effective teaching, and improving student achievement by strengthening instruction. The TLC program has now been in effect for a long enough period of time to have longitudinal data to support its purpose. But as I review the body of data collected about the program, there does not appear to be a clear link between the program and an increase in student achievement.

By giving local school boards greater flexibility on how this money is spent, we can avoid the state mandated, one-size-fits-all standard for education. It is easy to see that the needs of the smallest school district in Ringgold County are very different from the needs of the largest school district in Polk County. State legislators should recognize that duly elected local school boards know best how to spend these resources

in their individual districts with their individual needs. Some districts, need to hire more teachers and this fund could be used for that end. Others face challenges in providing needed curriculum ranging from basic state mandated curriculum to highly desirable career and technical education that is needed to meet the skill gap pervasive in our state and in our nation. Yet, other districts could use this to hire more English Language Learners instructors to meet the needs of students who speak languages other than English. Certain districts have challenges retaining senior staff due to economic reasons, and this would give them the ability to retain veteran teachers as opposed to a cheaper teacher policy of eliminating senior staff for less expensive, inexperienced ones.

A significant problem with the TLC system is that it limits student interaction with some of the best instructors in the state. This is because some of the most veteran and accomplished teachers are removed from the classroom and placed into coaching or mentoring roles. Everything we do should maximize, not limit, the exposure of the best instructors we have to our students. Local control of TLC funding will give a tool to districts who can then utilize this money where it best meets the needs of their individual local districts. Depending on the district, this could mean no change, or major changes in how these funds are spent.

This should be one of the easier asks of our state politicians, because greater flexibility in the use of TLC funds will have the net effect of increasing funding for local schools without tax increases or taking away from any other state program. This idea should garner broad bipartisan support. Let's hope this can be a new certainty in life that elected officials will act in the best interest of their constituents and for their state as a whole. I think Benjamin Franklin would have liked that.

My views are mine alone; I do not speak for the School District as a whole.

— Phil Hemingway  
Iowa City School Board member

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

## Fall or spring: Which semester is better?

Everyone has a favorite season, but what about a favorite semester? Two *DI* columnists weigh the pros and cons of each.



**COLLEEN MAHONEY**  
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**Fall is fantastic**

As we're really starting to get into the spring semester of the 2018-19 school year, I think we should take a look at the age-old question: Is the fall semester or spring semester better? Well, I hate to break it to you, students and faculty, but the fall semester is so much better.

First, let's look purely at the university's environment. While I myself prefer spring weather, it can't be denied that the beauty of campus shines from August to October, when the trees are full with leaves, and those leaves begin to change color. Plus, it starts off warm enough to really enjoy being outside, though it can be a tad overbearing when the heat gets sweltering.

However, that warm weather has nothing on the freezing weather of Iowa's spring semester. According to the Weather Channel, quoting NOAA, major Midwestern cities experience their coldest yearlong tem-

peratures in January. What a welcome back. As we are experiencing those times right now, I very much miss those warm fall temperatures.

Last, the fall semester is much better for this reason: There are so many new people. To all of the freshmen and/or transfer students, or even nontraditional students, coming to campus in the fall is an amazing experience. It provides an opportunity to form new relationships that they likely wouldn't be able to form anywhere else.

So, while you're sitting in your room, wrapped in a blanket, sipping hot cocoa, just remember one thing: Fall is coming.



**ZOHAR NADLER**  
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**Spring is supreme**

We have endured the winter. Flowers are finally blooming, temperatures are rising, and many students are almost graduated. Spring semester is when the weather gets better, not worse. It goes by quickly, and there are better breaks.

Spring semester is a metaphor to seeing light at the

end of a tunnel. The light being a three-month-long break that could include working (and by working, I mean not being broke) or taking on a new adventure such as traveling or an internship.

As someone who lives for the summer and sunshine, the spring semester keeps me motivated because I know that spring break is my halfway point and summer is at the end. Exciting endings keep me driven while also thriving in pursuit of my goals.

During the fall, I know that a break comes where I will have just a month off and be indoors as the weather in Iowa is still brutal. In addition,

Thanksgiving break is placed weirdly toward the end of the semester, when we students long for a break many weeks prior. Finals are around the corner during Thanksgiving break and instead of relaxing, many students stress out.

On the other hand, spring semester has a perfect break in the middle of the semester with a long break at the end. Moreover, I feel that my focus is more intact during the spring because weekends are not consumed with Hawkeye football and fall festivities. While I love both, school, work, and maintaining a routine come first. Spring semester, I am ready for you.

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# Hawkeye track celebrates stellar performers

The DI track and field reporters single out the most impressive athletes at this point in the indoor season.



Ben Allan Smith/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Laulauga Tausaga competes in the shot put during the 2018 Drake Relays in Des Moines on April 27, 2018.

## Men's - Jaylan McConico

The Iowa men's track team was home to a variety of noteworthy performances in the home indoor season, but perhaps Jaylan McConico has stood out among the male athletes.

Junior hurdler McConico is in his first season at Iowa after transferring from Illinois State. There, he was a two-time national qualifier, and that success accompanied him to the Hawkeyes.

McConico is one of the leading lights for the Iowa men's team, which is ranked 33rd in the nation and third in the Midwest.

Four meets into the season, he has two victories in the 60-meter hurdles, taking home gold at the Wicczorek Invitational and the Black & Gold Premier.

The victories were against such programs as Arizona and Baylor, two of the highest-ranked track teams in the nation. Hawkeye Chris Douglas has also been solid, running the second-fastest 60-hurdles time in the Big Ten.

McConico also has second- and third-place finishes in the 60 hurdles at the Hawkeye Invitational and Jimmy Grant Invi-

tational, respectively, and in his preliminary heat at the Hawkeye Invitational, he ran a personal best 7.73.

That time is the sixth-fastest in the nation and also good for the best in the Big Ten.

McConico has enjoyed success immediately as a Hawkeye, and that appears likely to continue in his Iowa track career.

— Robert Read

## Women's - Laulauga Tausaga

Since the start of her third indoor season with Iowa, junior Laulauga Tausaga has tried to set a new milestone at each meet. And she has succeeded, hitting a record-breaking weight throw at each home meet she has participated in.

Tausaga started the indoor season by breaking the Hawkeye weight-throw record at the Grant Invitational in December (20.19 meters).

She took home the gold medal in the shot put (16.46 meters) that day as well, although her school record throw of 16.51 gained importance later in the season.

"I would say it's pretty special, because it is the first meet of the

season, so coming out and being able to do that just sets me up for a really great season," Tausaga said.

She was definitely set up for a great season, and she continued a streak of wins at the Hawkeye Invitational.

She again threw a weight-throw record (20.67), breaking the mark she had made only a week earlier. She then blasted the competition with a 16.02-meter throw in the shot put to take the gold.

The Wicczorek Invitational meant yet another record-breaking throw for Tausaga in both the shot put (16.70) and the weight throw (21.30).

"It's a great feeling, but there's still more to be done," she said. "I'm trying to keep moving up in the national rankings and keep working to make the Big Ten Championships."

Tausaga took the day off for the final home meet of the season at the Black & Gold Premier to prepare for future competition as she travels with the team for the second half of the indoor season. She'll continue to work on her throws and possibly hit record marks.

— Sydney Becker

## BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 6A

The Hawkeyes are used to having an ace on the mound on Fridays with Allgeyer and Nick Gallagher leading the way in the past two seasons. It's up to McDonald or Dreyer to keep that going.

Grant Judkins and Trenton Wallace will be two of the main candidates vying for the third spot on the weekend rotation.

While the departures of

Daniels and Nelsen hurt Iowa's bullpen, it returns a number of contributors, including Grant Leonard, Kyle Shimp, Derek Lieurance, Cam Baumann, Shane Ritter, and Ben Probst, along with a number of fresh faces.

### Infield

Including catcher with the infielders, the infield is arguably the group with the biggest losses from last season.

Cropley led the Hawkeyes in 2018, slashing .342/.449/.579. That's hard to replace.

Brett McCleary has the most experience, starting nine games last season with six at catcher and three at DH. He could use some improvement at the plate — he finished the season with a .172 average.

Matt Berst started three games behind the plate in 2018, closing the season with 9 plate appearances and a .222 average.

Austin Martin could also be a candidate to replace Cropley. While he doesn't have Division-1 experience, the Altoona native hit .309 with

32 RBIs at Southeastern Community College and looked more than comfortable behind the plate and in the box in fall ball.

With Hoeg and Guzzo gone, first base could be a revolving door. Chris Whelan and Grant Judkins spent time there in the past, and the additions of Connor McCaffery, Zeb Adreon, and Tanner Padgett give Iowa some flexibility.

Iowa finds itself in a similar position at shortstop. Crowl was set to be one of the Hawkeyes' top offensive

returners, but now there's an open slot. Tanner Wetrich started 20 games in 2018, but only one of them came at shortstop. Still, he spent time at the position throughout the fall season, allowing him to get more reps.

The Hawkeyes should be set at second and third base, with Mitchell Boe and Lorenzo Elion returning.

### Outfield

There are fewer questions here. Neustrom's absence won't

be easy to overcome, but the Hawkeyes have plenty of pieces.

McCaffery showed range in right field during the fall season and combined that with prowess at the plate. He could easily be inserted into the vacancy.

Justin Jenkins and Ben Norman are now juniors with plenty of experience patrolling the outfield, and Whelan will likely play a key role when he isn't playing everywhere else.

Seniors Wetrich and Luke Farley are also likely to see time here and there as well.

## BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 6A

"They deserve this," Bluder said after the team's win against Purdue. "These women work so hard, they're great role models, they do everything that you want from a Hawkeye."

The special mojo will have

to be channeled this week, because the Hawkeyes have two road games, including the rematch against the Wolverines.

"This week is a challenge," Bluder said. "We have two road games coming up, at Michigan and at Penn State. It's going to be challenging week for us, but we won two road games last week, so there's no reason we can't do it."

## WRESTLING

CONTINUED FROM 6A

sometimes. No complaints with him."

In his first three years at Iowa, Shaw received an undergraduate degree in economics.

This season has been

different for the Hawkeye, though. Shaw is pursuing a master's degree in macroeconomics, working as a teaching assistant, and competing for the Hawkeyes.

"He's a TA, and he's a professional," Brands said. "He's a TA for a reason, you know. That's the next step in the development

of his career for his education. He's a very talented fellow that way. We've got some good students on this team, and he's one of them."

The new 174-pounder showed this past weekend that he doesn't plan to take this opportunity for granted.

"We needed him in the lineup, and he showed up,"

Brands said. "When you have the opportunity to make a difference — I love it. I love it when you make it go your way."

The Hawkeyes will travel to Lincoln to take on No. 9 Nebraska on Feb. 3, and it is possible Shaw will get a chance to continue his undefeated dual-meet record.

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# Sports

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

THE MOST COMPLETE HAWKEYE SPORTS COVERAGE IN IOWA

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## HAWKEYE UPDATES

### Jewell chosen as Denver's best candidate for breakout season

Former Iowa and current Denver Bronco linebacker Josey Jewell was chosen as Bleacher Report's most likely player in the Bronco organization to break out in 2019.

Jewell played in all 16 games in 2019, racking up 58 tackles and defending 3 passes.

"As Jewell's rookie season wore on, his playing time increased," Bleacher Report's Gary Davenport wrote. "Partly, that was due to injury, but partly, it was because Jewell displayed the same nose for the football as a Bronco he had as a Hawkeye. By season's end, Jewell had made nine starts and was leading the team's inside linebackers in snaps per game."

In his senior season at Iowa, Jewell was an All-American, leading the Big Ten in tackles (136) and winning the Jack Lambert Award and Lott IMPACT Trophy.

### Hawkeye baseball players listed as top Big Ten MLB Draft prospects

Connor McCaffery, Cole McDonald, Lorenzo Elion, and Jack Dreyer were all ranked as top-20 prospects in the Big Ten for the MLB Draft in their respective classes by D1Baseball.

McCaffery was rated as the seventh-best Big Ten prospect for the 2019 MLB Draft, while McDonald was No. 13, and Elion was ranked No. 19.

D1Baseball named Dreyer the No. 17 prospect for the 2020 MLB Draft.

McCaffery redshirted in 2018, and Elion finished the season with a .275 batting average, good for third on the team. He also brought in 27 runs, which ranked fifth.

McDonald closed the season with a 3.23 earned run average, the second-best by a starter, trailing only Nick Allgeyer. He also posted 52 strikeouts in 55.2 innings.

Dreyer recorded a 3.69 ERA with 42 punch-outs in 31.2 innings of work.

The Hawkeyes were picked to finish sixth in the conference after finishing 33-20 with a 13-9 mark in Big Ten play.

Iowa will begin its season against George Mason at the Diamond 9 Sunshine State Classic Series in Kissimmee, Florida, on Feb. 15.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"He's a funny guy. He's ornery. He's got that grin on his face that you wonder what he's up to sometimes. No complaints with him."**

Iowa wrestling head coach Tom Brands on new 174-pounder Keegan Shaw

## STAT OF THE DAY

Iowa men's basketball is 8-0 when Jordan Bohannon scores at least 12 points.

**8-0** when Jordan Bohannon scores at least 12 points

# Hawkeyes size up Wolverines

The Hawkeye women have had complete performances in each of their last five games, and they will try to continue that against Michigan tonight.



David Harmantas/The Daily Iowan

Iowa forward Megan Gustafson (10) fights for an offensive rebound against Oral Roberts on Nov. 9, 2018, in Carver-Hawkeye.

BY PETE MILLS  
peter-mills@uiowa.edu

No. 13 Iowa women's basketball (16-4, 7-2 Big Ten) is on a tear through the conference, winning its last five games. It will try to continue the streak against Michigan (12-9, 3-6 Big Ten) tonight.

The Hawkeyes have played the part of a steamroller in the past few weeks. Four of their five wins during the streak have been by more than 10 points. The team has taken care of the ball, defended with fervor, and scored from all over the floor.

The second half of the conference slate, though, is set to be challenging for the Hawkeyes — it kicks off in Ann Arbor tonight.

"The second half is a little bit harder for us because we have five road games and only four home games," Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said after the team's victory over Purdue. "Great teams win on the

road, and we've got to be able to do that."

Michigan looked formidable to start the year. Freshman Naz Hillmon and senior Hallie Thome — two post players for the Wolverines — have given opponents headaches this season.

The pair put up a combined 32 points against the Hawkeyes in their first meeting and gave Iowa an intense defensive battle in the paint.

Despite this, Michigan has struggled in recent weeks. The team has dropped four of its last five — including the loss to Iowa — with three of those losses by more than 10 points.

Iowa had its way with the Wolverines in that first matchup on Jan. 17, winning 75-61.

"We shot the ball well, our 3-point defense was good, we had four people in double figures," Bluder said afterwards. "Twenty-five assists on 34 baskets — there are just so many good things that are happening with this team."

Iowa has won as a team, in the same ways, over the last several games. When all-everything Megan Gustafson struggled against Purdue, Hannah Stewart stepped up. When the Hawkeyes needed a jump-start in its ranked-win over Rutgers, guard Kathleen Doyle answered the call.

In the win over Michigan, the team's three starting seniors — Tania Davis, Gustafson, and Stewart — combined to put up 47 points, 24 rebounds, and 15 assists.

That win over Michigan threw Iowa into a special stretch.

Gustafson has performed up to the high standards she has set. Each of the wins on the roll have included a Gustafson double-double with 25 points or more.

The Hawkeyes know something special is happening.

SEE BASKETBALL, 5A

## Women's Basketball

  
16-4 (7-2)

  
12-9 (3-6)

**No. 13 Iowa at Michigan**

**When:**  
5 p.m.

**Where:**  
Crisler Center

**Watch:**



# Hawkeye baseball heads for spring

As baseball season approaches, it will be a different set of Hawkeyes at Banks Field in 2019.



Megan Nagorzanski/The Daily Iowan

Cole McDonald pitches for the Iowa baseball team against Ohio State at Banks Field on April 8, 2018. The Hawkeyes won, 2-1.

BY PETE RUDEN  
peter-ruden@uiowa.edu

Wind chills cold enough to cancel classes don't scream "baseball season," yet the Hawkeye baseball team will kick off its season in just under two weeks.

With Robert Neustrom, Tyler Cropley, Nick Allgeyer, Zach Daniels, and Brady Schanuel heading to play professionally, Kyle Crowl leaving the program, and Matt Hoeg, Austin Guzzo, and Nick Nelsen graduating, the Hawkeyes will look a little different.

How different? Here's a look at each position group heading into the 2019 season.

## Pitching

Here's where things get interesting.

Two of Iowa's top three starters are gone, as are its two best relievers. Allgeyer and Daniels are especially tough to replace — they were the only Hawkeyes with ERAs under 3.00.

Make no mistake, Cole McDonald will play an important role in the Hawkeyes' success this season. He finished 2018 with a 3.23 ERA and 52 strikeouts in 55.2 innings of work, and he will be called on as a leader. His .249 opponents' average is slightly concerning, however.

Iowa's success from a pitching perspective will also rely on Jack Dreyer. He posted a solid freshman campaign, finishing 5-2 with a 3.69 ERA and 42 punchouts in 31.2 innings.

McDonald was ranked the 13th-best Big Ten 2019 MLB Draft prospect by D1Baseball, while Dreyer sits at No. 17 for 2020.

# Iowa looks to Shaw to fill 174

Hawkeye wrestling had to use its fourth-string 174-pounder last weekend, and he got the job done.

BY SARAH ALTEMEIER  
sarah-altemeier@uiowa.edu

After All-American Michael Kemerer was unable to compete in his junior season because of season-ending knee surgery, Myles Wilson stepped up to fill the vacancy at 174 pounds.

About a month into the season, Wilson lost his matchup in the Cy-Hawk Series meet on an injury default. The Hawkeyes then turned to Mitch Bowman, but he also faced an injury after Iowa's meet with No. 20 Rutgers on Jan. 18.

Iowa fans knew what Kemerer was capable of and Wilson showed potential, making the injuries even tougher to bear.

"We could be at fourth-string at 174 this week," Iowa head coach Tom Brands said before the squad took on Illinois and Northwestern.

And the Hawkeyes did exactly that, showing their fourth-string 174-pounder in their two victories over the Illini and Wildcats — Keegan Shaw.

Shaw, who had wrestled in smaller meets at 157 pounds this season and had a 12-4 record, stepped onto the mat for his dual debut on Jan. 25.

He beat Illinois' Nick Gasbarro, 6-2, to help the Hawkeyes to a 31-8 victory.

On Sunday, Shaw took the mat for a second time and again won, topping Northwestern's Johnny Sebastian, 11-6, as the Hawkeyes beat the Wildcats, 32-7.

"We're certainly pleased with his results and effort," Brands said. "[He] seems to be relaxed out there, and we love it."

Shaw is an Altoona, Iowa, native and graduated from wrestling powerhouse Southeast Polk in 2015. He redshirted his first year as a Hawkeye, 2015-16. The next season, he went 12-6, wrestling as a 149-pounder. He then finished 10-3 at 157 pounds after moving up a weight.

"[Shaw brings] quiet perspective [to the team]," Brands said. "He's a funny guy. He's ornery. He's got that grin on his face that you wonder what he's up to



Shaw

SEE BASEBALL, 5A

SEE WRESTLING, 5A

## SHE GETS READY TO BECOME...



## A CHARACTER OF HER OWN DESIGN!

# COSPLAY: BRINGING FICTION TO LIFE

BY NAOMI HOFFERBER | [naomi-hofferber@uiowa.edu](mailto:naomi-hofferber@uiowa.edu)

It takes Leah Carlson a while to get ready. But, that's to be expected when you're transforming yourself.

First, she swept her long, blond hair back, first into pigtails and then into short buns. She then slid a black mesh cap over her head, tucking in each strand before placing a tan-colored cap on top. Makeup, a bright blue wig, brown prescription contacts, and a handmade costume later, Carlson was miraculously transformed into Umi Sonoda, a character from the anime *Love Live*.

For fans of all things video

game, anime, cartoon, science fiction, and fantasy, cosplay — or costume play — is an outlet to allow a deep love of something shine through everyday life. The term cosplay, according to [geeks.media](http://geeks.media), was coined in 1993 and involves people dressing up as their favorite characters in costumes that they buy or build themselves.

While cosplay can be as simple as combining everyday clothes to mimic a character they are trying to portray, they can also be incredibly intricate: delicate fabrics, thermoplastic armor, chain

mail, film-grade makeup, and realistic wigs can all go into one cosplay.

According to Cure WorldCosplay, the cosplay market, though difficult to estimate, is approximately \$25 billion to \$50 billion. Its popularity started increasing in the 1990s and initially focused on anime and manga characters, according to Vox. It has since expanded to include characters from all facets of geek culture.

Carlson, the president of the University of Iowa Cosplay Club, has transformed herself into her favorite characters for the past

five years.

"I've always been a huge nerd; I've always loved anime, manga, video games, superhero stuff, comics — and I've also always been a very crafty person," she said.

Five years ago, she decided to go to her first convention, Anime Iowa in Des Moines, where fans of anime and all things geeky gather for three days in the summer to hang out, attend panels, and shop from vendors. The cost of attending conventions vary; Anime Iowa costs \$45 to \$55 for preregistration, not including

SEE COSPLAY, 4B

**To BE CONTINUED...**

### On the web

Get updates about local arts & entertainment events on Twitter @DailyIowanArts

### On the air

Tune in to KRUI 89.7 FM at 5 p.m. on Thursdays to hear about this weekend in arts & entertainment.

### Events calendar

Want your event to be printed in *The Daily Iowan* and included in our online calendar? To submit a listing, visit [dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit](http://dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit).

PHOTOS BY KATINA ZENTZ

# WEEKEND EVENTS ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●



## ● TODAY 01.31

**MUSIC**  
 • 12TH PLANET, 9 P.M., BLUE MOOSE, 211 IOWA

**FILM**  
 • THE PICTURE SHOW: *BMX BANDITS*, 3:30 P.M., FILMSCENE, 118 E. COLLEGE  
 • *STAN AND OLLIE*, 4, 8:15 P.M., FILMSCENE  
 • SPECIAL EVENT: *STAN AND OLLIE: OPEN CAPTIONS*, 6 P.M., FILMSCENE  
 • *SHOPLIFTERS*, 6:30 P.M., FILMSCENE  
 • *IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK*, 9 P.M., FILMSCENE

**THEATER**  
 • THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, CHARLES DICKENS, AND COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, 7:30 P.M., RIVERSIDE THEATER  
 • THE WOLVES, 8 P.M., THEATER B

**LITERATURE**  
 • "LIVE FROM PRAIRIE LIGHTS," JAMIL JAN KOCHAI IN CONVERSATION WITH ALEXIA ARTHURS, 7 P.M., PRAIRIE LIGHTS, 15 S. DUBUQUE



## ● FRIDAY 02.01

**MUSIC**  
 • AARON KAMM & THE ONE DROPS, 9 P.M., GABE'S, 330 E. WASHINGTON  
 • SOULSHAKE, 10 P.M., GABE'S

**THEATER**  
 • THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, CHARLES DICKENS, AND COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, 7:30 P.M., RIVERSIDE THEATER, 213 N. GILBERT  
 • THE WOLVES, 8 P.M., THEATER BUILDING THEATER B

**LITERATURE**  
 • "LIVE FROM PRAIRIE LIGHTS," NOVUYO ROSA TSHUMA, HOUSE OF STONE, 7 P.M., PRAIRIE LIGHTS



**MISCELLANEOUS**  
 • SHANE MAUSS: STANDUP SCIENCE, 8 P.M., MILL, 120 E. BURLINGTON

## ● SATURDAY 02.02



**MUSIC**  
 • BANDA MAGDA, 6:30 & 9 P.M., HANCHER  
 • PAINFULLY SAD, TBA, MILL  
 • JUAN CARLOS MENDOZA, TENOR, 7:30 P.M., VOXMAN RECITAL HALL  
 • BAD ADVICE CLUB, BIG OAK, 9 P.M., GABE'S

**FILM**  
 • THE PICTURE SHOW: *MIRAI*, 10 A.M., FILMSCENE  
 • SPECIAL EVENT: *GROUNDHOG DAY*, 11 A.M. & 10 P.M., FILMSCENE

**THEATER**  
 • THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, CHARLES DICKENS, AND COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, 7:30 P.M., RIVERSIDE THEATER  
 • THE WOLVES, 8 P.M., THEATRE B

**LITERATURE**  
 • "LIVE FROM PRAIRIE LIGHTS," MARIANNE WILLIAMSON, POLITICAL DISCUSSION, 7 P.M., PRAIRIE LIGHTS



## ● SUNDAY 02.03

**MUSIC**  
 • KSENIA NOSIKOVA AND STUDIO, 1:30 P.M., OLD CAPITOL SENATE CHAMBER  
 • ER-GENE AND NATHAN CARTERETTE, 7:30 P.M., VOXMAN RECITAL HALL

**FILM**  
 • THE PICTURE SHOW: *MIRAI*, 10 A.M., FILMSCENE

**THEATER**  
 • THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, CHARLES DICKENS, AND COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, 2 P.M., RIVERSIDE  
 • THE WOLVES, 2 P.M., THEATER B



# OPENING MOVIE

STAN AND OLLIE



In *Stan and Ollie*, Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly star as the famous comedy duo Laurel and Hardy. In a despairing effort to regain their acclaim, they embark on a tour across Britain. Along the way, damaging secrets and declining health attempt to derail the two.

— Joshua Balicki

# ALBUM PICK



Weezer's *Teal Album*

After sparking intense debate with the single release of its rendition of "Africa" by Toto, Weezer is back with a whole album bound to enrage critics who hate covers. *Weezer's Teal Album*, released Jan. 24, is comprised entirely of cover songs from some of the hottest bops that have topped karaoke machines nationwide.

The album is the musical equivalent of comfort food: it's familiar, and its purpose is to incite nostalgic sing-alongs rather than provide new revelations. While no one has yet matched the power and melodrama of Annie Lennox's original "Sweet Dreams," and the choice of Black Sabbath's "Paranoid" as a selection felt somewhat out of place, the album is bound to bring a grin to even the most frozen of faces.

Song pick: "Take on Me"

— Naomi Hofferber

# STUDENT FASHION



Name: Zach Rochester

Year: Sophomore

**What's your fashion style?:** Thifty, very thrifty. I think most of my wardrobe now is all secondhand. I try to stay away from fast fashion.

**Where do you usually shop?:** Revival, Goodwill, Crowded Closet, Second Act.

**How has your fashion changed over the years?:** I used to wear exclusively American Eagle — that was in high school. I also did the transformation of being pretty masculine to being not so masculine. I think that really changes things. I wear dresses and heels all the time now, too.

**What does fashion mean to you?:** I have mixed feelings about it because I'm not a super huge proponent of satisfying inner needs with consumerism. I think fashion when utilized correctly can be a powerful way to express how you feel on the inside. Having access to clothes that make you feel good is really important.

Naomi Hofferber/The Daily Iowan

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Photo: Michael G. Stewart

Rahim AlHaj and string ensemble  
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Saturday, February 16, 2019, 7:30 pm

Born in Baghdad, Rahim AlHaj is a master of the oud—a stringed instrument with a history unfurling back 5,000 years. AlHaj and his string quintet will play his composition created from the text of actual letters of Iraqis living in their war-torn country.

*This presentation is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Iowa Arts Council and the Crane Group.*

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## COSPLAY

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

accommodations, travel, or food. San Diego Comic Con, the international and best-known convention, costs \$265 for a four-day event pass, and passes sell out rapidly.

Carlson's first year at Anime Iowa, she cosplayed the character Shinra Kishitani from the manga and anime series *Durarara*, as well as the character Sasha from *Attack on Titan*.

"My first few weren't great, they were kind of just cobbled together, but I had the most fun I've ever had," Carlson said.

The first thing she looks for when selecting a character to cosplay is which characters and which outfit designs she likes best.

"I'll see a character and say, 'Oh, I really like that design,'" she said. "I have a list of 100 characters where I'm like, 'I like this design, I wouldn't mind cosplaying it at some point.'"

Carlson said she also selects her costumes based on skills she wants to hone, challenging herself each time in one area of the costume, be it a specific sewing technique or a difficult makeup look.

Building challenging cosplays can take some serious time; Carlson said her simple cosplays can take as little as 30 hours of work, and her more intensive ones can take more than 100 hours, such as her latest cosplay, Link's Barbarian outfit, from the video game *Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*. She's building a series of weapons, including a 5-foot sword.

Carlson said she loves cosplay for both learning the practical skills and for expressing her creativity in the character she loves.

"It's an outlet of sorts; it's a creative outlet," she said. "I think it's really cool, because at the end you have this finished product, and you put it on, and it's such a sense of accomplishment and pride."

The UI Cosplay Club has been active on campus for the past four or five years, Carlson said, and has around 15 to 20 active members. She said her

favorite meetings are on Sundays, in which members of the club will help each other build their costumes, and they work together when someone faces a challenge.

Two cosplayers who have been around the cosplay block for a while live in North Liberty, and in the upstairs of an unsuspecting home, lies a room in which cosplay creativity was meant to thrive.

Two cats bounced around 32-year-old Kara Blumenstein's brightly lit studio, where large sewing tables held fabrics being molded into costume pieces. A wall of multicolored fabrics sat at one end of the room, with a plethora of plastics, foams, paints, and other craft equipment on shelves throughout the space. Anime posters decorated the space, as well as photos of past cosplays; in one photo, Blumenstein posed as Rosa from *Final Fantasy 4* in a flowy white cape and a carefully styled white-blond wig.

Blumenstein has cosplayed since 2002, and like Carlson, she had sewn from a younger age before her introduction to cosplay. From simple fabric designs, Blumenstein has now moved on to challenging building techniques, such as resin casting, where the designer will use molds and silicones to create three-dimensional items to enhance a costume.

She said a key change she has seen in her 17 years of cosplay is the material for cosplays, as well as its popularity in pop culture.

"I think more people are getting into it, especially now that more materials are available than there ever have been," she said. "Back when I started, in the early 2000s, most people wouldn't even wear wigs because the only wigs you could get were cheap party wigs that looked really, really bad."

In 2015, she roped friend Alex Musel, 28, into cosplay, helping her craft an intricate armored Wonder Woman costume, the photo of which hangs in the studio next to Blumenstein's.

Musel, in addition to cosplaying with Blumenstein at the seven or eight cons they attend each year, also cosplays as a part of a nonprofit called

Cedar Rapids Ultimate Super Heroes that assists in charity events.

When cosplaying with the group, Musel must be fully in character, because the children she meets genuinely believe they are meeting the real Bat-girl or Wonder Woman.

"I imagine what children will ask me and then think of responses," she said. "Which are as easy as, 'Are you real,' and how to tell a child, 'Well, is this a real Bat-a-rang?' or, 'Do you think I'm real?' Just thinking of responses before you're asked."

Getting into some characters can be easier than others, Blumenstein said.

"Certain ones are a lot easier, especially if I know the character really well, it's a lot easier to be in character," she said. "Certain ones that match with your personality are a lot easier; Raven [from *Teen Titans*] is easy, because most of the time I'm just sighing at [Alex] anyway." Laughter ensued.

Being in character helps create a fully believable, real-life version of a fictional character, all the more assisted by an intricate, realistic costume. Working with the complicated crafting materials can add up, with some costume prices ranging into the thousands of dollars.

"If you don't want your child to do drugs, get them into cosplay, and they won't have any money for it," Musel said and laughed.

Cost aside, both cosplayers love both the craft and the cons, which they describe as a safe place to express their love of different fandoms and to meet new people who like the same shows, comics, and video games that they do.

"For so many people going to cons, it's one of the only times they can let loose with who they are, because they know that everyone else there is just as 'weird' as they are," Blumenstein said. "They don't have that social awkwardness. Cons allow people to drop barriers."

Musel agreed, saying they have allowed her to make new friends she wouldn't



Katina Zentz/ The Daily Iowan  
President of the UI Cosplay Club Leah Carlson adjusts the boots of her Umi Sonoda cosplay from the anime *Love Live* in the Adler Journalism Building on Monday.

have met otherwise. She also encouraged those getting into cosplay, saying now is one of the best times for newcomers to the com-

munity because of internet resources.

"Geek culture has really helped with that," Blumenstein said. "People are really

embracing what it means to be a geek and enjoying stuff that 10 years ago people would have been like, 'Oh, what do you like that for?'"

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by SARAH DELAPPE

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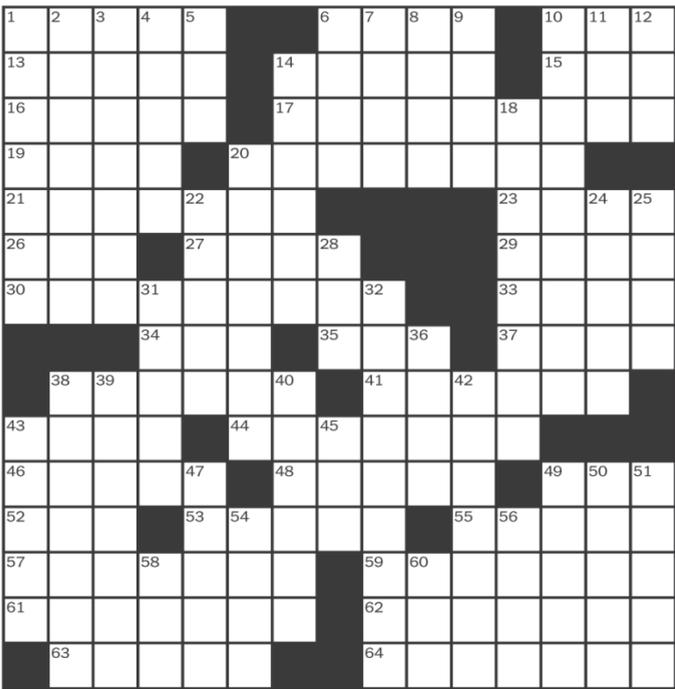
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## The Daily Break



The New York Times  
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1227



**Across**

- 1 \_\_\_ billiards, game on a pocketless table
- 6 Mount whose name means, literally, "I burn"
- 10 Something with teeth
- 13 In the course of
- 14 Detached
- 15 Fed. science org.
- 16 Family symbol
- 17 Flier with a message
- 19 Monomaniac of fiction
- 20 Divisions in the Congressional Record
- 21 View remotely?
- 23 Sunroof alternative
- 26 "You sti-i-ink!"
- 27 Follower of clear or cross
- 29 "Forever, \_\_\_" (1996 humor book)
- 30 Drone's job
- 33 Rod's partner
- 34 Realm with an Imperial Diet: Abbr.
- 35 Rods' partners
- 37 Rival of Cassio
- 38 One might have a wink or a smile
- 41 Foreign-born musician with a Presidential Medal of Freedom
- 43 Trough filler
- 44 Tin or glass
- 46 Business meeting that participants dial into, informally

- 48 Bunch of lovers?
- 49 "Just like that!"
- 52 Gray
- 53 Words before "a good night"
- 55 Author Calvino
- 57 Former Yankees manager Joe
- 59 Crafty person?
- 61 It helps keep the machinery running
- 62 Does something to a T
- 63 Clichéd
- 64 "A tyrant's authority for crime and a fool's excuse for failure," per Ambrose Bierce

**Down**

- 1 Carolina tribe that allied with the colonists in the American Revolution
- 2 Song sung by Elvis in "Blue Hawaii"
- 3 Muscle with a palindromic name
- 4 End of an era?
- 5 Company that released "2001: A Space Odyssey"
- 6 \_\_\_ Club
- 7 Department store department
- 8 "\_\_\_ get it"
- 9 It was once big for Aretha Franklin
- 10 It's indicated by arrows on a map
- 11 Parody, in a way
- 12 Newspaper headline of 12/8/1941
- 14 Alternative to "Sincerely"
- 18 Department with a buffalo on its seal

- 20 One frequently pictured in GQ or Vogue
- 22 Symbol on many a bumper sticker
- 24 Rolex rival
- 25 Texas' \_\_\_ Duro Canyon
- 28 Radiation cleanup, briefly
- 31 "Fingers crossed!"
- 32 Brooklyn attraction
- 36 Acoustic measure
- 38 Sad songs
- 39 Burrowing rodent
- 40 Follower of a plane ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 42 "Most definitely!"
- 43 Amos Alonzo \_\_\_, coach in the College Football Hall of Fame
- 45 I.S.P. option
- 47 Dominate
- 49 Lowest parts
- 50 Author Locke of the Harlem Renaissance, the first African-American Rhodes scholar (1907)
- 51 Hall of fame
- 54 Comic strip canine
- 56 Bias
- 58 Celestial altar
- 60 Norma \_\_\_ (Oscar-winning role of 1979)

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 3A

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- A Moment with Diviin** 5-6pm
- The 606** 6-7pm
- Stereocilia** 9-11pm
- Take Five!** 11pm-12am

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# A new 'horror' filmmaker is on the rise

UI freshman Robert Strang, a filmmaker and screenwriter, creates music videos and satirical horror movies.

BY ADRIAN ENZASTIGA  
adrian-enzastiga@uiowa.edu

The video opens with ominous music as a hand pushes open a wooden door. The words "Are you ready?" flash the screen in a most disturbing font. A guy bolts through a darkened forest. A shady figure sits in a rocking chair in a dark room, staring through a mirror. Finally, the title, "No, this is horror" appears in bold text.

This was the trailer to University of Iowa freshman Robert Strang's 20-minute short film. It took him two months and two short trailers before publishing the video on his YouTube channel, Strange Films.

Strang said he initially realized he wanted to be a filmmaker the December of his senior year in high school.

"I was kind of having a crisis in my life, and I was like, 'What am I going to do for the rest of my life?'" he said. "Throughout my

whole life, I always enjoyed film, and I've always wanted to create movies, and I didn't really do that before then."

Strang then decided to apply to the "hardest film school in the country," the University of Southern California. Unfortunately, he did not get in.

"The first film I made was not too good," he said. "It's pretty tough competition up there."

He is now double majoring in creative writing and cinematic arts at the UI.

Strang has made four films that have a narrative and one music video featuring UI freshman Aaron Choi.

"[Choi] just reached out to me on Instagram and wanted me to shoot a video of him dancing," Strang said. "I want to do music videos because I really like the editing aspect of that. I think music videos are a really good way to experiment with stuff. It allows some different techniques to be put to use that nor-

mally wouldn't be in a narrative film."

Strang co-directed the film "No, This is Horror" with high-school friend Orson Codd. It was completed in July 2018.

"[No, This is Horror] was the biggest thing we've ever done," Strang said. "I'm really proud of it; it was just a really fun time. You can go watch that on my YouTube channel. That took about two months to make."

Strang says it is his proudest work.

"It's rough. It's amateur. But I really learned a lot from that film," he said. "I learned a lot about lighting, I learned a lot about plot development, I learned a lot about directing, just what to tell the actors. I learned a lot about continuity and editing. I learned what the field has to offer."

"No, This is Horror" has many spooky and thrilling moments, but overall, it acts as a satire of horror films.



Alyson Kuennen/The Daily Iowan

UI cinema major Rob Strang poses for a portrait at the Lindquist Center on Sunday. Strang taught himself how to film and edit videos last year and hopes to produce sitcoms in the future.

"We wanted to be making fun of horror films, because I think they're ridiculous," Strang said. "I mainly focus on horror because horror is really cheap and easy to do. I don't know why it happens. It's a really great way to experiment with stuff. A lot of directors start on horror films."

Strang always writes and directs his own films, even starring in them occasionally, as he did with "No, This is Horror."

"I'm actually venturing into acting," he said. "I'm trying to get some auditions in Des Moines and Chicago. I've never acted before I started making movies."

However, he can attest that behind the camera work is much more stressful than in front.

"It's a lot more. You have to worry about it looking good," he said. "Being behind the camera is a lot harder than just being in front of it. It's not just remembering lines. You have to remember everything, like what scenes this shot is for, what the actors are doing, are the camera functions right, are the actors doing everything you want them to? It's just a lot different."

There are camera angles to consider, lighting to adjust, and a scene to set. But the hardest problems are the unexpected ones.

"There are always obstacles. Everything that you think will go wrong probably will go wrong," Strang said. "For example, the cast of 'No, This is Horror' was

actually not the original cast. Most of the original cast of the movie just didn't want to do it, so we had to scrounge around and find people to do it."

Strang draws inspiration from his favorite films in his work, including Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*.

"I think borrowing from other films is a really important trade when you're making a movie," he said. "A big inspiration of mine is Stanley Kubrick. I just like his style. Everything feels so grand in his movies. I like when a movie gives me goose bumps, that's a good movie. Most of Stanley Kubrick's movies give me goose bumps. It's awesome. Only a couple other movies do that."

## FAST FACTS

**Hometown:** Iowa City

**Year in School:** Freshman

**Age:** 19

**Top artist he listens to:** Vince Staples

**Dream place to live:** Portland

**Dream place to work:** Hollywood

**Favorite place for a late-night bite:** DP Dough

**Favorite movie:** *Trainspotting*

**Last song stuck in his head:** "Drip Too Hard" (Lil' Baby)

**Instagram:** @rob\_strang

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