

INSIDE



1 UI Ph.D. candidate Lisa Covington recognized for her advocacy

After only four years in Iowa, Lisa Covington has been awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award for her advocacy for people of color in the community. From creating and directing her own programs, to becoming a Ph.D. candidate, Covington says she works for equity and liberation for people of color in Iowa City community.



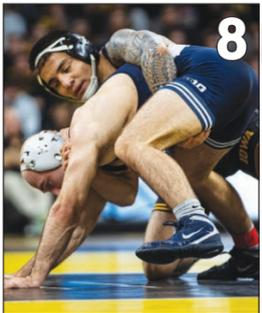
2 Daily Iowan wins Iowa Newspaper of the Year

The Daily Iowan was named the Iowa Newspaper Association's 2020 Newspaper of the Year Feb. 7 in its statewide contest, marking the first time the *DJ* has received the organization's top honor since 1981.



Listen inside caucus night

The Daily Iowan's politics podcast - The Cloakroom - takes you inside caucus night on an audio tour of student-heavy precincts. Listen at dailyiowan.com, on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or wherever you listen.



8 Wrestling topples Michigan in Ann Arbor

Iowa wrestling clinched a share of the Big Ten regular season title with a 27-9 dual meet victory over Michigan in Ann Arbor. The Hawkeyes dominated the matchup on the scorecard, but head coach Tom Brands believes the lopsided score doesn't do the intensity of the match justice.



8 Hawkeyes steam past Boilermakers

Ten of the Big Ten's 14 teams are either ranked or receiving votes, meaning the Hawkeyes need to lock in for their final nine games if they want to secure a high seed for the conference tournament.



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.

24 hours for \$2.87 million

After 24 hours of dancing, remembering, and fundraising, University of Iowa Dance Marathon 26 raised more than \$2.87 million for the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

The final total is shown during Dance Marathon 26 in the IMU on Feb. 8.

BY RIN SWANN
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Dressed in multicolored T-shirts, a mass of dancers, children, and families entered the IMU at 7 p.m. Feb. 7. Twenty-four hours later, Dance Marathon 26 participants emerged having raised \$2.87 million for pediatric cancer patients.

The University of Iowa Dance Marathon's Big Event capped a year of fundraising for the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital. Dancers gave up caffeine, sleep, and sitting down as they danced to fundraise for children and families affected by pediatric cancer.

In its first year, Dance Marathon raised \$31,000. In 2018, it raised a record-breaking \$3 million, and Dance Marathon 25 raised \$2.9 mil-

lion last academic year.

Dancers raised a minimum of \$500 to participate in the event and leadership members raised more than \$1,000. The majority of fundraising came from social media and other donors, as previously reported by *The Daily Iowan*.

By the conclusion of Dance Marathon 26, the organization had raised more than \$30 million over the course of its 26 years.

"My mom had cancer and she passed away in 2013," second-year dancer Maddie Weber said. "I remember when I was in elementary school, I always remember that she would be making care packages for the Children's Hospital... And I think, once I had seen my mom go through that and knowing how that affects the families, from my personal standpoint, I want to give back to the families that way."

This year, multiple dancers were unable to attend because of illnesses, as Dance Marathon took place during flu season, said Dance Marathon Recruitment and Retention Director McKayla Mix. Dancers who were feeling unwell were encouraged to not attend.

"People at home are still able to fundraise, even if they aren't here today," Mix said. "Even if they don't get their \$500 minimum, they can still continue to push however far they can. We just encourage, whether they have the flu or not, if they are feeling some sort of sickness or symptoms, we encourage them not to come as there are immune-compromised kids and families here."

SEE UIDM, 3

ETHICS & POLITICS NATIONAL POLITICS

Iowa Dems allocate Buttigieg highest state delegate count

Iowa Democrats awarded Pete Buttigieg two more delegates than Bernie Sanders and extended its deadline to request a canvass.



Megan Nagorzanski/The Daily Iowan

Campaign volunteers wait for delegates to be announced during the caucus at the Iowa Memorial Union on Feb. 3.

BY JULIA SHANAHAN AND CALEB MCCULLOUGH
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After updating data from 55 precincts across the state, the Iowa Democratic Party released results on Sunday showing former South Bend, Indiana mayor Pete Buttigieg leading the delegate count a week after caucus night.

Buttigieg was allocated 14 national delegates, followed by independent senator from Vermont Bernie Sanders with 12, Democratic senator from Massachusetts Elizabeth Warren with eight, and former vice president Joe Biden with six. The Sanders campaign plans to request

a partial canvass of results to ensure the results were added up correctly according to the Associated Press.

The IDP is allowing presidential campaigns to request a canvass of results if there are inconsistencies between the data reported and the data recorded by precinct chairs at caucus sites. The IDP extended the deadline from Feb. 7 noon to Monday noon.

Because of errors in calculating results, the AP, which typically analyzes election results and calls a winner, is not calling a winner from the Iowa caucuses, along with *The New York Times*. The AP is also not allocating the ad-

SEE CANDIDATES, 2

Space mixes science, art

The Robert A. Lee Community Recreation Center has launched its new "Maker Space," an interactive program for children to explore their creativity with hands-on scientific experiments.

BY RACHEL SHILKE
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The Robert A. Lee Community Recreation Center recently launched its new "Maker Space," a three-month interactive program where K-12 students experience the collaboration of art and science hands-on without the pressure of a traditional school environment.

The center's Coordinator of Special Events Erica Dodge said the space was special because it allows kids to explore while they are learning. Kids can participate in activities ranging from learning about explosions to examining Iowa State University's insect zoo.

The programming will run from 2-4 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays for three months between Jan. 25 and April 25.

"It's a free space where kids can explore through doing," Dodge said. "I believe this is a big shift in the education world, where there are rigid structures and set principles, and that can strangle a child's ability to create."

Dodge said the space promotes STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art

SEE MAKER SPACE, 2



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GOING... GOING... GONG



Wyatt Dlouhy/The Daily Iowan

Dancers hit a gong during Dance Marathon 26 at the IMU on Feb. 8.

The Daily Iowan named Newspaper of the Year

The Iowa Newspaper Association honored *The Daily Iowan* with its top award in the statewide 2020 Better Newspaper Contest.

BY DI STAFF
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The *Daily Iowan* was named the Iowa Newspaper Association's 2020 Newspaper of the Year Feb. 7 in its statewide contest, marking the first time the *DI* has received the organization's top honor since 1981.

Overall, the University of Iowa's independent student-run newspaper brought home more than 40 awards, including 18 first-place awards against daily newspapers with a circulation less than 10,000.

"We're thrilled to be recognized as the Newspaper of the Year," *DI* Publisher Jason Brummond said. "This is truly an impressive accomplishment for our student journalists, who compete for these awards against professional newspapers across the state of Iowa. We have a talented and dedicated staff who balance newsroom assignments with classwork to deliver important news and storytelling to the UI community and beyond."

Editor-in-Chief Marissa Payne said the *DI*'s recognition was a testament to the newsroom staff's hard work, professionalism, and dedication to producing quality journalism.

"For more than 150 years, the *DI* has been a strong training ground for students to learn how to be journalists," Payne said. "While we work in this learning laboratory, we are real journalists doing real work — investigating the UI administration, covering city council meetings, asking important questions of Iowa politicians, and documenting all Hawkeye sports. I'm so proud of our historic achievement, but the ultimate honor is the work we do every day as the UI's paper of record informing the Hawkeye and Iowa City communities."

Payne and 2019 graduate Gage Miskimen were editors during the contest period.

Payne won the Harrison "Skip" Weber Investigative Reporting award for her April 2019 scoop on the UI's nearly \$4

million change order to replace Cedar Rapids construction firm Modern Piping with another bidder as a subcontractor on the Pharmacy Building project.

Creative Director Katina Zentz was awarded three citations, earning first place for Best News Feature Photo for capturing a moment between a parent and child at golden hour while sitting at Molly's Cupcakes as well as first- and second-place finishes for Best Slideshow.

Politics Editor Julia Shanahan's reporting on the fatal cost of rising insulin prices and how 2020 presidential campaigns are engaging with minority voters in the first-in-the-nation caucus state earned her first place for Best News Story and Best News Feature Story, respectively.

Other notable highlights included winning Best Newspaper Website for the fourth year in a row and sweeping first, second, and third for Best Personality Feature Story, Best Sports Photo, Best Video, and Best Slideshow.

The *DI* earned first in the following categories:

- General Excellence
- Coverage of Education
- Coverage of Agriculture
- Best Newspaper Website
- Best News Story — Julia Shanahan
- Best Personality Feature Story — Kit Fitzgerald
- Best News Feature Story — Julia Shanahan
- Best Sports Feature — David Harmantas
- Best Video — Roman Slabach
- Best Slideshow — Katina Zentz
- Best News Feature Photo — Katina Zentz
- Best Sports Photo — Ryan Adams
- Best Editorial Page
- Best Feature Page
- Best Newspaper Marketing
- Best Ad Featuring Grocery, Food or Entertainment
- Best Ad Featuring Professional Service
- Best Ad Idea for a Community Promotion or Event

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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DI staff members hold first-place plaques and the 2020 Newspaper of the Year award to celebrate earning the Iowa Newspaper Association's top honor at the association's annual awards convention at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown on Feb. 7. The achievement marks the first time the *DI* has won Newspaper of the Year since 1981.

The Newspaper of the Year is presented to the newspaper that accumulates the highest point total from placing first, second, or third in select categories in the association's annual Better Newspaper Contest. Member newspapers sub-

mit thousands of entries in news, writing, advertising, and digital categories.

The Virginia Press Association judged more than 3,300 entries in Iowa's 2020 Better Newspaper Contest, which took place at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown.

MAKER SPACE CONTINUED FROM FRONT

and Mathematics. The STEAM concept differs from the more commonly known STEM learning, she said, because it adds an art component to the lessons and allows for students to go beyond the given expectations and expand their creativity.

"Art comes through in everything we do," Dodge said. "The Maker Space allows children to embrace creativity from all kinds of angles. A lot of childhood is exploring, testing, and experimenting. That's how we learn, and in a way, that is science."

The space holds free events every Tuesday and Saturday, "Open Maker Space" time, where children come and take advantage of the hands-on experiments and kits the space provides, she added.

The coordinators of the Maker Space plan to keep the programming free and rely financially on awards and donations from multiple organizations and companies instead. The organization would consider shifting its funding sources in order to cover basic costs, but as of now, there is no plan to do so, said Nature and Science Coordinator Nancey Pope wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan*.

The Maker Space also has special "STEAM Saturdays" on the third or fourth Saturday of every month, where the space will bring in shows or individuals from other science organizations or centers, and members of the community can participate. The space will run up until the Earth Fest on April 25, ending the

space's season, Dodge said.

The overall goal of the Maker Space is to create an open and inviting environment that can support a wide range of ages and abilities, Pope said.

"We are giving families the opportunity to gather, share ideas, make new friends, and develop new hobbies," she said.

Parents can also benefit from the space either by participating in the activities or finishing up work they need to do while their child is busy exploring, Dodge said.

City of Iowa City Special Projects Assistant and parent Jack Brooks said that he enjoys the space because it brings the community together, and he can strike up a conversation with other parents while his daughter conducts science experiments.

"It's nice to have a free program that can get you and your child out into the community where they are doing something that feels like play, but is also a science experiment," Brooks said.

Brooks said he also likes the flexibility that the Maker Space provides.

"The space allows a lot of freedom, and kids can learn on their own and at their own pace," he said.

The concept of gathering and trying something out of the ordinary is the very essence of the Maker Space. Dodge emphasized that not every child has to complete their activities the same way, which she said is one unique aspect of the space.

"You can use other realms to understand science," she said. "It doesn't have to be 100 percent technical all the time. It's trying to connect kids who really like art and using their creative side and show them, 'Oh, I can do science, too.' It is art, it is creative."

CANDIDATES CONTINUED FROM FRONT

ditional delegate to Buttigieg that the IDP reported Sunday.

"Prior to reporting the totals, the IDP shared with each campaign the analysis of the submissions and any resulting corrections," the IDP said in a news release on Sunday. "Corrections were made when the reported precinct numbers were inconsistent with the precinct's official results, as signed by the precinct chair, secretary, and representatives of presidential campaigns."

According to IDP internal emails, the party will not be correcting errors on official handwritten tally sheets from individual precincts. An IDP lawyer said in an email to state central committee members that the math must not be changed to ensure the integrity of the process.

Inconsistencies have been found between final results posted by the party and results from precincts' tally sheets by journalists, Iowa caucusgoers, and party members. There were several rule changes to the caucusing process this year that added confusion to how delegates were to be allocated.

Since caucus night Feb. 3, the party has been checking paper records to results reported by volunteers using an app or a phone line. The IDP said Feb. 8 that it reviewed and corrected inconsistencies in 55 precincts out of the 1,765 in the state, 95 of which had been under review.

If a candidate does request a Iowa caucus, it would involve Iowa Democratic Party workers manually reviewing each



Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Iowa Democratic Party Chair Troy Price discusses the Iowa caucuses in an interview for *The Daily Iowan* at Prairie Lights on May 5, 2019.

of the more than 1,700 precinct site worksheets and matching them against the reported results. After Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez called for the Hawkeye State's Democratic Party to conduct a canvass on Twitter on Feb. 6, the head of the Iowa Democratic Party Troy Price told news media Feb. 7 that the party would adhere to its delegate-selection plan and conduct a canvass only at a candidate's request.

He also said an "investigation" would be completed about what went wrong on caucus night, but didn't give a time frame for when that investigation would be done.

"This review is completely independent of myself, or the executive director of the party, our vice chairs, our caucus director and staff of the Iowa Democratic Party," he said.

VACATE	GENT	GEM	6	5	2	3	7	9	8	1	4
ARABIA	ELIA	ANY	7	3	4	1	5	8	9	2	6
RUBIES	EMERALDS		8	1	9	2	6	4	5	3	7
GAIT	TUNIC	GLUT									
SUN	SNARE	TIRE	4	9	7	5	1	3	6	8	2
ELASTIC	ASA	PER	5	2	1	9	8	6	7	4	3
WASHEDUP	FUSSY		3	8	6	7	4	2	1	9	5
AMETHYSTS											
SCAMP	DECREASE										
COG	EEG	SHADIER									
ACID	ALLEN	LAG	9	6	8	4	2	7	3	5	1
NATO	RAISA	RES	2	7	5	8	3	1	4	6	9
DIAMONDS	PEARLS										
ANT	WELT	PANOUT	1	4	3	6	9	5	2	7	8
LEE	EDYS	STINGY									

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Lisa Covington recognized for advocacy for communities of color in Iowa City

Lisa Covington recently received the Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award for her advocacy and work for equity and liberation of African Americans and people of color in Iowa City.

BY KAITLIN LANG

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When she started her first year at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Lisa Covington worked at a Clarion women's center where she discovered a passion that would carry on into the rest of her life — understanding and addressing the many forms of inequity in the world.

Today, as a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at the University of Iowa, she said that passion has blossomed into something she never imagined.

Covington recently became one of five Iowans awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award given to individuals whose work continues to bolster the goals of civil rights activists like King.

"There are not a lot of people like Dr. King and so I think the work that he did in communities for equity and addressing oppression ... oftentimes we

miss that, and so I think receiving the award is just really humbling and an honor to receive something in the name of a man who fought for equity and justice his entire life," Covington said. "And we're still waiting for equity and justice now."

During the four years she's been in the area, the Pittsburgh native has worked through graduate school while also dedicating herself to several organizations and projects focused on empowering and liberating people of color in the community.

A local project that quickly caught Covington's eye was Humanize My Hoodie, started in late 2017 by Jason Sole and Andre Wright to humanize people of color — especially African American men — in hoodies. Sole met Covington at presentation he was giving, and the two clicked. From the project's inception, the founders say they knew that they wanted her involved.

"Her work ethic, her com-

passion for people who are suffering, her drive is remarkable," Co-Founder Jason Sole said. "I definitely want that lifted up. She's an amazing black woman and she's putting in the work out here to change things. I'm excited to see what she's going to be in the next three to five years because she's growing at a rapid rate."

Covington also became connected to G!World, a group centered around mentorship and empowerment of young women of color, and Sankofa Outreach Connection, an organization built to support fellow women of color, through their founders RaQuishia Harrington and LaTasha DeLoach.

"They kind of encouraged me to become involved and so I did and I was just really grateful to be welcomed by these women, to be involved with an organization [Sankofa Outreach Connection] that they founded and started for young women of color," Covington said.

Teresa Mangum, director of

the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, said the center appreciates Covington's commitment to working as a senior fellow and graduate student, as well as her commitment to making the community around her a welcoming place for all.

"I certainly think she is a person that has a lot to offer," Mangum said. "She's really interested in children's education, in helping kids both express their sense of how to belong to a community but also of helping kids think about how to negotiate with other kids from varied communities."

Her most recent project is directing the Ethnic Studies Leadership Academy, a five-month program starting in mid-February, which she said is a direct response to a community request for an ethnic studies course.

She said the program's curriculum will focus on teaching young women of color in middle school and high school how to use digital tools to commu-



Contributed

nicate their ideas and experiences around power dynamics, oppression, and privilege.

"I know the reason for doing empowerment work for youth of color is liberation," Covington

said. "And so, liberation meaning that you can be free to be who you are all the time and know your history, know where you come from, and know that you come from a great legacy."

UIDM

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Events throughout the 24 hours included an awards ceremony, Kiddo Graduation, family speakers, and the "Dancing in our Hearts" video — which commemorated Dance Marathon children who died from cancer.

The Big Event concluded with the reveal of the final tote board, which showed that the organization raised \$2,879,755.26 for its 26th year.

"I have seen so many families fight cancer,"

Dance Marathon Executive Director Allie Stutting said. "I have volunteered in our Children's Hospital for three years now in our cancer unit and all I know is that a number isn't what makes a child smile, it's the miracles that you're able to deliver them through that number. And for me, I never think that a number defines success. It doesn't. We're raising millions of dollars. And I'm pretty dang proud of that."

In the final hours of the event, long-time Dance Marathon family member Lindsay Oliver spoke about why the event means so

much to her and why she continues to attend. She said her family has been involved with the organization for 21 years and this was the family's 20th Big Event.

"My sister, she was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma and she was able to come to one Dance Marathon before she passed," Oliver said. "And she thought this was the best thing she could ever go to or be at and it was wonderful and brought her so much joy. It's helped our family so much through the years with coping and helping other families cope with their loss."



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Dancers participate in power hour during Dance Marathon 26 in the IMU on Feb. 8.

BY DANCING
TODAY,
WE'RE CREATING
TOMORROW.

To everyone who is a part of
UI Dance Marathon, thank you.

FTK always!



University of Iowa
Stead Family
Children's Hospital

Opinions

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

How should we approach deaths of celebrities?

The death of Kobe Bryant elicited a wide range of reactions from fans and media. Two weeks after the star's passing, two *DI* columnists wrestle with the proper response to this sort of tragedy.

Obsession over celebrities and their deaths has gone too far | Joking about individual deaths is distasteful and inappropriate



JASON O'DAY
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Before I start, I don't want to cast aspersions at specific individuals as I do not know what motivates them. However, a lot of the melodramatic social-media posts and myriad tribute columns mourning NBA star Kobe Bryant's death seem like empty virtue signals.

It's so self-righteous. It's as if they're telling themselves and others, perhaps subconsciously, "Look at me! I'm a good person because I was among the first to make a profound statement about this celebrity death on Twitter." And that's gross.

Some of these social-media users make me wonder if they've ever experienced a negative emotion without groveling for attention about it on social media.

The BBC was justifiably flooded with complaints for engaging in too much coverage of Bryant's death. The endless parade of discussion panels on ESPN were excessive at best, and exploitative at worst.

I watched the beginning of the first Lakers' game after the tragedy. It featured a round of pre-game festivities to commemorate him. Players wore jerseys with the two numbers Bryant played under, current top Laker LeBron James deliv-

ered an emotional speech, and Usher sang a weird rendition of "Amazing Grace." Call me cynical, but I thought it was over the top.

Technology has enabled Western culture to gradually increase in its idolatry. I find it rather odd that someone can be completely devastated by the passing of an individual they've never met. I doubt trends such as #MambaMentality have done anything to comfort Bryant's grieving family members, who also have not been afforded the proper time and space to cope with their loss.

The fact that some people insist on pretending that Bryant was a flawless person is also a bit strange. He was credibly accused of rape by a 19-year-old woman in 2003, settled a civil lawsuit with her, and issued an apology. *Washington Post* reporter Felicia Sonmez was briefly suspended from her job after tweeting the link to a *Daily Beast* story detailing the allegations.

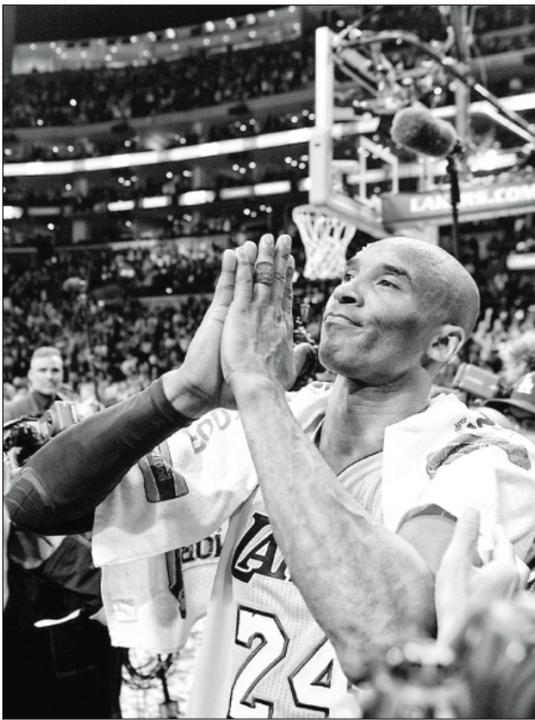
Bryant was a phenomenal athlete who inspired millions of fans to strive for greatness both on and off the court, and my intention is not to detract from that. I was shocked and saddened when I found out about the passing of Bryant, his young daughter, and seven other lives on that helicopter.

Yet, he was only human. No death justifies an entire week of breathless media attention.

The compulsive, posthumous veneration of Bryant is not an anomaly. Deaths of pop stars such as Prince and politicians such as George H.W. Bush were treated in a similarly creepy fashion.

The #RIP brigade of perpetual public mourners don't seem to fully comprehend that life is fleeting, and death is a natural part of the cycle. No one can escape it, not even celebrities.

America would be a better place if more of its people expressed deeper appreciation for the family, friends, and neighbors who directly improve their lives than superstars on their pedestal who don't even know them.



Wally Skaljic/Los Angeles Times/TNS
Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant pays homage to the fans at Staples Center Los Angeles in following the final game of his career on April 13, 2016.

BY RILEY MOORE
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Novelist Kingsley Amis wrote, "Death has this much to be said for it: You don't have to get out of bed for it."

His observation is about the end of life, general enough to be humorous to anyone. However, detailed comments on someone's death are inflammatory.

This can be seen after the death of NBA superstar Kobe

Bryant, who died in a helicopter crash alongside his daughter and seven others on Jan. 26. While the blades still spun, morbid comedian Ari Shaffir tweeted, "Kobe Bryant died 23 years too late today... What a great day!"

Shaffir tried to defend himself later. "They're just words. They're jokes for fans."

Shaffir's need to explain his remarks rings of Paul Noth's cartoon depiction of God greeting newcomers at the gates of heaven, "Look if I have to explain the meaning of existence, then it isn't funny."

When the joke intrudes on common decency, one should tread carefully, ensuring the taboo being crossed is not diminishing well-being. Sincere or not, Shaffir's lack of decency broadens the inquiry: How long should our moral timer run before engaging in jokes about the dead?

Of course, the dead cannot take offense, personally or vicariously. But loved ones left behind feel a real emotional impact. One only needs to imagine a former Bryant teammate interrupting a room of damp eyes, "Kobe's probably coaching God on proper footwork right now."

There is a distinction between jokes about a dead man and jokes about the manner in which a man died. The latter is generally off the table in respect to comedic material. Perhaps the best compromise would

be to figure out some guidelines for dark humor. For some, having guidelines at all defeats the purpose of comedy.

For example, a good societal rule concerning posthumous humor could be to wait 24 hours before delivering a punchline. Comedians who post an egregious remark precisely 24 hours after the death of a revered figure ought to be met with the complaint, "You simply waited the required time, and are lacking any sense of common decency."

I do not wish to conflate bad jokes with sinister ones. Shaffir's inflammatory comment lacked cleverness, sarcasm, and originality; however, these are traits of a poorly thought out quip, not a malevolent statement. The qualification for malevolence must transcend a naivety of humor.

The celebration of losing a real-life superhero meets the criteria for villainy. Teasing dead celebrities is not the only concern. Many people have emotionally weighted personal accounts of passing relatives and friends. Presumably, those surrounding the deceased loved one have reservations about seeking the humorous aspect.

German communist leader Eugen Leviné lightened the mood before being executed by a firing squad for his rebellion: "We're all dead men on leave."

Humor is certainly an antidote, but administer it with caution.

COLUMN

#MayorCheat didn't happen, our democracy is still broken



ELIJAH HELTON
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A week removed from the Iowa caucuses, and we're still in disarray.

Many Democrats remain outraged by the Iowa Democratic Party's actions, including those who competed for support in the caucuses. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii has called for Democratic National Committee Chair Tom Perez to resign. Even former Vice President Joe Biden has cast doubt on the results.

With a mess this bad, it makes sense that many people would start creating conspira-

cy theories about what "really" happened. While these claims are definitionally unfounded, they have the potential to unravel the party's primary mission of defeating President Trump. One of the theories has found particular traction online: #MayorCheat.

When the conspiracy theory was made

#MayorCheat was trending on Twitter in wake of the mayhem. Allegations circulated that former South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg — who in a razor-thin margin against Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., received more state delegate equivalents in the Iowa caucuses — was somehow involved with planning the breakdown of the app to slither his way into winning the Hawkeye State.

I'm usually the last person to get on board with a conspiracy

theory. I'm a journalist; I need claims to have evidence before jumping to conclusions. But given the stakes of the caucuses, I looked into the "Buttigieg stole Iowa" hypothesis.

How it works

It starts with the app. The Iowa Democratic Party commissioned campaign technology company Shadow Inc. (literally a shady name) to build an app that would digitize the caucus precinct reporting system.

According to Federal Election Commission filings, the Buttigieg campaign paid Shadow twice for a total of \$42,500. The filing description of both payments says the money was for "software rights and subscriptions."

Shadow was also paid by a super PAC (every good conspiracy theory needs a super PAC) called For Our Future. According to the Open Secrets

report on the group, For Our Future has not contributed to a party or campaign in the 2019-20 cycle. It's just sitting there, hoarding money for some vague, nefarious reason.

And if that isn't convincing, Shadow's CEO worked on the presidential campaign for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. See? It all works together. See?

Why it doesn't

If the above theory seems a little rabbit-hole-ish and doesn't really make sense, that's because it doesn't.

In those same FEC filings, one can see that another presidential campaign also paid Shadow, this one for Biden.

Ah, another establishment figure trying to preserve the status quo. But if the "establishment" was trying to rig the election, wouldn't they have done it to help Biden?

There isn't sufficient evidence that the Iowa caucuses were intentionally mismanaged, but the response to the mayhem reveals a much deeper problem in American politics.

There's also a third presidential candidate who had a history with Shadow, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York. (It's understandable if you forgot she ran for president.) And Shadow has also done work with the Democratic state parties in Wisconsin, Nevada, and Texas.

It's much more likely that Shadow is just another company. They were only given a couple of months to throw the app together, it wasn't well-tested, and its flaws showed on caucus night.

What it says about our struggling democracy

Obviously, random people online aren't representative of the American public, but #MayorCheat gets at a deeper problem in our politics.

I've written before about the importance of competent election administration. It's

unacceptable that, for whatever reason, we didn't have at least some official results on caucus night. Even though the Iowa Democrats' failure was probably unintentional, it's already done damage to our institutions.

Democracy only works with participation and trust.

Of course, we're far from the sham elections in the Soviet Union or Nazi Germany, but the U.S. needs all the legitimacy it can get. We live in a world where it's clear Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election; there isn't a lot of room for even the most honest mistakes.

Combine that with the caucus chaos and the wariness many Democrats feel toward their party's elite, and their disillusionment hardens.

A party this disorganized won't defeat Trump. And that's far scarier than any conspiracy theory.

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Down, down, do your dance

Over the weekend, thousands of participants including dancers, family members, and leaders gathered to raise money for the patients being treated in the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital. The organization raised \$2.87 million for the kids.



Clockwise from top left: Participants dance during Power Hour at UI Dance Marathon 26 at the IMU on Feb. 8. (Katina Zentz/The Daily Iowan) Max performs during the Dance Marathon Kiddo Talent Show on Feb. 8. (Megan Nagorzanski/The Daily Iowan) Dance Marathon participants dance to the live performance by a ccapella group KAZUAL on Feb. 8. (Nichole Harris/The Daily Iowan) Tessa DeWall (left) and Katelyn Kempkes hold their cut hair after getting their heads shaved on Feb. 8. (Wyatt Dlouhy/The Daily Iowan) Graduates wait for Kiddo Graduation to begin on Feb. 8. (Hannah Kinson/The Daily Iowan) A member of the a cappella group KAZUAL high fives fans in the crowd on Feb. 8. (Nichole Harris/The Daily Iowan)

Iowa tennis' weekend gets two wins

The women's tennis team went 1-1 against its weekend opponents while the men's team defeated Drake in Des Moines.

BY CHRIS WERNER
christopher-werner@uiowa.edu

A dominant in-state victory and a win to rally after a defeat — it was not a bad weekend for Iowa tennis.

The men's and women's teams were on the road this weekend for Iowa tennis. The men defeated Drake in Des Moines Feb. 7. The women fell to Minnesota that same day, but recovered and topped Marquette on Feb. 8.

The Hawkeye men blanked the Bulldogs, tallying a 4-0 victory behind impressive finishes across the board.

"[Feb. 7] was a good team win for us on the road," head coach Ross Wilson said in a release. "We played well in all three doubles matches, which was key."

Iowa nabbed the doubles point as the team of junior Joe Tyler and freshman Matt Klegg won their match, 6-3, and the duo of senior Kareem Allaf and sophomore Nikita Snezhko defeated their opponent, 6-2.

In the singles portion of the dual, sophomore Oliver Okonkwo beat Drake's Luka Jankovic for Iowa's first victory of the night in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1.

Allaf, ranked 53rd nationally, won against Barny Thorold, 6-1, 6-1. Junior Will Davies improved to 5-1 on the season and added the final point for the Hawkeyes defeating Evan Fragistas, 6-2, 6-2. The other matches were stopped before they could be completed, as Iowa had already clinched the overall win.

For the women, Minnesota was too much for Iowa on Feb. 7. The Golden Gophers defeated the Hawkeyes, 4-1, in Minneapolis.

Minnesota took the doubles point, beating Iowa in the first two doubles matches. The Golden Gopher pair of Cammy Frei and Tiffany Huber defeated Michelle Bacalla and Elise van Heuvelen Treadwell. Then, Ekin Erceetin and Delila Said beat Iowa's Ashleigh Jacobs and Danielle Bauers. Each match ended 6-4 for the hosts.

Iowa collected a victory in one of the singles matches. On court four, Jacobs defeated Frei 6-3, 6-3. The Golden Gophers were victorious in the other three matches that were finished to claim the overall title.

"We have had three very similar matches so far this season where we had the opportunity and didn't take it," head coach Sasha Schmid said in a release. "We must change that around quickly. We have another big battle tomorrow against Marquette."

That, the Hawkeyes did. Less than 24 hours removed from the Minnesota defeat, the Hawkeyes changed their fortune against Marquette.

Iowa beat the Golden Eagles by a final of 4-1.

Iowa took the second and third doubles matches, where Bauers and Jacobs, along with Danielle Burich and Samantha Mannix, beat their competition.

Iowa finished off Marquette by winning three of the four singles match-

es. Bauers, van Heuvelen Treadwell, and Burich all collected victories.

"It's good for the group to get a win. We have been tested with tough opponents all on the road for the

last six matches," Schmid said in a release. "We are looking forward to building on today with a good week of practice and getting home for the next stretch of the season."

Up next, the men will face Middle Tennessee State at 6 p.m. Feb. 14 in Iowa City. The women will battle with Old Dominion at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Complex earlier that day at 2 p.m.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Kareem Allaf hits a forehand during a men's tennis match between Iowa and Nebraska-Omaha at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Complex on Jan. 25.

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Sports

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

THE MOST COMPLETE HAWKEYE SPORTS COVERAGE IN IOWA

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HAWKEYE UPDATES

Hawkeye track and field sets records in Nebraska, Indiana

They were only the second away meets of the indoor season, but the Meyo Invitational at Notre Dame and the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational at Nebraska over the weekend proved that Iowa track could divide and conquer.

In Nebraska, the first men's event of the meet – the heptathlon – finished with junior multi-event athlete Will Daniels securing the gold (5,689 points). Daniels also recorded additional personal bests in the 1000 meters (2:48.54) and pole vault (4.31).

"It felt great to compete in the heptathlon this weekend and finish with a new personal best," Daniels said. "It was a long two days of competition, but there was a great group of guys in the field, and we were all pushing and encouraging each other through each event. "I was really excited when I heard where my score currently stacks up in the Big Ten, but I know that the most important performances won't come until later this month, at the Big Ten Championships."

And that same effort rolled into the first women's event of the weekend.

Senior multi-event athlete Jenny Kimbro made big marks in the pentathlon, nabbing 4,269 points for Iowa. This career best now ranks Kimbro No. 1 on the Iowa all-time leaderboard, No. 1 in the Big Ten, and No. 2 nationally.

"It was a really fun weekend overall," Kimbro said. "The whole multi-squad had great energy, and we were just able to feed off of each other and push each other to some great performances. There's always a lot of nerves going into the first multi of the year, and it was just exciting to see how training translated to a meet."

Softball wins four games in opening tournament

After an off-season of continuity for Iowa softball, the Hawkeyes started off the season successfully as the team headed down south.

Iowa took part in the Kickin' Chicken Classic in Conway, South Carolina, where the team won four of five games – including an eight-inning victory over Virginia Tech.

The Hawkeyes started the season strong with a win over East Carolina. After Aralee Bogar and Riley Sheehy ended up on second and third base in the first inning, freshman Kalena Burns sent them home with a three-run homerun at her first ever collegiate at-bat.

After the hot start, Iowa managed to maintain its lead up until the sixth inning, where East Carolina scored four unanswered runs to make it 5-5 heading into the seventh inning. However, the Hawkeyes would find a way to win.

After sophomore Miranda Schulte got on base after a fielding error, Mia Ruther came up to the plate and singled. Schulte's pinch runner Taylor Ryan stole third before freshman Nia Carter recorded a game winning walk-off RBI, clinching a 6-5 victory.

Read the full story at dailyiowan.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You guys get that caucus thing figured out yet?"



–Nebraska men's basketball coach Fred Hoiberg after losing to Iowa

STAT OF THE DAY

The Iowa women's basketball team has won 20 or more games

13

times under Lisa Bluder

Top-ranked Hawkeyes win big in Ann Arbor

The Hawkeyes clinched a share of the Big Ten regular season title with a dual meet victory over the Michigan Wolverines.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's 149-pound Pat Lugo wrestles Penn State's Jarod Verkleeren during a wrestling dual meet between No. 1 Iowa and No. 2 Penn State at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 31.

BY AUSTIN HANSON
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This season has been full of lopsided victories for Iowa wrestling. With the exception of their match-up against Penn State on Jan. 31, the Hawkeyes have won every dual they've wrestled by double digits.

On Feb. 8, it was more of the same for Iowa. The Hawkeyes blew by No. 22 Michigan in Ann Arbor,

27-9. The victory improved Iowa's record in the Big Ten to 8-0 and clinched the team a share of the conference regular season title.

However, this blowout didn't feel like others Iowa has produced this season.

"[Michigan] is a team that is coached strategically to be strong at the end of the period, score at the end of the period, keep an eye on the clock," Iowa head coach Tom Brands said. "We handled most of

that well. Heavyweight got away from us. We were trading blows with him and got into a position where we just don't want to be. We have to get better at our finishes. That match ended up lopsided, but it wasn't lopsided.

The majority of Michigan's team point total came during the heavyweight bout. No. 3 Tony Cassioppi

SEE WRESTLING, 6

Women's hoops steams by Purdue

The Hawkeyes had three players score at least 20 points in their 83-71 victory over Purdue in West Lafayette.



Megan Nagorzanski/The Daily Iowan

Iowa guard Makenzie Meyer looks to pass during a women's basketball game between Iowa and Nebraska at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 6.

BY ISAAC GOFFIN
isaac-goffin@uiowa.edu

After recording only five points on in Iowa's previous game, senior guard Makenzie Meyer went back to her usual scoring on Sunday, scoring 22 points at Purdue.

This was important, as it helped the Hawkeyes steam by the Boilermakers, 83-71.

Meyer shot 9-of-15 from the field against Purdue, but she was not the only key scorer for the Hawkeyes. She was one of three Iowa players to score more than 20 points in the Hawkeye victory.

Senior guard Kathleen Doyle finished the day with 22 points, while sophomore center Monika Czinano finished with 20 points. Senior forward Amanda Ollinger led the team in rebounds once again, bringing down 12 of them.

Shooting for the Hawkeyes was phenomenal against Purdue. They shot 58.9 percent from the field. It was at its high in the second quarter, when they shot 84.6 percent.

"I thought [Meyer] attacked the hole well, and Kathleen hit some dagger 3's at the end of the shot clock," Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said. "We had

SEE BASKETBALL, 6

Hawkeyes dominate Western Illinois on Senior Night

Iowa won every official event to take down the Leathernecks on Feb. 7. Now, the Hawkeyes are into championship season.

BY CHRIS WERNER
christopher-werner@uiowa.edu

Both the Hawkeye men's and women's swimming and diving teams ended the dual meet season with convincing victories over Western Illinois on Senior Night in Iowa City over the weekend.

The Hawkeyes honored their 13 graduating swimmers before the action began. The members of the Black and Gold were recognized in front of the home crowd for the final time.

"This team has good chemistry and those seniors have been through a lot," head coach Marc Long said. "It's really important we have a senior class that can provide that kind of leadership. It's going to pay off here at the end of the season."

The men tallied a 122-44 win, and the women topped the Leathernecks 130-67.

Iowa has faced and beaten Western Illinois in every final home meet since at least 2010, which is as far back as the records go.

Although it was an official meet, many of Iowa's athletes had the chance to participate in events that they normally do not get to.

For instance, Sam Tamborski raced in the final leg of the 200-free relay, an exhibition event, on a team with Lauren McDougall, Taylor Hartley, and Alleyna Thomas.

In that race, the team was split into relay

SEE SWIMMING, 6