

A Hawkeye
friendship on the
sidelines.

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The Daily Iowan

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NEWS SERIES

Una 'inspiración'

Maria Bruno became executive director for Belonging and Inclusion in October 2019. But for Bruno, a high-school dropout and daughter of immigrants, her path took many turns.



Tate Hildyard/The Daily Iowan

Executive Director for Belonging & Inclusion Maria Bruno poses for a portrait in the IMU on March 2.

BY RIN SWANN

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In college, Maria Guadalupe Bruno's nickname from her sorority was "inspiración," or inspiration.

As an adult, that nickname has found new meaning. Formerly a high-school dropout, Bruno has earned three degrees and is the executive director for Belonging and Inclusion within the Division of Student Life. And the story of how she got there reflects her nickname, fellow Hawkeyes say.

Since Bruno assumed the position in October, she's best known for centering her work around supporting students. She spearheaded the move of Student Disability Services from the basement of Burge and chairing a number of committees and teams, including the Implementation Team for the Division of Student Life Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan; the Accessibility Action Team; and the Equity Committee.

"As a student on campus who is marginalized, she's someone that definitely listens to me and my voice," said Christopher Vazquez, a UI student and a founding member of the #DoesUIowaLoveMe movement, which started on campus in 2019 after concerns from students about support for Hawkeyes from underrepresented communities. "[She's] someone who cares and she'll care for you even if she doesn't know you yet."

For Bruno, supporting students is the most important part of her job, and it starts from her office doors. Scattered around her workplace in colorful clusters are posters and pins, highlighting empowerment and diversity.

I <3 Civil Rights, one says. Value all voices, says another. I'm proud to support first gen @ Iowa.

Every poster and pin highlights a group that has often felt voiceless and pledges support. One rainbow poster adorning one of her cabinet doors reads LGBTQ Safe Zone.

"I want people to feel the way I have felt," Bruno said. "Where people have really supported me and encouraged me. That's what helps us thrive."

Bruno's beginnings

Bruno is the daughter of two immigrants. Born in Mexico, the now 45-year-old moved to the northwest Chicago suburbs when she was 5. Her parents both worked in hotels: her mother as a housekeeper and her father as a janitor.

She spent her childhood growing up in what she described as a very challenging neighborhood and was forced to attend group therapy for children who lived in at-risk homes by a social worker.

"This person thought she would save me from my environment," Bruno said.

The social worker removed her from her home at 15 years old. Bruno spent the next three years living in shelters and group homes. Because of the constant shifting, Bruno dropped out of high school before age 16.

"When people ask me where I grew up, it's really hard for me to answer that question because I was removed from my home," Bruno said.

She had no education and her removal was difficult for her family, ultimately leading to her parents' divorce.

"I didn't have anywhere to go," Bruno said.

It was the military that changed her life. After meeting an Air Force recruiter, he took her for a pre-test for her GED and, after she performed well, she took the test and passed.

Three days later, Bruno packed her bags and left for Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Bruno wanted to be a medical doctor and began her time in the Air Force as a medical assistant. During that time, they tested possible candidates for an EMT program and Bruno was shocked to learn she was one of five people who had performed extremely well.

"I didn't think I was one of those folks because I didn't have the high-school education and background a lot of my peers did," Bruno said.

Following the EMT testing, Bruno traveled to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where she specialized in allergy immunology and anaphylaxis treatment.

State reports eighth case of COVID-19

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation after news of more coronavirus cases.

BY SARAH WATSON

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Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation Monday after state health officials confirmed five new presumptive positive cases of the novel coronavirus — four of the five people who tested positive live in Johnson County.

The number of coronavirus cases in Iowa now totals eight. Seven of the eight people with a presumptive positive coronavirus case reside in Johnson County, and all traveled on the same cruise in Egypt.



Reynolds

All eight are recovering at home in isolation.

Of the new coronavirus cases, four of the five people are between the ages of 61 and 80, are residents of Johnson County and traveled on the same Egyptian cruise as the three cases announced on Sunday. The cruise took place from Feb. 17 to March 2, with residents returning to Johnson County on March 3.

The remaining person is a resident of Pottawattamie County, is between the ages of 41 and 60, and recently traveled to California.

Reynolds signed a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency Monday, activating the disaster response and recovery aspects of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emer-

SEE COVID-19, 2

VP urges protecting research

The VP for Research addressed federal policies for researchers when it comes to disclosing foreign activities for their work.

BY KELSEY HARRELL

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In light of federal investigations into the foreign activities of National Institutes of Health researchers, University of Iowa Vice President of Research Martin Scholtz released a letter reminding researchers on campus to disclose external conflicts of interest and foreign activities.

The letter said researchers need to follow university policies, federal laws governing appropriate use of laboratory space, and agency laws to protect the integrity and reputation of the UI. This move follows investigations into foreign-research activity at institutions such as Harvard University, Emory University, and the University of Kansas.

"International collaboration fuels important research and scholarship at our university," the letter said. "While we must all be vigilant against abuse of these relationships, such cases represent an infinitesimal fraction of the creative, compliant, and urgent work taking place here day after day by the vast majority of you."

The UI Operations Manual states that the university is a steward of public trust and that research should be carried out with integrity and free from outside conflicts of interests, Stephen Pradarelli, strategic-communications director for the Vice President for Research's Office, said in an email to *The Daily Iowan*.

Researchers are required to disclose conflicts of interest, financial and otherwise, even if it does not involve foreign entities, Pradarelli said. Research often involves working with oth-



Scholtz



Abby Watkins/The Daily Iowan

Executive Director for Belonging and Inclusion Maria Bruno gives a presentation during a UI Student Government meeting at the IMU on Feb. 18.



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SEE BRUNO, 5

SEE RESEARCH, 2

DOWNTOWN AT DEADWOOD



Tate Hildyard/The Daily Iowan

Deadwood bartender Daniel Frana watches *Interstellar* on TV in downtown Iowa City on Monday. One of the patrons insisted on explaining the plot to him because he has not seen the film in years.

COVID-19
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

gency Management's Iowa Emergency Response Plan. The proclamation authorizes state agencies to use resources, including personnel, equipment and facilities to perform activities necessary to prevent, contain and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 virus, according to a news release from the Iowa Department of Public Health and the governor's

office. In a statement Sunday after the first three cases in Johnson County were announced, the University of Iowa released a statement saying campus operations would not be immediately affected. The message said any changes in operations — including student instruction — will be made in tandem with the Iowa Department of Public Health and the state Board of Regents, among other agencies. A March 2 email sent to

Tippie College of Business students advised instructors to prepare tools to conduct classes remotely in case of a widespread coronavirus outbreak in Iowa. UI officials have not confirmed such plans are in place across the university, but have said they're following the campus' critical-incident management plan to minimize risk from such incidents. The UI-based State Hygienic Lab conducted the testing for the Johnson County residents, while a Nebraska testing center test-

ed the Pottawattamie case. The first cases of coronavirus have been linked to Wuhan, China, in December, 2019, but cases have been found now in over 97 countries. At least 666 people in 36 states and Washington, D.C., have tested positive for the virus, according to the most recent count by the *New York Times*. Iowa previously had no reported cases of the novel coronavirus, and state health officials had maintained that the state's risk was low for an outbreak.

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"While this news is concerning, it's not cause for alarm," Reynolds said during a news conference Sunday. "The most important thing that we can do right now is remain calm, understand the situation, and stay informed in the days and weeks ahead. We are committed to transparency and keeping the public informed." According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, 51 people have been tested for the virus. Thirty-two tested negative for the virus and 11 tests are pending.

RESEARCH
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

er countries in an ethical way that is reported appropriately, he added. "Collaboration within the university, the United States, or across the globe is done for the same reasons: to share ideas, validate findings, pool resources, address global problems, fill gaps in expertise, access or share facilities and equipment, and learn new techniques and skills, among other things," Pradarelli said. Foreign threats to research have led to an increase in communication with faculty and staff about reporting policies, and the review and strengthening of current policies, he said. The American Association of Universities, a prestigious national group of research universities that encompasses the UI, and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities partnered to write a summary of effective practices to address foreign security in fall 2019, said American Association of Universities Vice President for Policy Tobin Smith. The campuses do a first



Ryan Adams/The Daily Iowan

Marty Scholtz speaks during the vice president for Research candidate forum on Feb. 14, 2019. Scholtz is the current University of Iowa vice president for Research.

assessment of how the effective practices are working through a survey, and look at what is being done well and where there are gaps, he said. The two associations are currently compiling information from the surveys to update their effective practices summary, Smith said. They are looking at two things: what are universities do-

ing to make sure faculty are adequately disclosing what they are supposed to, and what universities do to train students and faculty about responsible conduct of research, he added. Faculty researchers are required to disclose both foreign and domestic conflicts of interest and outside funding sources, he said. "Collaborations help us to

know where the cutting edge sciences, wherever it is in the world, and also stay competitive in those areas of cutting edge research," Smith said. "If we build walls around the country and we think that we know everything, we will quickly fall behind in science, and that's why international collaborations are critical in fundamental and foundational research."

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THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Snyder named med school associate dean

In continuation of his tenure at the University of Iowa as both professor and former Faculty Senate president, Pete Snyder was recently named a new Carver College of Medicine associate dean.

BY ELEANOR HILDEBRANDT
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Internal-medicine Professor Pete Snyder, formerly a Faculty Senate president, became the new University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine associate dean beginning March 1.

Snyder grew up in Cedar Rapids and received his M.D. from the UI. After venturing to Dallas for his residency, he returned to the UI for a post-doctoral research fellowship and clinical training in cardiovascular medicine before becoming a professor.

The former Faculty Senate president said he is excited to continue serving members in the medical college. Snyder said he has felt a deep connection to the university for several years and cannot wait to continue helping it grow as an institution.

"I've never really felt like there was another place where I could do what I can do here," he said. "This is a very welcoming and collaborative place ... and the role of faculty in the College of Medicine has evolved over the

last 10 to 15 years. Some faculty are very invested in research, and others are mostly invested in clinical care, and others in education. In spite of that, I will work to make all faculty members more successful here."

UI internal and cardiovascular medicine Professor Donald Heistad, the Pomerantz family chair of cardiology, said he met Snyder when he was a first-year UI medical student. Heistad said it was clear even then that Snyder was talented and was going to be a remarkable cardiologist, especially when it came to his research.

"It was clear back then that he was uniquely talented, bright, empathic, and a thoughtful person," he said. "Research was really key in Pete's growth and he's completed terrific research since he was a student. I have no doubt that Pete will do a great job because of his experience."

Heistad said he is certain Snyder will make a positive difference in his new position, especially because of his experience with representing faculty as the 2017-18 Faculty Senate president.

"This is a guy you can trust," Heistad said. "When you meet him or when you go to him with a problem, he will listen and give you a thoughtful response. He will do what is right."

UI internal-medicine Professor Michael Welsh was a mentor for Snyder. He said Snyder's attention to all aspects of medicine has allowed him to continue learning throughout his career — something that will ensure he is successful as associate dean.

"He [has] progressed exceptionally well from student to faculty member," said Welsh, the director of the Pappajohn Biomedical Institute. "He is an outstanding member of the faculty, an excellent physician, and a dedicated educator. He is a highly accomplished scientist... He is very committed to the University of Iowa and showcased his leadership skills while chairing the Faculty Senate."

Welsh said Snyder's past record will allow him to assist faculty members and find solutions to any challenge while he serves the College of Medicine.



Ryan Adams/The Daily Iowan

Then-Faculty Senate Past President Pete Snyder presents a draft of a free-speech document during a Faculty Senate meeting in the Old Capitol Senate Chambers on March 26, 2019.

"I think he will do a great job based on his past record," he said. "There will be challenges, but I think he will take things seriously and do the best job possible. He has the talent and humanistic qualities that will allow him to help faculty.

Snyder said he was excited to begin a new adventure in his tenure at the UI and that he was enthusiastic to continue his career at a supportive and encouraging institution.

"I'm a born and raised Hawkeye," Snyder said. "I feel a great

deal of loyalty to this institution and I want it to be successful. In this role, as I have in all of my roles here, I will work tirelessly to ensure that happens. Specifically, I will be a strong advocate for the faculty to allow them and help them to be successful."

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Opinions

COLUMN

Owning my seat at the journalism table

I've faced plenty of challenges as a woman in the news world, but my time at *The Daily Iowan* has helped me grow and learn.



MARISSA PAYNE
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If I were a man, my experience in journalism would look a lot different.

Legendary TV host Tom Brokaw sat down in *The Daily Iowan* newsroom with me and members of my team in January to film an interview for a segment that aired Feb. 3 on MSNBC's Morning Joe. Brokaw, who attended the University of Iowa for a year in the 1950s, was in our newsroom to feature the *DI* Ethics and Politics Initiative team's coverage of the 2020 presidential hopefuls leading up to the first-in-the-nation caucuses.

The thought-provoking in-

terview covered several topics, but one question stuck with me in particular. He discussed the shifting tide over several decades to make workplaces more equitable for women and asked me whether I took those gains "for granted."

Hopefully there comes a day when women can appreciate historical movements that result in equal pay, no harassment, and equal opportunities to land in leadership roles as their male colleagues. That's not the case today. Journalism is no exception to this trend.

The Women's Media Center's 2019 Status of Women in the U.S. Media report shows that 73 percent of editors at the country's biggest English-language newspapers are male. Around 40 percent of print and internet journalists are women, though women dominate journalism-school enrollment across the U.S., the report states.

Knowing that, I told Brokaw that women couldn't yet afford

to take for granted the decades of progress the women before us have made. As a female editor of a predominantly female editorial staff, I told him I'm aware of the power I have to show the other women in my newsroom that we are equally as deserving of a seat at the table as our male colleagues. We ask tough questions of people in positions of power because it is our right. We pitch compelling story ideas and keep digging until we bring facts to light that the public may not have known otherwise.

Working at the *DI* has given me the confidence and support system to thrive as a female journalist and leader. I began working here at age 18 and was immediately assigned to cover the state Board of Regents and UI administration. I was timid then, and I remain reserved — Brokaw figured out quickly I'm not a "bombastic" interviewer, though I come in well-researched and prepared to get the information a story needs.

There are currently no male journalists in Iowa functioning as higher-education reporters in the UI's coverage area. Honestly, reporting on the regents, UI President Bruce Harreld, and the male administrators was daunting when I first arrived on campus. I felt like a little girl who was out of her league asking key men in power about pressing campus issues.

But I've grown a lot here. In February, the Iowa Newspaper Association awarded me the state's top investigative reporting award for my scoop on the UI's nearly \$4 million change order to avoid working with construction firm Modern Piping on the Pharmacy Building amid costly legal disputes with the company. I'm the editor of Iowa's 2020 Newspaper of the Year, an accomplishment the *DI* team last earned in 1981.

Let's just say I'm not scared anymore.

Imposter syndrome — a psychological phenomenon of feel-

ing inadequate and full of self-doubt — can be hard to shake. I'm fortunate to be surrounded by powerful women who push me to be a strong leader and supported by men like *DI* Publisher Jason Brummond, whose confidence in me and recognition of my strengths has helped me own my seat at the table.

I've also been appreciative of

community sources such as Harreld and his team, who've always treated me as a serious journalist and taught me to expect no less from those I engage with in this line of work.

I don't take my seat at the journalism table for granted. I've earned it, but I hope the path for those who come after me is easier to chart.



Katina Zentz/*The Daily Iowan*

University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld speaks during an interview with *The Daily Iowan* in the Adler Journalism Building on Feb. 13.

COLUMN

People living with disabilities don't need gene editing

Modern eugenics is starting to look at altering DNA of babies with genetic diseases. This isn't the future science needs to make.



ALLY PRONINA
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We all have value and deserve to be loved for who we are, but society doesn't always recognize that. There are plenty of different bigotries across history, a major one being social Darwinism, also known as eugenics.

Eugenics can be defined as "selective breeding of human populations to improve the population's genetic composition." This started as advocacy for sterilizing those seen as "less

fit," but has since moved on to include gene editing for babies with genetic disorders.

Richard Dawkins, an evolutionary biologist and ethologist, says this idea would work to improve human beings.

"Just as we breed cows to yield more milk, we could breed humans to run faster or jump higher," Dawkins tweeted.

He went on to say that it "would be bad" in practice, but the idea that humans need artificial improvement is abhorrent in itself.

Cows' humanity does not depend on how much milk they produce. People's humanity does not depend on their athletic ability. Our worth does not come from things determined by genetics such as weight, height, and appearance. Our value comes from qualities we

have which make us unique and able to change the world.

"Improve" is subjective. As someone who cannot jump high or run fast, I disagree changing my genetic makeup so I could improve it. It wouldn't change who I am as a person at all.



'If we were all perfect and the same, we might as well just be robots.'

Throughout history, there have been individuals who made noteworthy achievements despite and because of qualities eugenicists would want to change their genetic makeup to get rid of.

Harriet Tubman — an African American who many in her time would have considered

inferior because of her race — created the Underground Railroad which saved thousands from slavery. Helen Keller — someone who was blind and deaf — founded a school for others with disabilities. Susan B. Anthony — whose status

as a woman would have been enough to be "less fit" — was a leader in the Women's Suffrage Movement.

As a society, we have made progress in accepting diversity. African Americans are not legally enslaved. People with mental disorders are not institutionalized. Women can vote. How-

ever, the entertainment of eugenic ideas is still around; that's going backward in history.

Eugenicists want a "perfect" race. Again, perfect is a subjective term. Being human means imperfection. A world where everyone is the same would be a boring one. If we were all perfect and the same, we might as well just be robots.

Eugenicists would argue "improving" genetics would increase quality of life and that is what makes it human. Why change people's genetic makeup when we can change societal attitudes?

During segregation and slavery, false beliefs about black Americans decreased their value as people. If Rosa Parks used gene editing to change her skin tone, she wouldn't be a hero in the Civil Rights Movement.

Back before the Americans with Disabilities Act was established, it was not people's disabilities which caused them to not be able to have jobs. It was society's false belief that they were not smart enough to be in the workforce.

During the 1800s, it was not the gender of women which restricted their opportunities. It was society's posturing that they were not as smart as men.

Eugenics had a place in Nazi Germany, not today's America. We have evolved to be more accepting of people and having a more negative view of eugenics. This can be seen from the backlash Dawkins has received simply for saying something supporting eugenics.

Or, as Anne Frank wrote, "In spite of everything, I still believe people are good at heart."

COLUMN

How TikTok addiction works

TikTok isn't just the next big thing on the social internet. The app's design might make it too captivating.



HAILEY MARX
hailey-marx@uiowa.edu

TikTok is a social-media platform that was released in September 2016, but didn't gain worldwide attention until 2019. Users can create videos ranging from 15 to 60 seconds and edit them, utilizing cut scenes, visual effects, and song overlays.

The reason it has taken off is because of the inner workings of the app itself. It's different enough from other social media — such as Snapchat, Vine, and Instagram — to stand out, but not so far off that its place

online seems foreign, just more futuristic.

Other mainstream social media is limited to the main draw it created in the beginning. But with TikTok, it combined aspects from other platforms into a monstrosity.

The app allows users to gain followers, but more easily. It uses hashtags, but more so. Its design keeps users constantly on their toes, creating a mega platform with each follower gained and challenged.

TikTok is uniquely addictive in its design, and invincible in its influence.

The user experience makes it so it's almost impossible to put down the phone. As written in *The Atlantic*, it's easy to get caught up watching so many videos on end until "you're about to have a brain freeze."

It's also hard to escape this trend because of the ubiquitous

billboard-esque advertising. The marketing plan took off because the app merged with Musical.ly, which had gained popularity among adolescents before it developed into TikTok. So naturally, the same audience shifted over and the new app has seen success and many videos are going viral.

Users endlessly create videos, hoping that at least one will go viral. That feeds into the reputation that TikTok is addictive.

The app has reached a niche of people, typically adolescents, who gravitate toward living online. This group has allowed people to reach further within to expand their digital universe. However, just as the platform has reached a niche group of people, it also provides a wide variety of material that attracts many different types of interests.

It not only provides a platform for people to look for

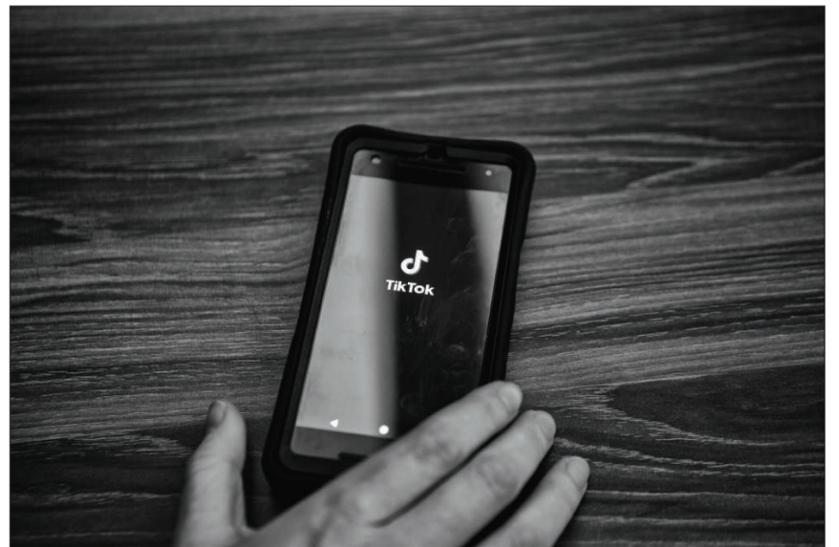


Photo illustration by Jake Maish

amusing videos — it's a hub for business, fitness, and other life-enhancing tips. Also on the other spectrum, people who aren't trying to sell anything just post videos of their pets.

Writer Brittany Spanos did an experiment with TikTok for *Rolling Stone*. She downloaded the app and performed an experiment for herself. She won-

dered how long it would take for her to get addicted. She explained she was hooked on the first day.

The reason behind the rage was because her feed was filled with absurd, hysterical content. The appeal wasn't reasonable, it was ridiculous. Spanos said she "actively laughed thanks to the internet in a long, long time,

thanks to TikTok." She further commented that she would likely be thinking of some videos for the "rest of my life."

TikTok has certainly taken off, especially in younger generations. The use in this app has been more frequent than any other social-media platform, and is still going strong years later.

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BRUNO
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"I felt like people invested in me," Bruno said. "I felt like people really wanted me to succeed. And so because of that experience, I made a commitment to myself to make sure I do the same for other folks."

That commitment eventually led her away from becoming a medical doctor. The physicians in the internal medicine clinic encouraged her to pursue psychology.

"Now in the Latino community, [that psychology] is not a thing. In the Latino community, they're like, 'Oh, we don't believe in that, that's for crazy people,'" Bruno said. "And so I had to kind of make meaning of that for myself and say, 'Well, you know, if I do that, what is my family going to think? What is my community going to think?' But at the end, I decided you know what, I need to do this, for my community, for my family, for people."

Her internal struggle brought her to a Psychology 101 class at a local community college, where she fell in love with the practice and decided to pursue it.

After four years of active duty with the Air Force, Bruno finished three years in the National Guard before leaving the military to pursue a college degree. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in general studies and a major in psychology from Roosevelt University in 2003 before pursuing her master's in clinical psychology at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology in 2005.

Bruno's photo of her graduation is placed in a brightly printed frame stuck to the wall above her desk with her name, Maria, written in pink below and surrounded by colorful pins such as a rainbow button with the message *Celebrate Diversity*, and a circular pin with *Black Lives Matter* inscribed.

After she completed her master's, Bruno began to work in a juvenile detention center as a forensic psychologist, where she would conduct psychological testing and qualify as an expert witness in court. She testified why a person behaved the way they did and made recommendations.

Bruno saw it as a way to advocate for those who could not advocate for themselves and, instead of describing her reports in clinical terms, Bruno liked to call it "telling the

person's story."

At the same time, Bruno began her doctoral program in the Illinois School for Professional Psychology for her Psy.D. in clinical psychology. She said the decision to obtain her doctorate came after the director of the juvenile detention center encouraged her to pursue it.

"If I'm being completely honest," said Bruno. "That's what I thought the rest of my professional life was going to be, being a forensic psychologist, but sometimes life has a funny way of placing us in different roles."

She spent six years at the juvenile detention center before shifting careers again. She worked simultaneously as a consultant for inclusivity at the Fortune 500 company 3M, and as the director of a com-

pany for clinical psychology in 2015, eight years after she started.

Afterward, she joined the University Counseling Services as a staff psychologist, where she stayed until 2019 when her inbox began to fill with messages urging her to apply for a new role as the executive director for Belonging

and Inclusion at the UI. The role, created by former Vice President for Student Life Melissa Shivers, was a new position that grew out of the #DoesUIowaLoveMe movement.

Bruno's students and consulting her mentors, Bruno eventually applied for the position and was hired. She began her role Oct. 7, 2019.

Bret Gothe, the assistant to the vice president for Student Life who worked with Bruno on the Student Disability Services project, touched on what she's done so far.

"Students are amazing," she said. "I am here because it is an honor to be a part of students' early developmental processes and be able to hear the different stories and experiences. And to be able to be a part of those people's journey, I think, is amazing."

As a leader, Bria Marcelo, the director of Diversity Resources, described Bruno as exactly what the division needed. Marcelo has known Bruno personally since she became a staff counselor on campus and has worked with her on multiple occasions.

"I think about leaders who can impact you on a personal level because you get to know them," Marcelo said. "Because you get to connect to them socially [and] connect to their story. And I think there's also

ginalized, oppressed, or not included. For marginalized students, Bruno said, you hear their hurt and their pain over and over and the system, organizations, policies, and procedures don't move as quickly as those students would like.

"We see you, we hear you, and we recognize that you are hurting," Bruno said. "And here is what we're trying to do... Everything is a process."

As a woman from an underrepresented group herself, Bruno described some of the challenges she can face as a leader in higher education. Occasionally, she said, it can be difficult to be one of the few people in the room to bring up specific concerns as they are related to marginalized groups.

"At some times, it does get frustrating to be one of the few voices that says, 'Hey, have we thought about this?' or, 'Have we looked around the room and noticed who's not here? Which voices aren't present? How are we making sure we are including those voices?'" Bruno said.

As for her own identity, Bruno described the changes she has faced since coming to Iowa.

"The way I identify myself and the way I describe myself typically isn't as a woman of color and underrepresented background," she said. "I know it is a part of my identity but it's not my most salient identity. And since coming to the University of Iowa, that seems to be the first identity everyone sees. So that's been a shift for me."

In some conversations, Bruno said, her identity can be helpful, neutral, or work as a barrier, but it largely depends on what she is doing or who she is with. She tries to scan the room and identify and connect with others who may be open to hearing different opinions.

"I try to listen and try to understand," Bruno said.

Moving forward, she said she wants to continue to strive to build a diverse, inclusive campus for all voices by asking critical questions, educating herself, conducting conversations with campus partners, and meeting with three to four students a week to see how they are doing.

"I think that if we all have folks that care about us, that show up for us and guide us when we make mistakes, then I really do think that we, as people, can be brilliant individuals and we are able to thrive," Bruno said.

"I think that if we all have folks that care about us, that show up for us and guide us when we make mistakes, then I really do think that we, as people, can be brilliant individuals and we are able to thrive."

— Maria Bruno, executive director for Belonging & Inclusion



Executive Director for Belonging & Inclusion Maria Bruno poses for a portrait in the IMU on March 2.

Tate Hildyard/The Daily Iowan

munity mental health center in Dekalb, Illinois.

Her path finally crossed with Iowa City in 2014, following her partner's career change from a psychologist at the juvenile detention center to the director of retention at the UI's athletic department.

"I came here in support of him," Bruno said.

For her first six months, Bruno spent her time working on her dissertation and finally finished her doctorate

partners kept forwarding her the link to the job position, writing to her saying she would be the perfect person for the job, but, as Bruno said, she laughed and told them she wasn't looking for a new position.

"After I got the 10th one, I finally opened the link," Bruno said.

That click led her to a job that she felt could challenge her professionally and, after talking with her family and

Students, Bruno said, are the entire reason she's here. Within her office, she's initiated an "open door" policy. Within her office, students in need can sit in comfort, surrounded by posters that remind them that they are heard and valued.

She believes that supporting students should work on all levels, all the way up to administration, she said. Being accessible to students, she added, is important to her.

leaders you follow because you think they are charismatic. They are clearly strategic and organized, they're forward thinkers, they're just brilliant. And I think Maria has both of those things."

Identity on the job

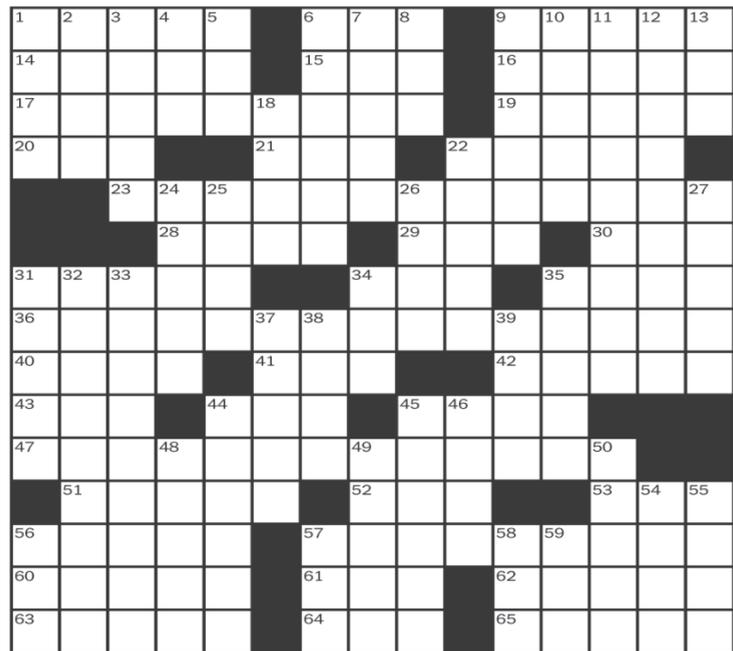
To Bruno, the hardest part of her job is bridging the gap between the administration and students who are hurting, who may feel mar-

The Daily Break

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 2

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0204



- ACROSS**
- 1 Smidgens
 - 6 Friend, to François
 - 9 Sniper's aid
 - 14 Olympics symbol
 - 15 Symbol for an audio device
 - 16 Big name in pest control
 - 17 Crams (in)
 - 19 Center of U.S. lobstering
 - 20 Luxury purse monogram
 - 21 Long March leader in China
 - 22 Abandons a commitment, in slang
 - 23 Some romantic entanglements
 - 28 ___ of one's existence
 - 29 Letters after Chuck Schumer's name
 - 30 Texter's "One more thing ..."
 - 31 Philosopher with a "razor"
 - 34 ET from the planet Melmac

- 35 Bank with M.L.B. naming rights, for short
- 36 Things clinked on New Year's Eve
- 40 Fey of "30 Rock"
- 41 Drop from the roster
- 42 Alternatives to taxis
- 43 Prefix with freak or friendly
- 44 Undergarment with hooks
- 45 Harley, e.g., informally
- 47 Interviewing aids
- 51 St. Kitts's island partner
- 52 Jerry's partner in ice cream
- 53 Org. with code-named programs
- 56 Confine, as on a farm
- 57 Subjects of health class diagrams
- 60 Minotaur's island
- 61 Trident-shaped letter
- 62 Man's name whose last letter often has an accent

- 63 Funeral fires
- 64 "Even so ..."
- 65 What the ends of 17-, 23-, 36-, 47- and 57-Across make

DOWN

- 1 Teeny-weeny
- 2 Cries of awe
- 3 Online troublemaker
- 4 Nail, as a test
- 5 "Zip it!"
- 6 Make fizzy, in a way
- 7 Home that may have a butler
- 8 Returns org.
- 9 A bunch
- 10 Daniel ___, player of 007
- 11 "Sure, try me"
- 12 Bowling alley worker, once
- 13 L.A.-to-Chicago dir.
- 18 Gathering clouds, to some
- 22 Canada's oldest national park
- 24 Michelle who wrote "Becoming"
- 25 Improvise, in jazz
- 26 Lay off, as workers
- 27 Roger Federer's nationality
- 31 Largish jazz combo
- 32 Deceitful doings
- 33 Item made unnecessary by a pull tab
- 34 Bug in "A Bug's Life"
- 35 Expert solver of a Rubik's toy
- 37 Zoning divisions, maybe
- 38 Green dip, informally
- 39 Princess Leia's twin brother
- 44 Picklers' solutions
- 45 Campaign promise of Boris Johnson
- 46 Fig. on a driver's license or passport
- 48 Paperless party announcement
- 49 More than fat
- 50 A bunch
- 54 Letters on a crucifix
- 55 "Just hold on _!"
- 56 Angel dust letters
- 57 007, for one
- 58 Animal in a flock
- 59 Animal in a herd

SUDOKU

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Iowa faces tough wait for selection Monday

After an early Big Ten Tournament exit, a seemingly secure top-four seed is not a sure thing for Iowa women's basketball.

BY BEN PALYA
benjamin.palya@uiowa.edu

After a difficult Big Ten Tournament that saw Iowa get bounced early at the hands of Ohio State, the Hawkeyes will be biting their nails March 16 when the 2020 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament field is revealed.

Following a strong 23-7 season, Iowa is not worried about missing out on the tournament. Rather, the concern lies in the seeding. A top-four seed would give the Hawkeyes two more games at Carver-Hawkeye Arena for the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament.

Last season, Iowa earned a number two seed in the NCAA Tournament and played out two close games in front of the Carver-Hawkeye faithful. The fans set an NCAA record for

most fans at first and second round games, combined with 23,096 showing up to support the Hawkeyes.

All season long, head coach Lisa Bluder and her players have harped on how big an impact the home crowd can make. The Hawkeyes would love a chance to play in front of the home faithful one more time.

"That'd be really special to be able to play host again and play in the NCAA Tournament in front of our fans again. That was really special last year, so it's nice to have that possibility," Iowa guard Kathleen Doyle said.

Last week's NCAA Tournament Top 16 reveal had the Hawkeyes at No. 13 overall after a loss to Rutgers. After the Big Ten Tournament, Iowa has certainly dropped down to the cut line with several other team's

around them having solid conference tournament showings.

Most teams have their spot as a host venue locked up by now, meaning there are few teams vying for a select few slots. With Oregon State, Arizona, and DePaul all doing moderately well in their respective conference tournaments, it would seem harsh to bump any of those teams out of the top 16.

This leaves Iowa competing with Indiana and Florida State for the last spot. Thankfully for Iowa, the Seminoles could not defeat No. 10 NC State in the ACC Tournament Championship; however, FSU did secure a major win over No. 4 Louisville. The win was Florida State's sixth win over a ranked opponent.

One thing that could hurt the Seminoles is their low RPI rating, which currently sits at 31

— way behind Indiana (14) and Iowa (15).

Indiana also boasts a decent resume. The Hoosiers handed top-ranked South Carolina its only defeat of the season. However, several Big Ten home losses tarnish Indiana's dossier.

"I hope they look at the body of work, because we have I think five top-25 RPI wins," Bluder said after the loss to Ohio State. "No, we didn't play as well as we could tonight, but again, I hope we're not resting this on one game but instead on the 29 games that led up to this."

The selection show takes place at 7 p.m. March 16 on ESPN. First round action of the 2020 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament will begin March 20.



Katrina Zentz/The Daily Iowan

Iowa guard Kathleen Doyle drives the ball during the Iowa vs. Ohio State Women's Big Ten Tournament game at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on March 6.



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

Iowa center Luka Garza boxes out Illinois' Kofi Cockburn to allow Iowa guard Joe Wieskamp to shoot the ball during a game against the University of Illinois on Sunday at the State Farm Center in Champaign, Illinois.

GARZA CONTINUED FROM 8

Garza closed the season by scoring at least 20 points in 16 straight Big Ten games, breaking Glenn Robinson's record of 15 games in a row that he set in 1994. The Washington native averaged 26.2 points a game in conference play alone. That number marks the fifth-most in league play since 1975.

He also finished the season averaging 26.7 points and 11.1 rebounds against ranked opponents.

Garza also earned a spot as a unanimous selection on the All-Big Ten first team. He was joined by

Maryland's Jalen Smith, Michigan State's Cassius Winston, Penn State's Lamar Stevens, Illinois' Ayo Dosunmu (media), and Maryland's Anthony Cowan Jr. (coaches).

Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery has coached a first-team All-Big Ten player in five of the last seven seasons — Garza (2020), Devyn Marble (2014), Aaron White (2015), Jarrod Uthoff (2016), and Peter Jok (2017).

Garza is also a candidate for five national awards, including Naismith Player of the Year and Wooden Award.

In addition to Garza's honors, Joe Wieskamp was a third-team All-Big Ten honoree. CJ Fredrick also

earned a spot on the Big Ten's All-Freshman team.

Wieskamp ranks second on the team with 14.0 points and 6.1 rebounds per game, while Fredrick averaged 10.1 points a game and finished the season as the Big Ten leader in 3-point percentage at 46.1 percent.

Connor McCaffery was also selected as Iowa's honoree for the Sportsmanship Award. He leads the country with an assist-to-turnover ratio of 4.59.

Garza and company have a chance to add to their totals when Iowa faces the winner of Wednesday's Minnesota-Northwestern matchup in the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis on Thursday.

OKONKWO CONTINUED FROM 8

"One thing I've been really trying to work on is my mental [game], because that's one thing that lets me down quite a lot," Okonkwo said. "I am just trying to keep a clear head, and one thing that is really import-

ant for me is not to think, 'We're going to stay calm,' but to think, 'How am I going to win this next point, and how am I going to build it?'"

Okonkwo has won each of his last three singles matches and three of his last four finished doubles matches with Davies.

On his singles streak, Okonkwo has had to play in

a tiebreaker or a third and decisive set each time.

He came back from losing his first set on March 8, 6-2, to defeat Cornell's Eero Vasa — who is a top 125 player nationally — in three sets.

Okonkwo beat William Gleason of Nebraska 6-4 and 7-6 on March 1, winning the tiebreaker in the second set by a 7-3 margin.

The Hawkeye sophomore won his match on March 6 in two sets over Sergio Hernandez when Iowa duelled with Louisville. Both sets required tiebreaking points.

"Ollie a year ago, maybe even Ollie a couple months ago, would've probably just been like, 'You know what, it's fine. Lose this set and come back at it in the third

set,'" Okonkwo said following the match against the Cardinals. "But I think I stuck at it. I was mentally solid, and I didn't really panic, and I had confidence that I could win the tiebreaks."

This season Okonkwo and Davies have a doubles record of 6-4 in finished matches and Okonkwo is 8-5 in singles competition

this spring.

The next opportunity for Okonkwo to add to his streak is March 20 when the Hawkeyes battle Minnesota at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center in their second Big Ten match. Iowa previously downed Nebraska 5-2 in a match that served as both the Hawkeyes and the Cornhuskers' conference-openers.

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FAMILY

CONTINUED FROM 8

"[This] was really good for me because when you become a coach after being an assistant, you want your staff to sort of hit the ground running with you," Fran said. "We went down here together. We had a plan. We executed the plan."

Unlike other coaches, Fran's not a micromanager, Billy said. He lets his assistants contribute to his program in meaningful ways.

This was clear to Brett Reed, the director of basketball operations during the 1999-2000 season.

"I think Billy helped Fran be the best head coach he could possibly be and Fran's belief in Billy empowered and enabled him to really connect with the players and put his print on the program as an assistant," Reed said.

Billy was an assistant coach with the program from 1999-2002. During this time, Fran and his wife, Margaret, had players come over to their house to eat and play games. Today, the players who came over to the house all those years ago still keep in contact with Fran.

"I always look for, like, where are our connections, where are our bonds, what are the things that bridge us together," Billy said. "I try to be compassionate to the struggles and the challenges they face. I try to remember to listen and try to remember what it was like going through those challenges as a teenager 20 years ago."

There are coaches in college basketball that cut corners and are in the profession for all the wrong reasons, Fran said. Not Billy, who, according to Fran, is the total package for people in the business.

When the friends were coaching together at Notre Dame, Billy's wife, Avlon, had been brought into the picture. When she moved to South Bend, Indiana to be closer to Billy, Fran and Billy's friendship expanded to include their families.

"We spent time together and she's wonderful," Margaret said. "So, I loved her immediately and Billy's a great guy."

On Memorial Day Weekend in 2000, Billy and Avlon married. Current Iowa basketball players Patrick McCaffery, who is Billy's godson, and Connor McCaffery were in attendance. Connor was the ringbearer and Patrick was a couple of months old.

It was Margaret, said Avlon, who made the wedding day perfect.

"Margaret swooped in just brilliantly and planned the whole wedding because I had no idea of what I was doing," Avlon said. "She stepped in, she organized everything, she told people where to be and helped just to smooth everything out so that actually on the day of the wedding things ran smoothly because she

knows so much about everything."

The next Valentine's Day, Margaret sent out a picture to the Taylors with Patrick and Connor on it. To this day, Avlon carries it in her wallet.

Though faded and folded with age, it's obvious the picture has been loved. In the photo, Patrick is seated in front of a heart that says "BE OURS," while Connor is to the right of him smiling.

On the court, Fran and Billy improved the North Carolina-Greensboro Spartans. The season before they got there, the program was 7-20. In their first season, they went 15-13.

The next season, Billy and Fran made the NCAA Tournament together at North Carolina-Greensboro in 2001, making it the second program that Fran had taken to the NCAA Tournament since Lehigh in 1988. In 2002, Billy was hired as the head coach at Lehigh to take them back to the tournament for the first time since Fran was there.

Billy as a head coach

In 2004, after improving the program tremendously and winning Patriot League Coach of the Year twice, Billy and the Mountain Hawks won the conference and made the NCAA Tournament.

When he did so, the coach that had helped Billy get the job and influence his coaching style was in attendance, along with his wife.

"Guys were running on the floor celebrating and it was overwhelming, and I don't think I appreciated as much at that time how great of an accomplishment that was," Billy said.

Just like Fran, Billy was able to achieve more with less.

"A large reason we went to the NCAA Tournament was because of Billy Taylor and his championship mindset," said Mitch Gilfillan, a player on that team. "Despite taking us to the NCAA Tournament at such a young age, Billy Taylor had the coaching acumen and the professional approach to get the best out of his student-athletes."

The McCafferys and Taylors didn't see each other much during that time being so far apart. But Fran and Billy would still run into each other on recruiting trips.

"But there's always a connection whether we talk with them every day or don't see each other for months and months," Margaret said.

With Billy proven successful in the Patriot League, he was ready to take the next step in his career and be a head coach at a bigger program, at Ball State.

Gilfillan coached with him in some of those seasons and called it one of the toughest situations a coach should have to deal with. Though he did try to rebuild the program, Billy was fired in 2013 after failing to make the NCAA Tournament.

But like all things in Billy's life, family came first, and Ball State did help with that.

"And that was unfortunate, but I still loved the experience because it afforded us the opportunity to be closer to family and to be closer to Chicago and at that stage of life, that was important for my parents to still be close to kind of see our kids as they were growing up," Billy said.

In 2016, Billy had another chance to rebuild a program, this time at Belmont Abbey in North Carolina. There, he improved the program from 10 wins in the 2016-17 season to 23 wins in the 2018-19 season.

But that isn't why he or Fran are coaching college athletes. They want their students to succeed in the classroom and in life because basketball isn't going to last forever.

Belmont Abbey Athletic Director Stephen Miss said Billy placed the formation of development in his students to the forefront academically, socially, and spiritually.

"The results that he gets are a byproduct of his focus on developing the whole person, which then enables the students to achieve even greater athletic heights than they might without those emphasis," Miss said.

This type of culture has carried over to Iowa basketball, which is personal to Billy.

Billy coaching the McCaffery children

After Billy was fired from Ball State, he looked at several different coaching opportunities. But Fran called, and his persuasion and the respect Billy has for Fran got Billy once again. For the first time in 11 seasons they were on the same staff together at Iowa, and their families were overjoyed.

Billy became the director of basketball operations in 2013, though he only stayed at the university for three years before making another

"My relationship with those two is just different than it is with obviously other players because we're really like family, like we've known each other for such a long time."

— Iowa assistant coach Billy Taylor on coaching Connor and Patrick McCaffery

er move when he accepted the head coaching position at Belmont Abbey.

Though they made the NCAA Tournament all three seasons, Billy and his family had a more important role in Iowa City than accomplishing that feat, largely because of Patrick.

In March 2014, doctors found a tumor in Patrick's thyroid. They soon removed it, after which they realized it was cancerous, prompting another surgery to remove most of his lymph nodes.

"There's no place where we would have rather been," Avlon said in a soft, emotional voice. "You don't know where life leads you



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

Avlon Taylor holds a photo of University of Iowa men's basketball players Patrick and Connor McCaffery from 2001 on Feb. 6 in her home. Avlon is the wife of Iowa men's basketball assistant coach Billy Taylor and is a close family friend of the McCaffery family. The photo, which was given to Taylor by the boys' mother Margaret McCaffery, is kept in Taylor's wallet as a reminder of the importance of family and friendship in her life, she said.

or where you end up and I know where you find yourself is the combination of decisions and choices that you make. Then we made the decision to come here at Fran's invitation. We had no idea of course. But we continue to look at that as God's providence that we were meant to be here and not to say that our presence made a difference.

"But it made a difference for us to be here."

He returned to Iowa as an assistant coach in May 2019,

than it is with obviously other players because we're really like family, like we've known each other for such a long time," Billy said. "Been there for birthdays, been there for special occasions, like we've just been in each other lives and having an opportunity to walk with them on their journey as college players is pretty neat."

The first time Billy worked at Iowa, his family lived not far from the McCafferys. If Margaret needed help, Avlon would come over, and vice versa, just like it was in North Carolina.

Though they live farther apart now, the family friendship is still strong. The Taylors' oldest daughter, Tamia, is a UI junior. Their youngest daughter, Gavielle, is a senior in high school. Gavielle is friends with Marit, the McCafferys' daughter, who is in the same grade as her.

The Taylors' youngest child, Savion, is friends with the McCafferys' youngest child, Jack. Savion plays basketball in high school and Jack goes to the games just to watch him.

The first time the families were in Iowa City, the kids would play basketball together and the families would socialize a lot. This time around they don't socialize as much due to the kids being older, but they still have moments outside basketball where they connect.

Connor, who called Billy 'Ubi' when he was little, said

he enjoys playing under Billy after knowing him for so long.

"It's just been better to be with him on a daily basis and talk basketball with him and stuff like that," Connor said.

Connor has been playing well under Taylor this season. He boasts the best assist-to-turnover ratio in the nation at 4.5. Connor also leads the team in assists per game at 3.9. Connor's exploits have helped guide Iowa to a 20-11 season and a probable NCAA Tournament berth.

Patrick's currently out because of 'residual health issues' from a previous battle with his cancer. His family has supported him during this time, and so has Billy.

"It's been good to have another person to be able to talk to about that, in addition to his dad," Margaret said.

The plan is for Billy to become a head coach again at a different university, though Margaret joked that Fran might one day be on Billy's staff instead of the other way around.

"I want to just stay focused in the present moment," Billy said. "Look at the challenge ahead of me and our team and our family [and] pursue that with reckless abandon."

The next challenge for McCafferys and the Taylors is the 2020 Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament. Iowa plays Thursday in Indianapolis, Indiana, in a hunt for the conference crown.



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

Iowa men's basketball assistant coach Billy Taylor sits on the side of the court during a game against the Illinois on Sunday at the State Farm Center in Champaign, Illinois.



Nichole Harris/The Daily Iowan

Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery laughs at a call during a men's basketball game between Iowa and Penn State on Feb. 29 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

HAWKEYE UPDATES

Doyle named CoSIDA Academic All-American

Iowa women's basketball senior Kathleen Doyle was named a College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American Monday evening.

CoSIDA recognizes the nation's best student-athletes for their performances on the court and in the classroom. Doyle has dominated on both stages. She claimed the 2020 Big Ten Women's Basketball Player of the Year award and boasts a 3.83 GPA.

Doyle is a journalism and mass communications and Spanish double major. She has been honored previously for her academics. Doyle is a two-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree and a 2018-19 Distinguished Scholar Athlete.



Burns takes Big Ten Co-Freshman of the Week honor

The Big Ten Conference named Iowa softball's Kalena Burns Co-Freshman of the Week Monday. Burns shares the honor with Maryland's Trinity Schlotterbeck.



Burns batted .563 with six RBIs March 6-7 in Madeira Beach, Florida. During that four game stretch, Burns also hit two two-run home runs, one of which came in walk-off fashion.

Lee named semifinalist for AAU James E. Sullivan Award

Iowa wrestling's Spencer Lee has been named a semifinalist for the AAU James E. Sullivan Award.

Presented since 1930, the award is given to the nation's most outstanding amateur athlete. Lee would join elite company should he win the award. Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps, basketball player Bill Walton, 13-time major champion golfer Bobby Jones, and quarterback Peyton Manning have all notably won the award.



Lee would join elite company should he win the award. Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps, basketball player Bill Walton, 13-time major champion golfer Bobby Jones, and quarterback Peyton Manning have all notably won the award.

Iowa women's golf lands highly-touted recruit

Klara Wildhaber of Switzerland has decided to take her talents to Iowa City and join the Hawkeye women's golf program. Wildhaber is currently ranked inside the top-400 of the World Amateur Golf Rankings.

"The reason I picked Iowa is because Coach [Megan] Menzel, Coach [Michael] Roters, and Iowa City made me feel so at home," Wildhaber said. "For me, it's crucial to have people around me who support me, lift me up, and who are like-minded. I have no doubt that the University of Iowa is the place where I can find all of these things. The facilities are amazing too. Everyone was so welcoming on my visit, and I knew this was the place for me."

"We are so excited to welcome Klara to the Hawkeye family," Menzel said. "To add a player of her caliber is huge for our team. It is no surprise that Klara continues to improve. She is a hard worker and has the desire to be the best. Klara comes in with great training from a talented Swiss National team and also has a great technical coach, Jeremy Freiburghaus. We are excited to add her to our up and coming roster, and we know she will be a great addition to our program."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I would beat me yesterday, but I would lose to myself tomorrow."



—Iowa 149-pounder Pat Lugo on continuing to get better every day

STAT OF THE DAY

Iowa wrestling's

157.5

team points at Big Tens are the most under head coach Tom Brands.

A FAMILY FRIENDSHIP ON THE SIDELINES

For decades, Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery and assistant coach Billy Taylor have been close friends no matter where in their basketball careers they've been.

BY ISAAC GOFFIN
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On the Iowa sideline, head men's basketball coach Fran McCaffery yells and gestures, his fiery passion on display for all to see. In contrast to

McCaffery's spark, assistant coach Billy Taylor is the calm behind a storm, working quietly with his players before sending them back out to play.

Everyone has their roles to play on the sidelines, and McCaffery and Taylor are foils on the court. Off the court, they have been friends for decades.

McCaffery's children call Billy "Uncle Billy," and Taylor's children call McCaffery "Uncle Fran." Their families hang out often. Even though they've been apart for long periods of time, they've remained

close.

"Our families are truly so intertwined because of all the years together," Taylor said.

Throughout their careers, both coaches have combined their passions for family and basketball into one, creating a unique experience for their players and loved ones.

Family, friendship, and basketball

Life for college basketball coaches can be challenging. Coaches change jobs often, and the players they coach are typically away from home for the first time ever. Maintaining the balance between family and friendship versus basketball is difficult.

Fran and Billy have balanced their lives well. In high school, Billy was a standout student athlete at West Aurora High School in Illinois. Fran, then an assistant coach at Notre Dame, helped recruit him to play for the Irish, where he became a four-year starter starting in 1991. Before he enrolled in college, the friendship was already there.

"You think about since high school, I've had a very close relationship [with Billy], even when we weren't on staff together," Fran said.

In college, Billy respected Fran, and vice versa. Billy looked up to Fran's encouragement, positivity, and confidence in him, while Fran never had to repeat things to Billy. Under head coach John MacLeod, Billy was typically tasked with guarding their opponents' best offensive player. Graduation came in 1995. Billy went to Chicago, working at the accounting firm Arthur Andersen. He got his CPA in 1998.

Fran thought he would become a CEO. Margaret said she thought that he would never leave the business world.

But the love of basketball was still there. MacLeod knew it. He called him in a conversation that Billy said he would never forget, and at the end, Billy became an assistant coach along with Fran at Notre Dame. Yet, Billy was still learning from Fran. "I watched him, I studied him, how he did things, how he managed the coaching staff, how he was administratively with other people in the athletic department," Billy said.

This was important because the following season, Fran got the head coaching job at North Carolina-Greensboro and brought Billy along as his top assistant coach. If Fran had a conflict and couldn't run practice, Billy could do it.



Design by Katina Zentz

SEE FAMILY, 7

Garza wins Big Ten Player of the Year

Iowa's Luka Garza made history on Monday by becoming the first Hawkeye to win Big Ten Player of the Year.



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

Iowa center Luka Garza prepares to shoot a free throw during a game against Illinois on Sunday at the State Farm Center in Champaign, Illinois.

BY PETE RUDEN
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Luka Garza made Iowa history on Monday when he became the first Hawkeye to earn Big Ten Men's Basketball Player of the Year honors.

A heavy favorite to win the award, Garza finished the season averaging 23.9 points per game on 54.2 percent shooting to go along with 9.8 rebounds and 1.2 assists.

"This is a dream come true," Garza said through the Iowa basketball Twitter account. "Being the first Hawkeye to win this award in 52 years means the world to me. You dream of moments like this. I want to thank my teammates and coaches. To be honest, if I wasn't in this program, I don't think any of this would be possible."

SEE GARZA, 6

Okonkwo's mental changes paying off

Iowa tennis' Oliver Okonkwo has worked hard to improve the mental side of his game, and it's produced great results.

BY CHRIS WERNER
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Oliver Okonkwo has all the physical tools he needs to become an Iowa great on the tennis court.

The 6-foot-3 sophomore — who made the trip across the pond from Berkshire, England, last season — has shown great speed, reach, and power when playing both singles and doubles for the Hawkeyes this season.

His go-for-broke philosophy is part of what makes him a force in Black and Gold.

"If you're not going to hit it hard, don't hit it at all," Okonkwo said.

In Okonkwo's doubles match on March 6 against Louisville, he and partner Will Davies won in dominating fashion, 6-1. In the first game of the contest, he scored three straight aces, a double fault, and then a fourth ace to win the game.

"The guy's got a huge serve, so you might as well use it," head coach Ross Wilson said. "We don't mind a couple double faults if he's able to get free points and get aces off it."

His improved mentality is what has aided him in his latest matches.



Okonkwo

SEE OKONKWO, 6