

ON IOWA,

The Daily Iowan

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The UI's move to online instruction also brought the closure of residence halls, forcing students to return home.

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go home



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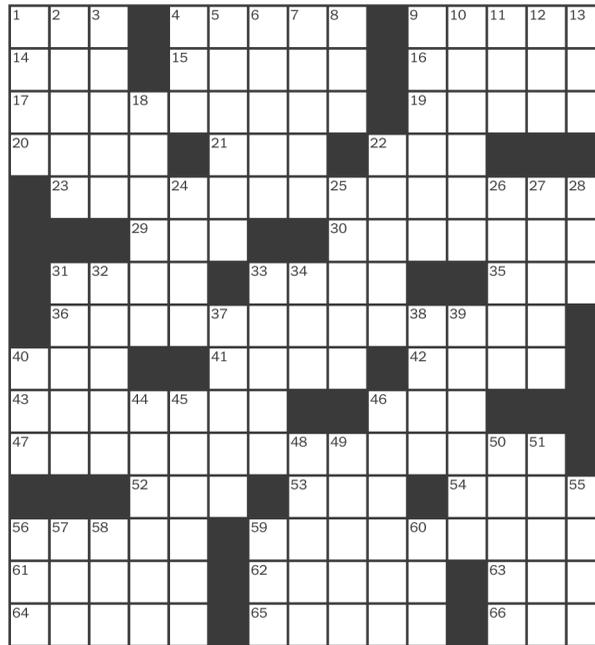
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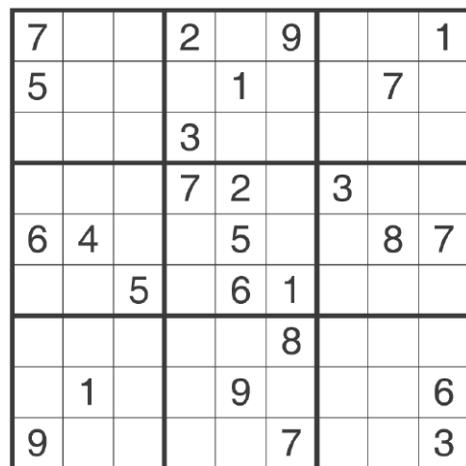
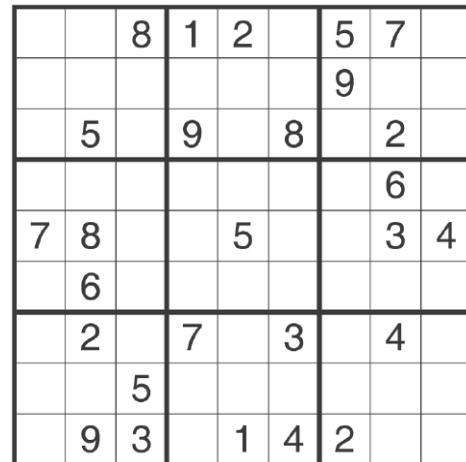
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BECOME A BIOTEST PLASMA SUPERHERO!

No pomp amid COVID-19 circumstances

News of canceled spring commencement ceremonies hit University of Iowa seniors hard.

BY ANNIE FITZPATRICK
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The University of Iowa announced March 18 that spring commencement ceremonies are canceled as the spread of the novel coronavirus upends student life, though plans are in the works for an alternative celebration for graduating Hawkeyes.

For some UI seniors, commencement would have been the first time some in their families walked across a stage. For others, it was a satisfactory cap on years of crammed tests, projects, internships, part-time jobs, and a transition to a new phase of life.

Growing evidence of community spread of the virus in Johnson County and the rest of the state prompted the decision. As of Sunday, the Iowa Department of Public Health has confirmed 90 COVID-19 cases, with 32 in Johnson County.

Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa have also announced online instruction would extend through the rest of the semester, and commencement ceremonies would be suspended.

In an email sent to UI students,

the university said administrators are in the process of planning alternative celebrations for graduating Hawkeyes. UI Student Government and Graduate and Professional Student Government leaders sent students a link to take a survey to offer other options for commencement.

“We know how much these ceremonies mean to our students and their families, but we feel it is the right decision to protect those most vulnerable to the threat of infection,” said the UI in its email.

Some UI seniors said they anticipated the cancellations, but confirmation of the university’s decision is devastating for some.

UI senior Kaylie Wilson is a first-generation college student double majoring in political science and ethics and public policy with minors in Spanish and studio art. Wilson said that she and her family were still grappling with the idea of not being able to see her walk at commencement after all of her hard work.

“It feels like you’re having your senior year robbed from you,” Wilson said. “I understand completely and support most of the decisions ... but you’re allowed to have emotions about these things and it does sort of hurt that it had to happen during senior year.”

get out of there,” Wilson said.

Paul Arnal, a UI senior and a comprehensive biology major pursuing dental school, said commencement cancellations make the four-year process of college feel incomplete. The UI gave students a yellow tassel to motivate them to graduate

freshman year, he remembers now, so not having the pomp and circumstance that goes with the tassel is disappointing.

“To have spent four years dedicating myself to working toward that moment ... to not be able to have that moment would kind of feel ... not sufficient, or like I’m not done — inconclusive,” he said.

UI senior Kody Meyer, a commu-

nications-studies major and ASL minor, said just last year she was not very excited for graduation and even considered not walking. But, as the outbreak of COVID-19 began to threaten her chances to have a commencement ceremony, she said she no longer liked the idea of not having that option.

Meyer said she anticipated some unexpected things to happen senior year, but the outbreak of COVID-19 is more of a surprise than she imagined.

“On the one hand, I kind of felt like not knowing what senior year is supposed to go,” Meyer said. “But this is definitely more unknown than I was planning for.”

One of the hardest things to accept with cancellations, Meyer said, is that her family will not be able to see her walk across the stage and receive her diploma.

“I imagine my family will still want to come up and see me...” Meyer said. “But I really liked the idea of having that ceremony where my family is sitting in a row cheering for me.”

“... To not be able to have that moment would kind of feel ... not sufficient, or like I’m not done – inconclusive.”

—Paul Arnal, UI senior

Wilson also said the uncertainty of her post-graduation plans because of COVID-19 is another area of stress resulting from the pandemic.

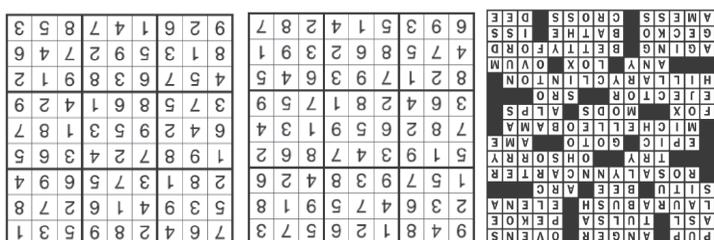
“It’s heavy on the emotional side ... and also the stress of real life and what is actually going to happen once you

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Hawkeyes move out of residence halls

Hawkeyes have until March 29 to move out of residence halls as the UI aims to contain the COVID-19 spread locally.

BY MARISSA PAYNE
marissa-payne@uiowa.edu

Traffic off Interstate 80 is typically a marker of residence-hall move-out. Clinton and Dubuque Streets are packed with parents' vehicles and filled with the hustle and bustle of families carting belongings out of each on-campus living facility. Moving carts jam the hallways inside as students seek to move their items out from their temporary homes and into cars in just a few swift trips.

That wasn't the scene in recent days as Hawkeyes returned to the residence

halls to pack up their belongings and move out suddenly at the University of Iowa's direction amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

Clouds hung over the campus as Hawkeye parents' vehicles sparsely lined Clinton Street and the parking lots situated near east- and west-side resi-

“ I don't even know when the whole corona[virus] thing will be done... I wasn't ready for all this.”

— Zoe Buffalo, UI first-year student

dence halls. With the move-out period extending from March 19-29, this setup is intended to ease traffic to allow timely access to UI Hospitals and Clinics and ensure social distancing as families pack up students' belongings.

The university will send students pro-rated adjustments to their university bills for housing and dining

charges, though officials haven't shared further de-

tails with specifics on that information.

when the UI emailed students notifying them to

“ Because the ... campus is closed, I don't think I should be here anymore.”

— Chengwei Yue, UI third-year student

UI first-year student Zoe Buffalo, a Burge Hall resident from Tama, Iowa, who studies exercise science within the public-health major, was among those who came to campus to move out on the first day available, March 19.

Buffalo said she was with a lot of her college friends

head home for the semester and vacate the residence halls.

“They all came to my house and we were just eating lunch, and then we all got the email at the same time,” she said. “It was kind of sad. And then ... the moving out part was so confusing, because they didn't

really explain how to do it, and then when my sister and I found out that we can move out, we just picked the earliest time that we could just to get it done and over with.”

She signed a lease to live in an apartment next year, but recalled — with a laugh — memories of her months in Burge Hall, which some students call “Dirty Burge.” She said she's had to trudge downstairs for numerous fire alarms and there were problems with people pushing out ceiling tiles.

“I don't even know when the whole corona[virus] thing will be done — if it



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

UI freshman Zoe Buffalo (left), from Tama, Iowa, moves out of Burge Hall on March 19.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

UI student Chengwei Yue, a junior from China, moves out of Petersen Hall on March 19.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan
UI sophomore Jake Wayne, of Romeoville, Illinois, moves out of Burge Hall on March 21.

would be done [by next academic year], or if it'll be done before school even ends and everyone could technically come back and nobody will," she said. "So, I don't know. I wasn't ready for all this."

Across campus on the west side of the Iowa River, UI junior Chengwei Yue, a Petersen Hall resident from China who studies business management, said he will take his friend's room in an apartment after he graduates this spring, but is working on a short-term housing solution.

He's also worried about access to office hours and taking exams now that instruction will be virtual for the remainder of the spring semester.

"Because the ... campus is closed, I don't think I should be here anymore," he said.

Parked alongside the

empty basketball court of the greatest people he knows here in his two years at the UI — and some

“They're really doing it for the sake and health of the student body, so, it has to be done, it has to be done.”

—Jake Wayne, UI second-year student

UI second-year student Jake Wayne, a Burge Hall resident studying chemical engineering from Romeoville, Illinois stowed his belongings inside a truck to be driven back home on the other side of the Mississippi River.

Though only three days after the UI called for students living on campus to pack up and move out, Wayne said the university's decision to send people and move instruction online didn't entirely surprise him.

He said he's met some

of the worst — but he'll stay close with the good ones nonetheless despite the physical distance.

“I can't say I'm happy about it, but there's really nothing I can do about it,” he said. “They're really doing it for the sake and health of the student body, so, it has to be done, it has to be done.”

When he returns to campus, he'll live in an apartment, but aside from that transition, he's “hoping that it just starts out like any other year.”

In the parking lot be-



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan
UI first-year student Katie Eganhouse, of Kansas City, Kansas, moves out of Currier Hall on March 21.

hind Currier Hall, UI first-year student Katie Eganhouse packed up her things along with her mother and said feelings of sadness and tiredness prevailed after the news that classes for the remainder of the semester would move online.

The Currier resident from Kansas City, Kansas, who's on the pre-physician assistant track, said she has spent her social-dis-

“It's going to be kind of weird to be going to classes and stuff when we come back, and kind of a little scary still, if we come back in August — which, I don't know if we will.”

—Katie Eganhouse, UI first-year student

tancing time generally only leaving to get medicine for her family or other items for her grandparents so they don't have to

go outside. But as someone who aspires to pursue a career in the medical field, she said this pandemic “made me want to help more.”

She anticipates the eventual return to campus will be different, as Hawkeyes will be cooped up inside for the coming weeks.

“It's going to be kind of weird to be going to classes and stuff when we come

back, and kind of a little scary still, if we come back in August — which, I don't know if we will,” she said. “... Just because, I mean, it

wouldn't be that long. It'd be like five months from now and I'd still have concerns about what's going on.”

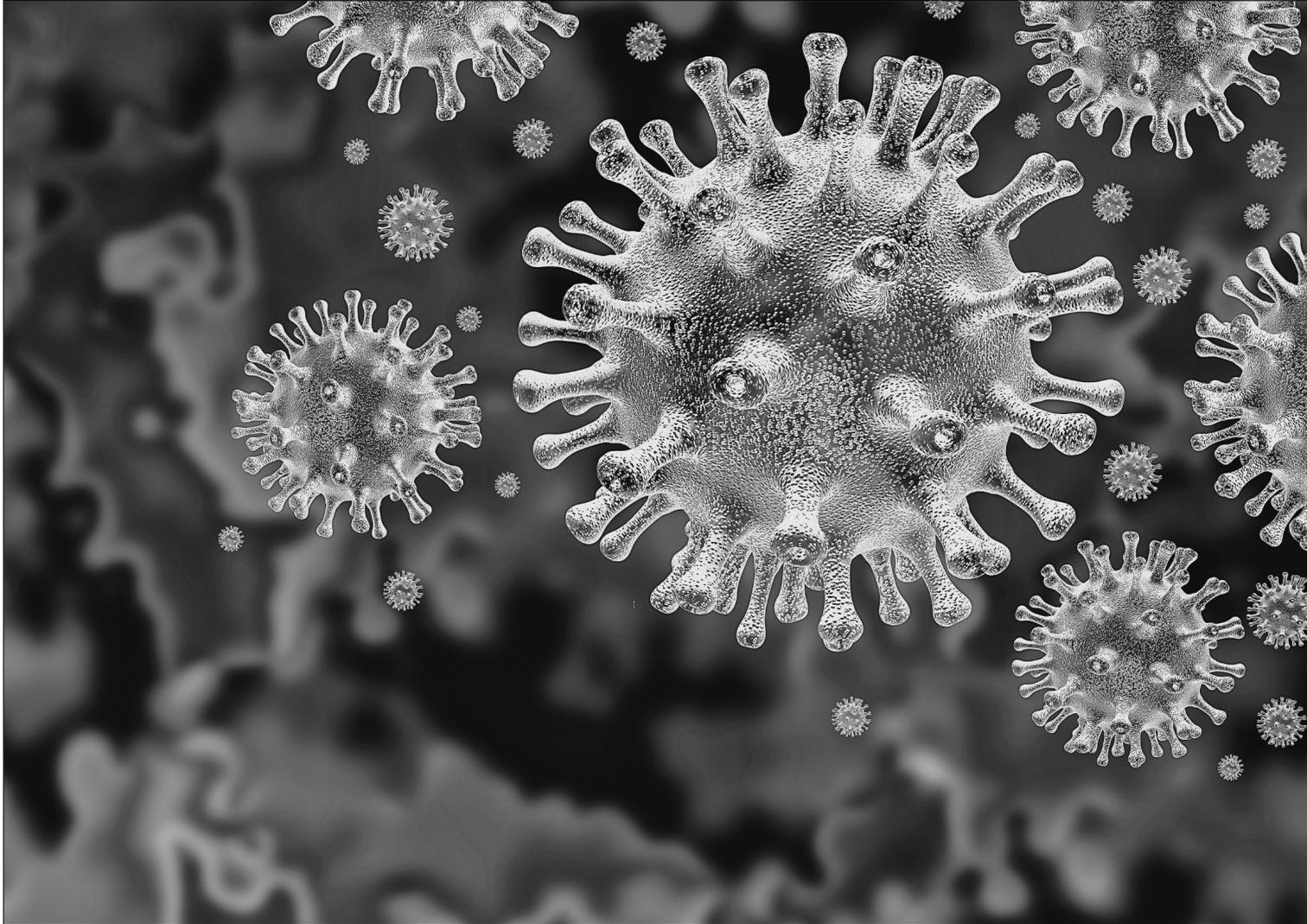
MOVEOUT INFORMATION

- Monday is the last day to complete the UI's residence hall move-out form
- Only those who do not have a permanent residence or cannot return to their permanent residence may remain on campus
- Residents sign up to move out in two-hour time slots from now through March 29
- Dining halls will remain open for those on campus
- U-Haul is offering free 30-day storage for college students impacted by having to abruptly move

 Go to dailyiowan.com to find more resources

What is COVID-19?

As research progresses surrounding the novel coronavirus, *The Daily Iowan* took a deeper look at the virus and how it operates.



COMMON HUMAN CORONAVIRUSES

- 229E (alpha coronavirus)
- NL63 (alpha coronavirus)
- OC43 (beta coronavirus)
- HKU1 (beta coronavirus)
- MERS-CoV (the beta coronavirus that causes Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, or MERS)
- SARS-CoV (the beta coronavirus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS)
- SARS-CoV-2 (the novel coronavirus that causes coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19)

in December 2019, the new virus began to spread across the globe. The traces of the virus are believed to have begun in a live animal market.

When the SARS-CoV-2 virus infects its patients, COVID-19 becomes the disease that can last for days or weeks for some. The novel respiratory disease poses a serious risk to public health.

COVID-19 is primarily spread person-to-person through respiratory droplets formed from a cough or sneeze of an infected person. Transmission occurs when the cough or sneeze goes directly into or near the person's nose or mouth.

According to the CDC, coming within six feet or closer of an infected person would be enough room for one to contract the virus.

BY ALEXANDRA SKORES
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COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus, has claimed the lives of more than 12,000 individuals across the world and now has a case present in all 50 states of the U.S.

The Daily Iowan spoke with a University of Iowa microbiology and immunology professor and examined the Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention's guidelines to explain how the virus began, how it hacks the human body, and why the disease is highly contagious.

How COVID-19 began

The virus hadn't previously been identified in humans, but since first being linked to a case in Wuhan, China in December 2019, the virus has taken the lives of many and upended daily life across the globe as government officials

work to contain its spread.

According to the CDC website, COVID-19 stems from coronaviruses (CoV), a family of viruses that are common in humans and various animals that can include camels, cattle, and bats, making them zoonotic.

The virus named "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2," otherwise known as SARS-CoV-2, is genetically related to the SARS outbreak in 2003. This viral

respiratory illness spread to nearly 24 countries globally in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia, according to the CDC. This outbreak resulted in 8,098 infected persons worldwide and 774 deaths in 2003.

Coronaviruses are named for the crown-like spikes that appear on the surface when viewed under an electron microscope — stemming from the latin word "corona," meaning "crown" or "halo."

There are four main subgroupings for coronaviruses: alpha, beta, gamma, and delta.

How it spreads

According to a *New York Times* visualization, the virus is enveloped in a bubble of oily lipid molecules that fall apart on contact with soap.

When sick patients began exhibiting symptoms of respiratory illness in Wuhan

COVID-19 CONTINUED FROM 6

When an infected person coughs or sneezes, the respiratory droplets could land and infect the person nearby.

University of Iowa microbiology and immunology Professor Stanley Perlman said the droplets are pretty visible when someone sneezes into their hand or on a hard surface.

“[The droplets] fall pretty quickly to the ground,” Perlman said. “... The concern is if you could have really tiny droplets, because when you sneeze [the] tiny droplets could spread — then, that would make things worse.”

Perlman said the active virus could hold on to objects

or other surfaces for days, but research is still unclear for the estimated lifespan of the virus.

The body's 'race' against the virus

When the virus enters the body, Perlman described the process of infection as “a race” between the body trying to get rid of the virus and the virus searching for a cell to infect. The virus infects the cell by fusing its own membrane with the membrane of the cell. Once inside the cell, the coronavirus will release its own viral RNA.

“As soon as it finds a cell and can infect, it starts making more virus and then your body still tries to get rid of it, but then it's a race — and depending on how that race turns out, you either get sick

or you don't get anything. You can get a little sick, if [the virus] stays around your nose, and you get really sick if it goes down to your chest and causes pneumonia.”

The virus' genome is less than 30,000 genetic 'letters' long, according to the *New York Times* visualization. The infected cell will then read the RNA and begin to make new proteins. New copies are created as the infection progresses.

According to the CDC, people are thought to be most contagious when they are symptomatic, although spread is still possible before those infected show symptoms.

Each infected cell can release millions of copies of the virus before the cell finally breaks down and dies. The vi-

rus may infect nearby cells, or end up in droplets that escape the lungs.

There are many ways an individual can be affected with COVID-19, but the CDC believes the spread is mainly a “community spread,” meaning people are infected within a particular area, and some may not be aware of how they were infected.

Who's most at risk?

The CDC says that older adults and those with underlying conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes, are more at risk for contracting the COVID-19 disease.

“This is true for all these coronavirus infections, whether it be SARS or MERS — people who are 65 years or

older do much worse,” Perlman said. “Some of them have other problems like diabetes or heart disease, but the mortality is much higher. This is true for all these diseases — as you get older you do worse.”

Perlman said it's unclear as to why the older adult population tends to do worse, but recognized that the body may have developed conditions that the younger population would not have.

“Diseases like flu — children under the age of one are considered a high-risk group. But that's not true here, as far as we know yet,” Perlman said.

According to the CDC, adults make up the most known cases to date, but children can still contract the virus. The respiratory

symptoms are similar in both adults and children, but children tend to have very mild symptoms. However, the CDC reported it doesn't know whether children with underlying conditions and special health-care conditions are at higher risk.

Perlman said researchers currently don't have much information on what life looks like for those who are recovering from COVID-19.

“Based on other diseases, if you're 75 years old, and you have severe pneumonia and you're in the hospital, it's going to take you a long time to recover whether you had SARS-CoV-2 infection or something else,” Perlman said. “You're just going to be sick for a while. Your lungs don't heal that quickly.”

Johnson County coronavirus resources

BY SARAH WATSON

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As the number of COVID-19 cases ticks upward in Iowa — and Johnson County remains an epicenter of Iowa's outbreak — the university, city, state, and well-meaning community members are offering help to those facing health concerns and loss of income.

What to do if you think you've got the virus

State officials urge those who have symptoms of the virus to not walk into health clinics, doctors' offices, or any emergency room. Instead, people should call their local health-care provider or the state's coronavirus hotline at 2-1-1.

For the university community, University of Iowa officials have previously offered this guidance:

- Students: Call or email the Student Health Nurseline (319-335-9704) (student-health@uiowa.edu) or your local health care provider and inform them of your travel history and symptoms.

- After hours and on weekends, call the UI Hospitals & Clinics at 319-384-9010 or the 24-hour helpline, 319-384-8819, or your local health care provider. You may also schedule a video visit through MyChart.

- Faculty and Staff: Call your health-care provider or the UI Hospitals & Clinics (319-384-9010) and inform them of your travel history and symptoms or schedule a video visit through MyChart.

- For emergencies, call 911

Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

Social distancing is how the community can stop the virus

from spreading. Remain out of congregate settings, avoid mass gatherings, and maintain safe distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others when possible.

Where to look if you're facing economic hardship

Over the past week, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds has issued declarations shutting down salons, medical spas, barbershops, tattoo establishments, tanning facilities, massage therapy establishments, swimming pools, restaurants, bars, movie theaters, adult-care facilities, casinos, and gatherings of more than 10 people, affecting employment for many Iowans.

UI students facing financial emergencies or can apply online for assistance through the Student Life Emergency Fund or reach out to Student Care and

Assistance offered through the Dean of Students' Office.

Iowa Workforce Development offers unemployment benefits and the Small Business Administration offers low-interest federal loans for Iowa small businesses and nonprofits. Both applications can be found online.

The university will offer free high-speed drive-up WiFi in the parking lot of Hancher Auditorium.

Mental health and wellness resources

University Counseling Service is offering video appointments. Call at 319-335-7294

Food assistance

Several Iowa City food pantries are offering pick up meals and services.

Beginning today, Iowa City

Community Schools are providing hot meal pick ups between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday at the following locations. The schools are asking that families remain in their cars and the meals be brought to them.

The Iowa City Catholic Worker House is offering meals by “grab-and-go” on Saturdays from 4-7 p.m. and Sundays from noon-4 p.m.

The Salvation Army is also offering grab-and-go meals from 5-5:45 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Food pantries including Food Pantry @ Iowa, CommUnity Food Bank, IC Compassion, CommUnity Mobile Food Pantry, Coralville Community Food Pantry, North Liberty Community Food Pantry, will remain open though may change their mode of delivery to combat the spread of COVID-19.



Tate Hildvard/The Daily Iowan

Businesses bear cost burden of COVID-19 closures

Johnson County residents deal with the loss of jobs and a bleak economy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BY NAOMI HOFFERBER
naomi-hofferber@uiowa.edu

As the COVID-19 pandemic brings Iowa City's downtown activity to a near halt, locals are seeking ways to stay afloat amid job losses.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds on March 17 announced a health-disaster emergency and the closure of bars, fitness centers, theaters, casinos, locations of mass gatherings, and senior citizen centers and adult daycare facilities to the public. Following this, on Sunday Reynolds closed salons, barber shops, spas, swimming pools, and tattoo parlors.

Iowa City on March 18 announced a civil emergency, allowing authorities to enforce Reynolds' declarations in an effort to curb the spread of COVID-19 within Iowa City.

University of Iowa fourth-year student Grace Oeth said the process of closing business for her workplace, Iowa Avenue restaurant St. Burch, started gradually, originally with intensifying sanitation precautions, then eventually calling people off of work.

"Typically, the first weekend before spring break is slow anyway, but at this point, it was just brutal," she said. "I mean, you get like a few tables and everything, but they were calling off a lot of people who were scheduled or telling us they didn't need to come in or they could leave early."

The night of March 16, the staff got an email that the restaurant would shut down, moving to to-go service only.

St. Burch isn't Oeth's only job. She also works at the UI Main Library and has two other internships, but the restaurant was her primary source of income.

"The job at St. Burch was the one that was making me the most money and was the one that was helping me pay my bills, and my rent," she said. "So, actually ... I had to apply for unemployment benefits through the Iowa state government."

Oeth said she hopes the government steps in and provides assistance to communities as they face this situation.

On the other side of the service industry, UI student and local musician Lily DeTaeye is now relying on merchandise sales and donations, as she canceled all of her upcoming shows through April. This week, she was supposed to play at South by Southwest in Austin, Texas. Now, she's scrambling to get everything online.

"I'm kind of over being sad about it because obviously it sucks, but I'm in a really unique and lucky position that a lot of people are not in where I still have flexibility to do my job online, more or less," she said. "So, I'm trying to not squander that."

DeTaeye is in the process of creat-

ing a more comprehensive merchandise website, as well as planning donation-based livestreams in place of her concerts.

"It for sure affects us musicians and I am uniquely in a lucky position where I have access to the internet and I'm staying with my family," she said. "I'm trying to do what I can to keep it up and running. And when everything does return back to normal, whether that's a couple months from now or at the end of the year, I'll be ready to jump back in."

The singer-songwriter said that because she realizes COVID-19 is impacting everyone financially, her shows will also be available for free.

"If you even just need a little bit of a pick me up or if maybe you've never been able to see a show, but you don't have the money to buy a \$10 online ticket then, obviously there's no harm there," she said. "That's why we do our job — for the enjoyment of people ultimately."

North Liberty resident Matt Hylland is trying to give support to the workers at Red's Alehouse, a place he and his wife Claire have frequented since they moved to the area.

"Red's has just kind of been our local stomping ground, where it seems like we ended up for dinner once a week or for drinks in the evening," he said. "We saw the same faces over and over again, we've seen them go

through college or have kids or get married. So, it's just kind of been a fun place for us to keep going back to just because we do see it as being with friends and family."

When Hylland saw COVID-19 closures affecting local restaurants, he thought of a way he could help Red's, and its staff, stay afloat.

"I just knew that as soon as places started talking about restaurants closing down or encouraging people not to go to restaurants that some people that we've really gotten to know and who we consider friends and family almost were just going to be really hurt by it," he said.

Hylland started a GoFundMe for the staff, with a goal of \$1,000, and after meeting that goal, has set a new goal of \$2,500. The fund is currently at \$2,760 as of Sunday evening.

"Obviously, public safety needs to be a priority, but they're also asking these businesses to stretch themselves very thin, or put hundreds of thousands of people on unemployment," he said. "I know there's talks and I know things have to move a little slowly, but you'd sure hope there's some kind of kind of fiscal or monetary assistance to help both businesses and workers out."

The Small Business Administration declared Iowa a disaster location March 21, allowing small businesses and nonprofits in the state to apply for

low-interest federal loans to offset the economic impact of government-issued closures. Iowa has about 267,000 small businesses, the Small Business Administration estimated in 2018.

Brian Richman, the director of Tippie College of Business' Hawkinson Center for Business Finance, said that while the state can't do much to bail out local economies, as Iowa's government can't run deficits per Iowa code, the national government is likely to spend billions on aid, bail outs, and stimulus packages.

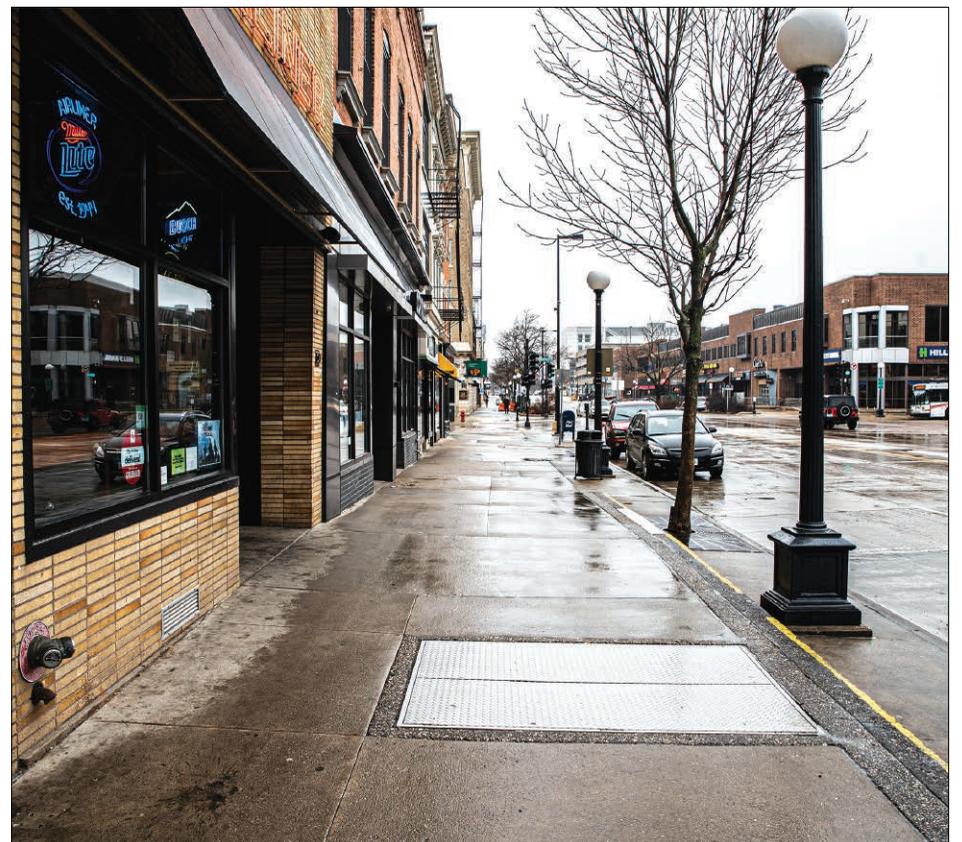
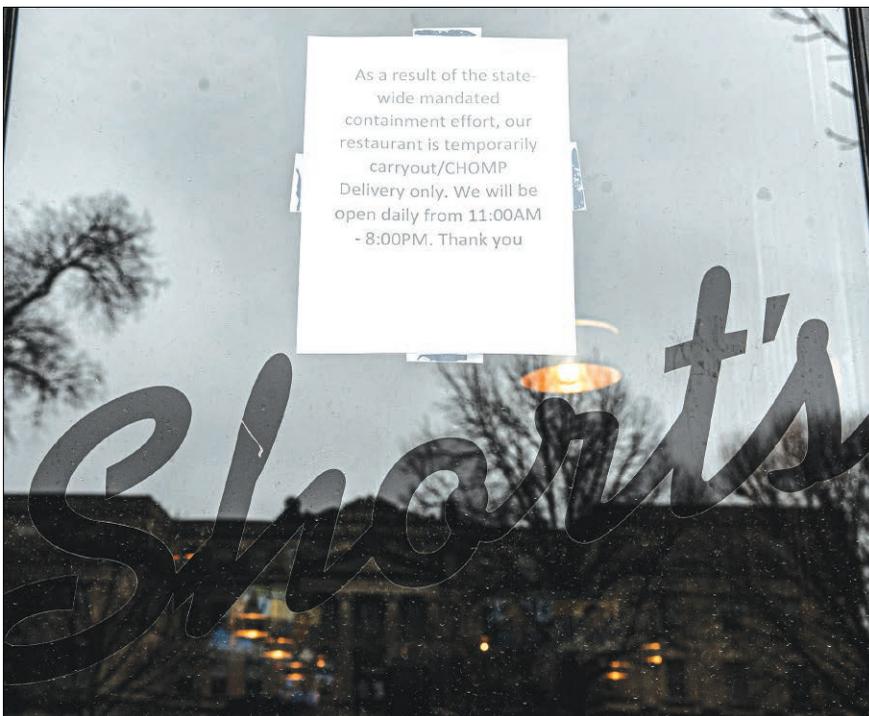
"Some of that will be unemployment benefits and aid to help individuals," he said. "Some of it will be bailouts for airlines and plenty of other industries, others will be stimulus programs to get people employed and get the economy going again. It'll be huge numbers, for sure."

Richman said it would likely be years for the economy to recover. Along with local employees having to seek unemployment, the temporary shutdown may prove fatal for some businesses.

"Some local businesses, sadly, probably won't come back," he said. "It's tough because when you think about it, if they're not open, they potentially have a lot of fixed expenses. They have real estate costs, insurance costs, rental ... they've got insurance. It's a big number monthly that someone has to write a check for."

Downtown deserted

Downtown Iowa City no longer bustles with people as residents stay inside and businesses close amid the COVID-19 spread.



From top left: A statue of Irving B. Weber is seen with a mask that reads, 'Happy St. Paddy's Day' on March 17. The novel coronavirus has spread in Johnson County with the highest number of cases in Iowa. Short's Burger and Shine is seen on March 17. St. Mary's Church is seen closed on March 17. South Clinton Street is seen empty on March 18. (Photos by Tate Hildyard/The Daily Iowan)

Students hurt by university's slow COVID-19 response

The administration must work on student-centered solutions to this evolving pandemic.

BY DI EDITORIAL BOARD
daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

COVID-19 has been the most destructive pandemic for Americans in just over a century.

Everyone needs leadership that not only reacts quickly to the crisis, but also considers every person's humanity.

For Americans, that leadership starts with President Trump. For Iowans, that includes Gov. Kim Reynolds. For University of Iowa students, that means President Bruce Harreld and the UI administration.

The *Daily Iowan* Editorial Board implores the UI to communicate frequently and clearly to plan solutions, and ensure that the response process puts students first.

As this pandemic has developed, the UI has been slow to make decisions relative to peer institutions. The Board wrote an editorial on March 11 — nearly two weeks ago — emphasizing the need for robust and timely action from the administration.

Since then, the UI has since taken several steps to prioritize public health and student safety. Classes are now online for the remainder of the semester, and Harreld and Provost Montse Fuentes have sent more frequent messages to Hawkeyes.

Yet, the UI has made some clumsy missteps. Students feel more uneasy than ever, with little to no reassurance from the administration concerning key matters such as employment alternatives or navigating academics remotely.

One of the most comprehensive examples is the closing of residence halls. Most students in on-campus housing are required to move out unless the UI has accommodated their continued stay. The move itself

is not wrong, and we commend the UI offering pro-rated adjustments to our university bills, but the timing of making the decision after spring break created unnecessary challenges. It's not logistically or financially feasible or safe for all students to return to pack up their belongings.

Many students went home during spring break, assuming they would be able to return to their residence halls afterward. By closing on-campus housing over break, when many students are not in their rooms, students are either making the trek back to Iowa or now have to rely on roommates and others to ship their belongings to them — sometimes across the country.

If the UI had made the decision sooner, this major logistical debacle could have been avoided.

Students have paid tuition not only for in-person courses, but for access to the libraries, Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, art studios, and other facilities. How will the UI aid student homelessness, food insecurity, and unemployment? What are our options? How will we get through?

Arguably personal to many is the UI's sudden cancellation of commencement with no established alternatives.

Two members of our Board are scheduled to graduate this May, and are now having to emotionally process this deprivation of celebrating years of hard work. The Board understands why May commencement poses a public-health risk, but the UI owes all Hawkeyes and their families the moment of walking across the commencement stage to receive their diplomas at a later time.

It is not too late for the UI to make a better call in this case. A strong commitment to an alternative cele-



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

The Old Capitol is seen on March 4.

bration would have immense value to the thousands of students who will graduate in May — especially those who are first-generation students. The UI should not tout its support for first-generation Hawkeyes to deny their celebratory moment at a future date.

Iowa State University has already offered graduates the option to return for fall 2020 commencement, as did Indiana University.

It's great that the UI is working with student-government leaders to poll students on commencement options, which will hopefully save the UI from backlash that the University of California at Los Angeles faced after outright canceling its commencement ceremonies. UCLA walked back on its decision after students urged commencement be postponed rather than canceled. The Board urges the UI to come to the same decision.

As other universities have shared their objectives in finishing this semester successfully, the Board is realizing that the UI is severely lagging in effectively addressing COVID-19.

Closer to home, ISU has redesigned many courses as pass/fail, in order to help protect students who are put at a disadvantage by the forced digitalization of classes. *The Daily Tar Heel* reports that University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, in addition to offering a pass/fail option, has decided "students who are unable to complete their work because of hardships presented by COVID-19 will receive a new grade of 'CV,' rather than an Incomplete. Students who receive a 'CV' will have three more months to complete their work than they would for an Incomplete."

There are countless decisions the UI must make in the coming days, weeks, and months.

It's essential for the administration to plan and execute the best alternatives to what we all thought would be a normal spring semester. This time is anything but, and students need guidance and communication. Extending spring break doesn't shirk responsibility in offering that assurance.

Students depend on the UI. Now,

the UI must prove it is capable of being depended on as an institution, and administrators as leaders of a community.

On an individual level, we encourage Hawkeyes to keep in touch with each other digitally. Social distancing does not have to mean social isolation. Donate to charity, keep the local food banks supplied, and don't become overwhelmed by fear.

These decisions are neither easy nor ideal by any means, and we appreciate the countless individuals who are putting in overtime to make these tough calls while, in some cases, being hamstrung by the slow responses of other state and federal agencies.

But the university has an obligation to take every step possible to ensure that students still receive an exceptional education and value for their tuition despite the chaos. We've been told UI officials have been engaged on this issue for several weeks, so we hope as this evolves to see clearer, more decisive but still measured action, reflecting that deliberation.

My Crohn's and COVID-19 testing



RYAN ADAMS
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I lay awake in bed at 1:30 a.m. March 18, focused on the tightness in my chest, my hands and lips tingling. My breathing was labored, my mind was racing. I couldn't tell if the physical state I experienced was out of anxiety or out of true illness. I decided to visit my doctor in the morning.

It had begun on March 14, a cough and sore throat, chills along with little appetite. All symptoms came off and on through the weekend, carrying into the early part of the next week. The morning of March 17 brought stomach pain and no appetite.

For most 21-year-olds, contracting illness doesn't warrant much concern, but for someone who takes immunosuppressants, it becomes more serious. With the spread of COVID-19, immunosuppressed individuals face the possibility of complications requiring hospitalization and the threat of death as the body is left with few resources to fight.

I was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, a digestive illness, during my sophomore year of high school. Inflammatory Bowel Diseases occur when the body's immune system works in overdrive to protect the digestive system, resulting in tissue damage. For some, Inflammatory Bowel Disease only affects small portions of the digestive tract, but for those with Crohn's, it impacts the entire tract.

The only cure for the illness is routine immunosuppressant medication, meant to weaken the immune system's response on the gut, which in turn weakens the immune system entirely. This does not make a person more susceptible to con-

tracting a virus, but creates complications, sometimes severe, when a virus is contracted.

Contacting my doctor, I thought the underlying cause was a flare up of my Crohn's symptoms. After reviewing my symptoms, she became concerned and decided I should contact UIHC's unit working on COVID-19 cases.

After a night of little rest, I contacted a hotline and was connected with a nurse, who talked through the symptoms and the concerns I had with the immunosuppressant medication I took. After a five-minute conversation, the nurse concluded and said a doctor would call in awhile. An hour later, I was on the phone with a doctor, who explained that given my symptoms and my state of medication, they wanted me to come in.

When I arrived at the hospital, security guards stood inside the entrances, with hospital staff in face masks and protective visors 20 feet behind. I walked down the hall and was asked if I had experienced a cough, fever, or shortness of breath recently. After saying yes, I was asked to put on a mask. After confirming my appointment with the staff and getting a name tag, I then moved toward the family medicine clinic, where those suspected of having the virus were sent.

I made my way through the winding halls of the hospital, and finally found the entrance to the clinic. The door opened and a security guard watched the front door as I entered. The front desk had a plastic shield surrounding it, acting as a barrier to the three hospital faculty working behind it. Most of the workers in the unit were dressed in protective covering with plastic covers over their faces, gloves, and protective garments over the scrubs.

After checking in, a young nurse dressed in full protective gear eventually called my name. I stepped toward a hallway full of people in protective equipment. I was unnerved at how strange it felt to be in my current situation. To feel so out of place as others looked on behind protective measures, to know that I was the center of attention, but not necessarily in a positive way, was abstract. After going through basic vitals, I was left in a room to await a doctor.

I sat in silence for a few minutes. The room was standard for something you would see upon a regular check up, except wipes and cleaning supplies were readily available to wipe down any surface that came into contact with me.

The doctor entered the room, sitting at a chair four feet away, decked in visor, gloves, and a mask.

“For most 21-year-olds, contracting illness shouldn't be much concern, but for someone who takes immunosuppressants, it becomes more serious.”

She introduced herself and we began to talk about my symptoms. After checking the vital readings and listening to my lungs, she concluded that I did not meet the criteria to be tested. She explained that the main focus of testing at the moment was those who knowingly came into contact with a person who had the virus, or those above the age of 60 with symptoms. She added that she suspected I probably had another bug of some sort.

She led me out of the room and took me back to the waiting room while I waited to have my blood tested.

After 15 minutes, I was led into another standard room of the clinic, where blood samples were drawn, which would serve as an indicator to what might be occurring within my body. The nurse took three tubes of samples, and I was free to leave. All

My immune system was suppressed to keep me healthy, but COVID-19 now puts me at serious risk.

I was asked to do was self-isolate for the next 14 days.

When I left the hospital, I felt both relieved and concerned. I was relieved to have seen a medical professional, to be told that my symptoms most likely indicated another bug. At the same time, I was concerned about what the next weeks would have in store for me.

Even with the judgment of the medical staff at a well-regarded institution, I still did not have the assurance of a test. The anxiety I felt crept in, and the “what ifs” took hold. While still an active, healthy young person, I knew that contracting the virus could have serious complications such as pneumonia. An infection wouldn't be easily fought off as the immune suppressants meant to keep me healthy would not let my body fight back as hard as I would

want it to.

The inability to have the test means that millions of other Americans with less-than-ideal immune systems must wait for testing until severe situations, opening up the anxiety of the uncertain future. Numerous reports show the U.S. has conducted the lowest number of COVID-19 tests per capita of any country in the world affected by the spreading pandemic.

According to a report by *The Washington Post*, doctors in parts of New York City — one of the worst-affected regions in the United States — were unable to test patients suspected of having the virus because of strict testing criteria. Those who presented symptoms were not given the test because of the rationing of test kits available, similar to what I experienced. Health-care workers, some of the most susceptible to contracting COVID-19, have not received routine testing.

As the number of health-care

workers who fall ill increases, the capacity of the health-care system decreases, meaning less ability to treat the scores of patients requiring medical attention. As of Sunday night, 15,168 cases of the virus were confirmed in New York alone.

In efforts to boost testing capabilities, the White House has asked several commercial companies, including Fed-Ex, to use aircraft in order to ship medical supplies needed for virus-stricken regions. While the private sector offers supplies and resources, the expansive testing medical experts recommend as the best way to evaluate the current pandemic remains low.

For the state of Iowa, testing parameters remain strict. The Iowa Department of Public Health's criteria for testing includes:

- All hospitalized patients with fever and respiratory failure and no alternate diagnosis
- Adults ages 60 or older with fever and respiratory symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing) and chronic medical conditions (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, immunosuppressive medications, chronic lung disease, or chronic kidney disease)
- Persons with fever or respiratory illness who live in congregate setting (i.e., long term care facilities, dormitories, residential facilities, correctional facilities, treatment facilities)
- Essential services personnel with fever or respiratory illness (i.e., health-care providers, fire and EMS, law enforcement, residential-facility staff)

As of Sunday night, the number of Iowa COVID-19 cases reported by the Iowa Department of Public Health — which uses the Iowa City-based State Hygienic Lab — marked 90. Because of limited testing and substantial evidence of community-acquired transmission of the virus in Iowa, it's unknown what the actual scope of the virus' spread is, which experts say makes it more difficult to treat and to further contain its spread.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Emeritus prof writes on audit

UI professor emeritus responds to state auditor's investigation.

On March 5, *The Daily Iowan* published an article about me entitled "Emeritus psychiatry professor and former UIHC employee under investigation" (Editor's note: the headline has since been corrected to "Emeritus psychiatry professor and former UIHC employee investigated"). I submit this letter in response to that article, particularly to emphasize that while the auditor noted a dispute about 65 hours of vacation time paid at my retirement (since resolved), there were no concerns raised about any financial, patient care, or disciplinary issues.

For over a year I was subjected to an audit by the state of Iowa regarding a training institute I operated while a faculty member. The audit was instigated by the UI without my knowledge; UI officials chose not to work with me directly about their concerns. I was not aware that I was being audited until nearly six months after it began. The auditor accessed my email records and personal bank accounts among other sources of information, but I was not informed that any of these were being accessed until the report was issued.

The institute in question,

the Interpersonal Psychotherapy Institute, is an international organization of experts, and its mission is to improve mental health care, particularly for perinatal depression and anxiety. It began as a nonprofit organization in 2011, and then changed to a for-profit organization in 2013 as I and other consultants received compensation for training that was being conducted around the world. I was invited to do these trainings as part of my academic work, and all were fully disclosed on my CV and discussed in my annual reviews. Those reviews noted that these activities were encouraged as part of my tenure requirements — namely that professors are internationally recognized in their field.

When I was notified in 2018 that the administration believed that I had a conflict of interest with respect to the institute, I complied with all UI regulations. A management plan was developed, and I was fully compliant with it. I personally chose to reduce my appointment at the UI in 2018 because of a conflict with the departmental administration about time allocation, and I also chose to retire for that rea-

son. Both decisions were made unilaterally by me.

During my 28-year career at the UI, I provided exceptional care for thousands of patients. I trained hundreds of residents and students who are now providing high-quality care. I received teaching awards and outstanding evaluations for my mentorship. I published over 100 articles and several books that transformed how mental-health care is provided to perinatal women. I brought in over \$16 million to the university in grant funding to accomplish all of that work. And I was recognized for my work in my excellent annual reviews and my promotion to tenured professor.

I am now, and will continue to be, an emeritus professor in good standing at the UI. And I am continuing to provide high-quality care to pregnant and postpartum women and their families in my private practice in North Liberty as well as continuing to train clinicians internationally to conduct interpersonal psychotherapy and to provide high-quality mental-health care.

— **Scott Stuart, M.D.**
UI professor emeritus

EDITORIAL POLICY

THE DAILY IOWAN which has been serving the University of Iowa, Johnson County, and state of Iowa communities for over 150 years, is committed to fair and accurate coverage of events and issues concerning these areas. In an ever-changing media landscape, the DI realizes that an often contentious political climate — paired with the widespread dissemination of news — can cause contentious discussions over some stories. Although these discussions are essential to democracy — and reiterate the importance of the freedom of expression — the DI takes great lengths to ensure that our social media presence is free of discriminatory remarks, and inaccurate representations of the communities we ardently serve.

GUEST OPINIONS must be arranged with the Opinions Editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected and edited in accordance with length, subject relevance, and space considerations. The DI will only publish one letter per author per month. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

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Cheer, poms to move to online tryouts

Following experts' recommendations to practice social distancing to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Hawkeye cheer and dance teams will continue their tryouts online.



Katina Zentz/The Daily Iowan

Cheerleaders cheer during the Hawkeye Huddle at Tin Roof in Indianapolis on March 6. The Hawkeyes played the Ohio State Buckeyes in a quarterfinal game in the 2020 Big Ten Women's Basketball Tournament.

BY ALEXANDRA SKORES
alexandra-skores@uiowa.edu

When the NCAA and Big Ten Conference announced uncertainties surrounding the continuation of sporting events because of the COVID-19 outbreak, two Hawkeye teams reliant upon their fellow athletes' competitions also came to an early end with their own seasons.

The Hawkeye spirit squads for dance and cheer are both determined to look to the future as they continue tryouts — this time, vir-

tually.

Gregg Niemec, spirit squad coordinator for Iowa cheerleading, said the teams' mindsets were focused on the future following the announcement of event suspensions.

Niemec said that while preliminary tryout videos are a norm in order to be asked back to tryouts, the two teams will be experiencing a new format with callback tryouts and interviews for potential team members via video formats.

For new and returning cheer-

leaders wanting to be a part of the Hawkeye Spirit Squad, preliminary tryout videos have already been asked for, Niemec said. Based on the video sent in, the judging team will decide whether or not to ask for a follow-up tryout and ask for more skills via video.

Niemec said the number of preliminary tryouts was on the low end this year but could not disclose how many tryouts the judges had received.

For new and returning dance members, Dance Coach Jennifer Eustice said that preliminary try-

out videos will come in for dance members by April 1. After that date, those being asked back will be asked to perform a jazz routine and pom routine via video created by senior Hawkeye dance members.

Eustice believes the team's success at the national level has brought decreased numbers to tryouts. The Hawkeye dance team placed third in the nation for its division, D1A, at the Universal Dance Association competition in 2020.

Following the physical tryouts for both teams, the teams will

conduct what is traditionally held in-person interviews online via Zoom or Skype, according to the coaches.

"... Just kind of get to know those people as individuals, especially because you have events where I have one or two individuals that maybe have not been able to make it to one of our clinics — just to get to know them outside of them as a dancer," Eustice said.

Niemec and Eustice said they plan to be accommodating during this time, as many competitive gym locations and public gyms are closed to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"I tell [dancers] I've had dancers submit videos from their kitchen, from their garage, doing things outside. So, obviously I understand that space is an issue, but as best as they can to make it make it work. I expect a lot of basement dancing videos," Eustice said.

Both teams hope to publicly announce the 2020-21 teams by May 1.

The teams remain uncertain of what is to come for their seasons after tryouts. Eustice hopes to make the announcement of being on the team more personal for dancers, while Niemec hopes to award his previous athletes in light of the cancellation of the team's athletic banquets.

"Obviously everything has changed as far as setting the timeline and all that," Niemec said. "It's all really weird — not having graduation, not having our banquets. That was one of the things we brought up was ending this year before we move on to whatever this continuing series is going to be... I don't even know how we give the kids their awards at this point."



Katrina Zentz/The Daily Iowan

Iowa guard Kathleen Doyle jumps for a lay-up 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 shoots a free-throw during a game against the University of Illinois on March 8 at the State Farm Center in Champaign, Illinois.

RECAP CONTINUED FROM 16

Iowa wrestling had plenty of high points in the regular season — such as setting the points record at the Midlands Championships or finishing the dual season undefeated — but the most notable among them was its victory over Penn State.

The Hawkeyes proved they were the best in the nation with the 19-17 victory.

Iowa won six of 10 bouts, including Michael Kemmerer's upset of No. 1 Mark Hall, which, along with the Carver-Hawkeye Arena crowd, gave the Hawkeyes the momentum to come from behind and win the dual. Tony Cassioppi's victory at 285 put the Hawkeyes ahead and clinched a victory over the rival Nittany Lions.

Feb. 28-29, 2020 – Five gold medals for Track Hawks at Indoor Big Tens

The Big Ten Indoor

Championships proved to be successful for Iowa track and field.

Wayne Lawrence won gold in the 200 and 400 meters and as a member of the 4x400 relay team to help push the men's team to a second-place finish. Jaylan McConico continued his run of dominance in the 60-meter hurdles to also win gold, and thrower Lauluga Tausaga won her fourth career Big Ten Championship — but her first indoors — in the weight throw.

March 2 and 9, 2020

– Doyle, Garza bring home Big Ten honors

Kathleen Doyle winning Big Ten Player of the Year honors was the highlight of the women's basketball season.

In 18 Big Ten games, Doyle averaged 19.8 points and a conference best 6.3 assists. She would also pick up AP third-team All-American honors.

Luka Garza also earned the Big Ten Player of the Year honor for the Hawkeyes. He is the first player to earn that award for men's basketball in

52 years. The junior averaged 23.9 points per game on 54.2 percent shooting, while also hauling in 9.8 rebounds a contest.

Garza also earned AP first-team All-American honors and was named national player of the year by a variety of outlets, including ESPN, to become the first men's player for Iowa to earn that distinction.

March 7-8, 2020 – Wrestling reclaims conference title

Iowa wrestling completed its climb back to the top

of the Big Ten with a dominant performance at the Big Ten Championships. Nine Hawkeyes placed in the top five at the conference tournament.

Three Hawkeyes won gold in Piscataway, New Jersey: Spencer Lee (125), Pat Lugo (149), and Alex Marinelli (165). Lee was named the Big Ten Wrestler of the Year at the conclusion of the tournament, and head coach Tom Brands was named the Big Ten Wrestling Coach of the Year.

This was the 36th team title in program history.

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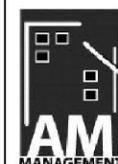
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Cats Allowed

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Access to Clubhouse, Fitness Center, Walking Trails and Pond
Laundry Hookups in Most • Some Units with Washer/Dryer
Cats Allowed

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Located in Saddlebrook | Call or text (319) 499-4966 for more info

1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Units • Private Entrance
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Some Units with Washer/Dryer
Cats Allowed

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Washer/Dryer in Some Units • Laundry Hookups
DOGS ALLOWED

FOR SALE BY OWNER

NOTICE:

Accepting offers on the Dvorak Wolford Acreage in Louisa County.

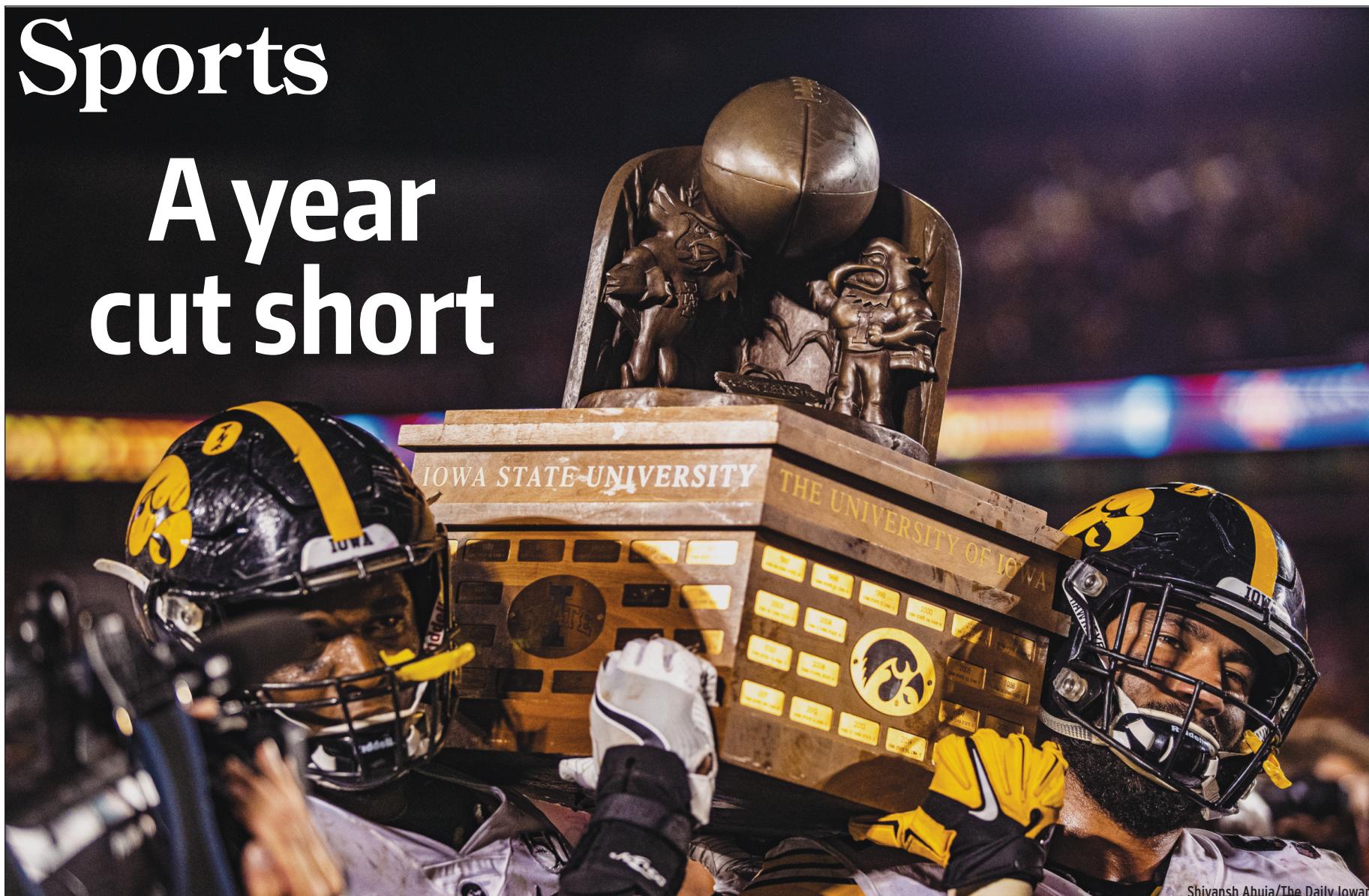
A sportsman's recreational property with Ag income, access to the Iowa River, timber with mature trees and a remarkable area to build. The acreage is on County Rd 66W, Riverside IA. Parcel #0108153000 Union Twp. Sec 6, Section 08-76-5, located on the East side of the road. Please note there are no buildings on this parcel. Description: approximately 211 +/- acres, of that, there are approximately 120 +/- tillable acres, approximately 20 +/- acres are in CRP, approximately 73 +/- acres are in Forest Reserve with large mature trees. The CRP acres will need to be transferred by the new owner immediately upon acceptance of offer. Tillable acres are open for the 2020 crop year. This parcel will be sold "as is". A portion of this parcel is in the flood zone. Offers will be accepted until 5:00 PM March 14, 2020. Any offers postmarked after March 14, 2020 will not be accepted. All offers will be read and discussed by the owners after March 19, 2020. Upon an accepted offer owners will require a 10% down payment as earnest money. Persons submitting offers will be contacted following the owners meeting. Send offers to Eldon & Cynie Slaughter, PO Box 61, Lone Tree, IA. 52755.



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Sports

A year cut short



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Although it ended abruptly, the 2019-20 academic year provided numerous highlights for Hawkeye athletics.

BY ROBERT READ
robert-read@uiowa.edu

The COVID-19 pandemic that has shut down both college and professional sports across the United States hit athletic programs at the University of Iowa particularly hard.

The Big Ten will re-evaluate organized team activities April 6, but this comes after many seasons have already come to a forced conclusion. Despite the early and unsatisfactory ending to several seasons, the Hawkeyes offered several memorable moments

over the past academic year.

Sept. 14, 2019 – A marathon victory for Hawkeye football in Ames

In a game that took over six hours due to multiple weather delays, Iowa came out on top to win its fifth game in a row against Iowa State.

With under two minutes remaining, the Cyclones forced a punt, and it looked like they would have a chance for a game-winning drive. In-

stead, Deshaunte Jones muffed the punt for Iowa State, Devonte Young recovered for Iowa, and the Hawkeyes came out on top in an instant classic.

Nov. 3 and 10, 2019 – Big Ten titles for field hockey

Iowa's 2019 field hockey season offered numerous highlights, including a share of the regular season conference title. A week later, the Hawkeyes defeated Penn State 1-0 in overtime to win the Big Ten Tournament.

This marked the first time the program had won both the regular season title and Big Ten Tournament championship in the same season. It was also the program's sixth Big Ten Tournament title.

Nov. 29, 2019 – Duncan calls game

The highlight of Keith Duncan's All-American season came against Nebraska on Black Friday. With the game tied at 24 with only seconds remaining in the game, Duncan sent a 48-yard field goal

right through the uprights in Lincoln to defeat the Cornhuskers and send the Hawkeyes into bowl season on a high note.

Dec. 27, 2019 – Iowa honors pair of legends in Holiday Bowl victory

After the deaths of Hayden Fry and Bump Elliott in December of 2019, the Iowa football team honored the Hawkeye legends in its Holiday Bowl matchup against USC. Iowa took the Tigerhawk logo of its helmets to honor

Fry and wore a patch on its helmet to honor Elliott.

The Hawkeyes blew out the Trojans 49-24 behind three touchdowns by receiver Ihmir Smith-Marsette and a dominant game on the defensive line by A.J. Epenesa.

To celebrate, Iowa did the hokey pokey in the locker room — a tradition Fry brought to Iowa City.

Jan. 31, 2020 – No. 1 vs. No. 2 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena

SEE RECAP, 14