

# The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2020

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

DAILYIOWAN.COM

## University layoffs

### LOOM

See page 8



After University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld's announcement that the UI is projected to lose \$70 million due to COVID-19, budget cuts have already taken effect. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will see 15 of its 205 lecturers laid off.

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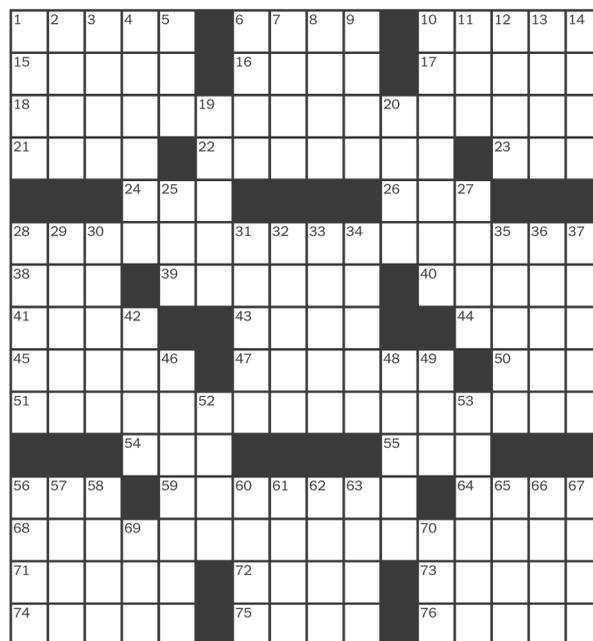
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# The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0520



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 3

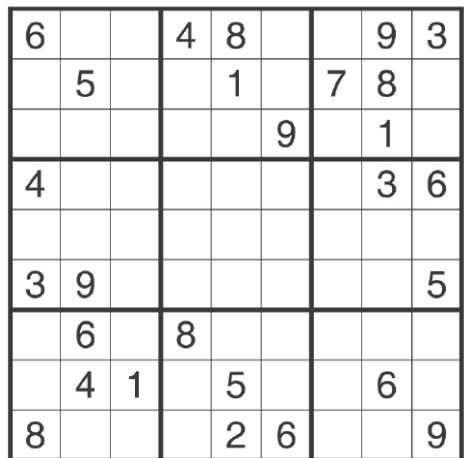
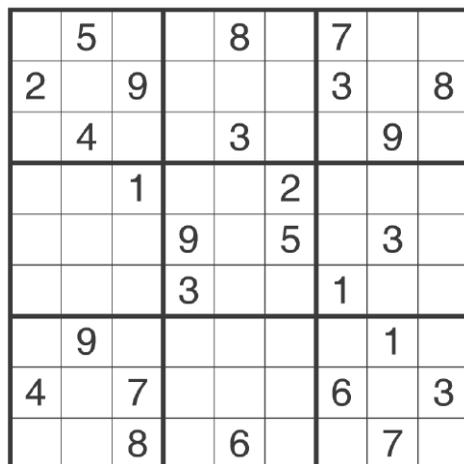
### Across

- 1 GoFundMe contributor
- 6 Snatches
- 10 Cubed ... or played with cubes
- 15 Something an athlete should bring
- 16 Beethoven's "Ah! perfido," e.g.
- 17 Part of the throat whose name comes from the Latin for "little grape"
- 18 French cheese tasting that lasts only a minute?
- 21 Convince
- 22 Symbol of nakedness
- 23 "Shining" place in "America the Beautiful"
- 24 She-sheep
- 26 "Every kiss begins with \_\_\_\_" (jeweler's slogan)
- 28 "That handlebar has gotta hurt!"
- 38 Actress de Armas of "Knives Out"
- 39 \_\_\_\_ Chu, Nobel Prize-winning member of Obama's cabinet
- 40 WikiLeaks source, perhaps
- 41 Edges
- 43 Gas station adjunct
- 44 Canadian sketch comedy show of the 1970s-'80s
- 45 Type of weasel
- 47 Stir up
- 50 Dig up dirt
- 51 Headline about a pagan roisserie shop?
- 54 Sushi fish

- 55 Massachusetts' Buzzards \_\_\_\_
- 56 Bit of Quidditch equipment
- 59 Predictably
- 64 Garments typically fastened in the back
- 68 Screed about Old Glory that goes too far?
- 71 Place to wear a toga
- 72 Western town that inspired Georgia O'Keeffe
- 73 Middle ship of three, it's said
- 74 Poker-faced
- 75 Estimation words
- 76 Recipe phrase

### Down

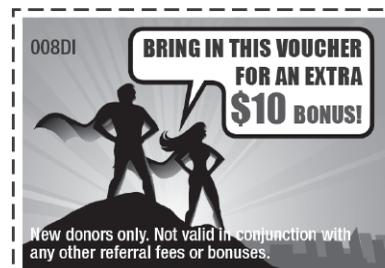
- 1 Applies with a cotton ball
- 2 Fairy tale menace
- 3 It might be painted in the bathroom
- 4 Breakfast dish from a "station"
- 5 Zebra, slangily
- 6 Org. with skyrocketing expenses?
- 7 La-di-da
- 8 Tender kind of lettuce
- 9 Asian wrap
- 10 Pregnancy estimation
- 11 Modern reproductive procedure: Abbr.
- 12 Pool necessities
- 13 "Or \_\_\_\_!"
- 14 "The world's most valuable resource is no longer oil, but \_\_\_\_": The Economist
- 19 Oust
- 20 Nettles
- 25 Is, in retrospect
- 27 Dish next to stuffing and cranberry sauce
- 28 Habitat for rails and bitterns
- 29 Anagram and antonym of 34-Down
- 30 Girl Scout cookie variety
- 31 Coop up
- 32 Captain America portrayer Chris
- 33 Concert tees and the like
- 34 Let loose, in a way
- 35 Secret supply
- 36 Flirt with
- 37 Keebler crew
- 42 Overfill
- 46 Private employer?
- 48 Small Indian drum
- 49 Capt.'s announcement
- 52 "Frozen" queen
- 53 Animal crossing
- 56 Contacts list faves
- 57 Much
- 58 Pacific root vegetable
- 60 Quaint preposition
- 61 Headliner
- 62 Some people believe swamp gas causes them, for short
- 63 Furthermore
- 65 McNally's partner
- 66 Opposing
- 67 Van Gundy of the N.B.A.
- 69 Rev, as an engine



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# African American Studies program to form Black history institute

The University of Iowa African American Studies program will move forward with plans to promote Black history and culture.

BY RACHEL SCHILKE  
rachel-schilke@uiowa.edu

Simon Balto, a professor of history in the University of Iowa African American Studies program, said it is very difficult for anyone to understand the present moment without the past.

Amid protests and demonstrations in Iowa City in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, the program will move forward with creating an institute focused on Black history and culture to promote diversity throughout the Midwest.

The Midwest Institute of African American History and Culture will be a space where collaborators, faculty members, and researchers from across the Midwest can gather to share ideas and promote African American culture, Department Chair Venise Berry said.

Berry said when people think about the Midwest, many do not associate the region with people of color, and that many faculty members in the program were doing research in Iowa and in prominent cities such as Chicago, Detroit, and Omaha.

“When we think about African

American culture, we do not think about the Midwest,” she said. “Iowa has a huge influx and migration of minorities from all over. They come into the rural and city environments, and it calls for a large understanding of the African American community.”

Berry said the program began working on establishing the institute five years ago, but have had to postpone as they continue to look for donors. She said the institute requires approximately \$1 million to be up and running.

She said the institute would focus on research opportunities, educational possibilities, seminars, and workshops so that visitors and edu-

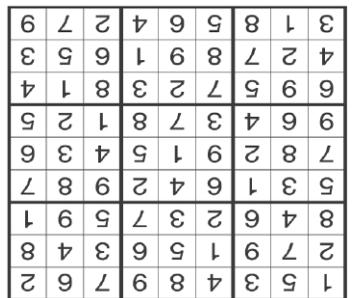
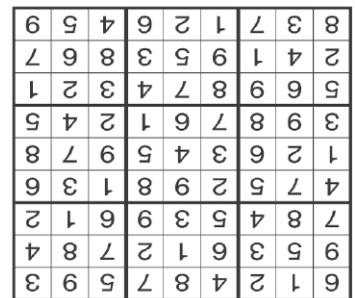
cators can better understand Black history.

She added that connecting faculty to one another across the country will help to spread understanding and change.

“We need to better understand how systematic racism impacts minority cultures,” she said. “We can do that through research. Once you understand it, you can change it.”

Balto conducted research on policing in Black communities, and said he found that the prejudice and discrimination against people of color is not a new issue, but one that has been building and present

SEE AA STUDIES, 4



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Contributed

Photo of Venise Berry, Department Chair of the University of Iowa African American Studies program.

## AA STUDIES CONTINUED FROM 3

for generations.

“Black people have been treated as a suspect population,” Balto said. “It’s fact that they are subject to more harassment, disproportional arrests, and with the murder of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, it shows that this is not a hot button issue. This didn’t begin in 2013 when the Black Lives Matter movement emerged. It’s always been here.”

Berry and Balto said that now more than ever, the African American studies program is necessary to make change on the UI campus.

“People are tired,” Berry said. “The same thing keeps happening again and again, you can’t hide it. African American men are shot in the back, a Black woman shot in her bed

when [the police] made a mistake. Research can help us to determine why this happens and how we can fix it.”

According to Balto and Berry, the Department of African American Studies was defunded in 2005 by the UI administration for financial reasons. Balto said that the university tried to defund the program altogether, but that after a number of Black students protested, a compromise was reached, cutting the master’s program and retaining the undergraduate program.

Berry said that since the downsizing of the department into a program, the African American Studies program has been working hard to achieve the well-known and respected status it once held.

“When stuff like this happens, people notice,” Berry

said. “Nationally, people look at us and think Iowa is not

serious about African American research and studies. We need to move back into the stature that we know is important.”

She said reinstating the master’s program would be a beacon to let minorities know that the program is interested, minorities are important, and that the area of study is important, as well.

The program emerged 50 years ago during a wave of Black student activism and the Black power movement, and Balto said Black UI students demanded that the university recognize their presence and contributions to society.

“I believe that there is a tendency for the UI administration and other parties to think of African American Studies as something that should exist on paper to check a box, showing they are committed to diversity,” Balto said. “But they have not understood why this program is part of the lifeblood of the university.”

Berry said approximately 75 percent of African American Studies majors are white. Many students during her tenure have told her that not only have they been the only Black students in a predominantly white course, but that she is the first Black professor they have been instructed by, she said.

“The impact of our courses is different because in other courses, there are only one or two Black students,” Berry said. “In our program’s classes, at least 50 percent are minorities, white students who come from rural communities never have the experience of being a minority in a majority setting. For Black students, this is the first time they are taught any substantive information on Black history and culture, the Black environment and experience.”

Hartford Faculty Scholar and Professor Sara Sanders said there is an urgent need for the African American Studies program to educate

UI students on the past, present, and future issues facing people of African descent. Many of the faculty in the program conduct work in multiple fields to better address Black involvement in those areas, such as business and music.

“The [program’s] faculty are leaders in their fields,” Sanders said. “The work of the faculty is interdisciplinary and for more areas, it bridges into essential areas to help create social and structural change.”

Berry said that a fellow colleague of hers shared wisdom about the recent Black Lives Matter movement and how significant Black studies can be in society.

“He said to me, ‘It’s possible that African American Studies was influential in our first Black president,’” Berry said. “‘Like our first Black president, if you begin to think about African American culture as normal, as acceptable, then that’s what it will become.’”



The Jefferson Building is seen on April 23, 2019. This building located on East Washington Street houses the University of Iowa African American Studies program.

Charles Peckman/The Daily Iowan

# Black-owned businesses see surge in customers

Amid nationwide protests against systemic racism, calls on social media for Iowa City community members to support Black-owned business have led local business owners to see an increase in customers — which they say has been crucial for business they've lost from the impact of COVID-19.

BY MOLLY ALLEN  
molly-allen@uiowa.edu

Black business owners in Iowa City have seen a wave of support in recent weeks amid nationwide protests against systemic racism and calls for increased support of Black-owned businesses.

Lists of Black-owned businesses in Iowa City have circulated on social media, and community members have offered them their support.

Erica Gooding, owner of Artisan Jewelry by Erica Gooding, makes and sells handmade jewelry derived from raw materials.

Gooding said that she primarily promotes her business at live events like the Arts Fest in downtown Iowa City. She said the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus, however, has interfered.

"I'm getting all of these acceptances and then COVID happened," Gooding said. "One by one everyone has canceled."

Gooding said she has struggled to make sales like she did prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. She also works as a nurse, however, and said she understands that a lack of live events to advertise her products is for public-safety purposes.

Gooding said she initially saw her business, among other Black-owned businesses in the area, circulating on social media about two weeks ago. She said her business subsequently received a surge of online orders and social media attention.

"Most of what I was shipping was going around this area, so that told me that this list that was circulating for Iowa had something to do with it," Gooding said.

In addition to lists that advocat-

ed for Black-owned business, there were also social media posts listing which businesses have donated to President Trump's 2020 campaign, Gooding said.

"We have a lot of buying power in this country," Gooding said. "I personally have stores I don't shop in because my core beliefs don't align with who they're giving money to."

Owner Robert McLean of Island Vybz, a Caribbean Jamaican food truck, said he has noticed an increase in his customer base since the Black Lives Matter movement gained national attention.

When COVID-19 began to spread in the U.S., McLean said his business began to slow. Island Vybz caters to many events including weddings and parties, he said, which were canceled because of the pandemic.

He added that he felt lucky, however, because he was able to keep his truck open for takeout.

"It did slow us down a little, but we're hanging on," he said. "...I am so grateful and happy to see everyone come out to support."

McLean said that while he is appreciative of the increased support of Black-owned businesses in Iowa City, he can sympathize with many other struggling restaurants and would like to see the community support local mom-and-pop restaurants.

"This is their livelihood," McLean said. "This is what it takes to take care of their family."

Denise Chambers has owned Christina's Unity Beauty Supply since 2018. Her business sells wigs, hair extensions, and other beauty products.

Chambers said she shut down her business for two months when COVID-19 first forced businesses to close their doors. Her store re-



Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Owner Robert McLean poses for a portrait outside the Island Vybz food truck parked on East Harrison Street on June 18. The food truck specializes in Jamaican food, putting its own twist on burgers, pasta, and wraps.



Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Denise Chambers, owner of Christina's Unity Beauty Supply, poses for a portrait on June 18 inside the shop. The store sells wigs, lashes, extensions, and other beauty products.

mained closed amid the initial call-to-action to support Black-owned businesses, Chambers said, but reopened last week.

"It's hard out here to have a business, period, but especially with the George Floyd stuff going on,"

Chambers said.

Protests began nationwide in response to the death of Floyd — a Black man who died after a Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee into Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes.

Gooding said she believes the attention and support the Black Lives Matter movement has since garnered can be sustained.

"I'm a glass half-full kind of person," Gooding said. "This movement seems bigger."



# Howling creates 'community feeling' for Northside residents

Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Kristine Djerf howls with her children, Sylvia and Oscar, on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at their home on the North side of Iowa City. Every night at 8 residents in the neighborhood stand outside and howl together for a few minutes to raise morale.

What started as a small initiative in Denver ended up trending worldwide. At 8 p.m. every night, residents in the Northside of Iowa City have taken to their porches and windows to howl with their neighbors.

BY MADISON LOTENSCHTEIN  
madison-lotenschtein@uiowa.edu

It's 7:55 p.m. A golden sunset cascades through the trees while some Northside residents on North Johnson Street emerge from their homes and step onto their porches. Among the residents is Kristine Djerf, her mother, Pam, and Kristine's children, Sylvia and Oscar.

"Are you ready to howl?" Djerf asks her son.

Oscar responds with a very cute "awoooo" while running around the yard.

The time reads 8 p.m., and it begins right away — howling. The sound erupts throughout the historic neighborhood, high and low pitched cries ringing across the streets and Victorian-style houses — rem-

iniscent of "the twilight bark" from the film *101 Dalmatians*.

After a couple of minutes, the howling subsides. Neighbors clap briefly together and then disappear back into their homes.

In a neighborhood on the Northside, some residents have taken to the international trend of howling at 8 p.m. After receiving a text

from her neighbor, Djerf said she joined her community on their first night of howling on April 11.

Their reasoning for howling? To show support for the people on the front lines fighting COVID-19.

"It's a community feeling," Djerf said. "I go out, I see my other neighbors doing it, it's something for my children to see, community

involvement—it's hard with them being so little. It's just a good feeling, and while I'm not a first responder, I'm not a front liner, it's a way to show support, that we appreciate everything they're doing."

Abby Thornton, a Northside resident and University of Iowa student, decided to start howling with her roommate because they

wanted to feel like a part of the community, saying that they thought it would be funny to howl.

"We'll be sitting and eating dinner and talking, and then it'll be eight o'clock," she said. "...We'll stop what we're doing and go stand on our front porch and howl. And one time, we wanted to

SEE HOWLING, 7

# HOWLING

CONTINUED FROM 6

be the first people in our neighborhood to do it so we waited exactly till eight.”

Shelsea Ochoa and Brice Maiurro, who started the trend and Facebook page, “Go Outside and Howl at 8 p.m.,” said that people howl for several different reasons, whether it be for frontline workers, people who have lost loved ones, the Black Lives Matter movement, and more.

The duo began the howling operation on March 27 at their location in Denver, Colorado.

The couple got the idea from a friend of theirs who grew up in Topanga, California, where, at sunset, the locals would howl. Because they wanted it to be dark but didn’t want to wake people sleeping, Ochoa and Maiurro decided that 8 p.m. was a satisfactory time to begin.

“We were kind of bored at home, kind of feeling a little pent up because of COVID, and we thought it would be a cool way to connect

“ I think the howling, the experience with watching a small idea Shelsea and I had turn into this national movement, and COVID in general really gave me a feeling of what people can accomplish in the face of adversity.”

— Brice Maiurro

with people around us,” Ochoa said. “And we thought we could maybe get some of our friends to do it.”

What started as a unique, small initiative ended up as a global trend. The Facebook page itself has over 570,000 members as of June 18, including members from all 50 states and 99 countries. Within its first 24 hours, Maiurro said the page had 8,000 followers.

The duo noted that they have been outspoken about the importance of the Black Lives Matter

movement on the howling page, saying that some people have responded with anger.

Ochoa said that having the Facebook page has been an eye-opening experience, with regards to hearing the collective voices of people within the national and international communities.

“I think the howling, the experience with watching a small idea Shelsea and I had turn into this national movement — and COVID in general — really gave me a feeling of what people can accomplish in the face of adversity,” Maiurro said.



Kristine Djerf howls with her children Sylvia and Oscar on June 16 at their home on the North side of Iowa City. Every night at 8 p.m. residents in the neighborhood stand outside and howl together for a few minutes to raise morale. Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Schaeffer Hall is seen on Oct. 9, 2018.

# CLAS lays off 15 faculty members

Budget cuts to the liberal-arts college come after UI President Bruce Harreld's announcement that the UI is projected to lose \$70 million due to COVID-19, and the Iowa Legislature's \$8 million cut in state appropriations to state Board of Regents' institutions.

**BY JOSIE FISCHELS**  
josie-fischels@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa's largest college will lay off 15 instructional-track faculty as it enters the first phase of a three-tiered plan to make up \$25 million in budget cuts due to revenue loss caused by the novel-coronavirus pandemic.

The first tier identifies \$15 million in cuts within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The cuts follow the UI's \$70 million financial loss due to COVID-19 and an \$8 million cut in state appropriations to state Board of Regents institutions by the Iowa Legislature, and an expected drop in enrollment at the UI in the fall of 2020.

President Bruce Harreld announced in a budget message to the campus community on June 8 that the university was considering permanent or temporary layoffs, hiring and salary freezes, or salary reductions as a result of COVID-19-related financial losses.

"While federal funding will help, it is far short of what is needed to make

the university whole," Harreld said in the message. "As a result, many collegiate and central service unit leaders across the university will be forced to make difficult decisions, some of which will impact employees."

In an email sent to CLAS faculty and staff on Wednesday, Dean Steve Goddard said the college expects a 13-percent enrollment decrease in

non-resident students and a 5-percent decline in residential students.

In an email to *The Daily Iowan*, Goddard said the prediction is slightly more optimistic than the university's predictions for fall enrollment. However, exact numbers will not be available until after the fall semester begins.

The liberal-arts college will lose

15 of its 205 instructional-track faculty members. In an email to the *DI*, Goddard said the layoffs account for \$778,000 — or 5.2 percent — of the \$15 million dollar cuts, which will go into effect beginning July 1.

Some instructional-track faculty have already seen their contracts terminated ahead of the official July 1 date. Others have seen the typical length of their contracts reduced, and now remain uncertain of their fate once the second tier rolls around in the 2020-2021 school year, where additional cuts will depend on state appropriation decisions.

“The state appropriation cuts will be long lasting, and we may never recover the funding once the deappropriation is made,” Goddard said in the email.

Steve Duck, departmental executive officer within the Department of Rhetoric, said five instructional-track faculty members in the department were up for contract renewal, by recommendation of the college. Of those five, three contracts were not renewed.

Duck said the standard contract length at the time of renewal is three years. However, the remaining two faculty members up for contract renewal only had their contracts extended for one year — making them vulnerable to the second round of cuts. He said the cuts did not appear to be based on the value and merit of the instructor.

“It’s very difficult to see colleagues who have performed so well arbitrarily cut just because their contracts are up for their renewal,” Duck said.

Duck said that officials within the Department of Rhetoric agreed that they would have taken a pay cut to their own salaries in an effort to protect their colleagues from elimination, had they been given the chance. One lecturer, Ashley Wells, even offered to resign in favor of keeping any one of the faculty members let go, but Duck said both efforts did not change the UI’s decision.

“She’s resigned, she’s going to another state, and I asked the col-



The Old Capital is seen on Sept. 23, 2018.

Thomas A. Stewart/The Daily Iowan

lege if that would save any of the three people who have been terminated, and they basically said no it wouldn’t,” Duck said.

Elke Heckner, a lecturer in the German department who was among the 15 lecturers whose contracts were laid off, said the termination process was “the most cruel and inhumane process” she had ever experienced.

“After seven years of dedication to the core values of the university, to helping revitalize my department with exciting and urgently needed courses, I am told that my position will not be renewed with two week’s notice,” Heckner said.

One of the courses Heckner taught was “The Politics of Memory: Holocaust, Genocide, and 9/11,” one of the courses the UI offers that

satisfies the “Diversity and Inclusion” general education requirement for students. The course, which was fully enrolled with 22 students, will no longer be offered, she said.

“We are right now in a huge national crisis — issues of racial justice and diversity. Why would we, in this moment when students need ongoing conversations on these very difficult and challenging times, why, at this time of crisis, would we want to cut lines off faculty like me who have conducted these difficult conversations for years and are especially equipped to do this?”

The lecturer said she was frustrated by the lack of transparency provided by the university regarding the criteria they followed when

making the decision about which faculty’s contracts to terminate, as well as the decision to delay temporary, mandatory cuts to administrative supplements for leadership, department heads, and directors until the third tier of the budget cut process.

Goddard said temporary salary reductions immediately made to administrative faculty salaries would not be enough.

“Temporary salary reductions help with short-term budget reductions to fill a gap in a given fiscal year, but they do not address the long-term budget cuts we are facing,” Goddard said in an email to the *DI*.

While the UI Faculty Senate was not directly consulted about the recent lack of contract renewals, its

President Joseph Yockey said the organization continues to stress to the university that salary reductions, furloughs, layoffs, or hits to academic programming should not be imposed, unless other cost-saving measures are first found, beyond doubt, to be inadequate.

The Faculty Council will hold a special meeting June 25 to discuss steps for addressing budget issues for the summer and into the fall.

“I think everyone understands sacrifices will need to be made. No one will escape the budget crisis unscathed,” Yockey said in an email to the *DI*. “But at the same time, it is important to recognize that cuts to faculty or academic programs are rarely about trimming ‘fat;’ those cuts go straight to the university’s muscle and bone.”

# Professor reflects on 50 years teaching at UI

After five decades of working in the religious-studies department at the University of Iowa, Religious Studies Professor Jay Holstein is reflecting on a legacy full of lectures and learning.

BY MARY HARTEL  
mary-hartel@uiowa.edu

Professor Jay Holstein came to the University of Iowa in 1970 to fulfill a three-year teaching contract. 50 years later, Holstein — now the J.J. Mallon teaching chair in Judaic Studies — said he never imagined then that he would still be teaching on the UI campus.

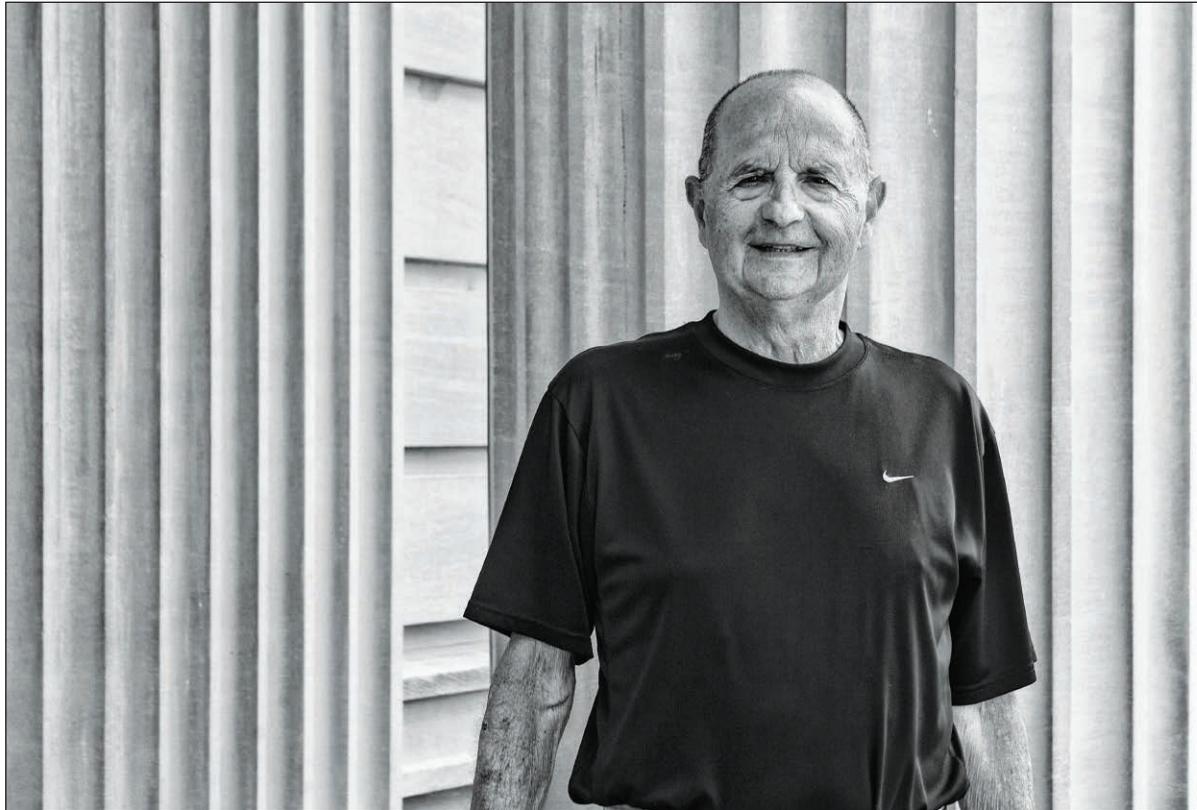
“I never ever for a second believed that I would be here for 50 years,” Holstein said. “I had no idea where the state of Iowa was — I confused it with Idaho.”

Holstein said he was originally hired as an assistant professor and tasked with teaching courses in Jewish studies. The now 82-year-old professor started out with a great interest in the Hebrew Bible, or the Old Testament.

Holstein said he remembered what a daunting task the idea of lecturing to hundreds of students in the Macbride Auditorium at the UI once seemed like.

“Every lecture’s a new lecture,” Holstein said. “If you don’t make contact with them, their boredom saturates the auditorium — it just about overwhelms you.”

Joe Weeg, a retired lawyer who attended his first class with Holstein in 1973, said in an email to *The Daily Iowan* that he was instantly hooked on the ideas of life and raw humor Holstein incorporated into his



Jay Holstein poses for a portrait outside Macbride Hall on June 17. Holstein has taught at the University of Iowa since 1970. Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

lectures.

“I took every class he offered and then began studying Biblical Hebrew with him one-on-one,” Weeg said. “He had me read this, he had me read that, papers were written on all sorts of ideas. I questioned and questioned and questioned and questioned. He patiently filled in the blanks or didn’t. He demanded, I think.”

Holstein said his teaching methods have gradually evolved during his time at the UI, noting that a key feature in his teaching style is concocting imaginary conversations to answer presumed questions

he anticipates students will have.

“Sometimes you hit the mark, sometimes you don’t, sometimes you bore them to tears, and every once in a while magic strikes and they’re in the grip of what it is that you’re talking about, and it’s an experience the likes of which you will do almost anything to repeat,” Holstein said.

Lecturing on any given subject forces one to understand the content and materials in new ways, Holstein added.

“You wouldn’t want to teach the same thing in the same way for 50 years

— hell, for two years — so you constantly need to be prodded into seeing things you had not seen before,” Holstein said.

Amid the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus pandemic, Holstein said the UI’s campus-wide switch to a virtual teaching format has been a challenge. The professor claims himself to be “computer illiterate.”

Holstein has taught various courses, from *Quest to Human Destiny* to *The Bible to the Holocaust*, and he said he never anticipated the hundreds of emails he would get from former students thanking him or

making note of something that stuck with them after his classes.

UI alumni like attorney David Mennie, graduate of the College of Law, said that his first day of Holstein’s *Judeo-Christian Tradition* class made a profound influence on his academic and professional career.

“One of the key things I learned from Professor Holstein’s classes was to pay very, very close attention... and ‘not to be asleep at the switch’ as he’d always say,” Mennie said. “... That has been very influential on everything I’ve done.”

Mennie took all of Hol-

stein’s classes in pursuit of his undergraduate education, Mennie said, and he also encouraged his friends and girlfriend to take the professor’s classes.

“He’s been the single greatest teacher in my entire life,” Mennie said.

Amanda Mennie, UI undergraduate alum and current M.D. Ph.D. in molecular genetics and biochemistry, shared a similar experience with Holstein.

“I think it’s probably pretty impossible to overestimate the impact he had on me both when I was there and subsequently... He was the most impactful professor, which maybe sounds strange coming from somebody who’s going into research science,” Amanda said. “But he got me to think very carefully... about myself, how I made choices, and what I want in my life.”

Holstein said he is grateful to the UI community for serving not just him, but his family — including his two children — over the years.

Holstein said that, today, he is taking things one day at a time. He is slated to instruct in two courses for the fall 2020 semester, though he said retirement is definitely near.

“Don’t waste your time — it goes by,” Holstein said. “Now I’m 82 years old and hiding inside away from a virus I can’t see... afraid. Life is unpredictable.”

# Opinions

COLUMN

## The Iowa Football Program will set the standard for others

In the wake of racial allegations against Iowa Football, the program has proven that they are seriously committed to making a change.

BY CHLOE PETERSON  
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On June 5th, former Hawkeye football player James Daniels tweeted that “There are too many racial disparities in the Iowa football program. Black players have been treated unfairly for far too long.”

After his tweet, other former Hawkeyes spoke out in droves, sharing stories about racism and tension that they experienced in their time in the Iowa football program, especially with strength coach Chris Doyle.

Amani Hooker, a former Hawkeye in 2019 now playing for the Titans, tweeted “I remember whenever walking into the facility it would be difficult for black players to walk around the facility and be themselves. As if the way you grew up was the wrong way or wasn’t acceptable & that you would be judge by that and it would impact playing time.”

In response to the racial disparities, the coaches and the program have gone above and beyond to make sure that they correct their mistakes within the program.

Soon after the allegations came out, Iowa placed strength coach Chris Doyle on administrative leave to conduct an independent review. With 21 years in the program, Doyle was a staple in Iowa football and was even the highest paid strength and conditioning coach in col-

lege football.

On June 15th, Iowa football announced that they were parting ways with Chris Doyle. Being willing to separate from someone that has been in the program so long illustrates that they are committed to making the program better for their players and the community.

Kirk Ferentz himself put together an advisory committee of eleven former Hawkeye players, headed by Mike Daniels, a Black NFL veteran and former Hawkeye. The committee was made for former players to be able to voice their opinions on what has happened within the program, and what can be done to change.

In forming this committee, Ferentz showed that he is not going to brush the allegations under the rug as soon as it stops getting reported on. Ferentz, as head coach, takes responsibility for what has happened under his watch and genuinely wants to change.

Also, the football program fully lifted the social media ban that they had over their players’ Twitter accounts. Kirk Ferentz himself told the media that “it was a stupid policy. . . We’ve got a team that deserves to be trusted.”

Iowa was one of only two college football programs that held a full ban over Twitter. The players felt stifled by the Twitter ban, especially amidst the Black Lives Matter movement. Lifting

the ban will not only relieve players of unnecessary censorship, but it will also hold the program accountable for their actions behind closed doors.

Now, a week of change, no matter how drastic or powerful,

isn’t going to fix years of maltreatment. But it’s a good start to making sure that all of their players feel accepted and safe within their program.

The way that the Iowa football program has handled this situa-

tion so far proves that they are committed to fixing their issues and making the program as a whole for all of their players. Hopefully, other collegiate football programs around the country will follow their lead.



Ryan Adams/The Daily Iowan

Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz and members of the Iowa football team walk onto the field before a football game between Iowa and Minnesota at Kinnick Stadium on Nov. 16.

# White America needs an art history lesson

Marking public spaces was an accepted artform of political expression in Western society for millennia, until racism deemed it vandalism.

BY BECCA BRIGHT  
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As Black Lives Matter protests continue to leave their mark, it's become obvious that many Iowans have forgotten – or were never properly taught – history.

What many are calling “vandalism” by protesters is in fact an ancient, very Western style of political expression. Painting public spaces, or graffitiing them with words or images, goes back to the ancient civilizations of the Greeks and the Romans.

Much of the political and social concepts of these empires have become the foundation of contemporary white, Western culture – including our own. The irony then of condemning spray paint as a way of protesting for

Black Lives Matter, is one that denies the history of political technique itself.

The word “graffiti” itself originally comes from a Greek word we would spell as *graphein* – to write. The first of these graffiti writings, usually scratched or marked into stone structures, are thousands of years old. They're still read and looked at today. Studies by archeologists and historians show that these preservations of graffiti typically voice a social thought. It could be an expression of praise or reverence for a great war hero or god, or a political satire of a senator.

Black Lives Matter protesters are using graffiti in the same styles and intentions as these ancient civilizations.

If you go and stroll around the

Pentacrest or downtown Iowa City today, you'll see that's exactly what has been spray painted. The names and portraits of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd are signs of respect and recognition for them, as well as calls for justice. “F— 12” is, as objectively as possible, a rejection of an institution.

In the time of the Romans, this act – or way of protest – on structures or buildings was considered a social norm, and uncontroversial. It was simply a way a society communicated within itself. They certainly didn't cause outrage. Even now, ancient graffiti are deeply appreciated artifacts; they help us understand how civilizations thought, wrote, and read.

But public view of graffiti has dramatically changed, easi-

ly within the last century alone. Graffiti now, particularly by the U.S., is seen as a kind of vandalism of property, or damage to a space. Definitely not as a historical art form.

One has to question why this view – America's view – has changed.

Modern graffiti has become heavily influenced by hip hop culture – a Black and Latino art movement that began in the Bronx in the mid-1970s. Even some years before hip hop emerged, graffiti was a political and creative tool used by the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. So in American culture, graffiti has become an exclusive element of hip hop and Black expression, both artistically and politically.

Because graffiti has become more publicly associated with POC communities, it's being condemned because it is now being used to amplify Black voices. That rejection has racist internalization. Public outrage is over washable paint on a building, rather

than the institutions that are continuing to kill an entire people.

It's not the art on a wall, or the form of writing that's no longer acceptable – it's the Black writer.

What about these buildings, anyway? Prioritization of property over people – or even that people are forms of property – is also as historical as one can get in America.

What about a college? A building on a campus stands because it was built and paid for by those upholding education. Universities themselves have long been a core to social movements; evolutions of art, culture, and politics.

For there to be outrage that students are protesting for Black Lives Matter are spraying painting their own campus, is an uneducated reaction. The reality is that graffiti is not destruction. It is a history of a public art form being used now, by a new generation of activists.

Instead of questioning why there is writing on the walls, ask why the writer wrote them.



Jeff Sigmund/The Daily Iowan

The intersection of North Dubuque Street and East Jefferson Street looking east, covered in graffiti. As seen on June 4.

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# Sports



Nichole Harris/The Daily Iowan

Iowa Head Coach Lisa Bluder instructs her team during a women's basketball game between Iowa and Wisconsin at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 16.

## Bluder looks back at Hawkeye career

Lisa Bluder, who just finished her 20th season as Iowa's head coach, has a career full of highlights.

BY ISAAC GOFFIN  
isaac-goffin@uiowa.edu

When Lisa Bluder was hired as the head coach of the Iowa women's basketball team in 2000, she was given a five-year contract for what she considered her dream job.

Those five years turned into 20 — and counting.

"I never dreamed that five years would turn into 20 years," Bluder said.

In those 20 years, Bluder has a lot to look back on, including two Big Ten Tournament Championships, one Big Ten Regular Season Championship, 14 NCAA Tournament appearances, and making it to the Elite Eight. She also coached one of

the greatest Hawkeyes of all time in center Megan Gustafson.

Her first Big Ten Tournament Championship came in 2001, which was her first season as Iowa's head coach. The season before, Iowa was 9-18. When Iowa defeated Purdue to win the championship, it was its 20th win of the season.

"It's one of my fondest memories

and I have a lot of good memories of basketball at Iowa," Bluder said. "Certainly, that first year when nobody expected anything out of us, I mean we would have probably been last in the Big Ten that year and then to go and win it all, it was just so special."

Bluder said the team bonded together to form a fabulous unit in

nine months. The Hawkeyes made the second round of the NCAA Tournament before losing to Utah.

Fast forward to the 2007-2008 season, and the Hawkeyes were in a similar position. After being 14-16 the season before, the Hawkeyes had something to prove, so they won the

**SEE BLUDER, 14**

## BLUDER

CONTINUED FROM 13

Big Ten regular season championship.

“Those years are special,” Bluder said. “When you know everyone counts you out and then you do something special. Abby Emmert [now Stamp] was one of our captains that year and she’s still on our staff till this day, she’s now an assistant coach for us. Those memories, those bonds that you form through persevering and then achieving something really great, those last forever.”

Few programs have had the season that the Hawkeyes did in 2018-2019.

That season, the Hawkeyes won the Big Ten Tournament, made the Elite Eight, and had the national player of the year in Gustafson.

“It was just one of those magical rides,” Bluder said. “I mean it was a year where we didn’t have any injuries, everybody really got along, there was no drama, and everything was right in place, so it was kind of magical. Of course, having the right people in the right places, I mean you got Megan, who’s the player of the year in the nation. I still can’t even grasp that. To this day it’s still hard for me to imagine that we were able to coach the player of the year nationally.”

To Bluder, what is remarkable about these 20 seasons is that two mem-

bers of her staff have been there for all of them, associate head coach Jan Jensen and special assistant to the head coach Jenni Fitzgerald. This is almost unheard of in the world of coaching.

Not all of Bluder’s success the past 20 years has come at Iowa. In 2001, she was an assistant coach at the World University Games, which Team USA won. In 2015, she was the head coach of the Pan American team and won silver.

“There’s nothing like when you win the gold medal, hearing the national anthem and watching the American flag go to the rafters and seeing the kids get their gold medals around their neck,” Bluder said. “It’s pretty special.”



Abby Hansen/The Daily Iowan  
Iowa Women's Basketball Head Coach Lisa Bluder introduces her 2001 team to fans during Media Day.



Iowa Head Coach Lisa Bluder looks down the line to players during Iowa women's basketball vs. Ohio State in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 23.

Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

# Armstrong, Isaacson reflect on 'The Last Dance'

Two Iowa alums were interviewed for the popular documentary that took over the sports world.

BY CHRIS WERNER  
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ESPN's documentary *The Last Dance*, a 10-part series on Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls, took over the sports world for much of April and May. Two University of Iowa graduates with first-hand experience of the Bulls' dynasty were among the dozens of people interviewed for the project.

B.J. Armstrong, who returned to serve as the Grand Marshal in Iowa homecoming parade, played four seasons at Iowa before being drafted by the Bulls in the first round of the 1989 NBA Draft. He won three NBA titles with Chicago in the early '90s.

Armstrong said his interviews for the series were completed over two years ago.

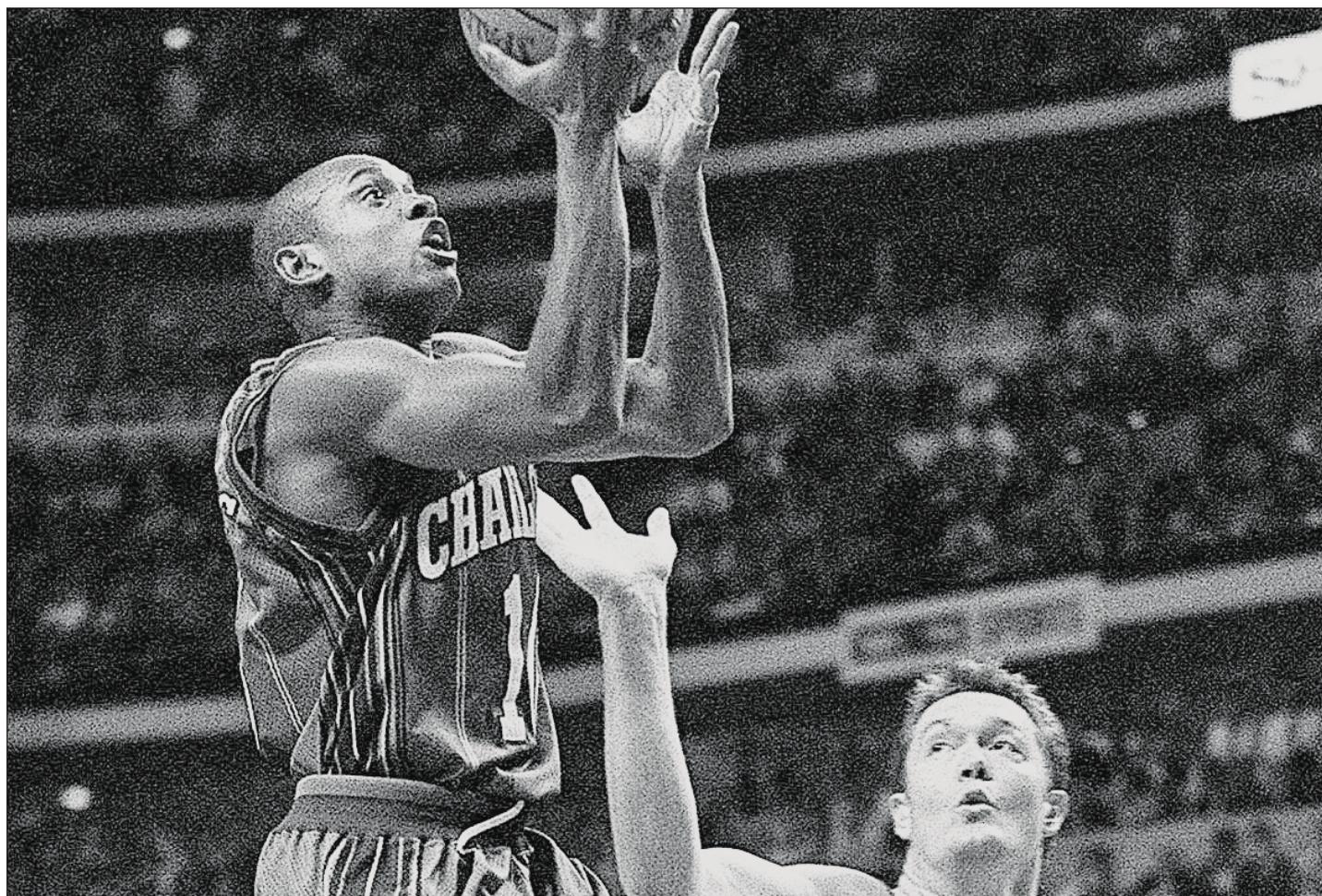
"They had reached out and asked if I would do some interviews for a documentary. I had no idea if the interviews would be used," Armstrong said.

*The Last Dance* was originally set to air in June, accompanying the 2020 NBA Finals. The project's release was moved up to satisfy the lack of sports programming due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Armstrong was in the same boat as many sports fans when he found out when and how the series would be broadcast.

"I was pleasantly surprised just like everyone else and found out just like everyone else when the series was actually going to be broadcast," Armstrong said. "I had no idea of the magnitude of what was going to happen with the documentary."

A lot of the behind-the-scenes footage used in the docuseries was captured by a camera crew



Nuccio DiNuzzo/Chicago Tribune

Charlotte Hornets' B.J. Armstrong shoots over Chicago Bulls' Luc Longley during a playoff game on May 6, 1998 at the United Center in Chicago, Illinois. The Hornets beat the Bulls 78-76 to even the series at one game each.

that was granted unprecedented access to Jordan's final year with the Bulls, at the time, the final year of his career before he returned to the league and finished his playing days as a member of the Wizards.

DI alum and former Chicago Tribune Bulls beat writer Melissa Isaacson was not surprised at the access that Jordan allowed.

"If you interviewed who covered him with the Bulls, I'd be very surprised if people didn't say that he was incredibly accessible and very easy to talk to," Isaacson said. "He would, more

than any other superstar I've ever covered, he would stand at his locker and talk to every last reporter, whether they were from The New York Times, or The Chicago Tribune, or the smallest paper in the smallest town in America. Or, which often happened, [a reporter from] a foreign country who just wanted him to say hello into the microphone."

A large theme of the docuseries was Jordan's competitiveness and sheer will to win at everything he did. This included baseball, golf, and of course — basketball.

"You don't reach that level of excellence and not have some part of your personality that is extreme," Armstrong said. "For my whole life, that was just normal. If you're going to be the best, there's a certain something that pushes you over the top. When you get to the NBA, everyone has talent, everyone can score, everyone's a good athlete."

"What separates the good players from the great players? Well, there's something extreme about your personality. It's a little different than everyone else's. Whether you're a Magic

Johnson, Larry Bird, what have you, these are highly competitive people."

Armstrong believes that the series chronicling Jordan's greatness on the court and his complex life away from it will have a lasting impact on sports fans.

"I think it was good that you guys get to have a discussion about someone that you have all heard about, obviously," Armstrong said, "Then you got a chance to get a little glimpse and get an introduction to a maybe a player that you didn't know before — you just heard about."



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