



COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATE

Harreld says UI to set up test sites as Iowa City COVID-19 cases spike

BY ELEANOR HILDEBRANDT AND ALEXANDRA SKORES
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After the *New York Times* named Iowa City a top-ten COVID-19 hotspot, University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld told student

government leaders on Tuesday that testing options would be available to any student soon, but didn't specify any timeline.

"Anybody who wants a test will be able to get it, whether you're symptomatic or asymptomatic," Harreld told student government leaders.

Senators at the meeting said there was a lack of testing for students who didn't show symptoms. Harreld said that the UI is trying to test as many students as possible while saving testing materials.

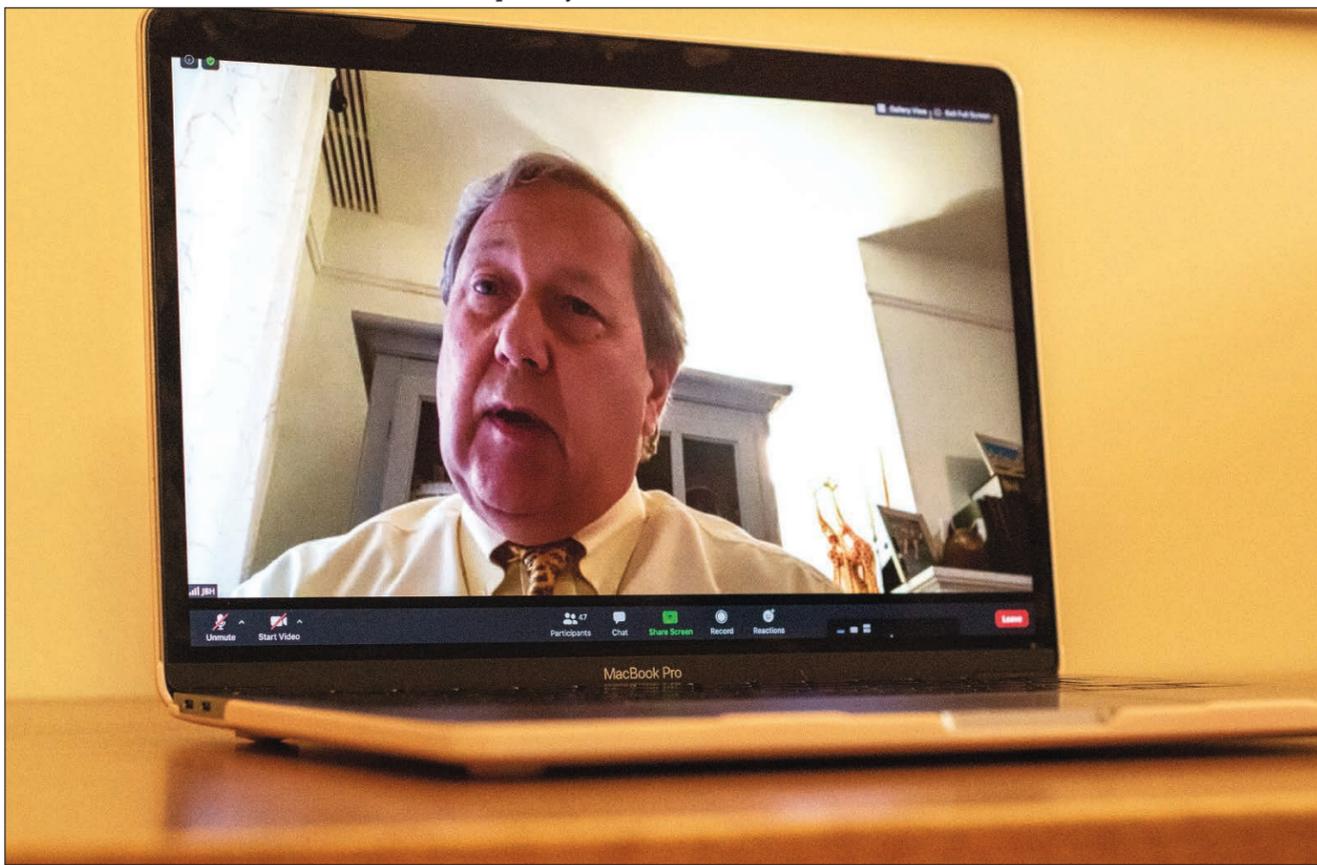
"Anyone who is symptomatic will get tested, period," he said. "We decided to focus on

that because [we are] trying to preserve our testing [materials]. Whether we like it or not, we still have limited reagents and capacity for testing... But anybody who needs a test will get a test."

SEE COVID-19, 3

Harreld under fire from USG

President Bruce Harreld spoke to USG Monday night, taking questions from senators and executives on the UI's COVID-19 response and issues of racism and policing on campus. Members said Harreld did not adequately address their concerns.



Nichole Maryse Harris/The Daily Iowan

University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld addresses members of USG virtually at the first University of Undergraduate Student Government Meeting on Tuesday.

BY RYLEE WILSON AND CALEB MCCULLOUGH
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Undergraduate student government members said they felt no progress came out of meeting with University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld as he spoke to the group on COVID-19, in-person classes, racism on campus and more.

Harreld spoke over Zoom at a student government meeting on Tuesday and took questions from student government members.

USG has released two statements demanding action from the UI administration in recent months,

one in June calling for the UI to end its working relationship with the Iowa City Police Department, and one in August demanding the UI to move to virtual-only instruction.

Director of Justice and Equity Ruth Kahssai asked Harreld how Black students can trust his office and the UI to take their concerns seriously.

"When seen threats of white supremacy involving the protests pretty closely on our campus. It's still not fully handled or communicated to the study body," Kahssai told Harreld.

Harreld told Kahssai this was the first time he had heard of her bring up white supremacy to him.

"This is the first time you've ever talked to me about white supremacy. If you know of any white supremacists, please bring them forward," Harreld said.

Kahssai told *The Daily Iowan* that this meeting was not the first time she had brought these concerns to Harreld, the Office of the President, and other administrative offices, and that aside from one meeting, Harreld had not been engaging with students on issues of diversity, equity and inclusion during the summer.

SEE HARRELD, 2

Bruce blames bars

As students have packed into bars downtown, UI President Harreld implores businesses to adhere to guidelines set in state proclamations.

BY RACHEL SCHILKE
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University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld rebuked downtown Iowa City businesses not enforcing COVID-19 guidelines after maskless students packed bars over the weekend.

"We're having an explosion of cases that are originating in the downtown, nighttime life, [especially] at

SEE BARS, 2

Off-campus behavior could lead to housing cancellation, suspension

The University of Iowa reiterated that students can be held accountable for off-campus behavior in an email to students on Tuesday.

BY ALEXANDRA SKORES
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The University of Iowa stated in an email on Tuesday that students who don't comply with off-campus policies could face a canceled housing contract or university suspension.

Director of Media Relations Anne Bassett said in an email that the Office of Student Accountability is reviewing 24 alleged violations of the student agreement. At this time, no students have received sanctions.

The email sent from Assistant Dean and Director of Student Accountability Angela Ibrahim-Olin, said the Code of Student Life and Accountability Procedure will be used to respond to any behavior deemed violating campus policy. Students found engaging in behavior that the university has deemed unsafe, specifically gatherings where individuals are unable to maintain more than six-feet of physical distance

Students will be given the opportunity to change their behavior to align with campus expectations. If a student is found responsible for misconduct, development and educational efforts will be made by the university.

The announcement follows Iowa State University, which announced Aug. 21 that students would be held accountable for violating COVID-19 health and safety policies and standards after posts circled social media of students gathered, maskless, at 8:01 parties. Students at ISU who are found violating university policy are subject to suspension, according to the announcement.

INSIDE

ETHICS & POLITICS

Not-so-conventional nomination process

Both Republicans and Democrats disagree from the primary stage adapted for their national party gatherings over the last week. [Click here for more news.](#)

An unconventional nomination

National parties partook in unprecedented virtual conventions over the past two weeks where delegates from around the country voted to nominate Joe Biden and Donald Trump as their parties' nominees.

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Reynolds at RNC: administration of 'action and outcome'

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds praised President Trump in a speech Tuesday night at the RNC for his response in approving derecho-related federal aid.



Katina Zentz/The Daily Iowan

Gov. Kim Reynolds speaks during the Condition of the State address at the Iowa State Capitol on Jan. 14. Reynolds discussed initiatives such as tax cuts, mental health funding, and workforce training.

BY JULIA SHANAHAN
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Trump for his administration's response to the storm that tore through eastern Iowa two weeks ago.

"Iowans did what you expect Iowans to do," Reynolds said.

SEE REYNOLDS, 2



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AIR FORCE ROTC HAVE THEIR HEADS IN THE CLOUD



Daniel McGregor-Huyer/The Daily Iowan

Zach Stolz (right), an Air Force ROTC student, is leading a meeting with half of its participants in person and half participating over Zoom. Air Force ROTC is doing as much as they can in person while accommodating those who aren't on campus due to COVID-19.

HARRELD
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"His response is to say that I, as a Black woman, should go out and find the white supremacists, when a minute earlier I said that I was scared of that — I think that's incredibly racist, ignorant and just harmful," she said.

Kahssai said she felt that there was not real progress made from the conversation with Harreld, and that administration was coming to students to do the work of administrators.

"As a Black female student, these meetings are traumatizing to sit and experience consistent racism all the time," she said. "We are also only students, so I really encourage

people to get involved and engaged in this moment when we see these things — believe them at their forefront. It cannot continuously be on Black women or Black students or BIPOC students to be raising the alarms about everything."

LGBTQ constituency senator Joseph Haggerty asked how many students would need to contract COVID-19 before the university takes classes online.

While Harreld said the Critical Incident Management Team would decide when to take classes online, he said he was concerned that moving classes online would not prevent the spread of the virus off campus.

Harreld also said the number of cases reported in the

residence halls — according to Monday's campus report, 18 residence hall students were in quarantine — was under expectations, saying administrators thought they would be a "lightning rod" for the virus.

Haggerty called the meeting one of the top-three worst meetings he has had with the UI administration.

"One of the most shocking instances was hearing that

ready existing," Haggerty said. "Frankly, we need to know what conversations are happening behind closed doors when students' lives are in the way of financial gain for the university."

Director of Sustainability Emily Maders asked Harreld why he has not responded to the statement USG issued calling for the UI to cut ties with the Iowa City Police Department.

Harreld said he received 412 emails asking for the UI to end its relationship with the police department.

"We don't have any fiscal support of them, but we have a working relationship. We've got a fair number of students who live in Iowa City, and a

“It's upsetting that he continues to make excuses, instead of just directing it front-on!”

— Emily Manders, USG Director of Sustainability

they had expected that the residence halls would have a far higher rate of contamination and a far higher rate of COVID cases than what is al-

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very large number of staff and faculty," Harreld said. "I'm not convinced that shutting that down and stopping any working relationship with them will do anything."

Manders said in an interview with *The Daily Iowan* Harreld seemed dismissive and not understanding of Black students' concerns, and said

he was talking down to Black students that asked him questions.

"When I brought up, 'We have asked you to cut ties with ICPD. We have not asked you to reform, we have asked you to cut ties with them,'" she said. "It's upsetting that he continues to make excuses, instead of just directing it front-on."

BARS
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

the bars and clubs," Harreld told students at an Undergraduate Student Government meeting. "It is really, really troubling for me. I'm not actually blaming you [students] as much as I am the people that operate the bars."

Harreld said even if the university went fully online, he believed the bars would still see several student customers.

"Other than people in the residence halls, which we can close down, the rest of the 25,000 students who don't live on campus will stay largely in the community," Harreld said. "And that scares me more. That's why I'm after the off-campus behaviors more than I am, frankly, in the residence halls."

In an open letter to the Iowa City business community Harreld said over the past two weeks, he has been exceedingly disappointed in some of the downtown businesses that are disregarding the COVID-19 social distancing and safety proclamations from Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds.

The number of coronavirus cases in Johnson County is rising. University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics reported 32 percent of tests it conducted were positive on Monday, and 430 people visited the hospital's influen-

za-like-illness clinic. The UI recorded 111 cases self-reported to the UI by students and employees. This comes four days before the university planned to start releasing the number of cases every Friday on Aug. 28.

"Your decisions will directly impact the university's ability to honor the choices our students made to be in our community and on our campus," Harreld wrote in the letter. "Our students want to be here. The university wants them here and the university knows how to keep them safe. Please help them stay here by doing your part."

Under Reynolds' proclamation, all bars and restaurants in the downtown area must ensure six feet of physical distance between each group or individual that is alone, ensure every patron has a seat at a table or bar, and limit patrons from congregating closer than six feet.

"Your full cooperation and immediate compliance with these requirements will allow us, as a community, to recover from the recent spread of COVID-19," he said.

In response to an executive's question, Harreld said the UI's critical incident management team will decide whether the UI makes the switch to all online. The only reason he would say no, Harreld said, is if the decision would be "illegal or not aligned

with our values." Harreld said he was exceedingly disappointed by the number of students going to bars while local businesses do not enforce mask and social distancing guidelines now that classes have started.

Since bars and businesses have begun to relax on implementing COVID-19 guidelines, many students have been attending parties and going out to the bars downtown.

Iowa City Downtown District Director Nancy Bird said that she was not aware of the letter until asked to interview by *The Daily Iowan*. She said the entire business community was caught by surprise.

"I think the letter is not directed in the best way," Bird said. "We need to not be playing a blame game, clearly all of us need to be doing better, and any effort we can do to look out for our neighbors and work with each other. Pointing fingers makes it worse."

She said she worries that if the UI and the downtown continue to place blame on each other, the business community will suffer, and students must be held accountable as well as businesses.

"This is challenging for everyone," she said. "The key is to encourage [students and adults] to wear masks. I can't say it enough, but we

all would be a lot safer if we could get the younger subset of people wearing masks at night, because they are doing it during the day."

Iowa City Police Department Public Information Officer Derek Frank said the department has responded to complaints about social distancing by educating violators on how to adhere to the guidelines but has not pressed any criminal charges for students violating social distancing regulations nor the businesses for not enforcing them.

Iowa City City Councilor Janice Weiner said she is in favor of more strictly enforcing the city's mask mandate, as well as continuing to educate residents on the importance of wearing a mask and social distancing.

"I believe that we need to continue to educate," she said. "People have come here from different places — there's a real patchwork across this country of rules and regulations because there's no national standard and the states

are doing things differently." Weiner said it's not just students who are not social distancing — adults in the community have been going to bars and attending house parties as well.

"There are a number of bars that are doing the right thing — many restaurants are doing the right thing," Weiner said. "You need everyone to do it. To me, we can't just say 'oh, it's the students,' because we need the adults in the room to take charge and responsibility."



Ryan Adams/The Daily Iowan

University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld talks with members of the Daily Iowan during an interview at the Adler Journalism Building on Feb. 13, 2019. President Harreld has been the president at the university since Nov. 2, 2015.

REYNOLDS
CONTINUED FROM FRONT



Katina Zentz/The Daily Iowan

Gov. Kim Reynolds speaks during the Condition of the State address at the Iowa State Capitol on Jan. 14, 2020.

"They helped each other. They took care of each other, and they still are. But someone else had our back — our president. When

the winds had finished waging and the cleanup had only begun, he showed up."

On Aug. 10, a storm with hurricane-strength winds called a derecho knocked down trees, damaged homes, and ripped through corn and soybean fields in the Cedar Rapids, Marion, and Iowa City areas.

Reynolds commended Trump during her speech for approving her request for federal disaster relief in less than 24 hours. Trump partially approved Reynolds' disaster declaration for \$4 billion in aid on Aug. 17, which did

not include funding for individual assistance.

On Aug. 20, Trump approved funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Individual Assistance Program, where Linn County residents can apply for assistance in derecho damage. According to Reynolds' office, disaster assessments for other affected counties are still ongoing.

"The day after the storm, the president called to assure me that we had the full backing of the federal government, and later that week, Vice President Pence came to Iowa to again assure us that the president and his administration were behind us," Reynolds said Tuesday.

Pence campaigned for Trump in Des Moines on Aug. 13, and also did not tour derecho damage.

Reynolds said during her speech that people may not know about Trump's Aug. 18 visit to Cedar Rapids because "the

national media didn't report it." *The New York Times* covered the visit last week, as well as PBS and USA Today.

The Daily Iowan reported on Aug. 18 that some Cedar Rapids residents were disappointed Trump did not tour storm damage or meet with affected Iowans. Instead, Trump only attended a briefing with other Iowa leaders that was broadcast live on social media.

Reynolds compared Trump's quick derecho response to the federal response during the 2019 Missouri River flooding that wiped out farmland in western Iowa. Reynolds said Trump approved funding for flood damage in less than two days.

"The president — he cut through the bureaucracy to do what needed to be done, and to do it quickly," she said.

Reynolds also praised Trump for "providing needed relief to farmers who were the target of

China's unfair trade practices" and for "hammering out new free and fair-trade deals."

Since 2018, Trump has given about \$28 billion in federal assistance to farmers across the country affected by his trade practices with China. In 2018, Trump imposed tariffs on 800 Chinese products, and China imposed retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural products, automobiles, and aquatic products.

The Chief Financial Officer of a dairy farm in Minnesota, Cris Peterson, also praised Trump in a speech on Tuesday for helping farmers through his Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which she said helped foster a "booming economy."

Tuesday marks the second night of the RNC. Trump will officially accept the nomination as the Republican nominee for president on Thursday. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, will give a speech Wednesday.

Iowa City community leaders seek to rename park after Pulitzer-prize winner

The park would take the name of James Alan McPherson, the first Black writer to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and Iowa Writers' Workshop professor for over 30 years.

BY BRIAN GRACE
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In recent letters addressed to the Iowa City City Council, community leaders suggested renaming a local park after James Alan McPherson, a professor at the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the first ever Black author to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

The park, currently called Rogers Green park, is accessible through an alley near the intersection of Sheridan Avenue and Rundell Street, in the neighborhood where McPherson used to live. It's a narrow stretch of land that runs parallel to the Longfellow Nature Trail to the west, and is hidden behind a row of houses on Rundell Street to the East.

City councilors said in a meeting Aug. 18 that they are directing staff to look into the park renaming and signage process.

Dave Leshitz, editor of "The Prairie Progressive" and advisory board member of University of Iowa's Center for Human Rights, is a resident of the neighborhood where the park is located. He said the park is currently named Rogers Green for its previous caretaker.

"[The park] has an official name, but there's never been a sign put up by the city and it's never referred to by its official name, it's just really this somewhat obscure park; a lot of local families know it and have picnics there," Leshitz said. "It's small but quite beautiful and again, epitomizes the neighborhood that James was a well-respected resident of for so many years."

UI President Bruce Harreld was among those who wrote letters in support of the renaming. Harreld said the importance of commemorating McPherson is heightened now

in the wake of George Floyd's death and the Black Lives Matter movement, where there is an increased awareness of current racial inequalities.

"I very much appreciate and admire the city's efforts to address racial inequality since the tragic death of George Floyd, and the University of Iowa joins you in doing all we can to end the trauma of discrimination and violence against Blacks and other people of color," Harreld wrote in the letter. "By honoring James McPherson in a publicly high-profile way, we can demonstrate through this action our values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and free expression."

Iowa City is one of a few UNESCO Cities of Literature, and the Iowa Writers' Workshop has been home to a number of well-known creative writers since its founding in 1936, in-

cluding Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Flannery O'Connor, and McPherson.

Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature Director John Kenyon also wrote to the city council, and said McPherson was more than just an impressive writer, but that he was also a valuable member of the community, both as a professor and a citizen.

Editor's Note: Kenyon is a former Daily Iowan reporter.

"I think it's a good idea for a city to take a look at what it's doing to recognize its best citizens past and present and to evaluate if there are things

they could do or should do to better celebrate people who have done great things in the history of the city," Kenyon said.

McPherson attended Morgan State University, Morris Brown College, and Harvard Law School before receiving his Master of Fine Arts degree at the Iowa Writers' Workshop in 1971. He returned 10 years later as a professor.

In addition to his Pulitzer, McPherson also won both the Guggenheim and MacArthur fellowships. He lived in Iowa City for 35 years and

died from pneumonia complications at age 72 in 2016.

Matthew Kelly, a recent graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, said he was completely unfamiliar with McPherson's work before enrolling, but felt compelled to come to Iowa City after visiting the professor's old office while on a visit.

"I went into the room and I don't know what overcame me, but something swept past me in this way," Kelly said. "Looking through the library, it was just me in the room, something told me I belonged here."



Jeff Sigmund/The Daily Iowan

The trailhead looking south on Longfellow Nature Trail, 1401 Sheridan Ave. as seen on Aug 25.

COVID-19 CONTINUED FROM FRONT

UI Dean of Students Angie Reams said the university is working on getting a testing location on the east side of campus as well as opening QuickCare for COVID-19 testing.

"We are going to start expanding some testing to the QuickCare that is in the Old Capitol Mall, as well as try to put up an east side testing location that is more accessible to the east side residence halls," Reams said. "We hope more information will be out tomorrow [Wednesday], but we are waiting for updates from the [UI] hospital. We do plan to communicate that [plan] to campus soon."

The testing announcement comes after coronavirus cases surge in Iowa City. UI Hospitals and Clinics reported 32 percent of Monday's test results were positive. On Aug. 21, Johnson County Public Health confirmed 2,344 positive cases. Four days later, on Aug. 25, the Iowa Department of Public Health reported a spike in positive cases at 2,684, an increase of 340 new positive cases since last Friday. The New York Times during one period, ranked Iowa City as the metro with the third-largest spike in cases.

This past week, 107 UI students and four UI self-reported they tested positive for the virus. The UI did not mass test students as they returned to campus this year. Monday's UI COVID-19 campus update also revealed that 19 residence hall students are in quarantine and eight residence hall students in isolation, about one week after the first move-in date for the residence halls.

Since mid-day on Monday, UI Student Health had conducted 226 COVID-19 tests, 5,723 video and phone visits, and 2,259 in-person visits since the end of March, according to Associate Director of Operations of UI Student Health Todd Patterson.

With a high influx of COVID-19 cases in Johnson County, UI Student Health said more testing options are becoming available and are accommodating to the numbers.

"We have extended our hours this week, so that we can help more students. Our Nurseline is also taking calls through 8 p.m. the rest of this week, and will have hours this weekend as well, due to the higher volume of students with questions and concerns," Assistant Director for Quality Improvement and Strategic Communications Lisa James said.

"[This pandemic] has been alarming," James said. "We are going to work with our campus

partners and continue to provide accurate information and guidance, and to do everything we can to make sure students have what they need to be as safe as possible. Student Health has a big role in providing health care guidance and testing for those who need it."

CEO of UI Hospitals and Clinics Suresh Gunasekaran said UIHC believes that the increase of positive COVID-19 cases in Johnson County consists of people in the 18 to 24 age range.

"We assume that a significant portion of that is the returning student population," he said.

LGBTQ Constituency Senator, Joseph Haggerty voiced concerns at Tuesday's undergraduate student government meeting about the spread of the virus within campus in the residence halls and his personal experiences with COVID-19.

"And it still frightens me to this day, to know that getting tested is so difficult at the hospital that [a]symptomatic people are not being tested," Haggerty said. "And I know that there are so many students that are scared. I guess this gets to my question of, how many students, community members, faculty, Hawkeyes — how many students have to get sick?"

Mackenzie Koesters and Sabine Martin contributed to this report.

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Write to us about your experience on the UI campus



ALEXANDRA SKORES
alexandra-skores@uiowa.edu

The Daily Iowan is starting a guest-submission series about school in the pandemic.

The University of Iowa campus has changed drastically since we all left in March.

Most classes are online, masks are required almost everywhere you go, and social distancing is the new normal. COVID-19 has

changed the world around us.

Whether you have been a Hawkeye for years, or this is your first — this semester is different than any other.

The Daily Iowan wants to hear from you. How has your own life changed since you

have been on campus? What challenges do you face with pandemic and all it has affected? What does life at Iowa look like from your point of view?

The *DI* is accepting guest submissions to our "Life at Iowa" dropbox. Students,

faculty, staff, or any Hawkeye interested is invited to contribute. We're all experiencing change, and every story is important.

We hope to hear from you soon, and look forward to giving you a space to share your story, Hawkeyes.

• email: alexandra-skores@uiowa.edu

• word count: 200-400

• may be copy edited for clarity and style

COLUMN

No news is bad news for Iowa

Two weeks after the derecho swept through, the government's response is still lacking. And it's partially the media's fault.



ELIJAH HELTON
elijah-helton@uiowa.edu

"why Isn't thE mEdIA cOV-erIng this?"

It's something of a joke on Journalist Twitter. There are countless posts asserting a lack of news coverage about various atrocities such as police brutality, a fascist protest, or something COVID-19-related. The punchline is that the source of such outrageous information often comes from local news outlets and reporters.

This column isn't about that particular reply-guy-ism — there's clearly underreporting of all sorts of injustice — but it is about how the media isn't covering this: the Aug. 10 derecho.

That was a long intro, but you probably know what happened. Massive storm. Hur-

ricane-level winds. Many in east central Iowa went without electricity for days (and some are still in the dark). Thousands displaced. Billions in damage.

One of the biggest natural disasters in Iowa history seems like the sort of thing that gets wall-to-wall coverage, right? Not quite. While Iowa's reporters leapt into action, many of our colleagues on the coasts didn't stop scrolling.

And it's not as if the national media has an aversion to weather events. There are twin

“ If half a million New Yorkers lost power for days on end, we'd all hear about it in the Heartland.

hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico getting plenty of press right now. Blizzards always get their spot in the rail. And if a storm is heading for the Washington-to-Boston corridor, that evidently becomes the only thing that's ever happened.

But Iowans are homeless and hungry within a matter of hours? Here's the 39th think-piece on cancel culture. The ongoing crisis in Iowa might not have counted as breaking news, but if half a million New Yorkers lost power for days on

end, we'd all hear about it in the Heartland. (They made an entire *Friends* episode about that.)

There's more to this problem than just a lack of tweets from The Coastal Elites. The situation on the ground in Cedar Rapids and the surrounding area is made worse by the lack of national attention.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds requested about \$4 billion in federal disaster aid on Aug. 16. That slow response was met with an even slower reaction from Washington. President

Trump was quick to lie about "fully" granting the request, though most of the funds are still under review over a week later.

Of course, this is nothing new from Republican administrations. From Hurricanes Katrina to Maria, the GOP shows little interest in helping those suffering for simply living in the path of a storm. In a macabre way, I thought maybe because so much of the Hawkeye State is Trump Country, that it would be different here for than New Orleans or Puerto Rico. But nope, while Reynolds claimed the presi-



Hannah Kinson/The Daily Iowan

A shed damaged by the Aug. 10 derecho wind storm is seen on Aug. 14 on Court St. in Iowa City.

dent "had our back" at the Republican National Convention last night, we're still getting screwed.

So, the government's failed derecho response isn't entirely on the media. But as national news teams trickle into our borders to report on the devastating aftermath, we have to acknowledge that they weren't

here when we first needed them.

This leaves us with each other. In some ways, it's the libertarian ideal to which so many claim to aspire. The government isn't swooping down to the rescue. The news doesn't care. We're all we got.

We're left with the heroes we already had, our local com-

munities bonding together to respond to our collective crisis. Volunteers, public-works crews, and local journo are on the front lines of the months-long rebuilding process, and they deserve our support and gratitude.

The "media" might not be covering this, but we're still here.

GUEST OPINION

Iowa City, we can do this, but we have to come together first

Three city councilors encourage members of the community to be considerate of each other and unite to fight COVID-19.

Iowa City and Johnson County — take a deep breath (through your mask). Some 30,000 people came into town over the past two weeks and most are here to stay. Our COVID numbers are spiking. We have an outbreak, and instead of panicking, let's think both short- and long-term.

Speaking as someone who worked really hard for implementation of a face covering mandate, which exists in both Iowa City and Johnson County, we need to listen to the scientists and focus relentlessly on education and enforcement. UIHC, the VA, and Mercy combined offer us unparalleled expertise and resources. Let's use it.

Often, enforcement is as simple as handing out a mask or shield and explaining. Some need more persuasion — or a citation. Education, with 30,000 students from all over the country where every state and often every municipality has different rules and regulations, must be constant and relentless. Politics has been mixed with science, to our detriment. It is up to us to be consistent and persistent.

We need constant PR campaigns, aimed at all segments

of our diverse population. We need signage and more signage. We need reminders, public statements and press conferences. We need regular stories in the media (thank you, local papers and TV stations). Perhaps we even need daily reminders that pop up on our phones.

We must work with healthcare professionals and business owners. We need businesses to pledge to adhere to our local and state rules — and to be held accountable if they do not, by one another in addition to by the public, the city, the university and law enforcement.

We know that some segments of our population are at higher risk than others. We need to partner with the medical and nonprofit communities to reach out to our BIPOC communities to deal proactively with any underlying medical conditions. And we need to ramp up testing for our entire community.

COVID is exhausting — it saps our energy and our finances, it has robbed people of jobs and livelihoods. It has changed our lives. We cannot allow ourselves to become numb to it.

This is not town versus gown. This must be every segment of



A mask sits on the Irving B. Weber statue in front of Van Allen on March 12.

our population working together to take the actions needed to drive down our infection rates and cut the chain of COVID

transmission. No matter your age: avoid super spreader events. Wear a face covering, practice social distancing, stay

home if you can. And above all, don't become complacent or give up — the virus won't and we can't afford to.

—Janice Weiner
—Laura Bergus
—Susan Mims
Iowa City City Councilors

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ETHICS & POLITICS

Not-so-conventional nomination process

Both Republican and Democrat delegates from the Hawkeye State adapted to their national parties' gatherings over the last two weeks, finishing the presidential selection marathon that started with a tumultuous Iowa caucus season.

BY JULIA SHANAHAN
AND CALEB McCULLOUGH
daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

Iowa delegates saw out the presidential nominating process at both the Democratic and Republican national conventions after a tumultuous Iowa caucus season, trying to energize their respective parties through computer screens across the country in lieu of a physical convention.

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has forced speakers and candidates to give speeches from their own homes, to a room full of press, or to a limited audience — eliminating the opportunity for the presidential nominees to show off an engaged and excited audience.

Both conventions held over the last two weeks have featured a lineup of pre-recorded and live speeches from politicians and political figures. Party conventions are held largely to energize party bases around a candidate, once delegates vote.

"It's too bad — we're really disappointed that we can't have that again," said David Barker, a national delegate from Iowa and a member of the state Board of Regents.

Barker drove from Iowa City to North Carolina on Aug. 21 to attend a Credential Committee meeting. Only Republican delegates on convention committees made the trip to Charlotte, and the other 34 remained in Iowa.

Barker said the limited number of people attending the convention were tested twice for COVID-19, and said people were social distancing and mask-wearing was enforced. Still, he said he was able to meet with Republican Party leaders from around the country to learn about how the Party operates in other states.

"It was nice that we were able to have an in-person con-

vention even though it was limited," Barker said. "There is such a value in being able to interact with people and to be introduced to people that you would in random ways, sometimes that just wouldn't happen in a virtual setting."

Unlike Iowa's Democratic delegation, Iowa Republicans did not have daily Zoom meetings to talk about the happenings of the day. Trudy Caviness, an Iowa delegate and Republican Party chair in Wapello County, said Republican delegates on the Platform Committee will reaffirm the Party's long-standing platform.

"The United States is one of the few countries where we have a peaceful exchange of people in power, and I just think it's important for everybody to realize how important it is to vote," Caviness said.

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden accepted the nomination on Aug. 20 from a Delaware convention center, and President Trump, incumbent Republican nominee, will give his official acceptance speech from the White House on Thursday.

Trump challenged the concept of a virtual convention in July, suggesting moving the Republican National Convention to Jacksonville, Florida after North Carolina's Democratic Governor, Roy Cooper, asked the Republican Party to scale back the convention. A full-scale convention was ultimately called off, and the convention is still taking place in Charlotte this week.

Of Iowa's 49 Democratic delegates, 38 voted for Biden and 11 for Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. Sanders campaigned heavily in Iowa and had the most people in his corner on caucus night. Iowa Republicans unanimously voted to renominate Trump.

Delegates usually cast their votes from the conven-



Screenshot

tion floor, but Democratic delegates across the country voted in a virtual roll call, putting the party's diversity on display as delegates tried to tap into the various cultures of their states in their 10-second clips.

The Republicans also did a roll call, but most delegates announced their state's votes in front of a white backdrop reading #RNC2020.

Anthony Marlowe, a delegate from Iowa City, announced Iowa's votes at the Republican convention. He touted a strong economy under Trump and thanked Trump for providing funds to Iowa for relief from the derecho that hit the state in mid-August.

"Mr. President and Mr. Vice President, you're rehired," Marlowe said.

Sandy Dockendorff, a Democrat running for Iowa's 88th House District and a delegate at the Democratic convention, said the amount of content available to delegates was more than would

be available in an in-person convention.

Along with the main televised events, the Democratic convention also included broadcasts of committee and caucus meetings all day available both to delegates and the public.

Dockendorff said she also has a disability, and the accessibility of a virtual convention was a benefit to her.

"Being able to participate here, without having to worry about whether I can walk far enough to get to the next event, whether I'll be able to hear, whether I'll be able to be close enough to understand what's going on — those are all benefits," she said.

Still, she said there's a loss of community and interpersonal contact that comes with an in-person event — a sentiment that delegates echoed on both sides of the aisle.

"Some of the feeling of the energy that comes from being in a room with a couple thousand people, you miss

that, and there's no way to recreate that online," she told *The Daily Iowan* on Aug. 20.

Andrew Coghill-Behrends was looking forward to returning to his home state of Wisconsin as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. He said he was disappointed that he missed out on an in-person convention, but realized that it was the right move given the prevalence of the coronavirus in the U.S.

Coghill-Behrends said he was enjoying the amount of content provided through the convention, and that the chief drawback was the loss of networking.

He said delegates have been able to connect in other ways, however, and maintain some of that sense of community.

"There's a lot of good social media connections that are being made among delegates and I think that has facilitated the process of getting to meet some more people even though it's virtual," he said.

The Iowa Republican Party is hosting a watch party in Des Moines on Thursday night, the final night of the Republican convention, for delegates and alternates. Caviness said this will be a way for Iowa Republicans to get together and celebrate Trump's nomination without physically being in Charlotte.

There have not been any committee or caucus meetings via Zoom for the Republican convention, and Caviness said the delegates in Charlotte have been texting the other Iowa delegates with updates.

Iowa's Democratic delegates held nightly delegation meetings to hear from speakers such as Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., and former South Bend, Indiana mayor Pete Buttigieg — both former Democratic hopefuls that organized heavily in Iowa before the caucuses in February.

Reps. Abby Finkenauer and Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, and Democratic Senate candidate Theresa Greenfield, also met with Iowa Democrats virtually.

"We probably wouldn't have that sort of direct contact with folks when you're there with thousands of people," said Ed Cranston, chair of the Johnson County Democrats. "Cory was just inspirational. He's very motivational, and he really knows Iowa."

At the Republican National Convention, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds and Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, are among the other keynote speakers this week. Reynolds gave a speech Tuesday night, and Ernst will speak on Wednesday.

With Election Day less than 10 weeks away, both parties are turning their focus to energizing people to get out and vote on Nov. 3. Some are also encouraging voters to seek information about mail-in voting deadlines in their home states.

"Our conventions — both the conventions — show how important it is to have citizens get out and vote on Election Day and to make our voices heard through the ballot box," Caviness said.



Screenshot

FOOTBALL
CONTINUED FROM 8

Stadium — that would be a model where it would float around to different venues,” Barta said. “But one of the things that we’re talking about is that very question — what would the number of games be and making sure there’s enough time between the last game and the first game of 2021.”

“One of the principles is making sure that our student-athletes are healthy going into 2021, and we’re able to play a full 12-game schedule plus a bowl game in 2021. So that’s one of the reasons we’re looking at that earlier schedule rather than later in the spring.”

The Big Ten released its new 2020 football schedule on Aug. 5. Only six days later, the conference’s presidents and chancellors voted to postpone all sports in the conference.

Barta, who is also serving as chairman of the College Football Playoff committee despite Iowa not playing this fall, said Monday that both he and University of Iowa President Bruce Harrelld supported delaying the football season, rather than postponing it, in hopes of playing this fall.

Playing a season starting in January, Barta said, includes setting up arrangements for a different television schedule.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa wideout Ihmir Smith-Marsette signals a first down during a football game between Iowa and Minnesota at Kinnick Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019. The Hawkeyes defeated the Gophers, 23-19.

“The first thing we’re doing is meeting with our television partners to make sure that they can figure out a plan of how that would work,” Barta said. “Once that’s done, then we still have medical issues that have to be resolved before we start playing sports. We have to have those resolved in time to play our winter sports for sure. We haven’t set an absolute dead-

line.”
“If you use the same metrics we used in preparing for this fall, we had sort of used a four-to-six week window of training and conditioning. If we’re able to continue to train though, leading up to December, I could see a scenario where we start in earnest with a camp in December. That gets us ready to play in January. But we haven’t set

an absolute deadline yet.”
An obstacle in playing a winter season is the quick turnaround to playing another slate of games next fall. Barta said that summer programs would have to be modified to ensure athletes are “at full health” heading into the fall season.
Following the postponement of the season, Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz said

he thought playing two seasons in a calendar year was realistic.
“I think it’s possible,” Ferentz said. “I think we have to really be smart ... What you do after the spring season has ended, and how that pertains to the fall, how you train for that, that obviously is going to look different than it has ever looked before.”

SOFTBALL
CONTINUED FROM 8

ership programming for them throughout the summer.”

“The Program” led the leadership programming. According to its website, “The Program” was founded to provide collegiate and professional teams with leadership development

and team building. Gillispie said “The Program” gave her team the ability to take and give directions. Gillispie’s athletes also learned how to put teammates first via teachings from the “The Program.”

On top of the leadership programming, the players got a chance to connect with alumnae. There, the alums would tell their stories about when they were at Iowa, and help the

current team stay focused and strong through these tough times.
Strength and conditioning were also part of the team’s summer plan, which Gillispie said was hard with most workout centers being shut down.
Regardless, assistant coach of strength and conditioning Cody Roberts put together a plan for the team which could be followed wherever a player

was living, such as in a garage or basement.
All the incoming freshmen had a chance to play softball over the summer, though some had to play outside of their home state due to restrictions. Others — like sophomore infielder Nia Carter — were not so lucky.
“For me personally, I just worked out every day and try and stay in shape,” Carter said.
With the team returning

in-person today, it will look a lot different than any time the team has been together before. The team will be split into smaller groups while doing workouts and drills.
The Hawkeyes will have a split scrimmage on Fridays, so they can have competition while they can’t play other teams.
“I think it’ll work,” Gillispie said. “I think what we’ve got planned for them to get separation. Wearing a mask every day at practices, coaches included, so we’re really looking to keep them healthy and our main goal this year is to keep them healthy so that we can have a season. We need to make sure we’re doing the right thing for them and the people around them.”

The situation hasn’t been easy on the coaches as well. Gillispie lives with her parents, who are both in their 90s, so she is doing everything she can to keep them safe from COVID-19.

Even with COVID-19 making Iowa softball’s next game date unknown, anticipation for the coming season is still mounting.
“I’m really excited for the season because I know we have a lot of new girls,” Carter said. “We have ten incoming freshmen. So, I’m excited to see how they do and how they’ll fit in with the team and stuff. And we have a lot of good returning players. So, I’m excited for when the season comes around.”



Emily Wangen/The Daily Iowan

Infielder Nia Carter leads off the base during the Iowa softball fall opener against Des Moines Area Community College on Sept. 13, 2019. The Hawkeyes beat the Bears 4-1 in 10 innings.

BIG TEN
CONTINUED FROM 8

within a bubble system when it started its schedule is in jeopardy of losing its season, despite rigorous COVID-19 testing and prevention protocols.

How could we expect college athletes and teams — that can’t be put in a bubble because students have returned to campuses — to feel safe competing?

If an athlete was to even simply attend an in-person class and become infected by someone who was asymptomatic, then participate in a game against another school, the domino effect could begin. The virus spreading from an asymptomatic carrier to a very real possibility.

The only way around the asymptomatic infection scenario would be for the Big Ten to mandate that every

athlete as well as staff member is tested before every team activity, whether that be a game, practice, workout, in-person meeting, etc.

“All sports will be required to test a minimum of once weekly, while sports with high contact risk will be required to test a minimum of twice weekly. Required testing frequency is based upon the level of contact risk within the sport and is required for student-athletes as well as coaches and additional staff members,” The Big Ten stated in its COVID-19 Virus Testing Bulletin on Aug. 5.

This policy leaves gaps in testing that could allow the virus to spread.

So, until the Big Ten deems sporting events safe again, Hawkeye fans will just have to be happy watching old Iowa games on TV.

NO- Austin Hanson

Postponing fall sports was not the right decision for the

Big Ten Conference to make.

While COVID-19 should be taken seriously, the right way to keep student-athletes safe is not through season cancellation. Under the watchful eye of the Big Ten and its various member athletic departments, student-athletes are kept safe via safety protocols the Big Ten implemented.

Under Big Ten protocol, athletes are tested at least once a week, medically evaluated on a daily basis, and contact-traced should they contract the virus. Regular students on campuses across the country aren’t receiving the same type of medical attention as student-athletes.

Student-athletes can also attend in-person classes and practice with their teams for 20 hours per week under current Big Ten guidelines. The risk of contracting the virus is still present for student-athletes in both the classroom and at the practice facility, as the virus does

not differentiate between games, classes, or practice.

Eliminating games only expunges part of the risk. If the Big Ten was truly concerned about student-athlete safety, it would cancel all practices. And if universities were actually worried about students’ health, they would move all instruction online.

One last thing to consider is the student-athletes’ desire to compete. Many student-athletes have taken to Twitter recently to express their desire to compete this fall. Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields started a petition to have the Big Ten fall season reinstated. That petition already has over 300,000 signatures.

If student-athletes want to play, why shouldn’t they have the opportunity to do so? Sports are inherently dangerous; athletes accept that risk each day. If athletes want to play, the Big Ten should allow them to do so.

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Sports

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2020

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HAWKEYE UPDATES

Garza appears on national podcast

After announcing on Aug. 2 that he was returning to Iowa for his senior season, men's basketball center Luka Garza went on March Madness 365 with Andy Katz - one of the nation's most popular college basketball podcasts.



Garza

Katz recently named Garza the top returning college basketball player in the nation for the 2020-21 season. The Washington, D.C., native, averaged 23.9 points and 9.8 rebounds per game last season, and is ready to wear the Black and Gold again.

"I'm still, obviously, very excited that I made this decision," Garza said. "I think it was the best decision for myself and my family and just my career in general. I think one last year to be able to finish out my career and to have the team that we have the potential of having, I think there's no other alternative that would have seemed right."

Garza and Katz then discussed the competitive Big Ten Conference, the Iowa-Illinois men's basketball rivalry, and how Garza is improving his game by working on his lateral movement and his jump shot. They also talked about the other popular Luka in the world of basketball, Dallas Mavericks' Luka Doncic.

Two Hawkeyes land on AP Preseason All-America Team

Despite not competing in the fall, two Iowa football players did find themselves on the AP's Preseason All-America Team.

Senior kicker Keith Duncan landed on the first team, while sophomore center Tyler Linderbaum is on the second team.

In total, 12 Big Ten players made the AP Preseason All-America Team.



Duncan

Ohio State has three players total, offensive guard Wyatt Davis, quarterback Justin Fields, and cornerback Shaun Wade.



Linderbaum

The first team also includes two Penn State juniors - tight end Pat Freiermuth and linebacker Micah Parsons. Purdue's Rondale Moore also landed on the first team, despite opting out of the Big Ten's now-canceled season on Aug. 6.

The second team also boasted a bevy of Big Ten players, including Wisconsin's senior offensive tackle Cole Van Lanen, Minnesota's junior receiver Rashod Bateman, Northwestern's senior linebacker Paddy Fisher, and Rutgers' junior punter Adam Korsak.

Iowa athletics department reports COVID-19 testing update

The University of Iowa athletics department announced Tuesday that it conducted 646 COVID-19 tests for the week of Aug. 17-23 and received 32 positive tests, 613 negative tests, and one inconclusive test.

As part of Iowa's return to campus protocol, testing began May 29 and includes student-athletes, coaches, and staff members. A total of 83 positive tests, 1,838 negative tests, and one inconclusive test have been received.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's like taking the Staples Center and telling the Lakers and the Clippers they can't play here anymore."



Iowa swimming and diving sophomore Preston Planells on the CRWC not hosting swim meets after 2021.

STAT OF THE DAY

There are currently

18

international athletes between the Iowa swimming and diving program and men's tennis team, which are being cut after the 2020-21 academic year.

January football in play for Big Ten

A winter football season is in the works for the conference after the announcement Aug. 11 that fall sports had been postponed due to COVID-19.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa players run onto the field during a football game between Iowa and Minnesota at Kinnick Stadium on Nov. 16, 2019. The Hawkeyes defeated the Gophers, 23-19.

BY ROBERT READ

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The Big Ten postponed all fall sports in the conference on Aug. 11 due to COVID-19, saying that competing in the spring instead would be a possibility. For Big Ten football, a season starting as

soon as January is in the works instead.

Iowa Athletic Director Gary Barta said on a video conference Monday that Wisconsin Athletic Director and former head football coach Barry Alvarez is chairing a Big Ten subcommittee that is targeting a winter season rather than waiting for the spring.

That season could involve playing in domed stadiums and would begin, "sometime after the first of the year."

"One model that's been discussed is playing as early as January to February — not in Kinnick

SEE FOOTBALL, 7

Softball prepared for unusual practices

After not being together in-person since March, the Hawkeyes are ready to hit the practice field, though it will look different than it normally would.



Jenna Galligan/The Daily Iowan

Iowa Head Coach Renee Gillespie walks to join the team during an Iowa softball game against Iowa Central at Pearl Field on Friday, Oct. 19, 2019. The Hawkeyes defeated the Tritons 4-0 in 10 innings.

BY ISAAC GOFFIN

isaac-goffin@uiowa.edu

The Iowa softball team cannot play any games until next spring at the earliest, after a 17-5 record in a shortened 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

That doesn't mean the team can't practice and keep its momentum in the fall, however. Though the

Hawkeyes can't play against other teams in the fall, they begin practice this week.

It's been a long time since the team's been together in-person. The 2020 season was canceled on March 12, but the team stayed connected after that.

"We did a lot of Zoom meetings, which was the first time I think we all understood what Zoom was," head coach Renee Gillespie said. "And [we] did a lot of lead-

PCP: Did the Big Ten make the right call?

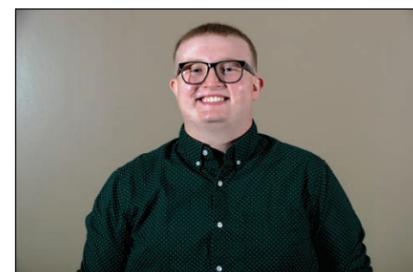
Two Daily Iowan staffers debate the Big Ten's decision to postpone fall sports.

BY CHRIS WERNER AND AUSTIN HANSON

daily-iowan@uiowa.edu



Chris Werner



Austin Hanson

YES- Chris Werner

The Big Ten and Commissioner Kevin Warren made the correct decision to postpone this year's fall sports season.

Look at the professional sports leagues that have restarted recently amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The NBA and NHL have both established "bubble sites" for games, while the MLB has not. Which of those leagues has had the most trouble with COVID-19, resulting in canceled games? The MLB has, and now some experts fear it may not finish its season.

The only league that decided not to operate

SEE SOFTBALL, 7

SEE BIG TEN, 7