

Officials prep for second vaccine rollout



Health officials say there have not been many COVID-19 vaccines wasted in phase one of vaccination.

... care workers and long-term care facility residents and staff. "We're still trying to get as many people vaccinated safely and quickly as possible," Jarvis said, "... but the role of public health is really to make sure that these doses are going to where they get where they're needed most."

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over 9,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Johnson County since Dec. 14

As previously reported by *The Daily Iowan* earlier this month, over 9,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine had been administered in Johnson County since Dec. 14.

SEE VACCINE, 2

BY SABINE MARTIN
sabine-martin@uiowa.edu

After administering vaccinations to health care workers and

long-term care facility residents, Johnson County health organizations will pivot to the second phase of COVID-19 vaccinations on Feb. 1.

The second group, phase 1B, includes individuals age 65 and older, Pre-K-12 school staff, and first responders, according to the Johnson County Public Health website. Details about how and when peo-

ple can get a vaccine have not yet been released by the Iowa Department of Public Health, though public health experts expect the vaccine to be available at 1,700 doctor's offices, health clinics, and pharmacies in Iowa that have signed up to vaccinate individuals.

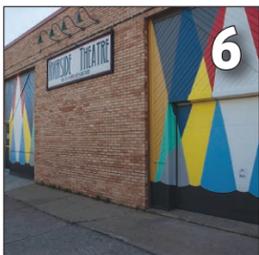
Community Health Manager for Johnson County Public Health Sam Jarvis said Johnson County Public Health and the state of Iowa allocate doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and recruit vetted providers to work with.

Jarvis said most of the doses available are now going to Johnson County hospitals to cover phase 1A of the COVID-19 vaccine, which included front-line health

Inside



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Republican senators uncertain on impeachment
Iowa's U.S. senators said they are unsure of the constitutional validity of holding an impeachment trial for former President Donald Trump, who was impeached last week.



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Riverside finds a new home in Ped Mall
Riverside has found a new place to call home after the Iowa City City Council green-lit a \$56 million redevelopment project in the Ped Mall. The new space will feature a 150-seat fully flexible black box theater, designed by Neumann Monson Architects, on the building's third floor.

Online

Iowa Democrats elect former Iowa City mayor as party chair
Iowa Democrats elected state Rep. Ross Wilburn, D-Ames, as the chair of the state party on Saturday. Wilburn, a former Iowa City mayor and candidate for governor, will make history as the first Black chair of the party.



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ETHICS & POLITICS IOWA POLITICS

Iowa GOP to build on Trump policies

In interviews with *The Daily Iowan*, Iowa's congressional delegation said they hope to find common ground with the Democratic Congress.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, sits down for an interview with *The Daily Iowan* on Jan. 21. A day after the inauguration of President Joe Biden, Ernst discussed upcoming work and the possible impeachment of former President Donald Trump.

BY JULIA SHANAHAN
julia-shanahan@uiowa.edu

Members of Iowa's mostly Republican congressional delegation say they want to continue to build on Trump-era policies in the new Biden-Harris administration while moving past the former president's divisive rhetoric.

Iowa's Republican senators, in the majority for the last four years, will now have to work with a Democratic Congress and presidential administration.

Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, both named agriculture, tax cuts, and criminal justice reform as areas they hope to find common ground with the Democratic majority. Both senators named the First Step Act, a criminal-justice law signed by Trump in 2018, as a bipartisan piece of legislation they hope to build off of in the new Congress.

Grassley sponsored the First Step Act, along with U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Grassley said this bill was nec-

essary in correcting some injustices brought forth by the 1994 crime bill.

"At the time Durbin and I were working on that bill, we were up against a majority of the Republican caucus being against what we tried to do, and if the president hadn't been for it, I wouldn't have been able to overcome McConnell's opposition to it," Grassley said of then-Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. "And you know, in the end, McConnell even voted for it and it passed 87 to 12."

The First Step Act aimed to reduce prison populations, reduce mandatory minimums for nonviolent drug offenses, and expand rehabilitation efforts. Ernst said she is currently working with U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Penn., on a bill that would allow people convicted of minor drug offenses greater opportunity for work.

Ernst called it a "shame" that a lot of Trump-era policies in these areas were lost in his divisive and politically incor-

SEE DELEGATION, 3

Vaccine spurs added travel interest

Local travel agencies have seen an uptick in travel inquiries and bookings with an end to the pandemic in sight.

BY CLAIRE BENSON
claire-benson@uiowa.edu

Local travel agencies in Iowa City are seeing an uptick in future travel inquiries and trip bookings as COVID-19 vaccine distribution ramps up across the country.

This comes as former President Trump recently lessened international travel restrictions, lifting the ban on travelers from Europe and Brazil entering the United States on Jan. 18.

Planning future travel during the pandemic has been difficult for many Americans, with the risk of further COVID-19 spread and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention frequently adjusting recommendations and proposed guidelines for those seeking to travel.

Travel agencies, especially smaller, locally owned agencies, have felt pressure from the instability of the travel industry in the past year, which has brought about financial difficulties.

Travel Leaders / Destinations Unlimited CEO and owner Duane Jasper said his business – based out of Cedar Rapids and Coralville – was significantly impacted at the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020.

"With CDC restrictions and everyone being concerned about spreading the virus, it caused travel, basically, to almost halt in the first and second quarter of last year," Jasper said. "It has been picking up slowly but steadily since then. But it's certainly had an impact on anybody in the travel industry, whether you're a hotel supplier, or car rental company, airline, or travel industry."

Jasper said he was forced to evaluate the amount of work that was necessary for employees to complete. During this time, he said the agency received an influx of can-

SEE TRAVEL, 2

Republican senators uncertain on impeachment

Iowa's senators said the delegation should press forward with the Biden administration.

BY CALEB MCCULLOUGH
caleb-mccullough@uiowa.edu

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi plans to deliver the article of impeachment against former President Trump today, but in interviews last week Iowa's U.S. Senators questioned the constitutional validity of holding a trial to convict a former president.

Senate leaders struck a deal to delay the trial until February to give Trump time to prepare a defense.

In an interview with *The Daily Iowan*, Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, said she doesn't believe holding the trial would be constitutional. A Congressional Research Services report found that while the text is "open to debate," the report states that most scholars that have closely examined the question have concluded that Congress has the authority to impeach officials that no longer hold office.

"My question is, and believe me, we have legal scholars going back and forth on this, is can you actually convict a private citizen?" Ernst said. "President Trump today is no longer president... And so that's where a lot of consideration will have to flow down to is that, are we going to start using this as a vengeance tool against former presidents?"

The U.S. House of Representatives voted 232-197 to impeach Trump on Jan. 13 for incitement of an insur-

rection that left five people dead. On Jan. 6, pro-Trump rioters breached the Capitol after Trump encouraged the crowd of thousands to march on the Capitol. Ten Republicans joined House Democrats in the measure.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will deliver the article of impeachment to the Senate today. Senate leaders struck a deal to delay the trial to Feb. 9 to give Trump time to prepare his defense.

Though the primary purpose of an impeachment trial is to remove the president from office, the Senate can also choose to bar a convicted president from holding federal office again and withhold certain benefits afforded to former presidents.

Ernst, who has criticized Trump in the aftermath of the riot at the Capitol and said he bears some responsibility for the attack, didn't say whether she would vote to convict Trump in a Senate trial.

She said that voters should decide Trump's ability to hold future office, and that she doesn't think voters have an appetite for another four years of a Trump presidency.

"Even if this former president should choose to run again, he would have to face the voters," she said. "And I don't know that there would be an overwhelming amount of support after the actions of January 6."

All of Iowa's delegation — both Republican senators,



President Donald Trump speaks during a "Make America Great Again" rally held at the Dubuque Regional Airport on Nov. 1, 2020. With two days before Election Day, this was President Trump's second stop to Iowa in the prior few weeks.

three Republican representatives and one Democratic House member — voted down the objections to electoral college results on Jan. 6 after the insurrection.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, was less certain about the legality of holding a trial to convict Trump, but he said in an interview with *The Daily Iowan* on Thursday that he had questions about whether it is constitutional.

"It's one thing, according to the constitution, to impeach a president, but can you impeach a citizen?" he

said. "Because now it's not President Trump, it's citizen Trump."

Grassley declined to say which way he would vote in a Senate trial, but he said he would listen to the testimony and act as an impartial juror.

Referencing President Biden's inaugural address, Grassley said he doesn't think an impeachment trial would bring the unity that Biden called for during the speech.

"I don't think that act would be unifying the country, but I would hope that

we would move forward," he said. "What I hope to do is help President Biden where I agree with him. And I think there's a lot of areas where I agree, I can help him get his agenda through."

During the impeachment proceedings on Jan. 13, Iowa's three Republican representatives voted against the measure, while Democratic Rep. Cindy Axne of Iowa voted for it.

In an interview on Thursday, Axne said she thinks the Senate is capable of holding the trial. She said Trump's

rhetoric on Jan. 6 and through his entire tenure as president inspired the Capitol riot and that Congress should hold him accountable.

"I think we absolutely can," Axne said of the Senate's ability to convict a former president. "I'm not exactly sure on all of the framework around it. We would not have done it in the timeframe that we did if we had known that it wasn't something that could actually be acted on by the Senate."



TRAVEL

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

cellations and rescheduling requests.

Once these were completed, he said the workload

shrunk.

"In the end, our business took a pretty significant hit like everyone in traveling, and we had to reduce everyone's hours," Jasper said. "Most of our staff are still employed, still work-

ing from home, some from the office, but we anticipate having everybody back sometime in the next couple of months."

Jasper said with this reduction in hours for several employees, the agency lead-

ers felt it was best to focus on staffing one office instead of two, and temporarily closed its office in Coralville.

He said Coralville employees were now working for the office located in Cedar Rapids.

Annette Reed, owner of Iowa City's Hawkeye World Travel, said her agency also received many requests to cancel travel plans or temporarily halt them last March when stricter COVID-19 travel restrictions were put in place.

However, Reed said her agency remained financially stable throughout the past year despite the pandemic and did not have to lay off employees or reduce employee hours.

Reed said she has seen an increase in new and returning customers looking to rebook trips or receive quotes for potential trip expenses with an end to the pandemic

in sight.

"We're just kind of watching what's happening and making sure that our folks who are traveling are safe and that they've got all the information that they need to take a vacation and feel comfortable with the choice that they've made," Reed said.

Jasper said with COVID-19 blocking travel plans and straining personal finances, he has seen many new customers reach out to his agency, seeking travel advice to avoid these issues in the future.

"The good thing for our industry right now is that all of the leads and inquiries that we're getting, so many of them are new people that are reaching out to a travel agency or a travel advisor for the first time," Jasper said. "They're doing that because maybe they experienced issues canceling a trip

when COVID first became an issue."

Jasper said within the past 30 days, he has seen a significant rise in the number of travel inquiries his agency has received, which he said he believes is largely due to the distribution of the vaccine.

"We know that it's going to continue to be a slow increase in travel," Jasper said. "But, as the vaccine rolls out, we anticipate that both vacation and corporate travel will continue to rebound."

Iowa City Downtown District Executive Director Nancy Bird said she believes the distribution and administration of the COVID-19 vaccine will encourage travel, which will help local businesses and travel agencies that have been affected by the pandemic.

"The vaccine rollout will really help with traveling," Bird said.

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Opinions

COLUMN

Conservatives must condemn the Capitol riot

We shouldn't define all members of the Republican party based on the actions of a few.

BY ALLY PRONINA

aleona-pronina@uiowa.edu

The Capitol rioters do not define all conservatives — and the Republican Party must unify against such acts of violence and disinformation that led to an insurrection.

The Iowa State College Republicans were at the pro-Trump protests in Washington, according to their own Twitter account. For weeks, the account tweeted inflammatory disinformation, including, “Destroy All RINOS”, an acronym meaning Republican in Name Only. This is wrong — an indefensible call for violence. And it is not what conservatives

represent. But the insurrection at the Capitol on Jan. 6 reflects on all conservatives — whether they condemn the violence (which everyone must do) or not.

Donald Trump shouldn't have egged on the crowd Jan. 6, when he falsely claimed that Congress had the power to overturn the results. And shouldn't for months have declared wrongly that the election was rigged when even conservative judges he appointed ruled time and again against his false insistence of widespread voter fraud. President Biden was the certified winner. Instead of rioting, Republicans need to advocate for Biden's administration to do what is best for America.

The rioters contributed to the disservice to other conservatives by giving the left-winged pundits an excuse to portray us in a bad light. Many current Republicans condemned the Capitol protests — albeit some after several months of questioning the integrity of the election. All of them must condemn the violence and the questions of the election's integrity before we move on as a party.

The Rachel Maddow Show on MSNBC claimed members of the Republican Party who were not at the riot considered it a “miss” without any concrete sources. Maddow overlooked how many of us did not support the riot-

ers. I don't consider not being at something which embarrassed the majority of my political party a “miss.”

Iowa Republican politicians did not consider it a miss either. Sen. Joni Ernst, Gov. Kim Reynolds, Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, and Sen. Chuck Grassley have all rightfully condemned the rioters' violence after they forced them into hiding. Unlike the head of the Henry County Republican party, these Republicans are being responsible leaders and not creating Facebook posts calling for a “Revolutionary War.”

That being said, the number of conservatives expressing outrage

at the rioters extends beyond Iowa. Even Charlie Kirk — founder and president of Turning Point USA — posted an anti-riot message. I fear all conservatives are going to be called domestic terrorists now, but the conservatives who spoke out against the violence proves that not all of us are.

The protesters shunned conservative values that the president they fought to keep in office displayed. Trump has supported law enforcement. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick died from injuries obtained while responding to the protests. It's a tragic and heartbreaking death that isn't justifiable.

Too many police officers have

already died in 2020 while on duty without the rioters contributing. Anyone who participated in these protests — even if they were not part of the group inside the Capitol — should condemn it.

Conservative commentator Tomi Lahren condemned this death. These are the majority of conservatives — not those who are fine with an officer dying in the line of duty for some political agenda.

We cannot let what the protesters did define us. The Capitol rioters have done a lot of damage to the Republicans' reputation, and the party must unite against any further acts of violence or spread of misinformation.

COLUMN

Iowa has a budget surplus, let's use it

Iowa has the money to help the University of Iowa and its hospital network—the Hawkeye state must in its public universities.



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Gov. Kim Reynolds addresses the crowd during a rally for Vice President Mike Pence at the Des Moines International Airport on Oct. 29, 2020

BY HANNAH PINSKI

hannah-pinski@uiowa.edu

Iowa has saved nearly a billion dollars in a rainy-day fund. Yet, Iowa Republicans have continued to underfund critical services in fighting the pandemic, including Iowa's public universities.

Look outside governor, it's pouring.

The latest example is a state budget proposal for 2021. It doesn't come as a shock based on Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds' decisions from last year. Reynolds' — and Iowa Republicans' — insistence to direct these funds to

tax cuts that disproportionately benefit the wealthy and to school vouchers is unacceptable when Iowans need it the most.

Part of the governor's proposal underfunds the state Board of Regents' request for public universities by \$11 million.

This underfunding sadly doesn't come as a surprise because the state budget has doubled over the last two decades, but support for higher education has declined by a net of \$8 million.

Public universities have already felt the drastic effects of budget cuts. When the UI faced an \$8 million budget cut back in June, the UI College of Liberal Arts had to lay off 15 instructional-track faculty. While they were able to rehire five of the 15 lecturers later on, we can't ignore the fact that the UI has already lost resources to provide a top-tier

education.

With a lack of state funding and decrease in enrollment, UI President Bruce Harreld has encouraged a return to the tuition model with regular increases starting in fall of 2021.

An increase in tuition is the last thing I need right now.

But it might be the only choice if Reynolds continues to underfund their requests. The tuition increase because of underfunding is not just going to drive away potential students but will also drive out current students.

More than half of college students claim that they can no longer afford college tuition because of COVID-19. Students are drowning with their current expenses and adding a higher U-bill next fall is going to add to the burden.

If the UI has to depend on tui-

tion increases because of the lack of government funding, the institution will become unaffordable for more students and contribute to the decrease in enrollment.

Reynolds' misaligned priorities have not only affected UI students and faculty — they have also impacted UI Hospitals and Clinics.

Recently, the UIHC union asked the state Board of Regents for a 5 percent raise per year in their two-year contract with the state on Jan. 13.

Workers are frustrated that the hospital had to furlough workers during the COVID-19 pandemic when Reynolds could have used the 2020 state budget surplus and near billion dollar rainy-day fund to prevent pay cuts and furloughs.

Because of these furloughs, current workers have experi-

enced constant fatigue from high workloads and unimaginable levels of emotional stress from watching some of their patients take their last breath.

Why do we think that words of praise and gratitude are enough? Iowa has plenty enough in the rainy-day fund, and hospital workers have been living through a storm since last March.

The UI and UIHC have already suffered enough with previous budget cuts. We can't refuse to adequately fund our higher education institutions and hospitals that are suffering when Iowa has the money to do it.

I don't know if Reynolds is waiting for an actual rainy day to use these funds, but there are no excuses for underfunding the UI and UIHC as they provide critical care and research (think COVID-19 vaccine) for Iowans

COLUMN

Stop the spread of COVID-19 vaccine misinformation

With the emergence of the COVID-19 vaccine, it's important to make sure that information is accurate.

BY YASSIE BUCHANAN

yasmine-buchanan@uiowa.edu

Nearly a year has passed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. With the virus came fear and uncertainty because of fast-spreading misinformation.

Social media plays an intrinsic role in our society and has become a lightning-quick outlet for information. With the emergence of a vaccine, it's important that correct information is circulating rather than fearmongering false information that will turn people away.

We witnessed misinformation that endangered health care workers handling the pandemic, such as the false idea that masks are not effective ways to curb the spread of

the virus. Now, we are seeing more wrong claims circulate about the vaccines.

Because of the novelty of the COVID-19 vaccine, misleading information could be detrimental to slowing the spread of the virus and encouraging people to get vaccinated.

Social media companies are now challenged with the task of keeping up with false claims and conspiracies about the vaccine. Shortly after the vaccine came out, social media was filled with false claims about the vaccine altering people's DNA or not being able to keep up with the mutated strains of the virus.

The spread of this information only sows fear and distrust,

perpetuating the severity of COVID-19 in the U.S.

In Iowa, 144,955 COVID-19 vaccines have been administered as of Jan. 2. 4.12 percent of the population has received at least a single dose of the vaccine. However, the number of people fully vaccinated is only 12,629.

As of this month, 9,411 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Johnson County, making Johnson County the second-highest county in number of vaccines administered in the state.

According to MU Health Care, it would be ideal to have 80-90 percent of the population vaccinated in order to achieve herd immunity.

With only 4.12 percent of the

state vaccinated, Iowa has a long way to go. Spreading accurate information is crucial to administering the COVID-19 vaccine.

As of November, 60 percent of U.S. adults reported that they would get the COVID-19 vaccine with only 37 percent feeling comfortable being among the first vaccinated.

These numbers were found to be influenced by many different factors. However, hesitation mainly stemmed from whether people had concerns of falling ill, levels of trust in the vaccine, and participant's experience receiving other vaccines.

People's willingness to receive the COVID-19 vaccine heavily relies on their trust in the medicine behind it.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Health care workers received the COVID-19 vaccine at the VA Medical Center in Iowa City on Dec. 22, 2020.

It's understandable that there would be concerns about receiving a vaccine — especially for marginalized communities that historically have been exploited

by medical professionals. This is why it is all the more important to make sure there is easily accessible accurate information circulating through the media.

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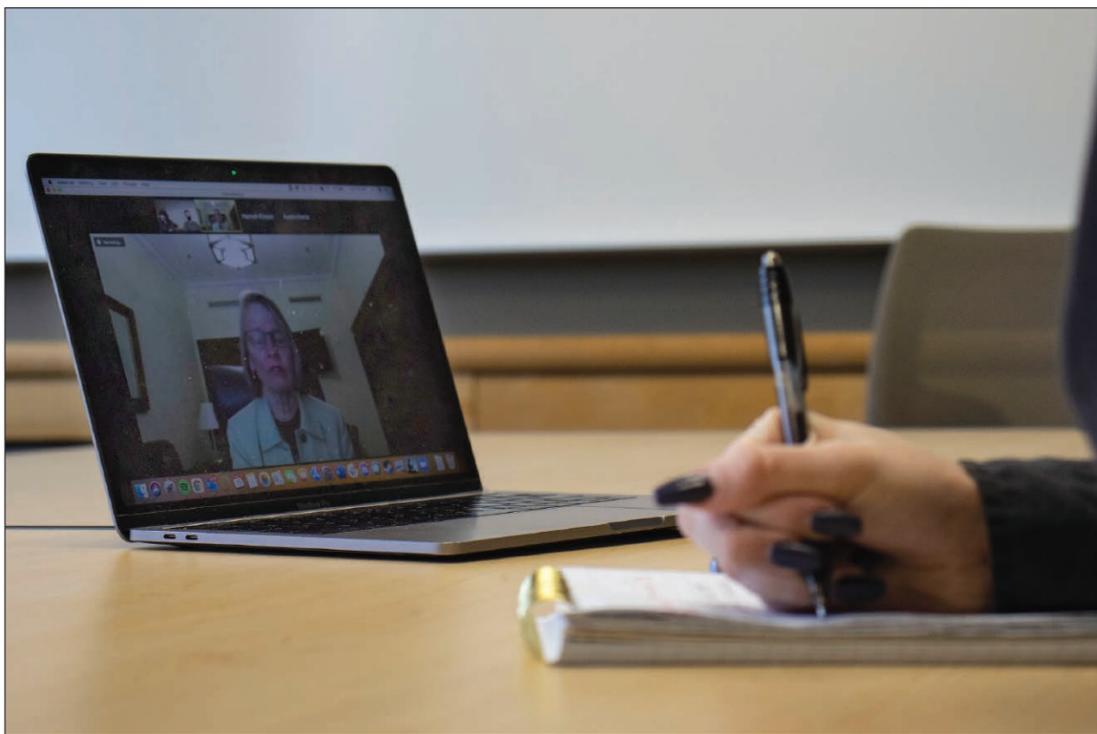
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Miller-Meeks | 'I have 50 percent plus six'

Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa, wants Congress to toss a challenge from her Democratic opponent.



Hannah Kinson/The Daily Iowan

U.S. Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa, speaks during an interview with *The Daily Iowan* over Zoom on Jan. 19.

BY NATALIE DUNLAP

natalie-dunlap@uiowa.edu

The current seat-holder in the 117th Congress to represent Iowa's 2nd Congressional District, Mariannette Miller-Meeks, is asking Congress to dismiss Democrat Rita Hart's notice of contest that asserts Hart received more lawful votes than Miller-Meeks.

In a complaint filed last week, Miller-Meeks says that Hart should have brought these concerns to Iowa courts, rather than the U.S. House of Representatives, where Democrats have a majority.

Miller-Meeks was not one of the Republicans who voted against the certification of Joe Biden's victory in the presidential election, and just as she said Congress shouldn't choose the president, she doesn't believe Congress should choose who holds the seat.

"Just as I did not feel it was my job as a congresswoman to choose a state's electors or to choose a president, it is not the job of Congress to choose Iowa's elected representative either," Miller-Meeks told *The Daily Iowan* on Jan. 19. "It's up to the voters. Our law says

that you win the election if you have 50 percent plus one. I have 50 percent plus six. That's a narrow margin, certainly, but nonetheless, that's what our law is. If people want to change the rules after the election, I don't think that's fair."

Hart, the Democratic candidate for the seat, filed the notice of contest late last month and is asking that ballots that were not counted in the state certified results in November be considered.

Miller-Meeks won the race with a six-vote margin, making it the tightest congressional race in the country. The contest

alleges that at least 22 lawful ballots, 18 cast for Hart, three for Miller-Meeks, and one that did not include a vote for either candidate, were wrongfully excluded from the count because of errors by election officials. It also claims the recount did not comply with Iowa law and the constitution because recounts were not uniform across the counties.

In a statement, the Hart campaign claimed Miller-Meeks was disenfranchising the 22 voters they identified by telling the House to dismiss her contest.

"As I have said from the be-

ginning of this entire process, nothing is more important than ensuring every Iowa has their vote counted," Hart said in the prepared statement. "But at this moment we know twenty-two voters in Iowa's Second Congressional District still have not had their legally-cast votes counted and thousands of other voters have not had their ballots examined, which is why I filed a contest in the House to ensure these voters are not left disenfranchised."

In the motion she sent to the House on Jan. 21, Miller-Meeks claimed that Hart's actions will lead to the losing candidates of future races holding contests whenever the election is close and their party has the majority in Congress.

"All legal ballots were counted, and I firmly believe that all legal ballots should be counted," Miller-Meeks told the *DI*. "I'm not going to discuss each one of the individual 22 ballots that [Hart] is talking about."

The Hart campaign said in early December that the reason they did not contest the election results in the Iowa Courts is because under Iowa code, a legal challenge must have been resolved by Dec. 8. Contesting the results in Congress allows more time for the ballots to be reviewed.

The Hart campaign requested a recount across the 2nd District on Nov. 13, 2020 when Miller-Meeks had a 47-vote lead. Before the recount process began, the Hart campaign was aware that the recount

method could vary in different counties. Each of the counties in the district established its own recount board, which was responsible for determining how each recount is conducted.

According to Iowa law, ballots that were initially excluded cannot be counted in a recount, which is why the 22 ballots were not included.

U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson, a fellow Iowa Republican and House freshman, is also opposed to Hart's contest of the election.

"I have been very vocal because our voters and our states decide elections and those states certify those elections. Mariannette Miller-Meeks won the 2nd Congressional District race and Rita Hart, instead of going through the courts and pursuing that action, chose to undercut the will of the voters and I think that's wrong," Hinson told the *DI*.

The Iowa Democratic Party filed an ethics complaint against Hinson for using her social media accounts to lobby against Hart's contest. The press release from IDP staff said Hinson has violated federal code and the House of Representatives Ethics manual, saying these posts were a misuse of official government resources.

Hinson told the *DI* she found the complaint invalid.

The U.S. House Administration Committee will review both Miller-Meeks' and Hart's motions and make a recommendation to the House.

2020

THE YEAR DOCUMENTED

Photo book from *The Daily Iowan* chronicling the historic year

Foreword by Willard "Sandy" Boyd

President Emeritus, University of Iowa

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WRESTLING

CONTINUED FROM 8

Hawkeyes up 11-0 on the night.

After two more convincing Hawkeye wins, Kaleb

Young earned the first close win of the match for Iowa.

In a matchup at 157 pounds featuring two top-ten talents, No. 7 Young defeated No. 6 Brayton Lee, 4-3, after tiebreaker No. 2. Behind in the third and

final period after surrendering a point via penalty early on, Young scored a takedown to force sudden victory and eventually earn three points for the visitors via decision.

"What a gutsy match," Brands said. "You get a penalty point; you don't let it affect you. Gutsy win there."

Although Friday's date with Minnesota marked the second dual of the season for the Hawkeyes, it was the first of the year for senior Michael Kemerer.

After sitting out last week's opener with an unspecified injury, the top-ranked Kemerer handled unranked Jake Allar with ease, coming away with a 12-3 major decision in his first appearance this season.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's 133-pound Austin DeSanto grapples with Nebraska's Alex Thomsen during a wrestling dual meet between No. 1 Iowa and No. 6 Nebraska at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 15.

SWIMMING

CONTINUED FROM 8

season to continue her academic and athletic career.

The tri-meet for the women's team ended with the 400 freestyle relay. Sophomores Kennedy Gilbertson and Macy Rink, junior Lauren McDougall, and senior Kelsey Drake put together a second-place finish with a time of 3:21.77.

On the men's side, Saturday started with a first and second place finish in the 200 freestyle. Junior Mateusz Arndt won the race with a NCAA "B" cut time of 1:36.20, followed by fellow junior Andrew Fierke with a 1:36.80 time. Arndt and Fierke also took the top two spots in the 500 freestyle. Arndt recorded a time of

4:22.05 to win his second race of the meet.

Junior Aleksey Tarasenko won back-to-back races in both the 50 and 100 freestyle. His 100 freestyle time of 43.70 was enough for a "B" cut time.

Iowa's junior class continued to impress throughout the day. Anze Fers Erzen took second place in both the 100 and 200 backstroke with times of 47.36 and 1:44.58, respectively. He finished the day with a victory in the 400 IM and a time of 3:47.95. Fers Erzen came out of all three individual races with a "B" cut time.

Senior Daniel Swanepoel and sophomore Will Myhre received "B" times in the 100 breaststroke. Myhre finished second, scoring a time of 53.08. Swanepoel would take another "B" cut time in the 200

breaststroke, where he finished second.

The University of Iowa plans to cut both swimming and diving programs at the end of the academic year. As previously reported by *The Daily Iowan, a federal judge granted a preliminary injunction against the university, momentarily stopping its plans to cut the women's swimming and diving team.

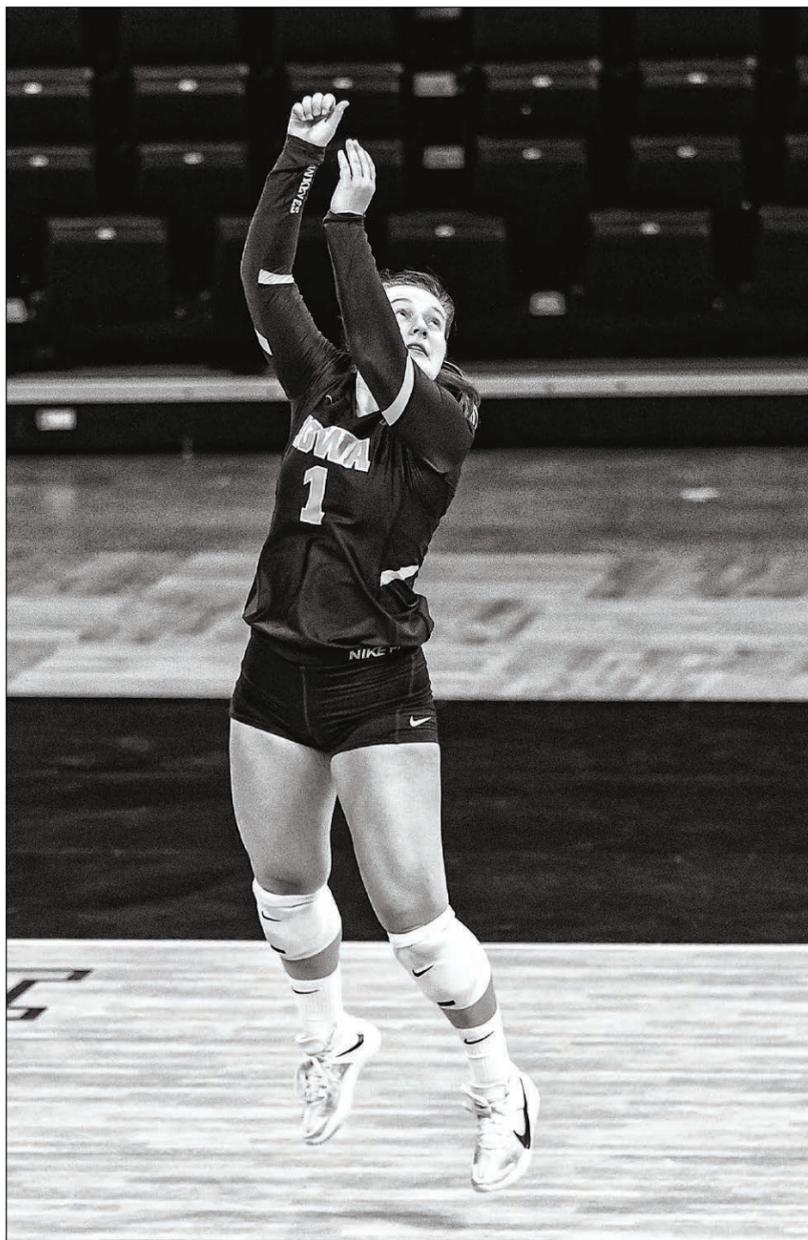
The women's team will participate in another tri-meet on Feb. 5-6 against Nebraska and Minnesota in Minneapolis before the Big Ten and NCAA Championships.

The men's team will have a dual against Minnesota in Minneapolis on Feb. 5-6 before the Big Ten and NCAA Championships conclude the season.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Alyssa Graves competes in the women's 1000m freestyle during a swim meet at the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center on Jan. 16.



Casey Stone/The Daily Iowan

Iowa Defensive Specialist Joslyn Boyer bumps the ball during the Iowa Volleyball season opener game against Illinois on Jan. 22, at Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

21-16, before the Fighting Illini used a 5-0 run to ultimately overtake the Hawkeyes and win the match. On Saturday, the Fighting Illini used a 10-0 run to come out on top.

"The thing for both nights was just giving teams runs at key moments of the set," Iowa head coach Vicki Brown said. "At the beginning, or after five points, or as we head into double digits... we have to just nip that in the bud... The big difference too is just how do we not make the same error, back-to-back as well. We got blocked a couple times, and that changed up our attack mentality on our swing, so then it allowed for another blocked ball."

Saturday's match was the last of the season at Car-

er-Hawkeye Arena for the Hawkeyes, who are moving to Xtream Arena in Coralville for the rest of the season and beyond. Iowa will make its debut at Xtream Arena against Indiana on Feb. 5.

"It's bittersweet," libero Joslyn Boyer said. "For the past three years, Carver has been home, and I've spent numerous, numerous hours here. It is bittersweet, but it's also very exciting to be going into Xtream, and just the new memories and wins we'll get there, I'm looking forward to."

The volleyball team's move to Xtream Arena will reduce congestion in Carver-Hawkeye Arena, which also houses Iowa's men's and women's basketball, wrestling, and men's and women's gymnastics teams. At Xtream Arena, the Iowa volleyball program will have a place to call its own.

"Carver is such a cool place

to play in, even without fans," Buzzerio said. "But I think we're all really excited to get into Xtream and call that place our home."

The Iowa volleyball team has a unique schedule this year because of COVID-19. In a conference-only schedule, teams are taking weekend trips to play the same team back-to-back. Iowa heads to Purdue to take on the Boilermakers on Jan. 29 and 30.

The Hawkeyes know an adjustment they'll have to make for those matches.

"I think we need to have that attack mentality through the whole match," Buzzerio said. "And not just set one when we're all pumped up, or when we're down 0-2 and we have to. Having that consistent mentality and just going for the ball defensively I think will really help us when teams are attacking us."

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Sports

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HAWKEYE UPDATES

Women's gymnastics defeats Ohio State

The No. 9 Iowa women's gymnastics team defeated No. 13 Ohio State, 196.550-193.800, on Saturday at Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

Saturday's performance was the best for Iowa in the 2021 season after losing, 197.025-196.450, at No. 11 Minnesota on Jan. 15.

Three of the four events were won by the Hawkeyes as a team. Individually, the Hawkeyes won or shared three of the four events. Six Gymhawks earned career-highs.

The Hawkeyes best event as a team was the floor, which they won, 49.375-47.900.

"I am speechless," Iowa head coach Larissa Libby said in a release. "I looked up at that score and was like, 'Wait is that wrong?' We worked so hard to get there. There is no teams that deserves that more than these kids."

Adeline Kenlin and Emma Hartzler got individual wins on the bars with a score of 9.875, and Clair Kaji got a 9.875 on the beam and a 9.925 on the floor, which were both wins.

"All of the wins were spread out," Libby said in a release. "You want to have a consistent group out there, but right now, they're all the right group. I like seeing the different people stepping in and when they do that, they're rewarded for it. It's going to take that in the end."

Mackenzie Vance got a 9.775 on the vault, which was a career high. She was named the Hawkeyes' Gymnast of the Meet.

Iowa competes next at Illinois at 1 p.m. on Jan. 31.

Men's track and field wins Wieczorek Invitational

The Iowa men's track and field team finished first in the Larry Wieczorek Invitational, while the women's track and field team finished third in the meet held at the UI Rec Building Friday and Saturday.

The men had 189 points, which was significantly more than second-place Nebraska's 72 points. The women had 104 points, and Minnesota won that side of the meet with 139.5 points.

On the men's side, Wayne Lawrence Jr. won the 200 meters on Friday with a time of 21.14, and he won the 400 meters with a time of 46.28 on Saturday. His 400 meters time ranks third in the nation.

On the women's side, Malory King won the 800 meters in 2:06.01. She also ran in the 4x400 meter relay during the third leg, which the Hawkeyes finished in 3:42.46 and placed second in the meet.

Lawrence Jr. and King were named Track Athlete of the Meet.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We love Spencer Lee"

- Iowa head wrestling coach Tom Brands after the Minnesota dual Friday

STAT OF THE DAY

90.67

Points per game for the Iowa men's basketball team.

Hawkeyes breeze by Gophers

A Spencer Lee win via fall in the opening match of Friday night's contest gave the Hawkeyes an early lead that they would not relinquish.



Shivansh Ahuja/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's 125-pound Spencer Lee grapples with Nebraska's Liam Cronin during a wrestling dual meet between No. 1 Iowa and No. 6 Nebraska at Carver Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 15.

BY CHRIS WERNER

christopher-werner@uiowa.edu

Sometimes, a final score can be misleading. Two teams can be more evenly matched than they appear to be in the post-event box score.

When Iowa's wrestling team traveled to Minneapolis to take on Minnesota on Friday night, that was not the case.

The Hawkeyes dominated the Golden Gophers, picking

up wins in nine of 10 weight classes – three via major decision, one by technical fall, and one via pin.

When the dust settled, Iowa had defeated Minnesota, 35-4, moving to 2-0 on the season.

"Good lopsided win," head coach Tom Brands said. "A lot of good things, a lot of hustle. But, there's also things where I know we can score more points and maybe be more efficient as well."

The Hawkeyes burst out of the gate Friday night, picking up a quick win in the first match of the evening. Top-ranked Spencer Lee pinned No. 9 Patrick McKee in just under two minutes, giving Iowa an early 6-0 lead. McKee shared the Big Ten Wrestler of the Week Award with Lee for the week of Jan. 16.

"He's still getting better," Brands said of Lee. "We love Spencer Lee, we love his approach. We love what he's do-

ing with this team."

Apart from performing at the highest level on the mat, Lee has shown leadership in other ways. The Murrysville, Pennsylvania, native helped bolster the Hawkeyes' roster prior to the 2018 season when he aided in the recruitment of 133-pound Drexel transfer Austin DeSanto.

"Austin DeSanto is leaving Drexel and he's coming to either Iowa, or X, or Y, or Z, and Spencer Lee actively

recruited him," Brands said. "There's zero ego there, so it's no surprise that he's getting better every day."

DeSanto – ranked fifth nationally at his weight – wrestled immediately after his recruiter Friday night, and made quick work of his opponent – 20th-ranked Boo Dryden. The Hawkeye standout won via technical superiority after 5:53 of wrestling, putting the

SEE WRESTLING, 7

Volleyball falls to 0-2

The Hawkeyes couldn't capitalize on a third set win, falling to the Illini, 3-1.



Grace Smith/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Courtney Buzzerio spikes the volleyball towards toward Illinois during a volleyball match between Iowa and Illinois on Jan. 23, at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Illinois defeated Iowa 3-1.

BY CHLOE PETERSON

chloe-peterson@uiowa.edu

In its last game at Carver-Hawkeye Arena, the Iowa volleyball team lost its second straight match to Illinois, 3-1, on Saturday. The Hawkeyes lost to the Fighting Illini in a similar fashion, 3-1, on Friday, moving their record to 0-2 to start the season.

Iowa lost the first two sets to Illinois, 25-20 and 25-13, respectively. The third set showed a glimmer of hope for the Hawkeyes, who won the set, 25-19. But the Fighting Illini used a 10-0 run in the fourth set to overtake the Hawkeyes, 25-13.

Outside hitter Courtney Buzzerio noted mentality as a big part of the Hawkeyes' success in the third set.

"Our plan was to just swing away and attack, and have that attack mentality going through the set," Buzzerio said. "We definitely lost that mentality in the fourth set, and it showed."

It was déjà vu for the Hawkeye attack strategy in the fourth set, which was plagued by the Fighting Illini's blocks and scoring runs, something that impacted the Hawkeyes for two days in a row.

In the first match against the Fighting Illini on Friday night, the Hawkeyes led in the fourth set,

SEE VOLLEYBALL 7

Swimming finishes tri-meet

The men and the women had several strong individual performances against Penn State and Northwestern.

BY EVAN BRUNER

evan-bruner@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's and women's swimming and diving teams made the trip to Evanston for a tri-meet against Penn State and Northwestern on Friday and Saturday.

The women's team looked to build on the momentum from last week's win over Nebraska, while the men's team officially started its season after the cancellation of its opening meet against Wisconsin on Jan. 16.

Despite some strong individual performances, the women's team went 0-2, falling to Northwestern, 225-75, and losing a tight one to Penn State, 153-146.

The men's team took down Penn State, 206-94, but lost to Northwestern, 183-117.

The first win of the meet for the women's team came from freshman Alyssa Graves in the 1,000 freestyle, recording a time of 9:48.33 on Friday. She now holds the second and third fastest times in school history for the event after breaking her own second place record from Jan. 16. Graves also delivered second place finishes in the 200 butterfly and the 500 freestyle on Saturday.

Sophomore Julia Koluch had a strong showing in both the 100 and 200 backstroke. The Zelechow, Poland, native was the highest finishing Hawkeye in both events and finished second overall in the 100 backstroke. She plans to transfer to Houston after the

SEE SWIMMING, 7