



DI'S CAUCUS COVERAGE

The thud of *The Daily Iowan* on your doorstep won't return until spring semester, but we'll have online coverage of the Iowa caucuses next month. We're sending reporters to Des Moines to interview candidates and talking with caucus-goers in Iowa City.

Check out dailyiowan.com and don't forget to sign up for an e-mail alert for the latest news.



THE INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

The Daily Iowan

Friday, December 21, 2007

NEWSPAPER •  DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

Happy everything

The *DI* will begin its long-anticipated and much-ballyhooed winter break after today by putting the brakes on publishing. The business office will close at noon today; it will reopen at 8 a.m. Jan. 7. Have a happy and safe break; we'll return on Jan. 21 with all the usual suspects.

INSIDE



DI endorses McCain, Obama

The *Daily Iowan* endorses Republican Sen. John McCain and Democratic Sen. Barack Obama for the Iowa caucuses. **Opinions, 6A**



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Daily updates

Now check back at dailyiowan.com during the day for the latest news on the UI and Iowa City.

Daily Iowan Television

To watch *Daily Iowan Television*, go online at dailyiowan.com or tune into UITV. The 15-minute newscast is on Sunday through Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., with reruns at 12:30 and 1:30 a.m. and 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. the following day.

WEATHER

 Mostly cloudy, a chance of freezing drizzle and fog early, then a 40% chance of drizzle/light rain.

 **39** 4c **32** 0c

INDEX

Arts **7A** Opinions **6A**
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Some UISG goals met, others need work

Student-government officials are checking their list twice and wrapping up their first eight months in office.

By Kayla Kelley
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI Student Government President Barrett Anderson keeps a copy of his platform on his desk and checks off goals upon completion.

Now, eight months into the 12-month term, Anderson's and Vice President Carole Peterson's platform looks a little different from what it did when they started campaigning.

Of their nine original goals, some are fulfilled, others are changed, some have been left behind, and a few have been added.

Anderson said the party began to tackle its platform in the order it was written, with the exception of safety.

With the slew of attacks on women during the early months of the school year, they felt their safety goals took a front seat to others.

Originally, the platform called for a late-night bus route, but the two realized that the newly installed Nite Ride van would be a better alternative.

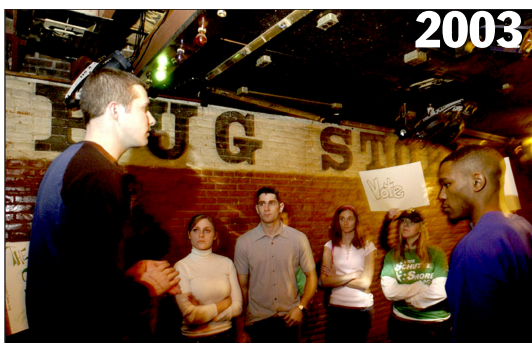
"Cambus is really hesitant about a late-night route," Peterson said. "Nite Ride takes students to dorms and homes or sorority houses."

A task force was also created to give recommendations to the Iowa City City Council about safety measures that should be taken.

Abigail Volland, the UISG City Council liaison, said five students sit on the 17-person task force, which plans to make recommendations to the City Council in April 2008.

Anderson and Peterson have also ordered 4,000 key-chain lights promoting Nite Ride at a cost of \$2,600, with half covered by the party's platform fund and half by an \$18,000 safety grant.

SEE **UISG, 4A**



File photo/The Daily Iowan



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan



File photo/The Daily Iowan



File photo/The Daily Iowan



File photo/The Daily Iowan

A glance into UISG past

By Carla Keppler
THE DAILY IOWAN

Typically, UI Student Government candidates campaign on ambitious platform issues, but full agendas are rarely met. The governing body sees commonalities across platform promises,

each addressing important issues in innovative ways. Over the past month, the *DI* has looked into these past platforms.

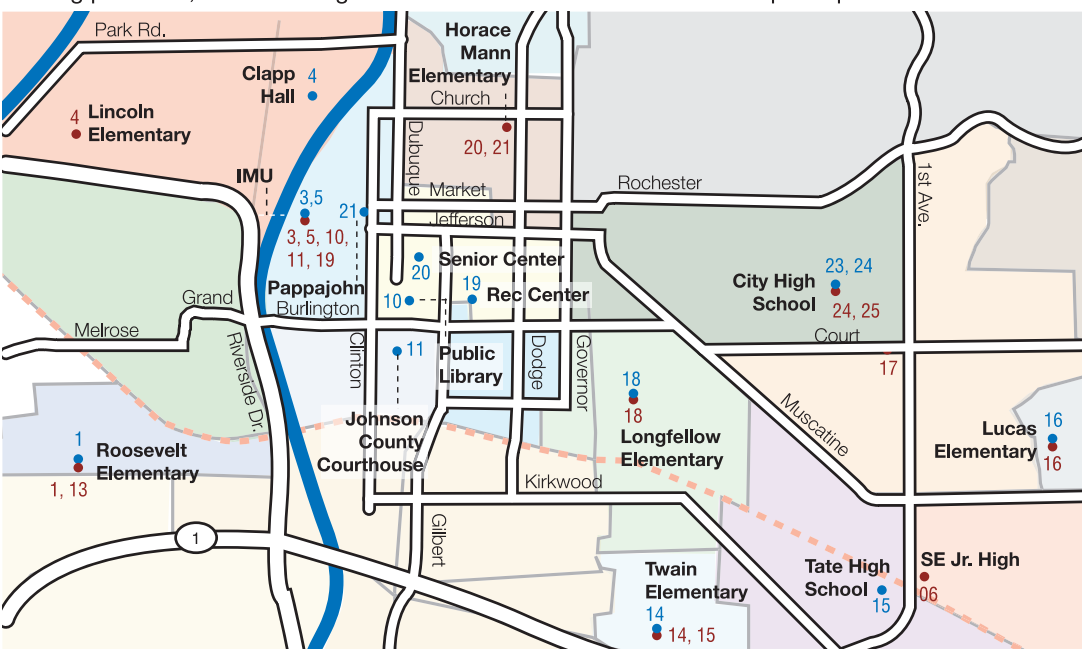
Peter McElligott and Addison Stark — the great divide

No one could have prepared themselves for the tornado of

2006, especially UI Student Government officials. The twister sent Peter McElligott and Addison Stark into a whirlwind after only a few weeks in office. But the duo found a silver lining in the dark cloud hanging

SEE **PAST, 4A**

Precincts and Caucus Locations in Central Iowa City ● Republican Caucus ● Democratic Caucus
There are 25 Democratic and 25 Republican caucus center in Iowa City. Centers correspond with voting precincts, and caucus-goers must attend the correct caucus to participate.



Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

Graduating Seniors | NICOLE NGUYEN

Working wonders with some water

A graduating UI senior hopes to improve water quality in Haiti in her latest project.

By Ashton Shurson
THE DAILY IOWAN

As many students finish up the week with finals and lengthy papers, UI senior Nicole Nguyen is working on a final project that could have an effect across the world.

The environmental-engineering major, who will graduate today, is taking a class on conserving energy in which groups were assigned to create a prototype that could be used in Haiti.

Nicole Nguyen

Age: 23
Major: Environmental Engineering
Hometown: Cedar Rapids
Favorite UI Memory: Tailgating for the Hawkeye football games while being able to meet UI alumni and other fans.



SEE **SENIOR, 3A**

Assault probe moves ahead

More than a month after authorities searched rooms in Hillcrest, officials have now involved the Johnson County prosecutor's office.

By Kurtis Hiatt
THE DAILY IOWAN

Though there is still no word on its outcome, the investigation into an alleged sexual assault at Hillcrest has been officially transferred to the Johnson County County Attorney's Office, Charles Green, the assistant vice president for the UI police, confirmed on Thursday.

An investigator with the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation handed over the evidence to officials at the office sometime Thursday morning, Green said that afternoon.

"What we will do now is allow them time to review the case," he said. "I have no idea how long that might take them."

Green said he expects to stay in contact with officials in the prosecutor's office as they review the evidence.

"We'll be meeting with them," he said, adding he didn't know when. "I don't really have a timetable on that at all."

While prosecutors could ask police for more evidence or information in regard to the investigation, Green said this is done on a case-by-case basis.

Green had said Nov. 26 that the "bulk" of the investigation had been completed.

SEE **ASSAULT, 3A**

Being hip & trendy

By Abby Harvey
THE DAILY IOWAN

Sure, most huge chain grocery stores are known for having all the necessities when it comes to one-stop shopping. But, believe it or not, these food giants still don't have the power to provide for every customer's needs.

This is where cooperative grocery stores, or co-ops, have stepped in.

Under the vaulted metal ceilings of New Pioneer Food Co-op in Coralville, one can find a cooler of carefully placed produce displays — white parsnips and long, bright orange carrots. A witch's brew of sun-chokes, rapini, and fennel are strewn beneath small, chalk-board signs. Nearby, shiny red bell peppers and cucumbers entice huggery passersby, while the overhead fans swirl soothing aromatic oils and fragrances.

Co-ops have become, over the last 30 years, an arguably trendy means of allowing members to demand the freshest foods, to advocate for their health, and to support local growers. Members also have the democratic authority to vote for leadership positions in the co-op, such as the board of directors. In having such a power, the customers are always right, and the customer will always get what they want because their voices matter in making decisions.

"They move the business the direction they want it to go to serve them best," said Theresa Carbrej, the education and membership services coordinator at the Coralville New Pioneer Co-op.

Co-op members are able to get exactly what they want out of

their grocery store by using their "food dollar" — a \$60 share and a lifetime membership.

"I think that people who shop at co-op grocery stores and take on ownership tend to be more loyal to their stores — in fact I know they're more loyal," said Jerry Fleagle, the president of the Iowa Grocery Association. "It's because people have an understanding; they have money invested in it."

In eastern Iowa alone, the two New Pioneer Co-ops have more than 17,000 members supporting them. Fleagle said the Iowa City and Coralville co-ops are of an odd breed, because most Iowa co-ops result out of necessity. They usually form in small towns when an independent owner retires and is unable to find an individual to buy the store.

"As far as the New Pioneer Co-op [being formed], you had people who wanted those products that weren't offered by regular-type grocery stores," Fleagle said.

Although traditional grocery stores are doing their best to jump on the natural-foods bandwagon, Allen Dix, the store director at the Waterfront Hy-Vee is the first to admit that it's not that easy. Hy-Vee stocks some of the new organic cereals from national brands, plus all of the frozen foods the co-op carries, but his store has a harder time maintaining the "fresh section."

"Our problem with home-grown organics is that nobody can grow enough in this area to make the volume for one store, let alone four stores," Dix said.

Whether it be from the streams of Minnesota or from the



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan
A New Pioneer Co-op employee retrieves an item from the top shelf in the Coralville store on Thursday afternoon.

fields of sweet corn on the way out of town, co-ops support a variety of local, national vendors.

"And when natural and gourmet overlap, that's when our people are just happy; they're in Heaven," Carbrej said.

Those who shop exclusively at the co-op or choose to obtain membership status usually have a personal motive behind their choice.

"They don't use chemicals, so the food has a better taste," said Kari Statler, smiling across the cardboard bins of greenish-yellow D'Anjou pears. "Plus, it's better for your body."

The co-op helps people express their interest in emotional, cultural, health, and environmental effects of food, Carbrej said. For example, there are many environmentally friendly alternatives that have been made available upon customer request.

"So, at a grocery store such as New Pioneer, where people really want an emphasis on whole foods and supporting local as much as possible, sometimes you may end up paying a little more," said Jan Temple, a nutrition and health field specialist from Iowa State University extension. "But yet you are supporting the causes that are important to you."

Economically speaking — be it diamonds, automobiles, or electronics — a good, quality product will cost more.

It's easy to see how buying fresh and natural could be considered "hip."

"We're very trendy," Carbrej said. "I can't believe the popularity from when we started 36 years ago. This is fun, it's cool, it's interesting, it matters."

E-mail *DI* reporter Abby Harvey at: abby-harvey@uiowa.edu

Language courses criticized

By Shajia Ahmad
THE DAILY IOWAN

As a youth mentor in West Liberty Middle School, recent UI graduate Chelsea Stone said her upper-level courses in her Spanish classes fell short.

"I wish there had been more of a focus on conversation and speaking," said the Spanish and social-work major, who now mentors youth in a town with a Latino population of around 40 percent. "To really learn the language, you've pretty much got to immerse yourself or study abroad so you can expand your learning in a more real-world situation."

Stone's concerns about the gaps in her foreign-language education reflect a call by the Modern Language Association in asking universities to shift their curricula to a more cultural teaching approach.

The association's report, issued in May, said the standard curriculum — one that encompasses language courses and then feeds into a set of core courses primarily focused on canonical literature — is a narrow model. The approach to teaching foreign language becomes increasingly irrelevant for students who want to use

their language skills in a variety of jobs.

UI senior Cherie Senger shares Stone's feelings. The Spanish minor said she feels like her conversational skills have worsened in the past few years because grammar and speaking have not been a focus in most of her upper-level Spanish courses.

"I feel as though I was strongest in speaking when I was in my fourth year of high-school Spanish," she said.

A more promising program, the report suggested, would provide an interdisciplinary approach, which incorporates modern-day texts — such as newspaper clippings, movies, and modern fiction — to create "educated speakers who have deep translingual and transcultural competence."

Tom Lewis, a UI professor of Spanish and Portuguese, said he feels that his department has not fallen behind that of other universities.

"We've been ahead of these trends for some time," he said. Some courses, such as Business Spanish, have been around for decades, and new journalistic and creative-writing Spanish courses have been introduced in the last five to six years. Current

Enrollment in leading foreign languages

Percent change between 1980 and 2002

- Japanese — 354 percent increase
- Arabic — 205 percent increase
- Chinese — 200 percent increase
- Spanish — 96 percent increase
- Russian — no change
- French — 18 percent decrease
- German — 28 percent decrease

Source: Modern Language Association

literature courses, Lewis said, already incorporate important historical and cultural components.

"Part of understanding a culture is understanding its literary history," he said.

Though there aren't many specialized conversation-based courses, the small sizes of classes — often 20 to 25 students — are designed to promote conversation in the classroom, the professor said.

UI senior Kristen Meylor, a Spanish and French major, said that while she feels professors do their best to promote conversation in class, she hasn't received enough speaking experience even though she participates as often as possible.

Meylor said she wishes more oral Spanish courses were offered at the UI.

This semester, in order to promote more oral practice among her peers, Meylor organized the Language Connection, a program to bring students together once a week to practice speaking a language.

Lewis said he believes most people have different ideas about cultural literacy and that the department's classes provide adequate cultural understanding to students.

"They think it's everything from piñatas to presidential elections," he said. "But literature's often a gateway into seeing the daily life, cultural habits, and other aspects of a culture — they're the things you wouldn't get out of a newspaper article or a political-science report."

E-mail *DI* reporter Shajia Ahmad at: shajia-ahmad@uiowa.edu

METRO

Supervisors OK preliminary planning for proposed ramp

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors moved forward Thursday morning with a proposed Thursday ramp for the county's yet-to-be-built Health and Human Services building.

The action allows for the preliminary designing and engineering to begin, but the supervisors still must approve the actual construction of the ramp after the design and engineering is finished.

Supervisor Sally Stutsman was the only member to vote against the measure.

"We've got any number of big projects on the table, and I think this is just one more," she said about the

ramp, which is estimated to cost more than \$2 million. "I don't feel that, as a board, we've adequately looked at alternatives of building a parking ramp."

Chairman Pat Harney said that although he was concerned with the cost, he would like to see final estimates for the projects before he voted the entire ramp project down. Terrence Neuzil also voiced favor for the ramp, asserting that it solves a long-term parking problem.

Mike Lewis of the architectural and design firm Durrant Group also presented a study on the county's proposed justice center at the informal meeting.

Along with providing the supervisors with specifications on the number of beds, square feet, and other information, Lewis also laid out the

plans for one of the proposed sites — a lot adjacent to the Johnson County Courthouse.

In January, Lewis will look at three other sites.

The supervisors also reached a consensus to move ahead on a plan to allow a local resident to place a Vietnam memorial on the courthouse grounds.

— by Shawn Gude

West High student charged

Authorities arrested a suspended West High School student who allegedly entered the school with the intent to start a fire early Thursday, Iowa City police reported.

Justin Hulsizer, 19, 1272 Dolen Place, is charged with second-degree

burglary, a felony, according to reports.

As of Thursday, he was being held at Johnson County Jail on a \$15,000 cash-only bond.

Police said Hulsizer said he was "angry" with the school because officials suspended him, and police reported he "wanted to get back at the school."

Officers responded to West High, 2901 Melrose Ave., Thursday at 12:21 a.m. after an alarm at the school went off. They allegedly found Hulsizer behind the school carrying lighters, matches, and torn paper.

Hulsizer admitted that he entered the school with the intent to start a fire, reports said. He fled the school when the alarm was activated.

Second-degree burglary is a Class C felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

— by Kurtis Hiatt

POLICE BLOTTER

Deguan Brown, 27, address unknown, was charged Wednesday with possession of a controlled substance.

Angela Desmidt-Kimb, 33, Coralville, was charged Tuesday with assault on a health-care provider causing injury.

Eric Dudley, 22, 2610 Bartelt Road Apt. 2C, was charged Dec. 12 with

domestic assault causing injury.

William Foley, 22, 702 N. Van Buren St., was charged Wednesday with disorderly conduct and interference with official acts.

Tanner Haskin, 19, 929 Rienow, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Brett Kriz, 18, address unknown, was charged Wednesday with oper-

ating without owner's consent and criminal trespass.

Natasha Rumbaugh, 25, Coralville, was charged Thursday with OWI.

Clark Schroedermier, 24, 1705 Prairie Du Chien Road Apt. 2, was charged Wednesday with OWI and fifth-degree theft.

Tad Stacey, 22, 500 S. Gilbert St. Apt. 1, was charged Wednesday

with public intoxication and interference with official acts.

Latosha Trillo, 18, 2018 Waterfront Drive Apt. 70, was charged Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Zachary Ventress, 19, Orland Park, Ill., was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS
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DI

TOP STORIES
Most-read stories on dailyyiowan.com for Thursday, Dec. 20

1. Back to normal
2. Running back signs with Hawks
3. Lit City writes to world
4. UISG salaries baffle some
5. Offensive stupidity

CORRECTION
In the Dec. 20 article "Panel aims to stop 'brain drain,'" the *DI* incorrectly spelled the Generation Iowa Commission chairman's last name. The chairman's name is Kyle Carlson. The *DI* regrets the error.

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The Daily Iowan's

last day of publication
is December 21.

Offices will close at noon on
Friday, December 21
and reopen
at 8:00am on
Monday, January 7.

We will resume publishing
Monday, January 21.

Have a Happy and
Safe Holiday Break!

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, December 21, 2007 - 3

Obituaries

Samuel J. Fomon, 84

Samuel J. Fomon, M.D., 84, Professor Emeritus of the University of Iowa Department of Pediatrics, died Tuesday, December 18, 2007, at the home of his daughter in Little Elm, Texas after a vigorous battle with cancer.

A Family Service was held at his home in Frisco, Texas. A memorial gathering for family and friends will be held in Iowa City in late January 2008. In lieu of flowers, the Samuel J. Fomon Memorial Fund has been established at West Bank in Iowa City, for the benefit of the Fomon Infant Nutrition Unit at the University of Iowa and charitable organizations. Arrangements are with Lensing Funeral and Cremation Service.

Sam was born March 9, 1923 in Chicago, IL, the son of Drs. Samuel and Isabel (Sherman) Fomon. After the death of his mother, he and his brothers moved to Appleton, WI where they were raised by their aunt, Mimi Sherman. Sam attended school in Appleton until the eighth grade. He then went to Campion, a Jesuit boarding school, in Prairie du Chien, WI. He completed his college preparatory years at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. Sam graduated with honors in 1945 from Harvard College, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1947.

Dr. Fomon was a resident in pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and was a research fellow at the Children's Hospital Research Foundation in Cincinnati. He served as a Captain with the US Army Medical Services at the US Army Hospital, Ft. Dix, NJ.

On July 19, 1948 he married Betty L. Freeman, and they divorced in 1978. He later married Louise Thomson on June 27, 1986, in Houston, TX.

Dr. Fomon and his family moved to Iowa City in 1954 where he advanced from assistant professor in pediatrics at the University of Iowa, College of Medicine to associate professor, and then to professor. He divided his time between patient care, teaching and research. Dr. Fomon was in the forefront of pediatric nutrition research, especially factors influencing food intake and growth. He was the Director of the internationally recognized Infant Metabolic Unit, which later evolved into the Division of Nutrition, Department of Pediatrics. Following his retirement, this nutrition unit was renamed the Samuel J. Fomon Division of Pediatric Nutrition. In addition to his duties in pediatrics, he became the director of the University of Iowa Graduate Program in Nutrition. In 1993, he became professor emeritus.

Dr. Fomon wrote numerous papers and chapters for professional journals, but is best known for his book, "Infant Nutrition," the definitive book on infant nutrition. Throughout the years Dr. Fomon received numerous awards, including the Borden Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics in 1966 and the McCollom Award in 1979. In 1992, he received the Bristol-Myers Squibb/ Mead Johnson Award for distinguished achievement in nutrition research. In 1986, the Midwest Society of Pediatric Research created its Founders Award, which honors a senior investigator of the organization who has made significant contributions to medical literature and fostered pediatric medical research in the Midwest. The award has since been renamed the Fomon-Peterson Founder's Award.

Following his retirement, he and his wife Louise moved to Texas where he continued to write and participate in research with his colleagues at Iowa.

He enjoyed the solitude of gardening and landscaping. Throughout the years he had become quite a wine connoisseur and Scrabble player. Sam encouraged and supported his grandchildren's academic, athletic and community activities. He became an avid fan of his grandchildren's and a great-grandchild's sports and music endeavors. He looked forward to reports after their events and was in the stands whenever possible.

Survivors include his five children, Betsy (Dick) Seiberling of Arlington, TX, Kathy Anderson of Playa Del Ray, CA, David (Kari) Fomon of Coralville, Christopher (Kay) Fomon of Iowa City, and Mary Fomon and Bobby Joe Hollingsworth of Little Elm, TX; ten grandchildren, Jennifer (Matt) Roberts, Michael (Victoria) Anderson, Rachel and Sam Seiberling, Josh and Kristin Fomon, Eric Fomon and Fiancée Alyssa Doolin, Heather Fomon, Siiri (Michael) Hill and Dayna (Mike) Walden; four great-grandchildren, Ryan Roberts, Chloe and Alden Hill, and Ashlyn Walden; his sister, Lenore Marie Fomon of Bronx, NY; his former spouse, Betty L. Fomon of Iowa City; sisters-in-law, Frances Smith of Houston, TX, Terry Fomon of Miami, FL and Marilyn Fomon of Los Angeles, CA; his cousin and best friend, Helen Fieweger of Sherwood, WI; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Dr. Fomon was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Louise Thomson, his stepmother, Lenore Fomon, his brothers, John and Robert, and son-in-law James Dougherty.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.lensing-funeral.com



Assault probe to Lyness

ASSAULT
CONTINUED FROM 1A

Most recently, Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said Hawkeye defensive back freshmen Abe Satterfield and Cedric Everson will transfer before spring 2008. There was no information on where the pair are expected to enroll.

On Nov. 14, the Iowa City police, UI police, and Iowa DCI investigated at Hillcrest.

An Iowa City police officer was overheard saying authorities needed to check rooms "123" and "164" in Hillcrest. According to UI records, the rooms belong to Satterfield and Everson, respectively.

Other officers were seen checking a room in the N200s at Hillcrest, removing dark-tinted plastic bags and plastic container. Other officials were seen loading items into a criminal-investigations van.

Iowa City police took a report from a sexual-assault accuser Nov. 5 at 4:13 p.m. The alleged victim said the incident happened about three weeks prior and that she had a suspect. The department referred the allegations to UI police, who filed a report Nov. 7.

By Nov. 8, the alleged victim's father had met at least twice with UI officials, including Mary Curtis, an Iowa associate director of athletics.

Curtis sent an e-mail to Green to brief him on the meeting Nov. 8.

"[The father] had questions about the university policy and how an informal and formal complaint process worked," Curtis wrote. She answered his questions and gave him copies of UI policies on sexual assault.

"When we met with him again, he had clearly read and digested the contents and seemed to have a good level of comfort and understanding with the options presented within and to his daughter," Curtis said.

The entire ordeal has piqued concern from others affiliated with the UI.

The state Board of Regents has said it will monitor the investigation and ensure proper reporting procedures were followed, and Iowa Gov. Chet Culver said he expects officials to be forthcoming with information in regard to the incident.

UI news releases reported the alleged victim said she was assaulted in the early morning hours of Oct. 14 in a room at Hillcrest. The releases also said three Iowa football players were being questioned in regard to the alleged incident.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Kurtis Hiatt** at: kurtis-hiatt@uiowa.edu

Water project may aid Haiti

SENIOR
CONTINUED FROM 1A

Nguyen, along with her group members, developed an electrolytic chlorinator that converts salt and sea water into bleach, which is then used to disinfect water. Her professor received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency for the project, and after presentations to the agency, one will be picked to be used.

Although this has been taking up her time recently, Nguyen has seen a lot in her four and half years at the UI.

"I like how it's so diverse, and there are so many different opportunities," the 23-year-old said. "I like how the city is incorporated into the campus."

Originally from Cedar Rapids, she came to the UI not knowing what she wanted to study. But after taking an

engineering class, she decided to jump into the program.

She was originally attracted to structural engineering because of her interest in architecture, she said, but after taking some green engineering courses that sparked her interest, she switched her focus to environmental engineering.

While she has had rewarding experiences at the UI, such as meeting friends and interacting with helpful professors, she has had her fair share of annoyances. Like many who live in the residence halls, she has had irritating roommates.

For example, during her freshman year Nguyen lived in Mayflower, and when coming back to the dorms after a weekend home, something small would be out of place or broken and she noticed someone had been sleeping in her bed.

"I would have to change my

sheets," she said. "I had uncooperative roommates."

Besides working hard for the engineering program and having an internship for the UI Water Treatment Plant, she was also a member of the Vietnamese Student Association.

Nguyen, who is half-Vietnamese, has been the group's secretary, vice president, and an adviser who helped the club to organize events. Although she has never been to the Asian country and doesn't speak the language, she said, she plans to go sometime.

While Nguyen is in a primarily male-dominated profession and major, she said that at the UI, she hasn't felt discriminated or left out.

"At the University of Iowa, it hasn't been much of an issue," she said. "The professors love it as long you like the material and work."

And for some professors, Nguyen is that kind of hard-working student. UI engineering Professor Jerry Schnoor, who was her adviser and teacher, called Nguyen "cheerful" and "pleasant."

"Nicole is a wonderful student to have in class and advise," he said. "I enjoyed working with her."

Nguyen is negotiating for a potential job with URS Corp., an engineering consulting company in Chicago. She is moving to Naperville, Ill., at the end of the month to live with her boyfriend.

In 10 years "I'll be living in Chicago, hopefully working my way up in the engineering field," she said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Ashton Shurson** at: ashton-shurson@uiowa.edu

NATION

'New sheriff' Zell sets new tone at Tribune Co.

CHICAGO (AP) — Real estate mogul Sam Zell strode into Tribune Co.'s ornate headquarters in his trademark jeans and cowboy boots and declared that things will be different from now on at the 160-year-old newspaper and TV company.

Whether that means a turn-around for a struggling, debt-laden company remains to be seen.

The blunt-spoken billionaire insisted after assuming the CEO and chairman titles Thursday that he isn't interested in Rupert Murdoch-like editorial control, widespread

cost-slashing, or an imminent sell-off of Tribune assets other than the Chicago Cubs and Wrigley Field.

Instead, he talked of rebuilding the media conglomerate from the bottom up so it will be able to make faster decisions and figure out how to increase revenue in an industry battling steep decline.

"I believe this company has spent a significant amount of time in the last five years cutting costs, and maybe not enough time on increasing revenue," Zell said in a news conference at Tribune Tower after touring the *Chicago Tribune* newsroom to meet employees. "Our focus, and our bet, is that we can significantly increase the revenue of this company and

dramatically increase its profitability going forward."

Calling himself "the new sheriff in town," the new-to-media magnate came in with executive guns blazing — naming an almost entirely new board of directors and installing two longtime associates as key managers while he studies what to do next and how to best pay down Tribune's new \$13 billion debt burden.

That was just his first day on the job after the complex \$8.2 billion buy-

out of Tribune closed, taking the company private under the ownership of an employee stock ownership plan — and Zell's firm individual control.

He signaled he has no immediate asset sales in mind at the company that owns 23 television stations and nine daily newspapers, the biggest of which is the Los Angeles Times, although he hopes to complete the long-planned sale of the Chicago Cubs and Wrigley Field by the start of the baseball season in late March.

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Checking off goals

UISG

CONTINUED FROM 1A

An idea to form a three- to six-person Student Consultant Corps that would be able to assist UI students in a variety of subjects and answer questions turned out to not be feasible, because there was not enough money to fund the salaries.

However, Anderson has not abandoned the idea altogether. Instead a Student Ombuds program is in the works.

Cynthia Joyce, a university ombudsperson, said the program is still in the exploratory stages, but she is not entirely sure if it will come to fruition.

The UI's current ombuds program is made up of people generally older than college age who help students with a variety of problems or questions about grades, disciplinary actions, and discrimination. Under the new program, students would fill these positions.

Peterson said this is good alternative to the Student Consultant Corps, because it is connected to the Ombudsperson Office and would continue after the current student leadership has left office.

In an effort to make UISG more efficient, legislation to hire a full-time, non-student secretary has been written but not yet approved by the student

senate.

Anderson said the move would help to make the government more resourceful because of consistency — the same person would presumably occupy the position year after year — but the measure would require that two undergraduate office-assistant positions be cut.

Cutting the positions will not take away from student-leadership positions, he said, but it would do away with two student-employment opportunities.

But Ryan Domyancic, the UISG financial officer, does not feel the move would be best for the UISG office. He opposes the measure, he said, because students learn to solve problems and interact with people in the office positions.

Besides the secretarial position, UISG has done more internal revamping by adding new student positions and continuing to reform the organization. A new governmental-relations liaison is just one step that Anderson and Peterson have taken to improve relations with the state Board of Regents.

Anderson feels the regents listen to the student concerns, using this year's lowest in-state tuition increase since 1980 as evidence.

"I feel confident calling up the legislators and knowing my message will be received," he said.

Regent Jack Evans said he is impressed with the UISG leaders and feels they have a good relationship with the regents.

But a few platform initiatives failed to make it out of the starting gate, such as finding affordable health care for students and creating a Trash to Treasure program.

Anderson said they found that only a small percentage of students didn't have health care and there was already a way for students to easily get health care through the university.

Peterson said that a Trash to Treasure program also already exists in Iowa City, so her new goal is to get more students involved in the program.

Anderson and Peterson have also adopted a couple of new goals during their time in office. Peterson said a UISG scholarship is going to be restarted after officials found \$110,000 in funds that had been acquiring interest. Domyancic said the plan is that the money will go to fund a student's tuition every semester.

Anderson said two initiatives he has added to his list are to work with officials on the new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center and to help with the provost search.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Kayla Kelley** at: kayla-kelley@uiowa.edu

UISG Report Card

Like most political campaigns, UISG presidential hopefuls' platforms often promise things that are not achieved. In the past four years, many parties have not been able to check off everything on their to-do lists.

2003-2004

- Nate Green and Mayrose Wegmann**
- ☒ Financial aid — Keep tuition hike in single digits, 8.3 percent
 - ☐ Add U-bill friendly pharmacy at Student Health
 - ☐ Bring back sack lunch option/grab-and-go
 - ☒ Fight 21-ordinance
 - ☐ Use student ID to get into bar
 - ☐ Offer bar owners money incentives to police themselves
 - ☐ Student-run recycle program
 - ☐ Extend Cambus hours
 - ☐ Course/Professor evaluations on ISIS
 - ☒ Newspapers available to students
 - ☒ Free childcare during last two weeks of the semester
 - ☒ Transparency of UISG

2004-2005

- Lindsay Schutte and Jason Shore**
- ☐ Extend Cambus till 2 a.m. all week to promote safety
 - ☒ Fight 21-ordinance, led to 19-ordinance
 - ☐ Create landlord-evaluation service to protect student tenants
 - ☐ Post professor-rating system on ISIS
 - ☐ Textbook reimbursement program to combat rising book prices
 - ☒ Student-council liaison position
 - ☐ Lower athletics ticket prices
 - ☐ Create relationship between Internet providers and off-campus students

2005-2006

- Mark Kresowik and Lauren McCarthy**
- ☐ Use student ID to get into bar, allow students into bars if pass alcohol-awareness class
 - ☐ New UISG webpage
 - ☐ Transform UI canoe house into café and stage
 - ☒ Lobbying efforts regarding taxation and tuition

2006-2007

- Peter McElligott and Addison Stark**
- ☐ Dorm recycling program
 - ☐ Cambus fuel
 - ☐ Dead week
 - ☐ Increase mtg attendance
 - ☒ Split UISG
 - ☒ Civic engagement
 - ☐ Campaign to inform students about how to legal deal with drinking stuff
 - ☐ Presidential search-voted no confidence in regents
 - ☒ Improve UISG transparency
 - ☐ Make efforts with UI search committee

It wasn't possible to locate all platform initiatives and achievements, but this is a brief overview of major ones.

Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

Some ideas fall short

'There were a couple of things that just weren't feasible. I didn't know that because I hadn't been in student government much before.'

— Peter McElligott, former UISG president

PAST

CONTINUED FROM 1A

over Iowa City, embracing an opportunity to improve civic engagement and volunteer efforts among students.

Cleaning up the destruction came easy compared with the tempest that ran through the UISG shortly after the undergraduate and graduate student governments split.

"It's impossible to represent a group whose interests you don't see eye to eye," McElligott said, who is attending the Yale Law School.

The duo was the target of much UISG criticism, which led to heated debates and lower meeting attendance — near the end of the year, the group couldn't even make quorum.

"The separation became very polarizing, and a huge wave of distrust swept over the student government," McElligott said. "They were calling for my head; people's personal ambitions really affected getting things done."

The leaders attributed the problems they encountered to an inability to foresee issues that come up throughout their term and the impracticality of platforms.

"There were a couple of things

that just weren't feasible," McElligott said. "I didn't know that because I hadn't been in student government much before."

He and Vice President Addison Stark watched several ideas fall through the cracks. Plans to implement a residence-hall recycling plan, an energy reduction program, and a biodiesel Cambus-fueling system saw no progress last year.

Stark said the Associated Residence Halls dealt with dorm recycling and that he and McElligott preferred not to infringe on its territory. When they discovered that an off-campus group had a similar system in place for city transit, the pair scrapped the biodiesel idea.

A campaign promise to implement a week free of classes prior to finals received support from many students. After addressing viability of the project, McElligott said it simply "wasn't the right fit" for a university in which the faculty did not approve.

Though some campaign goals were unfulfilled, Stark said he felt that putting more effort into implementing the platform goals would have been beneficial, and he still believes following through with the ideas is possible.

Of the past few years, McElligott's and Stark's lack of follow-through seemingly

generated the most outward uproar from peers.

"It's part of the job, and you have to take it with a grain of salt and just keep working," Stark said.

Mark Kresowik and Lauren McCarthy — the renovators

To address the ever-present 21-ordinance proposal, Mark Kresowik, the UISG president in 2005-06, primarily encouraged students to vote in the local elections but also came up with an idea to allow students whose privileges had been revoked back into downtown establishments after passing an alcohol-awareness class. The idea, like that of using student IDs for bar entry, turned out to be something that he said "tanked right away" and left other issues as the focus.

Kresowik and Vice President Lauren McCarthy also ran on the unusual platform of turning the empty UI canoe house into a coffee shop. While the plan seemed like a logical option for what remains an unused building and generated much student support, the former president said that the group got sidetracked by other issues.

Near the end of their term, efforts turned to the presidential search when former

President David Skorton resigned.

Also on their platter of unanticipated foci were IMU building renovations and university plans to construct a new recreation center.

"It's very difficult to foresee what's going to happen," Kresowik said. "[There are] a lot of high-minded ideas that are harder to implement than people might think."

Lindsay Schutte and Jason Shore — power to the people

Under the Schutte-Shore reign, the ongoing fight against the 21-ordinance resulted in a compromise 19-ordinance for which the team had a "full-scale plan," similar to that of previous year's UISG leaders.

One of the groups largest civic-relations contribution came in the implementation of a City Council student liaison. Former Mayor Ernie Lehman labeled the new position "one of UISG's greatest achievements."

"We raised the bar and the expectations of the student government," Lindsay Schutte said in an interview with the *DI* in April 2005.

Though former UI President David Skorton called Schutte a great communicator, she said her greatest failure was

neglecting to keep students informed about UISG efforts.

Promises left undelivered include decreased student-tick- et prices, extended student-bus- ing hours, and improving conditions for off-campus tenants.

Nate Green and Mayrose Wegmann — paper brigade

Nate Green, the UISG head in 2003-04, said he and Mayrose Wegmann's biggest platform issues related to the 21-ordinance, the collegiate readership program, student safety, and the establishment of a student pharmacy.

Early on in their term, the 21-ordinance approached a final vote by the City Council. Following discussions with councilors and local bar owners and collecting a 5,000-signature petition, Green took matters into his own hands. He rallied against the decision, leading a crowd of approximately 300 students from the IMU to City Hall. The council eventually decided to institute a 19-ordinance the following year.

The pair also found significant backing in a proposed readership program and made a variety of newspapers available in exchange for an annual \$5 fee. The program continues to date.

Over their year-long stints in office, the pair faced failed attempts to implement additional lighting in the downtown area and extend Cambus hours. While under Green's wing, the UI also cut an underutilized Safewalk program, which gave students the option to be escorted home at night. Although student safety was central to their platform, each left key safety measures lacking.

The duo also unsuccessfully advocated implementing a dorm recycling program.

Though Wegmann's dialogue with the Student Health Advisory Board led to support of creating a pharmacy with Student Health, past *DI* reports show that a proposal sent to Phillip Jones, the UI vice president for Student Services, generated no response. The pharmacy was later established in spring 2005.

Green attributed lack of success in areas of safety and sustainability to an administration that hinders potentially beneficial ideas.

"I don't think it would be that hard to do these things," he said. "But the university doesn't want to do it administratively because it costs money."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Carla Keppler** at: carla-keppler@uiowa.edu

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Caucus 2008

The Daily Iowan's endorsements

DEMOCRAT: Sen. Barack Obama

Barack Obama was elected to the Senate in 2004 after serving eight years in the Illinois Senate. Prior to life as an elected official, he took a hands-on approach to civil service. Obama passed on high-paying jobs in the private sector and instead became a church-based community organizer in Chicago after graduating from Columbia in 1983. He returned to Chicago again as a civil-rights lawyer and constitutional-law professor after graduating from the Harvard Law School in 1991, where he was the first black president of the *Harvard Law Review*. Through his life and career he has demonstrated a passion to serve and a commitment to bringing people together to solve problems.

From the start, Obama was viewed as charismatic but lacking in substance. Now, fewer than two weeks from our state caucuses, this is no longer the case. Obama's commanding oratorical abilities should not distract voters from his policy proposals, objectives that outline a return of "united" to the United States. We believe his judgment and ideas are the best fit, not just for a party but for a people. We believe Obama represents the best of our polity and a better future for our nation, which is why he is receiving *The Daily Iowan's* endorsement.

- When talk of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction mutated into the push for invasion, Obama had the courage and prudence to oppose the war, pointing out that military action at that juncture would begin "an occupation of undetermined length, with undetermined costs and undetermined consequences." No other serious candidate stood so strongly against popular opinion at the time. Five years later, Iraq has not made enough progress to release us from our current open-ended commitment. This war has cost us nearly half a trillion dollars and — more importantly — thousands of American lives. Obama's plan would remove troops at the rate of one to two brigades a month, leading to a complete withdrawal of forces by the end of 2008. He would require the beginning of a new constitutional convention organized by the United Nations, not to end until a new reconciliation agreement is in place. Most importantly, we believe strongly that Obama would employ something the world hasn't seen from America in years: diplomacy. Stronger alliances can be formed to secure regional stability by opening new dialogue and assuring Middle East nations of the vital role their involvement can play in future peace. A strong and independent Iraq will not only free America of a burden, but contribute to harmony in the Middle East.

- Rather than forcing those who cannot afford health insurance to buy it through mandates and punishing those who don't fall in line with fines, Obama's approach to ensuring total coverage of all Americans aims to lower costs by pinning the pressure on insurance and pharmaceutical companies. We believe Obama to be the most able to confront massive industrial monopolies and their ballooning profits and to begin needed reform by reducing costs for our citizens. Individuals will not be turned down for coverage because of illness or pre-existing conditions. Along with expanded eligibility for Medicaid and SCHIP, Obama will create a National Health Insurance Exchange to help those who wish to purchase private insurance. As a watchdog group, the exchange will aid in private insurance market reform by creating rules and standards for participating insurance plans to ensure fairness in both price and accessibility. Insurers would have to charge premiums deemed fair and stable by the exchange and would be required to justify an above-average premium increase. He will prohibit drug companies from keeping generics off the market and end the ban that prevents the government from negotiating with drug companies for the Medicare prescription-drug benefit.

- Obama believes the issues surrounding global warming and energy can be solved by the ingenuity of the American people. He would double federal clean-energy science and research funding, including biomass, solar, and wind technologies. He would institute a complete economy-wide cap-and-trade system, using the profits to help workers and industries adapt to clean technology development and production, transforming green advancement into jobs and economic growth. Obama believes in expanding Federal Efficiency Grants for energy efficient buildings and ending incentives for utility companies that have customers who consume more energy — instead giving these incentives to utilities that improve energy efficiency. He will mandate that all new vehicles be flex-fuel vehicles by the end of his first term, reforming the auto industry to better compete with foreign companies while decreasing emissions.

Chris Dodd's drive and commitment are admirable. Joe Biden's knowledge of the workings of Washington is substantial. John Edwards' dedication to the lower class is honorable. All of the candidates have certain positions we can appreciate. Barack Obama embodies the best in his party, the hopes of our nation, and what we need from our next president.

REPUBLICAN: John McCain

John McCain was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986 after spending four years in the House of Representatives. A U.S. Navy veteran, McCain was captured while serving in Vietnam and spent more than five years as a prisoner of war. The Arizona senator has succeeded in two careers: as a courageous naval aviator who defended our country in war and a longtime civil servant. These accolades make him the most qualified Republican presidential-nomination candidate, and *The Daily Iowan* endorses McCain's candidacy.

Despite an unsuccessful White House run in 2000, McCain was considered by many the front-runner in this election cycle at the outset. After Rudy Giuliani surged to the front of the pack nationally and Mitt Romney consistently led polls in Iowa (only to be recently eclipsed in turn by Mike Huckabee), McCain garnered little attention. That said, McCain has remained loyal to his message; after ignoring the horse race and celebrity status some candidates have earned, it's clear that McCain's vision for America stands above those offered by his Republican counterparts.

- While nearly 70 percent of Americans support large-scale troop withdrawals from Iraq, the reality is not as simple. Our country has a responsibility to the Iraqi people, and abandoning them now will have serious repercussions in the future. The Republican candidates foresee an extended stay in Iraq (except for Ron Paul, whose radical domestic policies create more problems than they solve). Though we find it worrisome that McCain doesn't discuss an exit strategy, McCain's extensive military record is nevertheless promising. The Bush administration has failed in nearly every phase of this war. McCain is correct when he says that Iraq must be managed more effectively, noting that "there must be a greater emphasis on non-military" rebuilding efforts.

- From domestic wiretapping to torture, McCain fittingly disagrees with other GOP candidates. A former POW, himself tortured by the enemy, McCain opposes the U.S. using similar tactics against our enemies. No one can deny or even contest his firsthand knowledge of torture. On the issue of warrantless domestic wiretapping, McCain says the president, without legal authorization, can't wiretap electronic communications. Giuliani and Romney insist that the Bush administration is correct on both issues, citing national-security concerns. Romney, who once suggested wiretapping mosques, often speaks in the same alarmist language typical of President Bush. A McCain administration might finally take civil liberties more seriously.

- The immigration issue has caused a substantial amount of debate in this campaign. As a senator representing a border state, McCain's insights are more valuable than most. He says that citizenship is possible for many illegal immigrants currently living in the United States — but they will have to wait their turn like everyone else. McCain stresses that integration is also important and says learning the English language, as well as U.S. civics, would be necessary for those who want citizenship. Mike Huckabee says that he will "take our country back for those who belong here." Perhaps he should enroll in McCain's proposed civics classes and learn that the United States is a country of immigrants. The McCain plan, conversely, is an optimistic one: If both sides agree to do their part, anyone can "belong" in America.

- Global warming is one of the greatest threats facing the world today. While most candidates, including McCain, often discuss energy independence and national security in the same sentence, McCain is seemingly alone among Republican candidates in recognizing the threat of climate change. In October, he even told the Detroit Economic Club that he supports higher fuel-efficiency standards. Along with opposing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, he says the United States should sign the Kyoto Protocol, provided India and China do the same. McCain is even bold enough to tell Iowans that he contests ethanol subsidies, a position we agree with. For Romney and Giuliani, their rationale for energy independence hinges on national security alone, while global warming goes almost unmentioned.

On numerous issues, McCain and his fellow Republicans offer nearly identical answers, and we disagree with many of them. Like other GOP candidates, McCain supports overturning *Roe v. Wade*. He also wants to "protect" traditional marriage, as if it's somehow come under attack; fortunately, though, he disagrees with a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. When McCain does take a divergent route, however, his arguments are striking. The senator has been labeled a "maverick" by some because he has voiced dissenting opinions not in step with typical Republican policy. These moderate beliefs are those that set him apart from other Republican presidential-nomination hopefuls.

Agreeing with a candidate on every issue is not a prerequisite to support her or him, however. Other Republican candidates offer plans that too closely mirror the Bush administration's broken strategy. McCain, relying on principles instead of partisan politics, is daring enough to voice his individual opinion, an essential presidential trait.

For this reason, John McCain is the best Republican choice for president of the United States.



Illustrations by Dylan Salisbury

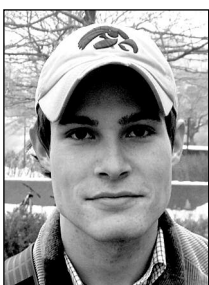
On the Spot

Are you planning to caucus?



"Most likely Mike Huckabee."

Kevin Wilmarth
UI senior



"No, I'm not. I'm a registered independent."

Michael Pagel
UI junior



"Yes, for Obama."

Ryan Novak
UI freshman



"No, I'm not. I think it's an outdated system."

Pete Burns
UI senior

w00t!

The 2007 Merriam-Webster word of the year is w00t. According to the dictionary's website, w00t (interjection) means "expressing joy (it could be after a triumph or for no reason at all); similar in use to the word 'yay' as in 'W00t! I won the contest.'" The remark is part of the esoteric gamer language l33t (leet, elite) speak. This new addition to the English language makes me wonder if nerding out is becoming more socially acceptable or maybe even cool?

As a former video-game addict and someone who has w00ted countless times, I'm glad to see society is embracing the sometimes obsessive, fan-tasy-driven world of video games.

I was educated on the Midwestern, American values of hard work and fair play through incalculable red-eye nights spent in front of our 27-inch Zenith on perfect summer days and ideal winter nights. I might not have a 700-word essay on what it means to be the team captain of the Flying Squirrels, but I do know how it feels to come defuse a nuclear bomb in under a minute and save the world from the grip of tyranny. It's easy to trivialize the feat, but at the time, I was pretty jazzed.

Video games have no doubt played an important role in my life and the world around me, so I'd like to offer you some of the lessons I've been taught by the audio-visual-controller realm. Some are true, some false but this is arbitrary in the context of virtual worlds. What's on the screen is real.

Lesson No. 1: If ever elected to office, I would be the best mayor in the entire world. In just under three years, I was able to build a metropolis roughly the size of Chicago named Pimpin J. UFOs, and a freak tsunami destroyed it quickly, but its memory lives on deep in my computer's hard drive.

Lesson No. 2: If you honk your car horn, hookers do *not* magically appear. Thanks, Grand Theft Auto 3.

Lesson No. 3: If you're very serious about the girl/guy you're dating and are thinking about taking it to the next level, make sure they know about the Dwarf King named after you. Some people just don't understand magic, so it's best to be upfront about it.

Lesson No. 4: At one point I was ranked in the top 1,000 in the world at NBA Live 2003, under the pseudonym LaRue, thanks mostly to Dirk Nowitzki and his 91-rated jump shot. I thought because I was tall and liked to shoot 3's like Dirk, this qualified me to talk smack to other teams at the Field House about my skillz. I was tackled into the bleachers and choked out. I haven't returned since.

Lesson No. 5: All the soldiers who fought in World War II disappeared as soon as they were killed, were white, and had Brooklyn accents. Medal of Honor, you've changed countless threads of history and made war look so clean I don't even know where to begin.

Games are meant to teach things to people in ways that are fun, interactive and at times insightful. I've learned a lot about myself over the years by playing games. For one, I know I'll never become a professional football, baseball, basketball, tennis, golf, badminton, soccer, or croquet player. Sure, there's the teamwork thing, the mentor thing, the "don't strike out every time, and I'll buy you a remote-control car" thing, but not everyone gets this special, masculine type of nurturing.

I also learned that children as well as young adults become exponentially less creative in name-calling once released from the prepubescent "hey batter batter" chant. The same is true with gaming lingo as shown by the word of the year w00t. If you've never been "pwned," you must be a "n00b" and might have to work on honing your "skillz."

As for those of us who left sports early and never looked back, we've found a team and a place where we can hone our work ethic and warrior ethos that will give us that competitive edge in the admissions office. Our playground is a monitor, our ball, home-row and a six button mouse. Video games — they're protected by free speech, they change minds, and they're here to stay. ■

D/I columnist **John LaRue** is in ur opinions page, writing ur columns. E-mail him at: john-b-larue@uiowa.edu



JOHN LARUE



Even though we're on break, our desire to comment on everything pop-culture related never ceases. Check out dailyiowanarts.blogspot.com daily for regular updates throughout the holidays.

Arts & Culture

What you're missing OVER BREAK

Benjamin Tucker

Armed with only a guitar and twanging vocals, new-age folksinger Benjamin Tucker will make his first on-stage appearance in Iowa City since his senior year. In high school. In 1995.

Tucker, now living in Minnesota, hopes to see old friends when he performs at the Java House, 211 1/2 E. Washington, on Dec. 28.

"All of my old friends from Iowa City will be back, hopefully making my show a sort of reunion," Tucker said. "Years ago, I played at Gabe's and the Yacht Club, and it's nice to be back."

For the City High graduate, fellow musicians, not locations, seem to be his biggest influences. Ranging his singing from a country-folk Bob Dylan to a storytelling Bruce Springsteen, his five albums span the Americana genre.

"When I was younger, Dylan was one of my biggest influences," Tucker said. "I don't mind being associated with country, but my newest album, *Wenonah*, has a folk feel."

Harmonica intros, roots-guitar playing, and talk-singing make up Tucker's music, and they should integrate him well into the Iowa City music scene he left years ago.

CONCERT Benjamin Tucker

When: Dec. 28, 8 p.m.

Where: Java House, 211 1/2 E. Washington

Admission: Free

— by Cole Cheney

Dave Zollo

Mixing blues and alt-country, local musician Dave Zollo will take the stage Dec. 28 at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington, with his band, the Body Electric. With a hint of twang and touch of distortion, Zollo is difficult to classify but easy to enjoy. He began recording in 1992 with another band and has continued to live up to the prestigious reputation Iowa City musicians possess with the Body Electric.

"My biggest musical influence was my dad's Iowa City friends, guys such as Bo Ramsey," Zollo said. "They showed me that I could make a vocation out of this."

With such tracks as "Respect (Ain't a One Way Street)" and "Why Don't You Stop Me Now," allows Zollo's antique morals and chivalry to peek through, paying respect to those that preceded him. Citing influence from Rolling Stones, the Faces, and Van Morrison, these forefathers of modern rock don't limit him.

"As a writer, most of my [material] flows out from something that happens in my life," Zollo said.

While he's used to playing in Iowa City, he hopes the show will draw a larger crowd because it falls during the holidays.

"I'm no longer a spring chicken," he said. "While welcome more and more students to come out, they are no longer the bulk of my audience."

CONCERT Dave Zollo and the Body Electric

When: Dec. 28, 9 p.m.

Where: Mill, 120 E. Burlington

Admission: \$6

— by Cole Cheney

Notable arts-related events are happening in the next few weeks, even though the *DI* and the UI are taking a break. If you find yourself in Iowa City, bored and aimless, here are some events that we think are worth pulling yourself off the couch for.

Lipstick Homicide

The Iowa City local music scene never sleeps, even when the entire UI is on break. Two of the area's most up-and-coming punk rock acts, Lipstick Homicide and Red and the Eds, will play an all-ages show Dec. 30 at the Picador, 330 E. Washington St.

Lipstick Homicide's Rachel Feldmann and Kate Kane have played together in bands since they were students at Iowa City West High. With the addition of drummer Luke Ferguson's muscle into the mix, Lipstick Homicide's lineup was set. The band is versatile, showcasing snarling pop-punk on songs such as "Stay at Home Mom" and then conjuring the spirits of doom-metal icons Kyuss on "A Thousand Last Kisses."

Red and the Eds show a blend of influences equally as diverse, combining acute Fugazi instrumental stop-starts with elements of funk and hard-core. Bassist Josh Elvidge provides a strong yet perpetually moving foundation for charismatic vocalist/guitarist Ed Hall to excel. The song "Mexicana" shows the group's aspiration for a Pixies-style venture into lyrical bilingualism.

CONCERT Lipstick Homicide, with Chinese Telephones, Red and the Eds, Samuel Locke Ward

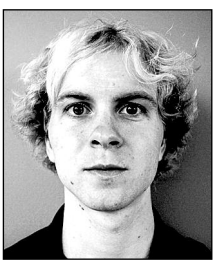
When: Dec. 30, 5 p.m.

Where: Picador, 330 E. Washington

Admission: \$5

— by Jarrett Hothan

STAFF FAVORITES 5 X-MAS STUFF



JARRETT HOTHAN

DI reporter Jarrett Hothan is tired. Finals, the approaching holidays, and the cusp of break has fried his brain so much that he can't even think in categories anymore. Instead of offering a specific list, here's Jarrett's **five favorite Christmas stuff**.

1. *The Nightmare Before Christmas* — Is it a Christmas movie? Is it a Halloween movie? This is debatable, but I've loved this movie to death ever since I was a little kid.

2. Tacky Lawn Ornaments — My parents would never get the plastic light-up Santa or Gingerbread Man, because they wanted our lawn to look "tasteful." When I have a family, my lawn will be visible from space.

3. Brookfield Zoo Holiday Magic — This famous zoo located in the Chicago suburbs always gets festive for the holidays. One time, somebody dressed as Frosty the Snowman denied me a hug.

4. *Black Christmas* (2006 remake) — My friends and I saw this slashtastic orgy blasphemously last Christmas. On the way, we joked about potential deaths, such as "impalement on Christmas tree." IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED IN THE MOVIE.

5. *A Muppet Family Christmas* — This network special featured the Muppets watching a home video of their first Christmas, as the Muppet Babies. Experimental!



Publicity photo

Whiskey enthusiasts Murder by Death will ring in the New Year at the Picador.

Murder by Death

New Year's Eve is always a night full of good and bad decisions. Sure, you could spend your countdown to 2008 parked in front of a couch, tuna sandwich in hand, eyeballs locked on the ball dropping on the television in front of you, but what's the fun in that? A more exciting alternative can be found at the Picador, 330 E. Washington St. Murder By Death will ring in 2008 with two sets, one at 6 p.m. and another starting at 9:30 p.m.

The band, based in Bloomington, Ind., plays a haunting blend of alt-country infused with a touch of punk-rock velocity. The band achieves its rich, baroque sound by performing with an electric cello player onstage.

Murder by Death's lyrical content is an interesting juxtaposition to average New Year's celebrations — songs preoccupied with such morose subjects as the devil, zombies, violence, and evil in general. Attendees

CONCERT

**Murder By Death, with
Lost Apparitions (early)
and Falcon Crest, The
Tanks, and Weather is
Happening (late)**

When: Dec. 31, 6 and 9 p.m.

Where: Picador, 330 E. Washington

Admission: \$11

can hopefully expect new material as well — the band has been working on its upcoming 2008 release *Red of Tooth and Claw* in the studio since October.

Murder by Death has always had a bond with the local scene; Lee County's resident musical genius William Elliott Whitmore sung backup vocals on the Murder by Death track "Until Morale Improves, The Beatings Will Continue" off the album *Who Will Survive, and What Will be Left of Them?*

— by Jarrett Hothan

Public Property

Public Property, Iowa City's local seven-person band, is always known to put on lively performance. But folks in attendance on the eve of 2008 are guaranteed more.

"We're going to play a really long set and start earlier," lead vocalist Dave Bess said.

And while school isn't in session, that shouldn't be an excuse to miss the celebration of a brand-new year with Iowa City's only reggae, ska and hip-hop band at the Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn St.

"We're just excited to play in Iowa City once again," said Bess, who sings, plays the guitar, and even spices up the homemade

music with a ukulele.

The concert may not be a traditional glitzy New Year's Eve show. Instead, "it will be a caucus theme this year," said Bess, in hopes to promote the political event happening in Iowa just three days later, on Jan. 3.

"I'm supporting Obama, but everybody is supporting her or his

CONCERT

Funk 101 and Eli Jones

When: Jan. 11, 9 p.m.

Where: Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

Admission: \$5

Eli Jones

Returning to the Iowa City on Jan. 11 — for the first time in almost two years — Chicago-based funk/soul band Eli Jones features new sounds since its last time on the Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn, stage. Powerful vocalist Stefanie Berecz, who joined the group in January, leads the eight-member band with rich pop croons, and she is backed by not only guitars and drums, but also a three-piece horn section, added in September.

"[Berecz] is the 'X' factor in the band," said guitarist and vocalist Brendan O'Connell, who helped start the band in 2005. "She's dynamic on stage."

Berecz's rising career includes performances on such shows as "Making the Band" and "American Idol" and also as an opener for big-time vocalist Mary J. Blige. She won

CONCERT

Public Property

When: Dec. 31, 9 p.m.

Where: Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

Admission: \$15

the prestigious Bar 1's Big Break contest in Chicago in 2006, and she has brought a new element to the band.

Influenced by the music of Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin, O'Connell said Eli Jones plays soul music with a big-band approach and aims to get people moving on their feet.

"It's music that makes people dance," he said. "It's the best

own candidate," said the Hawaii native. He doesn't hope to sway voters, he simply wants people to get involved.

With the entire band present, there will certainly be room for more than one opinion, even in the small brick basement of the Yacht Club.

— by Emily Burney

feeling in the world to be up on the stage seeing people shaking their butts."

To round out the Eli Jones' groove, Funk 101, an 11-piece band from Cedar Rapids, will play cover songs by such artists as Tower of Power, Stevie Wonder, Earth, Wind and Fire, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Kool and the Gang, and KC and the Sunshine Band.

— by Claire Lekwa

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Colbert reportedly Celebrity of Year

By Jake Coyle
ASSOCIATED PRESS

While most TV characters remain boxed inside the frames of our sets, Stephen Colbert has routinely injected his on-screen persona into everything from the presidential race to ice cream.

In 2007, the mock pundit on Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" exceeded the influence of most real pundits, orchestrating an ill-fated (and Doritos-sponsored) run for president and topping the best-seller lists with his book, *I Am America (And So Can You!)*.

Colbert failed to get onto the primary ballot in his home state of South Carolina, dooming his hopes for the White House. And his show went 0-for-4 at the Emmy Awards, including an especially painful loss to Barry Manilow.

But Colbert did win one honor: He was voted AP Celebrity of the Year by newspaper editors and broadcast producers who said Colbert had the biggest impact on pop culture in 2007.

He finished just a nudge above J.K. Rowling, who wrote the final book in her enormously popular *Harry Potter*

series. Finishing third was Al Gore, whose year included an Oscar, an Emmy, a Nobel Peace Prize, and the global concert Live Earth.

Voting was otherwise spread out across many entertainers, including pop star Britney Spears, "Hannah Montana" star Miley Cyrus, rapper Kanye West, comedy director and producer Judd Apatow, and country singer Kenny Chesney.

But it was the slight, bespectacled Colbert — his hair never ruffled, suits forever pressed — who dominated the year. Even from the relatively small stage of late-night cable TV, his satire spread into all corners of media and society — and for a few weeks made a mockery of the democratic system.

Colbert has declined interviews during the writers' strike that has shuttered his show, but he told the Associated Press by e-mail:

"In receiving this award, I am pleased that I was chosen over two great spinners of fantasy — J.K. Rowling and Al Gore. It is truly an honor to be named the Associated Press' Celebrity of the Year. Best of all, this makes me the official front-runner for

next year's Drug-Fueled Downward Spiral of the year. P.S. Look for my baby bump this spring!"

Julio Diaz, the entertainment editor for the *Pensacola News Journal*, explained his vote for the faux newsman:

"Colbert is more than an entertainer, he's a force of nature," Diaz said. "He's influenced the way we look at the news and even the way we speak. Whenever a major news story breaks, one of my first thoughts is what Colbert's spin on the story will be."

Colbert began his year by facing off against his inspiration, Bill O'Reilly. In one afternoon, Colbert and the Fox News commentator traded guest appearances on each other's shows in an exchange Colbert called "a meeting of the guts."

The meeting had been anticipated since Colbert's 2005 debut of "The Report," a deadpan fun-house mirror held up to "The O'Reilly Factor" and other conservative news programs.

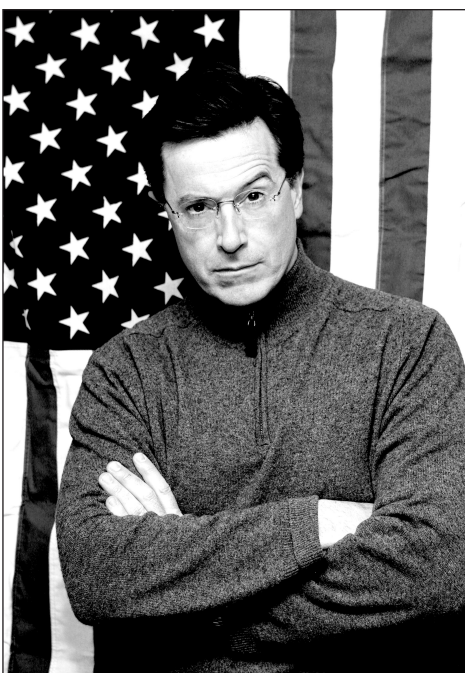
In early 2007, Colbert became the namesake of the new Ben & Jerry's ice cream flavor "Americone Dream." This followed in a tradition of naming

things after Colbert, like the mascot for the Saginaw Spirit, an Ontario Hockey League team, "Steagle Colbeagle the Eagle."

While taping an episode on June 27, Colbert fell and broke his wrist — a minor event for most, but weeks of fodder for him. The following month, he unveiled a "wrist awareness" campaign in which he urged anyone famous to wear a "WristStrong" bracelet (similar to Lance Armstrong's "LiveStrong" bands).

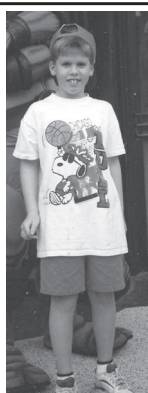
Showcasing his extremely detail-centric sense of humor, Colbert said on a September show: "If [Alan] Greenspan can do for my bracelets what he did for secured short-term lending through federal repurchasing agreements — can you imagine how great that would be?"

But Colbert's main act was the run-up to his White House campaign and his ensuing bid for the nation's highest office. While promoting his new book, Colbert appeared on news programs and wrote a guest column for the *New York Times* mocking the dance many candidates go through before officially declaring their candidacy.



Jason DeCrow/Associated Press
Stephen Colbert poses for a photo in New York on March 5. Colbert was named the Associated Press' Celebrity of the Year on Thursday.

Congratulations, GRADUATES



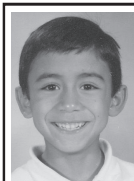
Cowabunga Dude!
Congratulations Eric- You ROCK man! There's no looking back, just a great future ahead! Good luck and good fortune come with great wisdom, and our wishes for you are to attain all three!
Happy Graduation!
Love, Mama, Papa, Thor & Dana



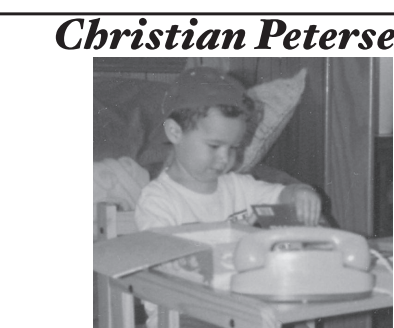
Megan Loew,
Our Tiny Dancer,
Your college graduation is just as special as your nursery school graduation. We are proud of you and love you!
Mom & Dad



Paul Robert,
Congratulations, we are very proud of you - may all your hopes and dreams come true.
Love Mom and Butch



My dear son, I'm so proud of your accomplishments. You've proven your knowledge throughout the years. You've reached a goal which was improbable but your strength made it possible.
With love your mom Patricia, your loving brother Ricardo and your caring sister Isabel.
Love You. Good Luck!



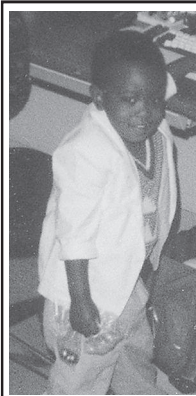
Christian Petersen

Finally. Now you can run your own corporation. We are so proud of you. Congratulations.
Love, Mom, Dad and Sister

Tim Ohrt
Congratulations! Graduating from the University of Iowa and a new job! Way to go! You have a bright future ahead. You can achieve anything you want. We're all so proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad & Jennifer



Alyssa Rae Bittner
Congratulations college graduate-you truly make us proud!
We love you so much, Mom & Dad



To:
Harrison Gladden
Your family is extremely proud of you and wishes you well.

There is no need to reach for the stars. They are already within you. Just reach deep into yourself. Remember an investment in knowledge Always pays the best interest...
CONGRATULATIONS
Your Family
We love you

Dear Scott,
"Wherever you go, go with all your heart."
—Confucius

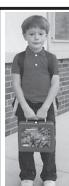


We are so happy and proud of you. Congratulations!
Love, Mom and Dad



Kari Collins
Congratulations! We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad & Tim

Sam Martin
Class of '07
Congratulations!



Christopher Madden,
Congratulations on your graduation! You've come a long way since the little kindergartener. Best wishes in the great future ahead of you. We are very proud.
Love, Mom, Dad, Brendan & Kevin

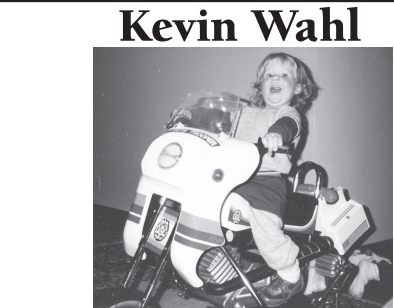


TIFFANY TOURES
CONGRATULATIONS!
It seems just yesterday you were learning a new language during our first trip on the IMU ramp. Now you have the knowledge to conquer the world. The WORLD is yours. Don't blink. Enjoy it all. Go after your dreams. We are so very proud of you and all of your accomplishments. You are truly a beautiful woman.
Love, Mom and Dad

JaNae,
WOW! Only three-point-five years and you are graduating from the U of I! You set your goal and achieved it with your dedication and hard work. We couldn't be more proud of you.
Your dream job will come along and we know you will be as successful at it as you have been at I.C.! Congratulations, Nae Nae!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Aubrey, Levi, Ariana, Ian and Dustin

Rion Smith

"It is better to be a first rate version of yourself than a second rate version of someone else."
Congratulations! We love you so much and know you'll do great things in the Peace Corps and beyond.
Love Dad and Mom



Kevin Wahl

Go for it Kev! Congratulations! We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom and Dad



Anne Raven
The start of your journey... you just keep on going! Congratulations!
Love and hugs, Mom

Randi Bahnck
You will make an awesome nurse. We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad

The Daily Iowan would like to congratulate it's graduating seniors!
Good Luck & Best Wishes from all of us at The D.I.!

Wesley Cropp • Peter Klopfenstein
Sam Martin • Chris Vanderwall • Arom Park

SCOREBOARD

NHL
Atlanta 3, Ottawa 2
Montreal 5, Washington 2
Pittsburgh 5, Boston 4, SO
Florida 5, Carolina 4
Tampa Bay 2, Toronto 1
Minnesota 6, N.Y. Rangers 3
St. Louis 3, Detroit 2

Vancouver 3, Dallas 2

NFL
Pittsburgh 41, St. Louis 24

NBA
New Jersey 107, Miami 103, OT
Cleveland 94, L.A. Lakers 90

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Friday, December 21, 2007

NFL: Lions turning into kittens, 2B

dailyiowan.com



Kara Pinjuv

GYMNASTICS

GymHawks to head to Cancún

The Iowa women's gymnasts will develop more than tans when they open their season Jan. 4 in Cancún, Mexico.

The fifth-annual Cancún Classic will feature eight teams — including No. 8 Oklahoma, No. 10 LSU, No. 15 Denver, and No. 22 West Virginia — against which the GymHawks will test their skills and routine execution.

Minnesota will also be in the mix.

Hawkeye coach Larissa Libby said the meet is a great look at several top teams in one setting, and the early exposure to top competition will establish the standard of gymnastics for the rest of the season.

The GymHawks will face LSU again a week later on Jan. 11 in their first dual meet, meeting the Tigers in Baton Rouge, La., in an atmosphere that Libby says is one of the hardest to compete against in college gymnastics. Libby, an LSU alumna, expects that experience to prepare her gymnasts for the intensity of competition later in the season.

"I just see a bunch of positives with the beginning of our schedule," she said.

— by Lars Headington

NCAA

Ohio State player suspended

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A backup cornerback for Ohio State has been suspended for an undisclosed violation of team rules, and he will not play in the national championship game against LSU, the school said Thursday.

Eugene Clifford, a freshman from Cincinnati, will not practice or play with the top-ranked Buckeyes (11-1) on Jan. 7 at the Superdome. The announcement was made in a brief e-mail late Thursday afternoon.

There had been reports on Columbus station WCMH-TV on Wednesday night and in Thursday morning's editions of the *Columbus Dispatch* that Clifford and Ohio State's starting cornerback, Donald Washington, had both been suspended for a violation of team rules.

Ohio State Athletics Director Gene Smith did not immediately return a call seeking further information.

"This is it. We're not expecting anything more than what you have right now," said Shelly Poe, the school's sports information director for football.

Smith had declined to confirm the suspensions of the two players earlier on Thursday, saying there was "work to be done."

TV TODAY

NCAA Football
New Orleans Bowl, Memphis vs. Florida Atlantic, 7 p.m., ESPN2

NBA
Chicago at Boston, 6 p.m., ESPN
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m., ESPN

IOWA (6-4) VS. WESTERN ILLINOIS (3-7)

SATURDAY, AT CARVER HAWKEYE ARENA, 4:05 P.M.

Hoopsters shake off rust



Whitney Wright/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye guard Kachine Alexander passes the ball on Dec. 2 in Carver-Hawkeye Arena against Detroit Mercy. Iowa will play Western Illinois on Saturday after a 13-day break.

After a 13-day hiatus away from the hardwood, the Iowa women's basketball team will return to action against Western Illinois on Saturday.

By Brendan Stiles
THE DAILY IOWAN

Almost two weeks since losing the championship game of the Hawkeye Challenge, the Iowa women's basketball team will return to the Carver-Hawkeye hardwood on Saturday afternoon to face Western Illinois. Tip-off is scheduled for 4:05 p.m.

This marks the final nonconference showdown for the Hawkeyes before opening up an 18-game Big Ten schedule on Dec. 28 at home against Penn State.

Iowa comes into the contest

having lost four of its last six. In their most recent outing, the Hawkeyes rallied to lead No. 24 Wyoming late, only to watch that lead evaporate and turn into a 54-50 defeat.

Knowing how big a grind Big Ten play appears to be once again, coach Lisa Bluder says Saturday's game will be beneficial for her team after a 13-day layoff and with final exams now under the players' belts.

"I think it's a great benefit that we have a game before going into Big Ten play," she said. "I think it's an advantage for us to have a game against anybody, so I think that's really

good before we go home for the holidays."

The Hawkeyes do have injury concerns to deal with. Neither senior Jeneé Graham nor senior Krista VandeVenter were able to practice last week. VandeVenter suffered a sprained ankle during Iowa's loss to Wyoming, and her status for Saturday's game remains up in the air.

The prognosis for Graham, meanwhile, is more promising, and all signs point to her playing Saturday. Graham, who played in the Hawkeye Challenge with a broken bone in her hand, wore a hard cast last

week that prevented her from practicing. The plan is for her to wear a splint on the injured arm Saturday, with the hope that she'll no longer need the splint when the Hawkeyes open their conference slate with Penn State next week.

As are her teammates, Graham is anxious to return to the floor.

"I'm really excited," he said. "Two-straight weeks of practices isn't the most fun thing. It helps us get better in the long run, so from that aspect, it's good."

SEE HOOPS, 3B

Neitzel the leader

Michigan State's Drew Neitzel embodies what every coach wants from the hardwood to the hardback books.

By Alex Johnson
THE DAILY IOWAN

For the Iowa men's basketball team, Big Ten competition lurks just around the corner with the conference season-opener at home on Jan. 2 against Indiana. But of all the teams and players the Hawkeyes will face in the next month, only one program comes to Iowa City boasting the pre-season Player of the Year and the team title of Big Ten pre-season favorite.

Perhaps it's only fitting Neitzel wears the green and white colors of the Spartans. After all, the 6-foot point guard keeps things simple and is very disciplined. He's the kind of gym rat who, as Spartan head coach Tom Izzo said, has to be kicked out of the gym — actually, in the spring of this year, Izzo said he had to tell the senior to take an entire month off.



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Then-Iowa guard Jeff Horner drives down the middle while being closely guarded by Michigan State's Drew Neitzel in a Big Ten Tournament semifinal game in Indianapolis on March 11, 2006. Neitzel had an unusual off-night, and the Hawkeyes won, 53-48, to advance to the finals.

Joe-Pa sticking to bowl routine

By Genaro C. Armas
ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Joe Paterno's plans for his 81st birthday today sound about as ordinary as those rolled-up khakis and black sneakers he wears on the sideline.

As Paterno sticks to his late December routine of preparing Penn State for a bowl game, two familiar questions are in the air again in Happy Valley: How much longer will he coach, and who replaces JoePa when he leaves?

"Hopefully, I'm not going to be a crotchety old man, and you know, not handle it," he said when asked about his future at a news conference last week. "When it's time to go, go, right? ... I just feel so good right now. I hate to put a time frame on when I'm going to get out of here."

The 42-year head-coaching veteran is about to enter the last year of a four-year contract

that expires following the 2008 season.

Paterno's friend and Florida State coach Bobby Bowden earlier this month agreed to a plan devised by administrators to designate offensive coordinator Jimbo Fisher as the next Seminole coach. Bowden, 78, will return next year for a 33rd season. His 373 career wins are two ahead of Paterno for most among major-college coaches.

Paterno, who took over at Penn State in 1966 from Rip Engle following 16 years as an assistant, playfully jabs at reporters when asked about establishing a line of succession, although he has bristled about the topic in the past.

"I ought to call Bobby and see



Paterno
coach

SEE PATERNO, 3B

Neitzel a Spartan gem

NEITZEL
CONTINUED FROM 1B

But even with his workman-like training, Big Ten preseason Player of the Year hype, and superstar status, Neitzel is unflappably humble. Of all the things in life, his list of what's important includes academics, spirituality and being socially responsible — basketball is just what he does, but like all else, is taken very seriously.

"I don't really take anything for granted," he said. "I've had to earn a lot throughout my life, not only in college but throughout my whole life."

Spartan indeed. The rigorous training and all-around dedication have placed the Grand Rapids, Mich., native in the spotlight — he averages 14.5 points and 4.9 assists per game, ranking ninth and third in the Big Ten respectively. He also leads the conference in assist-to-turnover ratio at 4.5.

His on-court prowess, combined with who he is as a person, has placed him in a special group for Izzo.

"I'll never forget the last home

game of Mateen Cleaves' senior year," Izzo said. "I said to my assistant Mike Garland, I told him before the game, 'Just give me two to three minutes at the end to enjoy what this kid and these kids have brought to us,' because when you're in the heat of the battle, you never get to enjoy it."

"That was the game we played so well against Michigan, and we had a big lead, and I remember Mike called a time-out with three and a half minutes left, and he said, 'You're done coaching; go down there, and sit with your guys,' and I did. And that was maybe one of the greatest days I've ever had."

Izzo said Neitzel is every bit as special as Cleaves was and that he's going to enjoy his senior's final season.

"Drew is such a different guy in a way; he's not the fiery guy that Mateen was, but he's the consummate of what you'd want in a great player in a great program," Izzo said. "Academically, athletically, spiritually, socially — he's kind of the jack of all trades ... I'm going to miss him when he's gone."

Neitzel's growth on the

hardwood is obvious. It shows up on ESPN highlights and in the postgame box scores. But there's more to his development than his game.

"Not only on the court and my progression each season, but socially, my communication, my leadership has changed a lot from my freshman year," he said. "I came in as kind of a quiet kid out of high school. I've become more vocal and a better leader throughout my career."

No matter how much more he shouts and signals to his teammates during the game, Neitzel speaks confidently but still quietly about what's important to him when he isn't busy sinking 45.2 percent of his 3-pointers.

"I've worked hard since day one, and growing up, my parents have really stressed my academics, and they've gotten better," he said. "Spirituality is something that's really important to me, my faith in God. It's especially played a huge role in my college life — there's a lot of distractions, a lot of things that can bring you down, and that's been the one constant through the good and bad times."

Then there's his on-campus

father figure — Izzo.

"Coach Izzo, he's a huge inspiration, just a huge influence on my life in all those aspects," Neitzel said. "I think the thing that makes Coach Izzo such a great coach is he holds all his players accountable to reaching their full potential in every aspect of life."

Under Izzo's guidance, Neitzel has absorbed all the tutoring and all the life lessons to become one of the Big Ten's elite. But awards and honors such as preseason Player of the Year haven't changed the soft-spoken, humble Spartan.

"I remember this summer they made the Spartan 300 stuff," said Neitzel teammate Travis Walton. "They had him on the front, and he called the dude to tell him, 'You got me too big, you got my team too small' — that just says a lot about his character."

Despite what Neitzel is to his fans and his team, for the Iowa men's basketball team, a date against the senior on Jan. 12 will be anything but easy.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Alex Johnson** at: alexander-j-johnson@uiowa.edu

Hoopsters end layoff



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye Wendy Ausdemore listens during a time-out during Iowa's Big Ten Tournament game against Indiana on March 1 in Indianapolis. Ausdemore, usually a high scorer for the Hawkeyes, ended the game with no points, and the Hawks lost, 67-53.

HOOPS
CONTINUED FROM 1B

Although the Westerwinds are 0-3 against opponents shared with Iowa, they do have a post presence who caught Bluder's attention while scouting them earlier in the week.

"They're not big, but they're face-up post players," she said. "They're almost like wing post players, and that's sometimes hard for us to match up against because of our size."

"It can be an advantage on the offensive end, but it can be

a disadvantage on the defensive end when you're trying to play out on the perimeter with people who are quicker than you are."

With the two weeks off, the Hawkeyes had plenty of time to improve immensely upon their strength and conditioning, and they look to jump out to a fast start Saturday.

"We just got to come out strong right away, play great defense, and box out," junior Wendy Ausdemore said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Brendan Stiles** at: brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

NFL

Backup Davenport steals the show in Steelers' win

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Najeh Davenport is a career backup running back with typical nondescript statistics. Except when he's playing the St. Louis Rams.

The Pittsburgh Steelers' top-rated defense was porous again in a 41-24 victory over the St. Louis Rams on Thursday night.

But Davenport's two touchdowns and 123 yards rushing on 24 carries in relief of injured Willie Parker allowed them to break out of a late-season swoon and move one step closer to a playoff berth.

The Rams' Isaac Bruce caught a 12-yard touchdown pass and moved into third place on the

career-yards receiving list, moving ahead of James Lofton. Marc Bulger threw three touchdown passes but was intercepted twice, and Ike Taylor's 51-yard return on an overthrown ball on fourth-and-10 with 3:46 to go put the game out of reach.

Pittsburgh had taken a 10-point lead on a 29-yard field goal by Jeff Reed only seven plays earlier.

Besides the Bruce milestone, the only other highlight for the Rams (3-12) was retiring Marshall Faulk's No. 28 jersey at halftime of the Rams home finale.

St. Louis finished 1-7 at home and had three games blacked out because it didn't sell out, and in each of the last two weeks, there have been nearly as many visitors as home fans in the Edward Jones Dome.

Paterno not ready to quit yet



Carolyn Kaster/Associated Press

Penn State coach Joe Paterno stands with his players before a game against Youngstown State on Sept. 16, 2006. Paterno will celebrate his 81st birthday today.

PATERNO
CONTINUED FROM 1B

when he's going to roll over," Paterno said. "I'm kidding. I don't mean to be flippant, because I think that's a serious question, but I haven't got the slightest idea what you're talking about."

Just talking about life after JoePa can be touchy in Happy Valley. Paterno has some loyal supporters — many of them deep-pocketed donors — who say the coach has earned the right to leave on his own terms.

Administrators are tightlipped. Paterno doesn't have an agent, and any formal discussions about an extension likely won't start until the season ends. Athletics Director Tim Curley said this week he planned to meet with Paterno to review the program, as they typically do following each season.

With possibly as many as 18 starters returning next season, the Nittany Lions are stocked with the kind of veteran talent that could help fuel a Big Ten run to send Paterno off on a high note.

Even Paterno acknowledges that his tenure is nearing an end, though he continues to say that he could go for at least another three years so long as his health allows.

When he does leave, Paterno has said he'd like his replacement to come from within. Among the veterans on his staff

is defensive coordinator Tom Bradley, a master recruiter and the architect of a perennial top-15 defense, who has been at Paterno's side for 29 years.

But another recent high-profile coaching hiring last spring might be a clue to the school's way of thinking. Penn State hired Coquese Washington, who had no previous ties to Happy Valley, to replace Rene Portland as women's basketball coach. Portland resigned in March following 27 seasons.

"I think when I start to get the

feel, I'll sit down with the right people and say, 'Hey, maybe we ought to start talking about my getting out of here if it benefits us,' " Paterno said. "But right now that hasn't even come up."

Paterno would rather spend his birthday preparing for the Alamo Bowl. It's a task he'll likely accomplish at the sprawling football complex or at his home office, where the coach has spent more time in recent years.

Regardless of where he is, the routine has been nearly identical through the decades. Why

change when you're getting ready to coach your record 34th bowl game and 500th career game overall?

Penn State's bowl opponent, Texas A&M, has had eight head coaches since Paterno took over the Nittany Lions in 1966.

"It's pretty amazing when you look back on it, just being able to know that this guy has been around that many games," center A.Q. Shipley said. "It's pretty amazing to realize the uniqueness of 500 games."

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Sports

Keller out of the shadows

Purdue TE Dustin Keller ready for finale after team MVP year.

By Cliff Brunt
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Dustin Keller was overshadowed by fellow pass-catcher Dorian Bryant for much of his career, but not anymore.

Though Bryant led Purdue in receptions for the third-straight year, Keller was voted the team MVP. The tight end caught 61 passes for 731 yards and six touchdowns this season. He said he didn't expect to receive the award.

"It's huge for me," he said. "I can't thank my teammates enough for voting on it. It's one thing for the coaches to give you praise. To get all that praise from your peers, the guys you've been playing with for four or five years — that's a great honor."

Keller will try to finish his career with a team honor — a win in a bowl game — when Purdue (7-5) plays Central Michigan (8-5) in the

Motor City Bowl on Dec. 26. Purdue hasn't won a bowl game since 2002. "It's my last game wearing a Purdue jersey," Keller said. "I'm going to just go out there and put everything on the line for my teammates, and hopefully, with me being a senior, they'll turn around and do the same thing for me."

Purdue quarterback Curtis Painter said Keller's MVP honor is well-deserved.

"All I have to do is get him the ball," he said. "I think that's what's been the theme all season. Just get him the ball, and he's making plays."

Keller is a hybrid of sorts. He's 6-4 and weighs a solid 240 pounds. He's faster than most tight ends but bigger and stronger than most wide receivers.

Coach Joe Tiller said Keller was just 205 pounds when he was being recruited. Tiller wasn't sure what to do with Keller at first.

"We liked him as an athlete, we

liked his soft hands," Tiller said. "He was a tweener, though. Could he play tight end? Could he play wideout?"

Eventually, Tiller gave Keller tapes of Indianapolis Colts tight end Dallas Clark to study and told Keller to bulk up.

Keller listened, and it paid off.

He was one of eight finalists for the John Mackey Award, which honors the nation's best tight end. The transition wasn't easy, but now he feels like a better person and player because he accepted the challenge.

"I think I can go into anything now and make it because of the things I've faced," he said. "Hopefully, I can apply that at the next level."

Keller said he's focused on the bowl game, but he finally has allowed his mind to examine the possibility of playing professionally. He expects to attend the NFL scouting combine.

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CORALVILLE. One bedroom. H/W paid. Newer carpet, appliances, parking, laundry on-site. \$475 single, \$495 couple. (319)330-7081.

DOWNTOWN Iowa City. One bedroom loft. H/W paid. (319)338-4774.

EFFICIENCIES available. Corner Dubuque and Church. \$450 to \$575. H/W paid. No pets. (319)356-5933.

!!!! LEASING FOR FALL 2008 !!!!

517 S. Linn St.
4Bed/2Bath
Close to downtown
Laundry, secure bldg
parking avail, D/W

720 S. Dubuque St.
3&4Bed/2Bath
Close to downtown
Laundry, Parking, D/W
Recently Updated

Harlocke Condos
2Bed/1Bath
Close to UIHC & Law Bldgs
Secure Bldgs, Parking,
Fireplace, D/W, W/D

All properties are smoke and pet free. LIMITED # AVAILABLE.
CALL TODAY FOR INFO & SHOWINGS
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raematt.com

EFFICIENCY / ONE BEDROOM

ALWAYS ONLINE
www.dailyiowan.com

HIGHLY SELECTIVE
Deluxe large one bedroom with office (will also rent as two bedroom) \$550- \$650, includes parking. Close to UIHC. H/W paid. No smoking, no pets. Available January 1. On-site manager. Call ASAP. (319)351-0942.

LANTERN PARK APARTMENTS- Great Coralville location- one bedroom, H/W paid, on city busline. Some units recently remodeled. Some units allow cats for an additional fee, \$475. (319)339-9320, www.s-gate.com

LARGE efficiency/ one bedroom. Quiet, no smoking, no pets. A/C. Parking, yard. \$395- \$495, utilities paid. August free. After 6p.m. (319)354-2221. iacityrentals.com

LARGE one bedroom for rent, 636 S.Dodge St., H/W paid. (319)338-2212.

LARGE one bedroom for sublease. Very close to campus. Internet provided, cheap, parking available. Security entrance, clean and safe. Call (309)781-8032 for details.

LODGE studio available immediately. \$615/ month (includes utilities; \$770 before sublease) until July 31; fully furnished; excellent location; secured access/ elevator, large parking; fitness center; indoor basketball court; swim spa/ sauna; tanning/ game/ media rooms; study lounge (www.thelodgeatui.com)
E-mail: mairahyeon@hotmail.com or call (319)400-4515.

ONE bedroom apartment. Coralville strip. \$450/ month sublease. January- August 2008. Free H/W. Spacious. (563)508-0186.

FIRST floor and basement of house. One bedroom, attached garage, W/D, dishwasher, busline, hardwood floors. \$650 plus utilities. (319)400-7335.

EFFICIENCY / ONE BEDROOM

ONE bedroom clean, quiet. 503 S Van Buren. \$525 H/W parking included. Available Jan./ Feb. (319)321-7165.

ONE bedroom spacious apartment across the street from campus. \$640 plus electric. Free parking. Quiet. (515)450-7645.

ONE bedroom, \$505. Efficiency, \$485. Near law and UIHC. H/W paid. Available now. (563)506-1489.

PEACEFUL sunny northeast efficiency for quiet non-smoking female grad. Own kitchen/ shares bath with other ladies in upstairs of historic owner occupied house. Walking distance. \$275/ heat and water included. (319)337-3821.

SEVILLE APARTMENTS
has one bedroom apartments available January. \$570 includes heat, AC, and water. Call (319)338-1175 for more details.

VERY large one bedroom. Close-in. C/A, parking available. Security entrance. W/D. \$625/ month. Days (319)351-1346, after 7:30p.m. and weekends (319)354-2221.

MOVING??
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TWO BEDROOM

\$495 plus utilities, 68 Oberlin (East Iowa City), 2 bedroom, non-pet and non-smoking unit. Good credit and rental reference required. (319)530-8700.

2 bedroom, two bathroom, two balconies. Near downtown, overlooking swimming pool. Garage parking. Laundry, elevator, all appliances. C/A and heating. Call (319)621-6750.

2 bedroom, 2 bathroom sublease, large apartment, on sight laundry & parking, storage, large kitchen, dishwasher, close to campus & College Green. \$883, heat/water included. Please call (515)321-8266.

TWO BEDROOM

TWO bedroom. Close. \$640 plus gas and electric. Parking. (319)354-1229.

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www.dailyiowan.com

WESTSIDE DRIVE. Immaculate two bedroom. Parking, on busline. \$600/ month. Available December. Will pay 1/2 December rent. (319)337-3829.

WOODLANDS APARTMENTS- two bedroom, one bath, recently remodeled, W/D in unit, C/A, some with decks, on city busline. Some units allow cats for an additional fee. \$620-\$650. (319)339-9320, www.s-gate.com

THREE / FOUR BEDROOM

TOWNHOUSES
*** 2 & 3 Bedrooms ***
* Close to UIHC, Law, Dental *
* Central Air Dishwasher *
* Garage Laundry Patio *
* Start at \$792/mo. *
* **338-7058** *
* jandjapts.com *
* ***** No pets *****

419 S.GOVERNOR.
One block off Burlington St. Townhouses, 3 bedrooms. W/D hook-ups, A/C, balcony, Parking Available now. (319)338-4774.

DAILY IOWAN CLASSIFIEDS 335-5784; 335-5785
e-mail:
daily-iowan-classified@uiowa.edu

DOWNTOWN loft apartment. 321 S. Linn Street. Rent negotiable. H/W paid. (319)936-5324.

FINKBINE LANE- Near UIHC and Law Building- two bedroom, one bath, H/W paid, dishwasher, microwave, on-site laundry, on busline. Cats and small dogs okay for additional fee. \$595. SouthGate, (319)339-9320, www.s-gate.com

NEW furnished two bedroom. Available January 1. Two blocks from campus. Near Mercy Hospital. 411 E.Market St. \$550/ month plus utilities. Parking available. (773)445-4906, (312)515-3744.

NICE size two bedroom in North Liberty. \$570/ month. Very quiet area. Days (319)351-1346; evenings and weekends (319)354-2221.

PARK PLACE has a two bedroom available ASAP for \$565, includes water. Off-street parking, laundry on-site. Call (319)354-0281.

PETS WELCOME!
Two bedroom units at Sycamore as low as \$700. W/D hook-ups, cable ready, central air, full appliance package. Call today (319)354-1961. ammanagement.net

LARGE two bedroom, two bath in Coralville. Available January. Heat included. No smoking, no pets. On busline. Call (319)351-8901 or (319)330-1480.

TWO bedroom near UIHC/ Dental on Newton Road. Parking included. www.northbayproperties.com (319)338-5900.

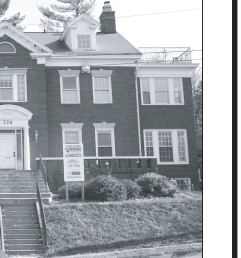
TWO bedroom, Coralville, available now. 970 sq.ft. \$595/ month, water paid. Balcony, C/A, free parking, laundry on-site, on busline. (319)339-7925.

TWO bedroom, one bathroom. On-campus, on busline, off-street parking, laundry on-site. Call (319)631-3268 or (319)331-4795.

TWO bedroom, two bathroom. Grandview Terrace Building. S. Linn St. Available December or January. (319)338-7058.

CONDO FOR SALE

Enjoy the best views in Iowa City!
Over-looking the Iowa River



Frantz Construction has done it again! With Ahmann Design, Inc. doing the design concept and the proven track record of Frantz Construction, this elite mansion will be Iowa City's most elegant, historical, up-scale condos. Many features including underground parking, as well as an elevator will be included for your convenience. With over 2300 square feet in the two bedroom homes and 1400 square feet in the one bedroom home, the floor plans are spacious, luxurious and the views are to die for. Walking distance of the college, parks and town! Put your hold on one now, as they won't last long!

RE/Max Real Estate Centre
Cindy A. Radocaj
319-631-6330

HOUSE FOR SALE

FOR SALE BY OWNER



Located in Iowa City
\$129,900
No mortgage payment for up to 6 months
AND \$1,000 for closing costs
2005 Condo (corner lot) located in a quiet cul-de-sac. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage with large laundry room. Many updates include laminate flooring, privacy fence, and new appliances. Close to public transportation.
Call 515-835-0272 for more details.

DUPLEX FOR RENT

TWO bedroom, attached garage, C/A, W/D, side-by-side unit. \$700/ month. (319)936-4647.

TWO bedroom, quiet, Eastside Iowa City. W/D hook-ups, no pets. \$575- \$625. (319)338-4407.

CONDO FOR RENT

AVAILABLE immediately. Nice two bedroom. Close to law school; campus. 804 Benton Drive. \$625/ month. (507)382-6776.

BEST location, lowest rent. Three bedroom. Loaded condos. Garage. \$795. (319)331-8995.

LARGE three bedroom townhouse, two baths, skylight, off-street parking, W/D, C/A, yard, internet. No smoking, no pets. After 6:30p.m. (319)354-2221. iacityrentals.com

SUBLET:
Three bedroom two bathroom condo. Five minutes from hospitals, two car attached garage, central air, W/D, spacious rooms, quiet building. Available January 3rd. Call Vanessa (319)430-4516.

HOUSE FOR RENT

1, 3 & 4 bedroom houses. Pets considered, on busline. (319)331-1120.

1-4 BEDROOM HOUSES
for rent. Varies locations. (319)331-1120.

2, 3, 4, 5, 6+ bedroom, downtown houses for rent. Fall 2008. Multiple bathrooms in all homes. Free parking, busline, close-in, many new up-grades. Now leasing. (319)341-9385.

3, 4, 5, 6, 9 bedroom houses for rent. Call Dave at (319)430-5959 or email me at fourA_Properties@yahoo.com for details and we will be glad to show them to you.

BRAND new four bedroom single house, Coralville, 2-1/2 baths, two car garage, \$1600/ month. (319)354-1555.

COUNTRY SETTING. 16 acres: Trees, creek, prairie. Great for outdoor pets. Available now. Two bedroom, two bathroom house. 3-1/2 miles from Iowa City. Newer appliances with high efficiency furnace and C/A. Hardwood floors, W/D, patio, porch, attached garage, barn. \$800/ month plus \$1500 security deposit. 5 to 6-month lease available. (847)234-8665.

HOUSE FOR SALE



604 W. PARK ROAD • IC (\$499,000)
Manville Heights Classic • Many updates in this wonderful 2-story. The kitchen update includes a Viking Range & Sub Zero Refrigerator. The master bedroom suite has been remodeled to include a 14x21 bedroom area, steam shower & walk-in closet. The lower level has been remodeled & has rec room/media area, huge mud room entry coming from garage, workout room, 1/2 BA, & extra storage. The upper level features 4 bedrooms, 3 baths (one with jetted tub) & walk up attic access. The 1st floor has a formal living room, dining room, family room & den with fireplace and fantastic lot and setting!

Mike Van Dyke • 319-631-2659

HOUSE FOR SALE



Virtual Tour at marva.com
1020 BRYAN COURT • IOWA CITY
One Owner Parade Home built in 1997, 2,484 sq ft of living space, 3-season porch, 4 bdrm, 2 baths, hardwood floors in foyer, kitchen & dining room, vaulted ceilings in great room, new interior paint '07. Spacious bath on FF with double vanity, whirlpool tub and shower. Master bedroom with walk-in closet, new lower level carpet '07, 9ft ceilings in family room, gas fireplace with ceramic tile and built-in bookcases with walk-out. Finished laundry room with fenced in yard with mature trees. Quick possession.
\$254,900
Marva Abel • (319) 321-1383

REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES

HOME FOR SALE

Photo of Your House/Condo/Duplex...
Your Words...
This Size...
RUNS FOR 6 WEEKS!

\$150
Call 335-5784

“I personally believe that U.S. Americans are unable to do so because some people out there in our nation don't have maps, and I believe that our education like such as in South Africa and Iraq and everywhere like such as, and I believe that they should our education over here in the U.S. should help the U.S. or should help South Africa and should help Iraq and the Asian countries so we will be able to build up our future for us.”
— Miss Teen USA contestant **Lauren Upton** on why 20 percent of Americans can't find the U.S. on a map. The quotation was No. 2 on a list of the year's most memorable.

This column reflects the opinion of the author and not the *DI*/Editorial Board, the Publisher, Student Publications Inc., or the University of Iowa.



ANDREW R. JUHL

Christmas trivia

- After *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens wrote additional Christmas stories, one each year — none as successful as the first. “So why did he keep writing them,” you ask? That's easy: greed.
- During this holiday season, more than 1.8 billion candy canes will be made — enough to keep a medium-sized rave going for up to eight hours.
- Frustrated by poor Christmas sales, Charles Pajean hired several midgets, dressed them as elves, and asked them play with “Tinker Toys” in a display window at a Chicago department store in 1914. Within a year, more than 1 million sets had been sold. The moral of the story: When in doubt, exploit children.
- According to Greek myth, malicious creatures called Kallikantzaroi like to play troublesome pranks around Christmas time. To be rid of them, it is suggested that you burn either salt or an old shoe. Personally, I'd use Pikachu's thundershock attack ... or perhaps Bulbasaur's ever-effective vine whip.
- During Victorian times, Christmas turkeys were herded from Norfolk to London and given boots made of sacking or leather to help protect their feet from the frozen mud. So, yeah, there's yet another tradition you may associate with Christmas: the death march.
- In 1647, the English Parliament passed a law that made Christmas illegal because Oliver Cromwell considered feasting and revelry on holy days to be immoral. When the Royalists returned to power in 1661, Cromwell's corpse was dug up and posthumously executed by beheading. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

— **Andrew R. Juhl** thanks the Internet for supplying him with so many Christmas factoids.
E-mail him at: andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu

Think you're pretty funny? Prove it. *The Daily Iowan* is looking for Ledge writers. You can submit a Ledge at daily-iowan@uiowa.edu. If we think it's good, we'll run it — and maybe contact you for more.

horoscopes

Friday, December 21, 2007
— by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Something has been left undone, and time is running out. Filter through personal papers, and make any adjustments that will save you money in the new year. A trip may sound like a good idea, but if you can't afford it, take a pass.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A trip home or to a destination you love to visit will turn out well. You may consider making a geographical move. A love relationship will take on a new meaning, but be sure you understand what's expected of you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): By lending someone a hand, you will come across an interesting idea. There is money to be made, but don't fool yourself into thinking a quick-rich scheme will work. Hard work will be required. Keep things in perspective.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't leave on a sour note, especially when dealing with colleagues, peers, classmates or your boss. This is not the day to get snippy or impatient with others. Ask advice — don't give it — and you will win points. Love is in the stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make sure that everyone around you is taken care of and that no one is left out or ill-treated. You can make a difference by helping out in your community or doing something nice for an older relative. Most of all, give back today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep a tight lid on surprises or secrets. A serious attitude will help you sort through and finish important issues. A change at home will be beneficial, so don't balk. Someone you trust will probably let you down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may feel as if someone is being too demanding when, in fact, he or she is just asking for help. Try to be reasonable. A love relationship may cause erratic behavior.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't give in to emotional blackmail. Just because someone wants or expects something doesn't mean you have to deliver. Do what's comfortable for you and nothing more. An argument will not result in a resolution.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have so much to deal with right now that it's important not to take on someone else's problems. A trip will bring you in touch with a potential partner. Avoid emotional matters until you are in a better frame of mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Give whatever you are doing your all. Think big, and your returns will match your vision. Don't let a love interest interfere in your business. Finish what you can before the day is over.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let anyone put pressure on you. If you don't feel right about something, simply say no. Someone from your past may try to make your life difficult. Make it clear that you have moved on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone may be hiding something from you. Let it pass for now. It's time to open your doors and entertain the people you want to have in your life for years to come. Don't let overindulgence cause problems.

A PROVABLE FEAST



Peter Klopfenstein/The Daily Iowan
Plates of *batinjaan zalud*, made of eggplant, tomatoes, and olives, wait to be eaten as IMU staff member Justin DeWitt covers the main entrée, *pastilla* (*bisteeya*) in the IMU Main Lounge on Thursday for a Lunch with the Chefs event. This month's theme was “Casbah Cuisine: Moroccan favorites” and featured traditional such Moroccan dishes as *harina*, *couscous*, and *rice pudding*.

today's events

Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply e-mail the name, time, date, and location information to: dailyiowan@uiowa.edu.

- **Gingerbread Fun**, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **“Java Blend,” The Bowmans**, noon, Java House, 211½ E. Washington
- **Town Hall Meeting with Barack Obama**, 12:30 p.m., Northwest Junior High School Main Gymnasium, 1507 Eighth St., Coralville
- **Teen Tech Zone**, 1-4 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Graduate College Commencement**, 2 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **VitalLight**, 6 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Friday Night Magic**, 6:30 p.m., Critical

- Hit Games
- **College of Engineering Commencement**, 7 p.m., Hancher
 - **Billy Hoaxe and the Hoax**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
 - **“Live at the Java House,” Sharon Bousquet**, 9 p.m., Java House
 - **retro Club Night**, 9 p.m., Friday, December 21, Speak Easy, 171 Highway 1 W.
 - **Shame Train, Highway Shelter, and Skursala**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
 - **Dance Party, with music by Rock 'n' Thunder**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave.
 - **The Puritanicals, with The Brown Note**, 9:30 p.m., Picador



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CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR MORE PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

5				6	3			2
1		2		8		9		6
			4					
				3	2			
		9		1		6		
			8	7				
					8			
8		6		9		2		3
9			3	5				7

12/21/07

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Level:

1 2
3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE

7	3	2	8	6	4	9	5	1
8	5	4	7	1	9	6	2	3
1	9	6	3	5	2	8	7	4
5	6	1	9	3	7	2	4	8
2	4	9	1	8	5	7	3	6
3	8	7	4	2	6	1	9	5
9	2	3	6	4	1	5	8	7
6	7	8	5	9	3	4	1	2
4	1	5	2	7	8	3	6	9

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

12:30 p.m. News from China-Beijing (in Chinese)
1 A Chinese Lights Reading from the UITV Archives, Ted Kerasote
2 Graduate College Commencement Ceremony, live
3:30 Graduate Dance Concert, December 2007

5 “Know the Score,” Dec. 7
7 College of Engineering Commencement Ceremony, live
8:30 Piano Sundays Concert from the Old Capitol, Nov. 18
9:30 Graduate College Commencement Ceremony

For complete TV listings and program guides, check out Arts and Entertainment at dailyiowan.com.



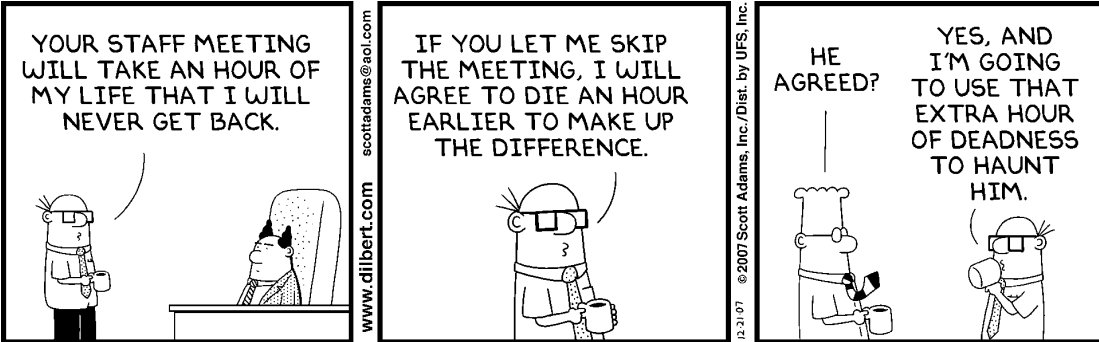
Got something to say? Send it away! Go to dailyiowan.com to give a shout-out to a friend or foe. Look for them online and on the Daily Break page.

Loudest Shouts

- Shout out to my Psych final — hooray for multiple choice!
- Shout out to DITV ... way tight.
- Shout out to the Mill for lubricating my post-final bliss!

DILBERT

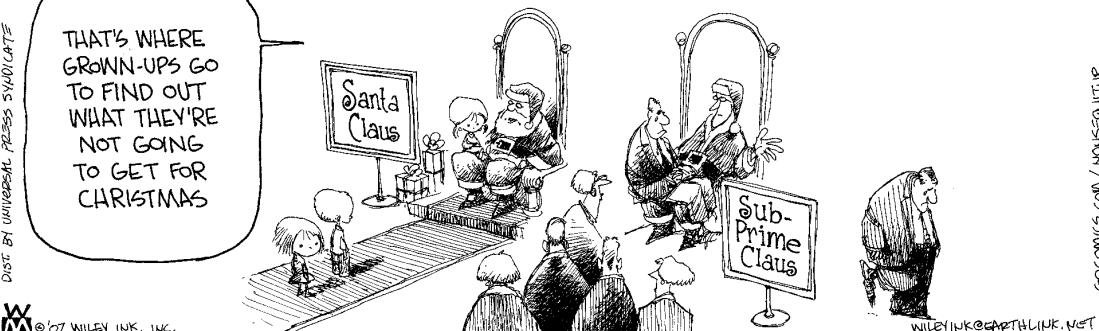
by Scott Adams



NON SEQUITUR

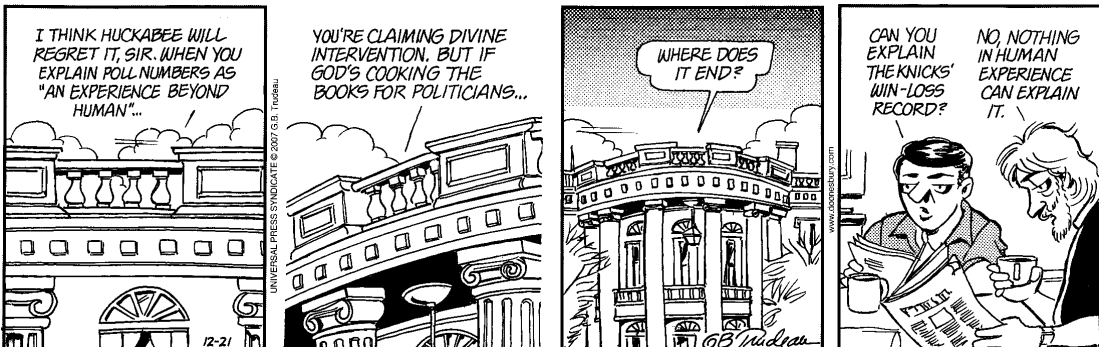
BY WILEY

12-21



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



The New York Times Crossword

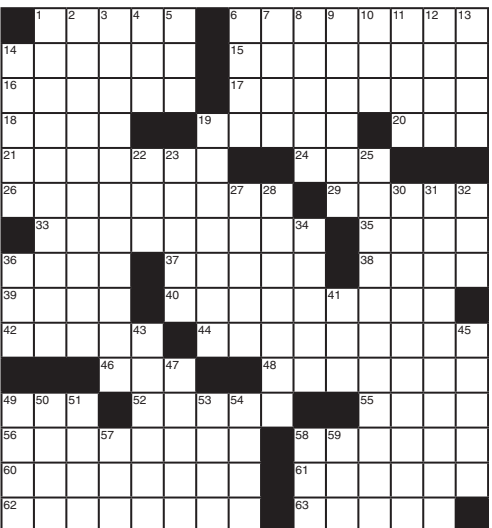
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1109

- Across**
- Concerned query
 - Without a leg to stand on?
 - Vermont senator Sanders
 - It's a cinch
 - Pretextual
 - Without a match
 - “Pardon me”
 - Closing bid?
 - Peak
 - McCartney, to fans
 - Horror film that starts in a filthy lavatory
 - Weaken, in a way
 - Monotheistic Syrian
 - Most in need of toning
 - Top-rated, in a way
 - Slant
 - Get all histrionic
 - About 40°, for N.Y.C.
 - Hostel environments
 - Wore out
 - Some lap dogs
 - Result of a new TV series' renewal
 - A.A. discussion topic
 - Apt to say “So?”
 - Appoints as an agent
 - Roast pig side dish
 - Stands
 - Brew choice
 - Afro-Caribbean religion
 - Toeless creature in an Edward Lear verse
 - Engine manufacturer Briggs & ___
 - One with a second helping
 - Super Bowl XX champs
 - Personnel director, at times
- Down**
- Hoped-for reply to 1-Across
 - Sentiment is often payment with one
 - Apt to say “So?”
 - Relative of -ish
 - Mauna ___
 - Missile with a mobile launcher
 - Product whose ads featured twins
 - Iroquois' foes
 - Lee Marvin TV oldie
 - Moldovan money
 - He or I, but not you: Abbr.
 - Ward of “Once and Again”
 - Deep river?
 - Sighing a lot, maybe
 - Some Nissans
 - ___ for Alibi”
 - Pendragon, King Arthur's father
 - Call slip?
 - West African currency
 - Ponch player in 1970s-'80s TV

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	P	A	R	I	N	F	O	M	I	C	A
C	A	N	I	P	O	E	M	M	C	O	O
A	R	G	O	A	M	I	E	O	N	I	O
P	I	S	T	O	N	E	N	G	I	N	E
E	S	T	A	T	E	A	R	R	I	V	A
C	O	M	E	S	O	O	L	A	L	A	
B	R	E	T	E	A	S	T	O	N	E	L
Y	E	A		P	E	N		L	E	I	
F	I	R	S	T	O	N	E	T	O	B	L
A	N	N	E	A	L		P	O	L	I	O
R	E	S	E	L	L	S		D	A	W	N
H	E	A	R	T	O	F	S	T	O	N	E
R	A	V	E	N		T	O	D	O	I	T
P	E	T	E		A	F	I	G		D	I
P	E	T	E		S	U	E	Y		E	N



Puzzle by Henry Hook

- Too awful even to fix up, as an apartment
- Octopus, e.g.
- Take the cake?
- Twit
- Marcel Marceau character
- Bush league?
- City connected to the 4.1-mile long Sunshine Skyway Br.
- Kitchen appliance brand
- In a sense
- Over here”
- Four-letter word, apply
- On
- Pricy gown
- McShane and McKellen
- Bill
- Sharable computer file, for short
- Overseas agreement

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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