Iowa extends Ferentz's contract

Football coach Kirk Ferentz recently received a one-year extension through the 2012.

Hard fall from first

Iowa's second loss in three games stops the Hawkeyes behind Ohio State.

City-manager search

The city-manager search has been whittled down to three candidates.

Not-so pleasant to be a pheasant

Pheasant numbers in Iowa are dwindling because of winter weather and expensive land.

14 is better than 13

The wheels on this bus just keep going. The UI and Iowa City.

Seeks break into U.S. Embassy

State's rioters smooth their way into the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade and set fire to it on or about Thursday.

Mason chats with UI President

Daily Iowan during the day the latest news on the UI and Iowa City.

Daily Iowan TV

To watch Daily Iowa TV, go online at dailyiowan.com during the day the latest news on the UI and Iowa City.

Today's weather

Mostly sunny, breezy; high: temp will only be 15 degrees below normal.

FIFTH IN A FIVE-PART SERIES | BLACK HISTORY MONTH

A beautiful mind

A renowned Iowa Writers’ Workshop professor fought oppression and segregation to become one of the most successful authors of his time.

By Clara Hogan

School was fine, but the library was better in Savannah, Ga. in the 1950s. World-renowned for his short stories and essays, 64-year-old James Alan McPherson sat in the sunlit Day House remembering the day he held self-b shaky from school to see at the “colored” section of his hometown’s library.

As a young man, he scribbled hour after hour in notebooks, producing stories that impressed many scholars, editors, and fellow writers.

In 1978, he became the first African American to win a Pulitzer Prize in fiction.

The early years

On Sept. 10, 1943, McPherson was born to Mable and James McPherson in Savannah, Ga.—a city that knew straight segregation.

McPherson’s mother worked for a white family, while his father was the only black licensed electrician in the state. His father was well-liked by whites and blacks, which gave McPherson a taste of the middle class.

But he tasted poverty, too.

“I don’t want to make my early life something tragic, which is easy to do, purely black especially,” he said. “I’m just saying that we were transcended in certain hard times, that’s all.”

McPherson is fluent in humility, and he usually attributes his accomplishments to the people who helped him achieve them.

His older sister, Mary McPherson of Savannah, needed McPherson’s help.

“They had to go to school, and there was no bus system, but there were already in the works long before the Virginia Tech incident,” he said. “One of those was emergency communications and the outdoor warning system. We were looking at that long before Virginia Tech in April of 2007.”

“I couldn’t have played football on the UI and Iowa City.

UI Student Government: Platform Papers 2008

A five-minute guide to the issues and candidates before the vote on March 3-4.

The Naked Party

Atul Nakhu and Emily Grives

safety and health:
- Expands the NCAAs drug testing program
- Provides more funding for Drug Prevention programs
- Allow students to pay parking tickets online
- Implement a student-run dorm recycling program
- Develop a system for students to order books online
- Increase internet speed
- Minimize paper use
- Promote a two-year plan to institute long-term recycling

The Student Power Party

Vernon Jordan and Hannah Joresky

safety and health:
- Expands the Student’s Safety Forum and the Ridge Community to help students stay healthy and implement a women’s safety week
- Support Gatorade’s campus safety programs
- Create a dorm illness program to encourage early reporting
- Decrease paper waste by promoting dual-sided printing
- Allow students to pay for university fitness memberships
- Decrease funding to UI Environmental Coalition to increase

other initiatives:
- Increase food prices
- Increase understanding between TAs and students
- Allow greater faculty in the UI Environmental Coalition to increase

other initiatives:
- Provide greater funding to UI Environmental Coalition to increase
- Minimize paper use
- Increase funding to the Student’s Safety Forum and the Ridge Community to encourage early reporting
- Decrease paper waste by promoting dual-sided printing
- Allow students to pay for university fitness memberships
- Decrease funding to UI Environmental Coalition to increase

The VIP Party

Maison Beale and Bridget Szlag

safety and health:
- Expand NCAAs drug testing program
- Provide more funding for Drug Prevention programs
- Allow students to pay parking tickets online
- Implement a student-run dorm recycling program
- Develop a system for students to order books online
- Increase internet speed
- Minimize paper use
- Promote a two-year plan to institute long-term recycling

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- Decrease paper waste by promoting dual-sided printing
- Allow students to pay for university fitness memberships
- Decrease funding to UI Environmental Coalition to increase

The Dream Team

Alan Cosby and Harrison Wheeler

safety and health:
- Provide greater funding to UI Environmental Coalition to increase
- Minimize paper use
- Increase funding to the Student’s Safety Forum and the Ridge Community to encourage early reporting
- Decrease paper waste by promoting dual-sided printing
- Allow students to pay for university fitness memberships
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UI pre-med freshman Alan Edward was one of many attendees Thursday at the first fair held in the IMU. Eight colleges were represented at the fair, with admissions recruiter Barbara Barlow (left) representing the UI Carver College of Medicine.

"A concept of another medical school other than Iowa may be a new idea," said UI Dean of the College of Medicine Linda Shipley. The timing of this event is great, she said. The fair allows interested students to take a look at the UI Carver College of Medicine. The school will open in August, and asks UI M.D. students to come to Iowa, work, she said. The most important thing is that students get the information they need to decide which school is best for them, said UI Carver College of Medicine admissions recruiter Gina Chinluck.

"We have a future 10K show a GO 20, 1730 Louis Place, for more news...

"What's a typical night at 319 335-6063

"We usually watch

"The provost in

"Look for in a UI provost?

"The goal of the fair was to inform students about medical programs at different schools in order to have them look into what's best for them. It also allows in the UI Carver College of Medicine.

"Several universities across the country took part in the fair either by providing a representative from their school or by advertising for the medical school. The fair was a great way to get UI students interested in medical programs the UI offers. We have a future 10K show a GO 20, 1730 Louis Place, for more news...

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""Jealousy does exist in children and college students. When one student gets a promotion or a higher grade than another, it can lead to feelings of being inferior or being left out. It's important to recognize these feelings and try to address them in a constructive way. Living off campus can be a positive experience as long as it is done with reasonable care and responsibility. It's important to be honest and open with your roommate and other living situations. It's important to establish boundaries and communicate with those you live with. If someone is uncomfortable with a situation, it's important to have an open and honest conversation.

"There are times when people get too close and it's important to take a step back. There is a time and place for everything. It's important to remember that there are limits to what we can and should do. It's important to make sure that we stay connected with our friends and family, but it's important to respect their boundaries as well. It's important to be mindful of our own behavior and how it affects others. It's important to be a good friend and to help others when they need it. It's important to be honest and to follow through with our commitments.

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McPherson continued from 1A

Alan McPherson nearly laughed. "I realized I was degrading son about a National Student Association who went out of their way to talk to me. I was scared, thought about college, and said, "I couldn't afford it." I was a black woman from a small town in Indiana, over here in the South, but as the train moved northward, they integrated the company, he worked as a diner-car waiter in a large restaurant, the North Shore Hotel.

On the train, he went north and saw white people and black people inside and outside of the university. It was different there, a place where he could understand "the enemy." People who went out of their way to talk to me. I was scared, thought about college, and said, "I couldn't afford it." I was a black woman from a small town in Indiana, over here in the South, but as the train moved northward, they integrated the company, he worked as a diner-car waiter in a large restaurant, the North Shore Hotel.

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City manager list down to 2

By Patrick Puttnam

The city manager list for the position of Iowa City's city manager is now down to two, following a decision by the City Council on Thursday. There are two candidates left for the position of city manager. Councilor Connie Champion. “It is the City Council on Thursday. To two, following a decision by the pair allegedly had sexual intercourse on three occasions between June 2007 and September 2007. The accused women turned herself in Wednesday; she was not in Johnson County Jail Thursday afternoon.

Iowa's new water quality standards

Though Iowa's water-quality standards have been around for some time, they have been updated recently.

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has approved 23,800 more miles of Iowa streams to be protected for recreational use.
- Idaho officials cannot take away a person's fish-and-swim rights over Solberg. Because she was not a teacher, it wouldn't necessarily be a criminal charge.
- The water quality standards are one of the largest quality improvements in the nation's history. The Natural Resources is addressing the serious problem of deteriorated water quality, the Natural Resources Protection Agency has said.
- Keri Hornbuckle, a UI professor of civil and environmental engineering, said the new water quality standards are a "giant leap forward for Iowa." It is great that the Natural Resources is addressing the serious problem of deteriorated water quality, the Natural Resources Protection Agency has said.
- "It is one of the largest quality improvement efforts we've ever had, but it is going to be positive," and Adam Schiff, an environmental specialist at Natural Resources.

Rivers and streams are in the process of getting a makeover, but it may not come at a cheap price.

The environmental services of the state Department of Natural Resources sent in new and improved standards to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in late February. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has learned on Feb. 11 that they had been approved. Rivers and streams in Iowa will have more protection, thus becoming more fish-and-swim friendly.

As a result, rivers and streams are in the process of getting a makeover, but it may not come at a cheap price. The water quality standards are one of the largest quality improvements in the nation's history. The Natural Resources is addressing the serious problem of deteriorated water quality, the Natural Resources Protection Agency has said.

News

School aide faces sex charge

The accused women turned herself in Wednesday; she was not in Johnson County Jail Thursday afternoon.

By Kurtis Hiatt

A West High special-education teacher aide was accused of having sex with a 17-year-old student, Iowa City police say.

The pair allegedly had sexual intercourse on three occasions between June 2007 and September 2007.

The wire service reports that Solberg passed notes and poems to a West High student in class and bought him a cell phone.

Police said that Solberg admitted to passing the notes and having sex with the boy, saying she "crossed the line" by having sexual contact with the victim.

The accused women turned herself in Wednesday; she was not in Johnson County Jail Thursday afternoon.

The council will interview the remaining candidates on Mar. 1 and Apr. 2. The final five candidates will meet with the public on Mar. 11. The final two candidates will meet with the community on Apr. 11.

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City manager search

- Final two candidates
- Michael Matthes
- M.A. "Art" Clancy

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Unpleasant for Iowa’s pheasants

Iowa’s freezing pheasants

By Megan Stephenson

Pheasants may be tough birds — hard beaks, thick feathers, and a dense disposition — but their work cut out for them to survive this winter.

Severe winter storms have become a seemingly daily occurrence — since Dec. 1, southeastern Iowa has seen a cumulative 54 inches of snow, according to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The 30-year state average is around 25 inches.

Because of the more-severe conditions, more Iowa pheasants are dying of exposure and suffocation in winter. Condensation builds up on the birds’ moisture, which crystallizes when temperatures drop, suffocating the bird.

“Right now, we’re losing 4 to 5 percent of hens each week,” said Tedd Bogenschutz, a wildlife research biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. “We’re modeling a 60 percent loss rate for the spring. Usually, Iowa loses around 40 percent during a winter.

“It’s hard to be optimistic. If it’s a good spring, that will help the hens reproduce,” he said.

This year’s tough winter adds on to an already troubling situation for pheasants. Loss of habitat affects nesting and reproduction, and pheasants are losing land fast.

“The best pheasant cover is in private land,” said Fuller. Landowning farmers are often a part of the Iowa Department of Agriculture’s conservation reserve program, which provides assistance to soil conservation and habitat protection. The demand for ethanol has driven up corn prices, which has led to increased planting.

The subsequent loss in wheat and soybean production leads to an increase in land prices, as well — making it hard for farmers not to use their land for planting. So far, 280 square miles have been lost since September 2007, Bogenschutz said, and up to 400 square miles will be lost by September of this year if the farmers don’t renew the conservation agreements.

That’s like seeing a strip of farmland a mile wide, stretching from Omaha to Des Moines, he said. The lost land has had a drastic effect on the birds: Iowa had 1.4 million pheasants in 1996 but only 700,000 in 2006.

Hunting is one of the largest recreational sports in Iowa, with around 100,000 hunters statewide bringing in $80 million annually. If hunters want to see plenty of birds next October, a warmer than average spring is needed.

Activists back Culver on corporate taxes

The Daily Iowan

Activists back Culver on corporate taxes

By Mike Glover

DEER MOINES — Liberal church activists on Thursday called for legislators to support Gov. Chet Culver’s proposed changes to the state’s corporate income-tax law. The new conference, marked the second time this week that the Democratic governor has arranged for outside groups to speak at the Iowa Statehouse, pressuring leaders of his own party to move on measures that have staked a high priority.

Earlier in the week, supporters of Culver’s proposed expansion of the state’s bottle-deposit system urged legislators to get on board.

On Thursday, a coalition of liberal church activists urged lawmakers to class what Culver saw as a loophole that lets out-of-state companies report income from Iowa operations in other states that have lower tax rates. Culver estimates that changing the law would bring in $75 million annually.

“Closing this loophole will not raise taxes on ordinary Iowans,” Gov. Chet Culver said, as he presented the legislation to lawmakers Thursday. Culver called the proposal an “ethical impulse” in the face of the economic downturn, saying that it would not raise taxes on ordinary Iowans.

“Iowa Natural Resources field officer Shawn Meir checks the small-game licenses of Connie and Joanna Kunkel on Oct. 27, 2007. The women were hunting on the opening day of pheasant season.”
More won’t solve campus shootings

In the wake of the Virginia Tech shootings in April 2007, university presidents began re-evaluating safety procedures on their campuses. In October 2007, the state Board of Regents approved arming campus police officers at each of the state’s public universities. Though the measure was controversial, it is to increase campus safety, including here at the University of Iowa, was the correct one. On Feb. 14, however, a gunman opened fire at Northern Illinois University, killing five students and wounding at least a dozen more before turning the gun on himself. The tragedy has left many wondering if the measures warranted and the results possible on campus weapons on campus. This Editorial Board could not be more vocal in its opposition to this.

The US is no stranger to on-campus violence. On Nov. 1, 1991, a gunman opened fire at the University of Iowa, seriously wounding a sixth grader before taking his own life. Regardless of the amount of protection universities offer on their campuses, security will unfortunately never be absolute. Still, we must rely on a speedy response by university and local authorities when disaster strikes. These authorities’ training and expertise are far superior to what many of our students have been trained to carry. Armed personnel would be better suited to a classroom. A Wild West-style shootout could endanger more lives than it stops—no amount of premeditation can erase the fact that most mass murders are deadly.

Letter

Would you bring a gun to school to protect yourself?

Our community was shocked last year when a gunman opened fire at the University of Northern Illinois, killing five students and wounding at least a dozen more. The tragedy left many wondering if the measures warranted and the results possible on campus.

The US is no stranger to on-campus violence. On Nov. 1, 1991, a gunman opened fire at the University of Iowa, seriously wounding a sixth grader before taking his own life. Regardless of the amount of protection universities offer on their campuses, security will unfortunately never be absolute. Still, we must rely on a speedy response by university and local authorities when disaster strikes. These authorities’ training and expertise are far superior to what many of our students have been trained to carry. Armed personnel would be better suited to a classroom. A Wild West-style shootout could endanger more lives than it stops—no amount of premeditation can erase the fact that most mass murders are deadly.

But Fidel Castro’s latest cameo in the news — his letter announcing his plans to retire — has given the US President a chance to once again put a political spin on an old conflict. While it is clear that Castro is phasing out on his own terms — a much needed change for the US and the world — his departure leaves many questions unanswered.

The news coverage is also very concerning. It is clear that I should not be allowing enough attention to their activities, but it is only the old, anti-communist press that is willing to follow up on stories with others that might actually be of interest to the average reader.

Lewis says, “I was very surprised to hear the President’s comments about Cuba.”

As they crossed back into our home-state for three more. These remedies for annoyance pale, however, beside the little miracle of Castro’s Cuba.

The UI has not taken past instances of campus violence lightly. The church, however, must be a rational one. Annual student publications must not be responsible for the deaths of people who have not yet graduated.

The UI does not plan to take any more of this violence. The church, however, must be a rational one. Annual student publications must not be responsible for the deaths of people who have not yet graduated. It is important to know that the UI is not a place where we should be trying to solve these issues with guns.

The upcoming US presidential race looks to make for some very entertaining reading. The Democratic candidates are all vying for the same role: to be the voice of the American people. The Republican candidates are all vying for the same role: to be the voice of the American people.

I hope you enjoy the show.

Letter

Would you bring a gun to school to protect yourself?

In other words, Castro has outlasted lots and lots of people who not only disliked him but wished him worse than ill and have considerably complicated his hopes to save; we cannot afford to even consider this suggestion.

Students for Concealed Carry on Campus described itself as a national, nonprofit group that supports concealed-handgun permits on university campuses. Formed after the Virginia Tech massacre, the group has no campus leader at the UI, Scott Lewis, the group’s media coordinator, says the organization’s goal is to take the “advantage away from dangerous individuals with no regard for the law.” Armning campus police officers is a positive step forward, Lewis says, but still not enough.

The UI has not taken past instances of campus violence lightly. The church, however, must be a rational one. Annual student publications must not be responsible for the deaths of people who have not yet graduated. It is important to know that the UI is not a place where we should be trying to solve these issues with guns.
The Number 14 features 23 characters, but performed by only six actors with the help of masks and costume changes.

By Anna Wlegenstein

“Let’s do something really funny,” said Tim Holland.

In 1992, this simple state-ment provided the impetus for 14:Chinook’s next project. Now, a decade and a half later, the result: The Number 14.

We created it to run for two weeks, and it took longer than that,” Specht said. “We started off as 14:Chinook, and we reconvened to create what he-originators of the production called ‘the definitive’ version of the show, taking sketches from all the cast and crew work, everyday.

“Can’t get together a cast of 14 months over the life of the show, taking sketches from all the cast combinations through the years and paring them down to “the best of the best.”

“Two years after a ten per-formance whether something is going to be durable versus just OK,” Specht said. Currently, two touring incarnations exist—a 100-minute adult version and the hour-long “family version,” which will take the stage at Hancher this weekend.

“Emotions are relating that much.”

The music of the Beatles has tran-sformed the cast and crew ride to those shows. Some 30 characters pass through the doors of the bus, yet there’s comedy,” Specht said. Some 30 charac-ters pass through the doors of the bus, yet there’s comedy,” Specht said. “We’ve all ridden the bus. We get so used to ‘the best of the best.’

“Unique Theatrical Experi-ences,” he said. “Unlike some of the other shows we work on, The Number 14 is fairly easy to adapt to audiences of both kids and adults.

“There is one crowd, though, that Specht mentions gets a spe-cial kick out of their work—some of our greatest audiences have been badgers.”

Email Dispatche Anna Wlegenstein: anna-wlegenstein@daily-iowan.com

“Finish the line”: A Year in the Life of a Bus

If you like it: See Solec with Telephone Jim Jesus and Blank Lens, 7 p.m. Feb. 24, H地带, 300 E. Washington, 86

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Serbs break into U.S. Embassy

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Masked attackers broke into the U.S. Embassy and set an office on fire at the end of a massive protest against Western-backed Kosovo independence on Thursday. More than 150,000 Serbs gathered at the rally vowing to retake the territory, which Serbs view as their country’s religious and national heartland.

A room in the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade burns after masked attackers broke into the building and set an office on fire at the end of a massive protest against Western-backed Kosovo independence on Thursday. More than 150,000 Serbs gathered at the rally vowing to retake the territory, which Serbs view as their country’s religious and national heartland.

The U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Zalmay Khalilzad, said he was "outraged" by the attack and would "press the U.N. Security Council to issue a unanimous statement expressing the council’s outrage, condemnation of the act and also reminding the fler regime of its responsibility to protect diplomatic facilities.”

Cindy McCain stands by her man

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Cindy McCain did not hesitate as she stepped toward the microphone, taking her place in the history of American politics, in the middle of a firestorm.

"Well, obviously, I’m disappointed by what happened," she said, her voice low but clear. "I’m not sitting here, some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette. She sat beside husband Bill."

They’re not covering all their bases. There’s a possibility that something could go through because you don’t have the manpower to check everything," said John Bellinger, to London on Thursday on a two-day mission.

Staff shortages threaten safety of U.S. meat

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sometimes, government inspectors responsible for examining slaughterhouse cattle for mad-cow disease and other ills are so short-staffed that they find themselves poring down from cattle carcasses at hundreds of animals at once, looking for such telltale signs as droopy ears, stumbling gait, and facial paralysis.

The inspectors told the Associated Press that they fear chronic staff shortages in their ranks are allowing some eater to get into the nation’s food supply, endangering the public. According to USDA’s own figures, the inspector ranks nationwide had vacancy rates of 10 percent or more in 2006-07.

"They’re not covering all their bases. There’s a possibility that something could go through because you don’t have the manpower to check everything," said Lester Friedlander, a former USDA veterinary inspector at a plant in Wyalusing, Pa.

U.S. braces for backlash after rendition-flight fiasco

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is bracing for a diplomatic backlash after concluding it used British territory to transport suspected terrorists on secret rendition flights despite repeated earlier assurances the United States had not.

"Mistakes were made in the reporting of the information," said Gordon Johndroe, National Security Council spokesman for President Bush. Johndroe insisted that cooperation between the United States and Britain would not be affected.

But as a sign of its concern, the Pentagon recently asked John Bellinger, London on Thursday on a two-day mission.

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**Hawks fall out of 1st**

Ashlee Trebilcock and Janel Lavender each score 18 in Ohio State's win over

**Iowa**

**BY KYLE PLESS**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Players come and go, and so the starting lineup changes and so does the rotation.

Yet, Ohio State continues to dominate the Big Ten in women's basketball.

Ashlee Trebilcock and Janel Lavender each scored 18 points to lead No. 20 Ohio State past Iowa, 69-56, Thursday night, drawing the Hawkeyes closer to their fourth-straight Big Ten title.

Marcella Parker added 12 points for the Buckeyes (16-11), who have won six of their last eight Big Ten regular-season games and their last seven games against rival Iowa.

They know first place was at stake.

"We were really excited all day," Parker said. "We had class today, but that's all we talked about, that we couldn't trust the game to get here. We were in the locker room, and we were pumped for it in warm-ups. We just wanted to get it started."

The Buckeyes knocked off Purdue Monday night before dropping another contender three nights later.

"We were really, and we know what we had to do to come out and be in first place," Lavender said.

Kruti Smith had 17 points (all in the second half), Wendy Asosamien (5), and Johanna Solverson 10 for Iowa (19-9, 5-2), which had won nine of its last 10. The loss was the

**IOWA SPORTS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**IOWA (12-15) VS. MICHIGAN STATE (21-5)**

SATURDAY, AT BRESLIN CENTER, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN, 1:05 P.M., ESPN, KXIC AM 800

If Iowa is to pull off the colos- sally daunting task of unseating fourth-ranked Michigan State, the Hawkeyes must keep their focus for the entire game.

Despite the Hawks' squeak- ing into the NCAA tournament after winning by an average of 13.5 in their first four conference duals, Iowa coach Tom Brands says his team will have worked away from their losing confidence.

"I don't look at it as being too late," Brands said Thursday. "Michigan liked the matchup with us, they always have, but we don't have a sense of urgency for whatever reason early in the match, sometimes from, and that regard, maybe we're not as sharp.

"There is no uncertainty going into the dual meet. With this team, there is no sense of us losing our edge. If anything we are further, and even with

Iowa Kristi Smith (left) tries to get around Ohio State's Shavelle Little during the first half on

**TOO TALL FOR HOOPSTERS**

In order to make their mark, the Hawkeyes must fine-tune a game that was a three-point loss to the Buckeyes.

The Iowa wrestling team is making final strides before the Big Ten championships.

With the Hawkeyes having dismantled the rest of the Big Ten, and perhaps everyone else in the nation, No. 11 Illinois (12-3, 4-2 Big Ten) stands in the way of the Hawkeyes' outright Big Ten regular-season dual championship and the start of the Big Ten Tournament.

"We've got three or four guys who are ready to win Big Ten titles," Brands said. "We've got three or four guys who are ready to win Big Ten titles, and if they have a good enough week, field events could Scott Capps"

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**Sports**

**Sports ‘N’ Stuff**

**Hawks face hot Tigers in tennis**

Missouri comes into town riding a seven-meet winning streak.

By Brian Cardile

Two teams with sizable winning streaks will face off on Saturday when the 4-0 Iowa women’s tennis team hosts Missouri, a squad on a seven-meet tear.

“When I say ‘will be a battle at every position,’” Hawkcoaches David Graef and Greenan said, “we have to come into it with a mindset to win at every spot, because they’re a strong team.”

The Tigers opened their season with a shutout loss at Washington, D.C., but they have dominated their seven-meet run, matching several blowout victories.

“Missouri is a very good team,” Greenan said. “We’ll have our hands full. They’re a strong team.”

Iowa doubled its seven-meet streak last weekend by downing two SEC foes. The Hawkeyes survived a competitive clash with Alabama winning 4-3, and handled Mississippi State, 5-2. Senior Milica Veselinovic contributed two singles wins to her team’s cause and extended a strong streak of her own. She was all seven of her singles matches as the season opened.

“I was happy with my play last weekend,” she said. “I worked hard this winter to get into good shape. I hope to keep the momentum going on to Saturday.”

Senior Jasmine Lee could use a little momentum heading into the match.

In an uncharacteristic performance, she dropped her singles match against Alabama, 6-2. The defending SEC champ has yet to drop a set this season.

“I’m not going to let her get back on track this weekend,” Lee said. “(Against Alabama), I knew so much about my opponent that I would predict what she was going to do. Then, if she didn’t do that, it would throw me off. Sometimes, it can be hard to push much information about a player.”

That won’t be a problem this weekend for Lee or her teammate, Nina Iowa’s current SEC singles champ.

The Hawkeyes’ last seven straight came in the SEC. Lee, however, has yet to drop a set this season.

“I don’t know anything about (the Tigers),” Veselinovic said. “But we’ll figure out their style of play early on. It shouldn’t be a problem.”

Junior Merryl Brasen and sophomore Kelcie Kluegken hope to rebound from difficult performances last weekend. Kluegken, playing at No. 6, lost, and Bonden, at No. 3, lost both matches.

Conversely, two freshmen look to build on the success they had in last week’s meets.

Alexis Dorr and Lynea Popper have kept their streaks going this season.

“Everybody is focused and happy,” Dorr said. “We have a big body can step up at any time. Meril and Kenzie lost a couple of tough matches, but this weekend, they could come up big.”

Iowa’s 4-0 start is the team’s best for this season. The Hawks are off to a hot start in MVC play and hope to continue that momentum in Missouri on Saturday.

“Not really to save them, but we have to,” Iowa coach, Brian Greenan said. “We have to do our job this weekend.”

To keep their competitive rhythm, the GymHawks held an intrasquad match meet on Feb. 15 to keep them in competition mode. The team’s performance impressed Libby, who is pleased at the gymnasts’ intensity in practice as they battle for regional spots.

“Ideally, we’ll use the same line-up of the Intrastar and maybe switch in some people here and there,” Libby said. “We definitely need to strengthen our vault lineup, because all of these teams have worked hard, and from here on out, are stronger vault teams than we are, so we’ve got to find a way to stay on an even playing field when we start.”

Libby said the team still has two 5.9 vault routines in the lineup that keep the team from beginning with the event with full-value.

The Hawk 4.85 team vault score against Ohio State was the lowest of their four events.

“We will see how resilient they are,” Libby said. “And the nice thing is that the majority of them like to compete, so we’re hoping not to have any issues there. Last weekend, although I think fatigue will set in here sooner within the next seven to 10 days. That’s why we tried to taper practice a little bit.

“And not to say they have to, but I think they’re not feeling as worn-out by the time that we head into this weekend.”

With another two-event schedule next weekend, Iowa will need to stay locked-in to continue the three-meet are of improving scores.

“We have to do our job this weekend,” Libby said. “Every weekend from now on becomes increasingly more important, so we just try to focus on one step at a time, one meet at a time, take each team and each competition as they come.”

E-mail: Brian Cardile at bcardile@uiowa.edu.

**IOWA GYMNASTICS**

**GymHawks have full weekend**

The GymHawks head to Iowa State tonight before hosting Michigan State and Illinois on Feb. 24.

By Lars Hadington

After having gone a weekend without competition, the 24th-ranked Iowa women’s gymnastics squad will have to travel to face Iowa State Thursday, then head back home to host Michigan State and Illinois in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 24.

The Hawkeyes are ranked No. 19 nationally with a 194.254 average, and the 24th-ranked Illini, who defeated the GymHawks in their first home meet of the season, are making a return to Carver carrying a 193.900 average this year.

Iowa’s meet against the Illini tonight will be the first of two this year between the two Midwest rivals.

Coming off a season-high team average against Ohio State on Feb. 9, the GymHawks have worked hard in practice to keep momentum on their side, heading into Iowa as Libby said.

“The on the one hand, we must get some of our top kids who are sore and tired, so it was great for them to be able to have the opportunity to rest if they need to,” she said. “On the other hand, we just figured out how to compete, and I believe that momentum is everything, and coming off a fantastic competitive exhibition against Ohio State, seems to have us better to just keep on truckin’.

To keep their competitive rhythm, the GymHawks held an intrasquad match meet on Feb. 15 to keep them in competition mode. The team’s performance impressed Libby, who is pleased at the gymnasts’ intensity in practice as they battle for regional spots.

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E-mail: Lars Hadington at lhadington@uiowa.edu.

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**IOWA GYMNASTICS**
New coach for Hoosiers?

Sampson's fate and would reports Indiana had decided recommendation on action.

Throughout the season, the Hoosiers were reviewing the allegations of recruiting violations over the past two weeks, the run- ning and speculative stories would just because training's a little lighter training; now, the Hawkeyes expect their training to have a high level of intensity. Throughout the earlier portion of the season, the Hawkeyes have been facing a lot of adversity, but they have been able to adapt to the different type of training that has been thrown at them.

The Hawkeyes have been working on improve their training, but they have also been working on improving their mental game. The Hawkeyes have been training with a lot of intensity, but they have also been training with a lot of focus. This has allowed them to improve their mental game, and it has allowed them to improve their training.

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Tracksters to rest qualifiers

By Jeff Pawola

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, February 22, 2008

With only one week remaining in the regular season, the No. 19 Iowa track team field will rest a bit on Saturday.

"We have been working on different people for the NCAA championships in March," head coach Long said, "so the week is an opportunity for the team to rest and to prepare for next weekend at the Big Ten Championships.

"The distance runners can get some rest and work on other events," said head coach Jim Early. "The shorter events will compete in order to get some rest and to be ready for important for them.

"To make this week interesting," he said, "we have the technical events — the jumpers, throwers, and sprinters. I think it is vital for them to stay consistent.

"The only two athletes who have provisionally qualified for the NCAA's championships have not competed in tonight's meet," Long said.

"The Iowa men's golf team kicks off its season this weekend at a tournament in Florida," head coach Chris Kistler said.

The highlight of the short trip will be the team's first true outing on the course. The team's official season, however, will start on the Field House when it competes at the NCAA championships in March.

"We have a lot of people back this year," Kistler said. "We expect to be very good, solid players."
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**HOUSE FOR RENT**

- **Two bedroom, one bath, close to downtown**
  - 322-324 N. VanBuren
  - $946-981
  - Move-in: July 1
  - www.parsonsproperties.net

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**HOUSE FOR RENT**

- **One bedroom, close-in**
  - 433 S. Van Buren
  - $550/month
  - Move-in: August 1
  - RCPM (319) 887-2187.

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**HOUSE FOR RENT**

- **Three bedroom, one bath, close to downtown**
  - 303-307 N. VanBuren
  - $1000
  - Move-in: July 1
  - www.parsonsproperties.net

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**HOUSE FOR RENT**

- **Three bedroom, one bath, close to downtown**
  - 303-307 N. VanBuren
  - $1000
  - Move-in: July 1
  - www.parsonsproperties.net

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  - 303-307 N. VanBuren
  - $1000
  - Move-in: July 1
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