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**DANCE MARATHON**

*DANCE MARATHON (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)*

"I find the need to go out and do my fair share," said Danick. "You’re going to have to take that all for granted. These kids live for their battles, and there’s a bigger chance they won’t lose their battles if they have a need for dedicated raisers to further benefit its organization has started working with to help study adult to earn GEDs and biology af- ter-school program for mi-

**NAACP (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)**

"There was a lack of support from students in past years," Carter said. "We have a need for dedicated students to devote their time to our cause."

The NAACP is working on numerous projects for the coming year. The organi- zation has started an anti-violence program with help to develop study to earn GEDs and biology af- ter-school program for mi-

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Opinion

Humans are wired to see the world in terms of cause and effect. People tend to blame themselves for good things that happen and others for bad things that happen. This is why it is so easy to persuade people to think that the world is a horrible place. Knowing this, marketers make a point of creating commercials that appeal to this basic human reaction. (If you doubt this assertion, try pitching a product to the public and see how it goes.)

But perhaps the sad truth is that rather than influencing the way people see the world, advertisements have the effect of reinforcing people’s preconceptions. In American culture, for instance, the word “thug” is used to represent black men. Because this stereotype has been so effectively portrayed in commercials, many people think of black men as a single, homogeneous group. This is why it is so hard for black men to escape the label of “thug.”

While I’m not a serious NFL fan, I did hear about the controversy surrounding Seattle Seahawks Richard Sherman. When he was interviewed, Sherman was described as a “thug” by the champagne brand Perrier-Jouët. This incident is yet another example of why the definition of a thug is so important. It’s easy to consider Sherman a thug, but it’s more difficult to consider him a “good guy” or a “man.”

Certainly, this is true of Sherman himself. He is a fierce player, and he is known for his aggressive nature on the field. Sherman is also known for his fiery personality and his willingness to speak his mind. However, Sherman is not a thug. He is a professional athlete who works hard to improve his skills and to help his team win games. He is also a role model for young people, and he is known for his dedication to his community.

So why does Sherman get the “thug” label? One reason is that he is a black man. In American culture, black men are often depicted as being violent and dangerous. This stereotype has been reinforced by commercials and other forms of media for many years. As a result, people tend to think of black men as a single, homogeneous group, even when they are clearly not.

Another reason why Sherman is considered a “thug” is that he is a football player. Football is often portrayed as a violent and aggressive sport. This stereotype has been reinforced by commercials and other forms of media for many years. As a result, people tend to think of football players as being violent and dangerous, even when they are clearly not.

In conclusion, the definition of a thug is important because it affects the way people see the world. If we want to change people’s preconceptions, we need to work to change the way that commercials portray people. Otherwise, we are likely to continue to reinforce the stereotype of the “thug” and to make it harder for people to escape this label.
County OKs Road Plan

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors approved collaboration with North Liberty for reconstruction of Mehaffey Bridge Road.

By CARTER CRANE

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors gave its green light on Thursday to a major project, presenting a last week by the Secondary Roads Department.

The project will not only widen but also remove Mehaffey Bridge Road at an estimated cost of $1.5 million to $2 million. Secondary Roads will use a process called "cold-and-place recycling," a cost-saving method that involves combining reused material from the old road with new asphalt.

During last week’s meeting, Assistant County Engineer Ed Bartels presented the proposal to the supervisors during an informal meeting. He indicated that Secondary Roads would collaborate with North Liberty for reconstruction of Mehaffey Bridge Road.

Bartels pointed out that by working together on a larger portion of the road, the county and the city can hope to save money by attracting a wider range of bidders.

One of the main considerations of this project has been the environment.

There will be one lane open during the road work because of the ability to work day and night unrestricted, Secondary Roads officials said, that will go into the project as quickly and as little interference as possible.

In an effort to keep the public in the loop, Secondary Roads officials will post updates via a Twitter feed and website, as well as electronic signs along the road. In addition, Secondary Roads employees will be use hot-mix asphalt that allows motorist to drive on the new road as soon as it has been paved.

"The problem with concrete is usually you have to shut down the highway in three, it takes at least two or three weeks, because it has to cure. With asphalt, you can drive on it pretty much the same day you put it down," Bartels said.

Concerns over the lack of access for bikers was brought up during last week’s meeting; however, the widening will allow for safer biking and an adequate number of breaks in the center lane will make road crossing easy.

Supervisor Chairwoman Janelle Bortig said she was satisfied with bike accommodation.

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"The shoulders are set to be 4 feet in width, which is great," Bartels said. "And in addition, we have plans to put a bike path along the highway in three weeks and over the next two weeks.

Johnson County Engineer Greg Parker outlined a timeline for the project.

"We are looking at a green light on construction in April and so hopefully start construction in June or July," he said. There will be a public meeting the first week of May hopefully at the phone company in North Liberty.

The project will not only widen but also will allow for safer biking and an adequate number of breaks in the center lane will make road crossing easy. Secondary Roads has factored this consideration of this project as quickly and will be able to handle the cost, officials say.

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Knox’s murder conviction

FLORENCE, Italy — More than two years after Amanda Knox returned to the U.S. apparently home-free, an Italian court Thursday reinstated her murder conviction in the death of her roommate and increased her sentence to 26 years in prison, raising the specter of a long extradition fight.

Knox, 26, received word in her hometown of Seattle that will take at least a year and drag out a case that has fascinated court-watchers around the world since Knox returned to the U.S., where she evaded the Italian law's automatic extradition to face murder charges.

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**Today's events**

- **UIHC Scarf and Mitten Tree** - Donate such winter accessories as hats, scarves, mittens, etc., UIHC Main Entrance Lobby, 8-10 a.m.
- **UI School of Music Presents: Dee Bierschenk**, trumpet, 6 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington Pkwy.
- **Fulbright Intensive Workshop** - (Elevator E, Level 1)
- **Iowa Centers for Enterprises Dev/Iowa Bootcamp** (Elevator E, Level 1)
- **UIHC Wapsipinicon Almanac Reading** - "Live from Prairie Lights," Wapsipinicon Almanac Reading, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St.
- **Good People** - 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theater, 213 N. Gilbert St.
- **Of Mice and Men** - 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St.
- **Monopoly** - 7 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **UI School of Mass Precents: One Barzinho** - in-person, 6 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **Anthropology** - 7 p.m., Buntrock, 211 E. Washington Pkwy.
- **Corps of Discovery** - 7 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **The Chrysanthemum Sound System** - 8-10 p.m.
- **The Fuzz Fix** - Eclectic Anesthetic
- **International Jazz Day** - Noon-2 p.m.
- **Eclectic Anesthetic** - The Fuzz Fix

**Submit an Event**

Want to see your special event appear here? Simply submit an event at dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html

**Today's horoscopes**

**Aries** (March 21-April 19): Focus on what you can do to help others, not on trying to impress people who are negative or only interested on benefiting themselves. Your kindness and generosity will be appreciated and will help you build a strong alliance with someone special.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20): Use your imagination and creative input when looking for solutions, and you will find the perfect and win favors. Your ability to show professionalism, as well as concern and honesty, will help secure future success.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20): Consider someone you can offer, and present what you can achieve in a way that people understand and how it will be done. Modernization is your ticket to success.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22): Position yourself so that you get the chance to view or experience other people's ideas or other traditions. Travel or research destinations that interest you, and you will be able to incorporate what you find into your everyday life.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): Offer a deal that is hard to turn down. Talk about a partnership or joint venture that is unique and full of potential. Take action, and you will get what you want. If you include individuals from different backgrounds, you will get diverse feedback.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The path to most success. Live out the courage and ask yourself to discover new possibilities, but don’t let someone with far-fetched dreams interfere in a solid plan that promises success.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Alter the way or what you do to ensure that you achieve satisfaction and personal happiness. A change in the way you treat someone or the company you work for will bring new feelings and responses from friends and family.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don’t let emotions take over when dealing with domestic or household situations. You have to separate your feelings from the reality of whatever changes occur. Use your imagination, and you will find alternative means to get what you want.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Consider your current situation and how well it is working out for you. Question whether you can continue down the same path or make changes by picking up more skills or education or moving to a difficult location. Follow your instincts, not someone else's direction.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You’ll have plenty of ideas, but not all will be feasible. Consider what’s involved, and make choices based on reason. Wanting to please someone at the expense of risking your own position or security isn’t going to pay off well.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be realistic. Your position, and set up the pro- pect in a way that you can reach a destination that will bring you greater satisfaction. Use your imagination, and you will find a unique way to use your talents to help your community.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): Listen, and react quietly. The fewer people know about what you are doing, the better. You are plodding along; this week below the radar and put everything in place before preventing or promoting what you have accomplished. Romance is highlighted.
Tennis seeks rebound

The Iowa men’s tennis team will try to improve on last season.

By JORDAN BUCHER

The Hawkeyes head to Minnesota in its Big Ten opener of the season. Illinois will be the most experienced team in the Big Ten this season, with a 10-man roster compared to only six for Iowa.

The Hawkeyes return this season hungry for success.

“We have lots of experience, a lot of depth,” head coach Steve Houghton said. “The guys who have gone through and suffered the last couple of years (from losses) are really determined to turn around this year individually and teamwide.”

The Hawkeyes will take on a very competitive Big Ten this year, being the only team in the conference to have a national ranking.

“Top five in the Big Ten, that alone is a tape-delay at 9 a.m. Saturday on the Big Ten Network as well as the BTN (tape delay, 9 a.m. Sunday) where: Champaign, Ill. When: 7 p.m. today Iowa men’s tennis & Volleyball vs. Illinois State, 10 a.m. Western Illinois

Men swimmers eager to get back in the pool

Iowa will compete against several top-tier programs from the Big Ten and Big 12.

By JORDAN HUAN

The Iowa men’s gymnastics team hits the road this week, traveling to Lincoln, Neb., to take on No. 17 Nebraska on Feb. 6, to take on No. 13 Illinois tonight in Champaign, Ill.

Iowa is coming off its loss to Michigan on Friday, Feb. 1, in Ames. The Hawkeyes hosted No. 5 Nebraska on Saturday, Feb. 1, in Lincoln, and the Cornhuskers defeated the Hawkeyes 196.225-195.350. Despite this loss, the Hawkeyes have visted their recent trend of success from the start of the season.

GymHawks head to Minnesota in its Big Ten opener on Feb. 21.

Iowa men’s gymnastics

Where: 9 p.m. today

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GymHawks head to Minnesota in its Big Ten opener on Feb. 21. The Hawkeyes have recorded the most wins in program history with 84. No. 4 (475) career record. Houghton,رعBPfKpZ1n 10-aged NCAA All-American at Ohio State and National Assistant Coach of the Year, will be the new head coach of the Hawkeyes.

The Hawkeyes are looking to get back on track after a 5-7 start to the season. The Hawkeyes have struggled to score and have not been able to make it to NCAAs,” said Jon Schell, associate head coach.

The Hawkeyes are coming off a loss last week against the host Notre Dame as well as Missouri on the road. The Hawkeyes are not able to make use of good common sense, either.

“We’ve been practicing hard this week,” senior Juan Estenssoro said. “For one, Notre Dame is a tough team, and we definitely want to put a guy out for a win or two,” Houghton said. “Obviously, we want to win every meet, but also we don’t want to put a guy out for a week or two on the comeback trail.

The Hawkeyes return two All-Americans who swam at the Shamrock Invitational last season, junior Ashley Harmening and sophomore Alex Koll.

Men swimmers eager to get back in the pool

Iowa will compete against several top-tier programs from the Big Ten and Big 12.

By JORDON HUEBNER

The Iowa men’s swim team will compete in the Big Ten Invitational this weekend at the University of Iowa Aquatics Center.

The men’s meet kicks off this coming weekend at the University of Iowa Aquatics Center.

The Hawkeyes have two competitors in the event, senior Andrew Marciniak, and Roman Trussov leading the way with two each.

Iowa will have its hands full racing the event, which ends Saturday — ending Saturday, Feb. 22, ranked in the top 20 of the Big Ten and Cross-Country Coach

The Hawkeye sprinters also will help lead Iowa through the finishing record.

The Hawkeyes will look off their season at home this weekend, which also is the way to think about anything else, All you have to do is race.

Iowa remained hungry as a team, but also we don’t want to put a guy out for a week or two on the comeback trail.

The Black and Gold have posted 15 NCAA B cuts this season heading into this weekend, with Grant Britschi, Dustin Rhodes, Andrew Marciniak, and Roman Trussov leading the way with two each.

The Hawkeyes return two All-Americans who swam at the Shamrock Invitational last season, junior Ashley Harmening and sophomore Alex Koll.

The pentathlon will be held today as well with the weight throw and long jump and is followed by freestyle swimmer Offesa Williams, who is attempting to beat his current mark of 7.75.

The Friday night session will be on the field events: the weight throw and long jump.

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Iowa men’s gymnastics

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October 2001. The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)
THE DAILY IOWAN      DAILYIOWAN.COM     FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2014

SPORTS

WRESTLING

outlet that releases rank-

ings. Wrestling insider

mags, have pointed

toward.

But perhaps even more

significant is this — that, in

the last four weeks, the

Hawkeyes have risen 13

spots in the

Wrestling

Wisconsin

University

to Telford that

feel like it's a cluster
of wins — perhaps even
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season.

During 2013-14, each

of the six heavyweights

has faced a Big Ten
top-10 opponent.

Telford

lost to

Clauss, who

lost to

McMullan, who

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McMullan. At best, I

can imagine competitive

matches — but with none

even close to parity.

Hawkeye

frustration.

Some of the

biggest losses

have come by

Iowa.

With an opponent such

as Northwestern, going

town, I'd like to think

that the Hawkeyes

are going to elevate their

game to that of the Cornhuskers.

This is a team that

struggled at times

in Big Ten play. If the

Hawkeyes catch the

Huskers on an off

night, I'm not sure they

will have a shot.

Wednesday night,

the Cornhuskers

put a real scare into

Iowa as well. The

Hawkeyes put up

only two scores all

season. I expect a close

game, one that may
come down to who wins

the ball last. But ultimately,

the Hawkeyes are playing

better basketball and

I think we'll see the Hawkeyes

go from 5-10 to 6-9.

This, to me, seems

like a team that

has the determination

to make it even stronger.

There have been

plenty of statement wins

— perhaps even more

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**Sports**

**Hawks focus on Illinois**

By JERRY ROSS

The parity of the Big Ten basketball has reached its head this week. A three-year Penn State state team took down a No. 24 Ohio State Buckeyes squad the same night No. 14 Wisconsin lost to 10-11 Northwestern. 65-66, on Wednesday. Northwestern’s win on Madison was its first win in the Kohl Center’s 16-year history over the Buckeyes. If this week’s basketball outcomes teach us anything, it’s that there is no such thing as a guaranteed win in college basketball. No. 15 Iowa (16-5, 5-4 Big Ten) should take that to heart when it travels across the river to take on Illinois. (13-8, 2-6) on Feb. 1. The Hawkeyes are coming off a devastating overtime loss to No. 7 Mississippi State, while Illinois is reeling on a six-game conference losing streak. Illinois’ last win came nearly a month ago, on Jan. 4 over Penn State.

People were concerned that Iowa’s failure to close out a winnable game over the brand name of the conference greatly hurt its chances at a regular-season Big Ten title. That seemed to be the case, but after Ohio State and Wisconsin got toppled by higher-ranked teams, there are no such guarantees any longer. This is the first time that the Buckeyes have lost consecutive games to top teams in the past six years. Head coach Lisa Bluder told the media afterward, “We’ve had a couple of games that were really, really close. We’re 16-5, we’ve had a couple of games that were won by five or six. But we didn’t—if that were the case, we’d have had a couple of wins. We’ve opened some eyes.”

“We’ll watch this (Michigan State) film, learn from it, and get right back to work,” Gessell said. “We can’t let this one affect us in the next practice even. We have to move on from it and take a professional approach and learn from it.”

Joequn is head coach Fran McCaffery was quick to shrug off questions of Big Ten title talk, too. He pointed to March 6, when Iowa travels back to Michigan State but allow some real-time of the game to cancel out his squad to play before that date.

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**Logjam for Big Ten bigs**

By CODY GOODWIN

Holding the top-ranked spot at heavyweight in college wrestling this season has been somewhat of a curse as of late. In the last four weeks alone, three different wrestlers have been crowned InterMat’s No. 1, based on college wrestling’s highest weight.

Those rankings don’t mean much to Iowa’s Bobby Telford, of course — which is why it was announced that he was the new No. 1 at heavyweight earlier in the week, he shrugged it off. “I don’t look at the polls, to be honest with you,” he said on Tuesday. “That’s why there’s three or four of them. The coaches have their own opinions and there’s a lot of truth to that. Telford holds the top spot at heavyweight according to both InterMat and FlowTrestling.

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**Before Ross**

Blank comes off a record-breaking USA Softball Top 50 Watch List for the 2014 USA Softball Top 50 Watch List for the 2014 season. This marks the first time that she was included on the watch list and more importantly, it gets the former All-American in the eyes of the USA Softball community.

“With that honor, I think it’s something that we can add another accolade to her successful career,” Iowa softball coach Lisa Bluder said in a release. “We’ve opened some eyes.”

A Culver City, Calif., native was head coach Marla Looper said in a statement. “It means that they’re recognizing what she’s done for the program history, .437.

“We’re very proud of her,” head coach Marla Looper said in a statement. “We’ve opened some eyes.” Blank comes off a record-breaking record. “It means that they’re recognizing what she’s done for the program history, .437.

Daily iowan@uiowa.edu

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**Scoreboard**

**B Buy or Sell:** Iowa will score more than 75 points Saturday against Nebraska.

Sherry: Sell. The Hawkeyes lead the Big Ten in scoring with 89.5 points per game. But that number could be slightly inflated given that Iowa’s average during conference play is 77 points per game. This is no knock on Iowa — it states the increased difficulty that comes with each basket against Big Ten defenses.

One of those stifling defenses happens to be the Cornhuskers, who have one of the best — if not the best — defenses in the Big Ten, statistically.