

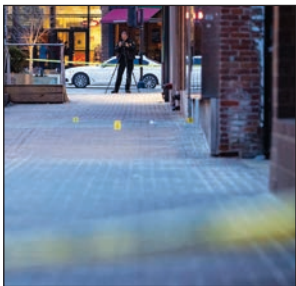
The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

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DAILYIOWAN.COM 50¢

ONLINE



Arrest made following Ped Mall shooting incident

Iowa City police arrested Iowa City resident Dante Yance, 29, on three aggravated misdemeanors and one class D felony following a shooting incident last week.



Iowa immigrant advocacy group helps distribute \$600 pandemic relief checks

Farm and meatpacking workers in West Liberty recently received \$600 pandemic relief checks after help from Iowa City organization Escucha Mi Voz.

INSIDE



New home for UI Nonfiction Writing Program

The UI's new Nonfiction Writing Program House is expected to open this spring, giving the program its first dedicated building.

Page 3A



80 Hours: Behind Stanley's Homecoming

The "Homecoming" exhibit celebrates the return of art while celebrating a new chapter in the UI's art community.

Page 1B



Cutting to the basket

Filip Rebraca's new-look buzz cut, Kris Murray's fade, and Dasonte Bowen's line-up are all the work of Feel Good Studios' owner Yoel Castillo.

Page 6

UPCOMING



The Daily Iowan will publish a project next week in the Jan. 25 print edition about former UI president and law professor Willard "Sandy" Boyd, who died Dec. 13, 2022. Members of the UI community reflect on Boyd's contributions to the UI and share stories about his impact on campus.

DITV

Watch for campus and city news, weather, and Hawkeye sports coverage at dailyiowan.com



ETHICS & POLITICS

IOWA POLITICS

Reynolds revives voucher debate

Iowa House and Senate GOP leaders expected to push Reynolds' \$350 million voucher plan to floor vote.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Sen. Ken Rozenboom leads the Education Committee meeting at the State Capitol in Des Moines on Jan. 11. The meeting was attended by several Iowans who oppose Gov. Kim Reynolds' private school voucher bill.

Liam Halawith
Politics Editor

Republican leadership in the Iowa House and Senate are rapidly advancing the private school voucher legislation to a floor vote after it was introduced by Gov. Kim Reynolds early last week.

The plan would set aside roughly \$7,600 in state funding — the current amount of state-supplemented funding per Iowa public school student — for private school students' education expenses in Education Savings Accounts.

Reynolds, a Republican, said the new plan aims to provide Iowa students choice in education between public and private schools.

Currently, the Senate version of the legislation is expected to come to a vote in the Senate Education Committee after a subcommittee on the bill recommended passage last week. The House version of the legislation is expected to be discussed in the Education Reform Committee in the coming weeks after the committee held a public hearing on the bill Tuesday evening.

Reynolds introduced similar legislation in 2022 that passed the Iowa Senate but failed in the Iowa House of Representatives. Senate File 2369 only provided funding to students transferring from public to private schools and students whose parents made less than \$106,000 a year.

Reynolds said she is determined to pass school choice legislation this session after previous attempts failed to pass legislative hurdles.

"Some families may want an education that conforms to their faith

and moral convictions. Some kids may have ambitions and abilities that require a unique educational setting. Others may experience bullying or have special needs," Reynolds said in her Jan. 10 speech. "Regardless of the reason, every parent should have a choice of where to send their child — and that choice shouldn't be limited to families who can afford it."

The new legislation would provide funding to all private school students once fully implemented

by 2026. In the first budget year, beginning on July 1, if passed, only kindergarten students, current public school students, and private school students who meet income guidelines would be eligible for the funding. All private school students would eventually phase into the program by the fourth budget year.

House Speaker Pat Grassley, R-New Hartford, who chairs the Education Reform Committee, said the legislation is likely to

VOUCHER | Page 2

Andrew Dunn to bring fresh perspective to IC City Council

The former Iowa House candidate plans to tackle equity, affordability, and sustainability issues.



Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

Andrew Dunn is sworn in to become a councilor during an Iowa City Council special formal meeting in the Emma J. Harvat Hall in City Hall on Jan. 10.

Isabelle Foland
News Reporter

Former Iowa House candidate Andrew Dunn took a seat at the table last week with the Iowa City City Council in City Hall as a newly appointed councilor. Dunn will serve for the remainder of former Councilor Janice Weiner's term, which ends Jan. 2, 2024.

Dunn has been involved in politics for over a decade and said he wants to prioritize affordable housing, community affordability, and preservation of community culture in his new position. He was appointed and sworn into the council on Jan. 10 following three rounds of nominations from the council.

"Here in Iowa City, we're very lucky to have a strong, cohesive progressive majority on the city council that allows us to do some really great things that impact our community every day," Dunn said. Dunn filled Weiner's seat after her victory in the Iowa Senate election.

His involvement in politics started in 2008 when his family financially suffered due to the closure of his father's business, Dunn said in an interview with *The Daily Iowan*.

"I decided that we needed to have more people involved in politics and government that are going to fight for working families, for people who are vulnerable, and for marginalized communities,"

DUNN | Page 2

UI instructors reveal 'class divide' among faculty

Job security, lack of leadership opportunities, and small salary increases are some of their concerns.

Grace Katzer
News Reporter

University of Iowa instructional track faculty voiced feeling like "second-class citizens" compared to tenure track faculty on campus, a recent UI survey revealed.

UI instructors said in the Instructional Faculty Track Review Committee report that they are most concerned about job insecurity, lack of leadership opportunities, lack of appreciation, low starting pay, and small salary increases.

The instructional track faculty policy was implemented at the UI in 2016 and created ranked positions including lecturers, associate professors of instruction or associate professor of practice, and professor of instruction or professor of practice.

The report stated that 9.96 percent of all faculty were in the instructional track in 2021.

"Data also show a 3.3 percent increase in ITF since fall 2017," according to the report.

Low instructor representation on UI Faculty Senate

Despite the increase of instructional track faculty, the report indicated that representation of instructors on the UI's Faculty Senate has remained low since 2017.

Four to five senators annually out of the 80 total senators are instructional track faculty members.

The limitation of instructional track faculty serving on the Faculty Senate does not allow for "more than 10 percent of the senators from any college, or one senator, whichever is greater,"

FACULTY | Page 2

Feature Photo | Andrew Reinert's Yotopia journey



Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

Yotopia manager Andrew Reinert cuts red velvet cake for use as a topping on Tuesday. Reinert enjoys interacting with customers and all of the creative combinations of flavors and toppings he sees. Reinert was also working during the shooting incident on Jan. 14, which happened just outside. He and others went into the building's bathrooms for safety and called 911. Despite the incident, he still sees Iowa City as a safe community.

VOUCHER

Continued from Front

pass the legislature this year, even sooner.

Grassley also said the committee is looking to improve public education and provide parents with more choices.

"I think Republicans are going to be supportive of more choice for parents," Grassley said to reporters after the governor's Condition of the State address. "We know that if there is a cost for that we need to be in a position where we can continue to support all education."

Democrat opposition

Democrats in the House and Senate remain strongly

opposed to the legislation. House Minority Leader Jennifer Konfrst, a Democrat from Windsor Heights and ranking member of the education reform committee, said subsidizing private education doesn't give parents choice in education if their child doesn't get accepted by the private school.

The legislation does not require private schools to accept all applicants or provide oversight of private schools and their use of tax dollars.

"It really isn't about choice. Parents don't have the choice that [Republicans] are talking about if their kid doesn't learn the same way as everybody else or doesn't have the same beliefs as that private school," Konfrst said in an

interview with *The Daily Iowan*. "There are no requirements that [private schools] take every kid. Therefore, tax dollars shouldn't be subsidizing that kind of selective education."

According to the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa has about 33,000 private school students that attend 138 private schools throughout the state. However, roughly 80,000 students live in the 41 Iowa counties with no private schools, according to Common Good Iowa, an advocacy group against the governor's proposal.

The Governor's Office estimates the program would cost \$341 million annually once it is fully implemented. The governor's recommendation for the state's next

education budget is roughly \$1 billion from general fund appropriations and \$3.6 billion in supplemental state aid or 42 percent of the state's budget — including \$109 million for the private school financial assistance program.

Konfrst said the legislation doesn't address already underfunded public schools and takes away more funds from public schools that serve all students.

"We need to be increasing funding [for schools], not just because it's increasing funding, but because it allows kids to learn better because it provides more resources that they need to learn," Konfrst said. "Kids come to public schools from all backgrounds, all learning styles, and all sorts of history. We need to be able to teach them all, and that takes resources."

However, the legislation includes \$1,200 for schools per private school student in the school district even if they were not enrolled in public school previously. The governor has also directed the Iowa Department of Education to provide direct assistance and aid to schools that rank in the bottom 5 percent of test scores.

The governor's budget proposal for the next budget year also includes an increase in state aid to school districts. The governor proposed an \$82.8 million increase from the current budget year's total for state aid, bringing the total to \$3.6 billion in state aid to public schools.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Gov. Kim Reynolds delivers a speech during the 2023 Condition of the State at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines on Jan. 10. Reynolds speech addressed her private school voucher.

DUNN

Continued from Front

Dunn said.

Dunn started his political involvement with volunteer work for former President Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign. He was also involved in Sen. Bernie Sanders' 2015 presidential campaign.

Dunn served on several legislative advisory councils and as a legislative aide for Sen. Claire Celsi in the Iowa State Senate. More recently, Dunn ran for a seat in the Iowa House for District 85 in 2021 while still attending

the University of Iowa.

As a councilor, Dunn said he wants to focus on supporting small businesses, climate and sustainability issues, and equity and racial justice issues in the city.

"Once I'm on firmer footing and have my head on straight, I plan to host regularly scheduled office hours once or twice a month in between council meetings," Dunn said. "I want to make sure that people know that the council is accessible and is there to help and to be an asset to people and to provide services and assis-

tance."

Iowa City Mayor Bruce Teague said Dunn brings a fresh and unique perspectives to the council.

"There's something to be said about seeing a representative that is the median age within our community," Teague said. "We have an affordable housing crisis in our community ... and I think having Dunn there, who is a current renter, can help us to achieve some of those aspirations that this community so desperately needs."

Councilor John Thomas, who was the first councilor to nominate Dunn during

the appointment process, said Dunn's eagerness to learn the operations of the city council set him apart from other candidates.

"I felt, especially in that it was an appointment that has a very short duration, having that background seemed to be particularly critical in that if he was to be able to function at a higher level from the date of the appointment through the year, that gave him an advantage, at least with some of the candidates," Thomas said.

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FACULTY

Continued from Front

according to the UI instructional faculty policy.

According to the report, 81.38 percent of instructional track faculty felt that the cap of representation in the UI faculty senate was inappropriate.

Additionally, the report states, "instructional-track faculty report that they are treated as 'second-class' citizens compared to tenure-track faculty."

In an email to *The Daily Iowan*, Faculty Senate President Ana Rodriguez-Rodríguez wrote the results of the report coincide with the feelings of members of the Senate.

"[The report] shows that many instructional track faculty have felt undervalued for a long time, and while there has been improvement in their situation, there is still a widely held belief that instructional track faculty

exist to support the more important work of their tenure track colleagues," Rodríguez-Rodríguez wrote. "This mentality has contributed to a lower morale for this faculty cohort."

Rodríguez-Rodríguez wrote she had heard these concerns from her colleagues personally, and some colleges had more concerns than others.

The UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences had 202 instructional track faculty in 2022 — the highest number of all UI colleges. The college tenure track professors decreased by 1.99 percent, going from 553 tenure track faculty in 2021 to 552 in 2022.

Tenure track faculty at the UI has declined 2.9 percent from 2017 to 2021, a downward trend that was present before the instructional track policy. Despite the decrease, the number of tenure track faculty remains high in the faculty

senate with 62 senators in 2017 and 63 senators in 2021, according to the report.

The report also included anonymous responses from faculty to allow an open space to voice their opinions.

"We're teaching all the time and expected to then do the work of a tenure track professor at the same time," a UI instructional track faculty member wrote.

One respondent wrote the UI does not treat the instruction track on the same level as the tenure track.

"There is a very real class divide," they wrote.

The cap on representation in the Faculty Senate could lead to a misguided idea that instructional track faculty are less invested in the university, wrote another respondent.

Recommendations from the committee included providing a minimum of three months'

notice for non-renewal of instruction track faculty and adjusting the representation in the Faculty Senate to represent the percentage of instructional track faculty in each college.

"There have been moves on a variety of fronts to improve representation for instructional track faculty in Faculty Senate," Rodríguez-Rodríguez wrote. "We are having a lot of discussions in Faculty Senate to address this issue and ensure that our ITF colleagues feel valued."

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This increase represents a 2.5 percent increase in supplemental state aid for Iowa public school districts.

Sen. Ken Rozenboom, a Republican from Oskaloosa and the chair of the Senate education committee, said the plan wouldn't take money away from public schools.

"There is no diversion of money from public schools to private schools. That is not true, no matter how many times it's said. It's not true. This is not a zero-sum game," Rozenboom said during his opening remarks as chair of the Senate Education Committee.

"We in the Legislature have always supported public schools and will continue to do so." Educators, including Iowa City Community School District Superintendent Matt Degner, oppose the legislation. Degner said the proposal will cause the

most harm to rural districts where schools are the backbone of their community.

"Opportunities will be lost, schools will close, small rural communities will be devastated," Degner tweeted on Jan. 11. "You cannot have free public education and free private education."

Iowa State Education Association President Mike Beranek said the plan pulls resources from public education.

"Iowa families already have a choice in where they send their students to school. Iowa families do not want to use public money for private schools to pick and choose whom they will admit," Beranek said in a statement. "Private school vouchers pull critical resources from public schools, which educate 90% of our students. Iowa families choose public money for public schools."

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10x10 grid of numbers for a game or puzzle.

10x10 grid of numbers for a game or puzzle.

New home for UI Nonfiction Writing Program

The building that will house the Nonfiction Writing Program is expected to open for classes this semester.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Construction is seen on the University of Iowa Nonfiction Writing Program House in Iowa City on Oct. 12, 2022. The Nonfiction Writing Program was created in 1976.

Madeleine Willis
News Reporter

The University of Iowa's Nonfiction Writing Program will have its own home this semester, as its new building is set to open for students and staff this spring.

Located on the corner of North Clinton and Church streets, construction on the two-story, 3,500 square-foot building began in March 2022 and was moved into over the 2022 winter break. The new facility will

include offices for faculty of the Nonfiction Writing Program, workspaces for graduate teaching assistants, seminars and classrooms, public spaces for gathering, and an open library and lounge that will lead to an outdoor patio.

The UI currently offers several facilities for writing students:

- The English-Philosophy Building, which houses the Writing Center.

- The Dey House, which has the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

- The Shambaugh House, which is home to the International Writing Program.

- The Magid Center for Writing.

Rod Lehnertz, UI senior vice president for finance and operations and university architect, said the goal of the Nonfiction Writing Program House is to create a stand-alone home for UI nonfiction writing students instead of having them take nonfiction writing classes in the English-Philosophy Building and other cam-

pus locations.

Lehnertz said he is "over the moon excited" for the new building because he believes it will help advance notoriety and strengthen the Nonfiction Writing Program.

"It will only solidify their renown and top ranking in the nation and put them into that context with International Writing and the Writers' Workshop and just strengthen the fabric of the writers' neighborhood," he said.

The project is budgeted at \$1.75 million and was donated in full by donors and partners, Lehnertz said. Finishing the building in nine months is standard.

"It's not really a very big project. So, when we look at the amount of dollars expended and sort of the cash flow of construction work, it's a reasonable amount of time," Lehnertz said.

The building was constructed by Iowa City general contractor group McComas-Lacina. Damon Keen, McComas-Lacina Construction project manager also said the project was small.

"It's just an office building with just a little bit of student function down below and some student offices, and I

imagine some spaces they can hang out and study as well upstairs and downstairs," he said.

Keen said some aspects of the construction were typical for the university, but other aspects were more of a residential style. Additionally, Keen said the university opted to use materials that cost less for the building, but it does not take away from the structure.

"It wouldn't even be noticeable to most people for the use of the building, I mean, it was just certain things were lower budget rather than higher budget material," he said.

Keen said the first step in the construction process was pulling sidewalks and clearing up the site for the creation of the building's foundation. The project went relatively smoothly, he said.

Hannah Bonner, UI second-year creative nonfiction graduate student, said she is excited to see how the building brings the program members together.

"I think one of the benefits of the building will definitely be in viewing our department with more of a sense of community because it will be a building that exclusively houses nonfiction faculty as well as students,"

Bonner said.

The bonding and intellectual discourse the building will provide for students is what Bonner looks forward to the most, she said.

"Being in a really supportive and nurturing environment alongside all your peers and mentors will allow those ideas to actually germinate," she said.

Bonner said she is honored to be among the students who will be a part of university history by inaugurating this new building.

"Having a shared space with the sole purpose of facilitating and participating in conversations as well as being able to talk about the essays, both the written thing and now especially in the 21st century as also a visual medium potentially," she said.

Bonner said she thinks this building offers the Nonfiction Writing Program a home, and in any environment you need a grounding home space to generate ideas and see them through.

"I'm just incredibly grateful to the faculty for all the tireless work that they've done making this a reality," she said.

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JoCo reports risk of new COVID-19 variant

As cases rise across the U.S., county health officials are advising residents prepare for omicron subvariant XBB.1.5.

Sofia Mamakos
News Reporter

Johnson County health officials are concerned about a potential increase in cases of the most recent COVID-19 subvariant as UI students return to campus after winter break.

As numbers of the new subvariant continue to rise across Iowa and the U.S., Johnson County Public Health advises the public to continue using precautionary measures to combat the growth of the highly transmissible variant.

XBB.1.5, a subvariant of omicron, is the most contagious variant of COVID-19. It was first reported in late 2022 and quickly rose to the top of all COVID-19 strains circulating in the U.S.

Jennifer Miller, Johnson County Public Health Disease prevention specialist, agrees XBB.1.5 appears more contagious than other variants.

"I'm not sure that I would say it is a higher risk in general to people in terms of causing severe illness, hospitalization, and death, but it's possible that there could be an

increase in infections," Miller said.

According to recent findings from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the variant accounts for 43 percent of total COVID-19 cases across the U.S. and is continuing to grow statewide. Numbers are specifically high in eastern states.

In a risk assessment released by the World Health Organization, omicron XBB.1.5 does not carry any mutation known to be associated with a potential change in severity, but the new

variant may be one contributing factor in the global rise in cases. Miller said citizens must remain vigilant about protecting their health, she said.

"From an evolutionary standpoint, it makes sense that things will change over time," Miller said. It doesn't mean that there is a problem with our vaccines or that there is a problem with this disease that we are overly concerned about. It reminds us that COVID-19 isn't over."

Johnson County is currently listed at a medium COVID-19 community

level, with 15.9 COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population, according to the CDC.

UI first-year student Abbie Thomas said she is not overly concerned about the new COVID-19 variant causing an increase in cases at the university.

"If it were to get out of hand on campus, I would consider wearing a mask to my classes, but I would continue to go to class, and my life would proceed in the usual way," Thomas said.

To provide additional protection against

these new variants, Miller said she advises Johnson County residents remain thoughtful in the way they live their lives, including continuing to wear masks, receiving vaccinations, and monitoring health and COVID-19 exposures.

"Not as many people as we would like have gotten their bivalent vaccine booster," Miller said. "It's not too late. Anybody who hasn't gotten their newest booster, we would encourage them to do that."

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ETHICS & POLITICS IOWA POLITICS

The Cloakroom | Legislative session first week round-up

Reynolds vowed to condense state administrative agencies, and a NW Iowa woman was charged with 52 counts of election fraud.

Liam Halawith
Politics Editor

A coalition of 34 Republican representatives, including House Speaker Pat Grassley and Majority Leader Matt Windschitl, introduced legislation prohibiting instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity last Wednesday amid an onslaught of education bills filed in the first week of the legislative session.

The bill amends the current Iowa code relating to the standards for kindergarten through third-grade classes at Iowa schools. The bill prohibits instruction pertaining to sexual orientation or gender identity in these grade levels. The legislation was referred to the House education committee where it is currently assigned to a subcommittee on the bill to report to the entire education committee upon its conclusion.

House Republicans also introduced House File 9, a bill prohibiting schools from using a student's preferred name and pronouns unless the parent signed a written consent form. The bill also prohibits schools from encouraging students directly or encouraging a parent to allow a student to transition or affirm their gender medically.

A coalition of Republican senators also introduced a bill prohibiting instruction relating to gender identity in kindergarten through eighth-grade classrooms on

Tuesday. The bill also allows parents to sue school districts if a teacher instructs on the subject.

Republican lawmakers introduce bills aimed at critical race theory, tenured professors

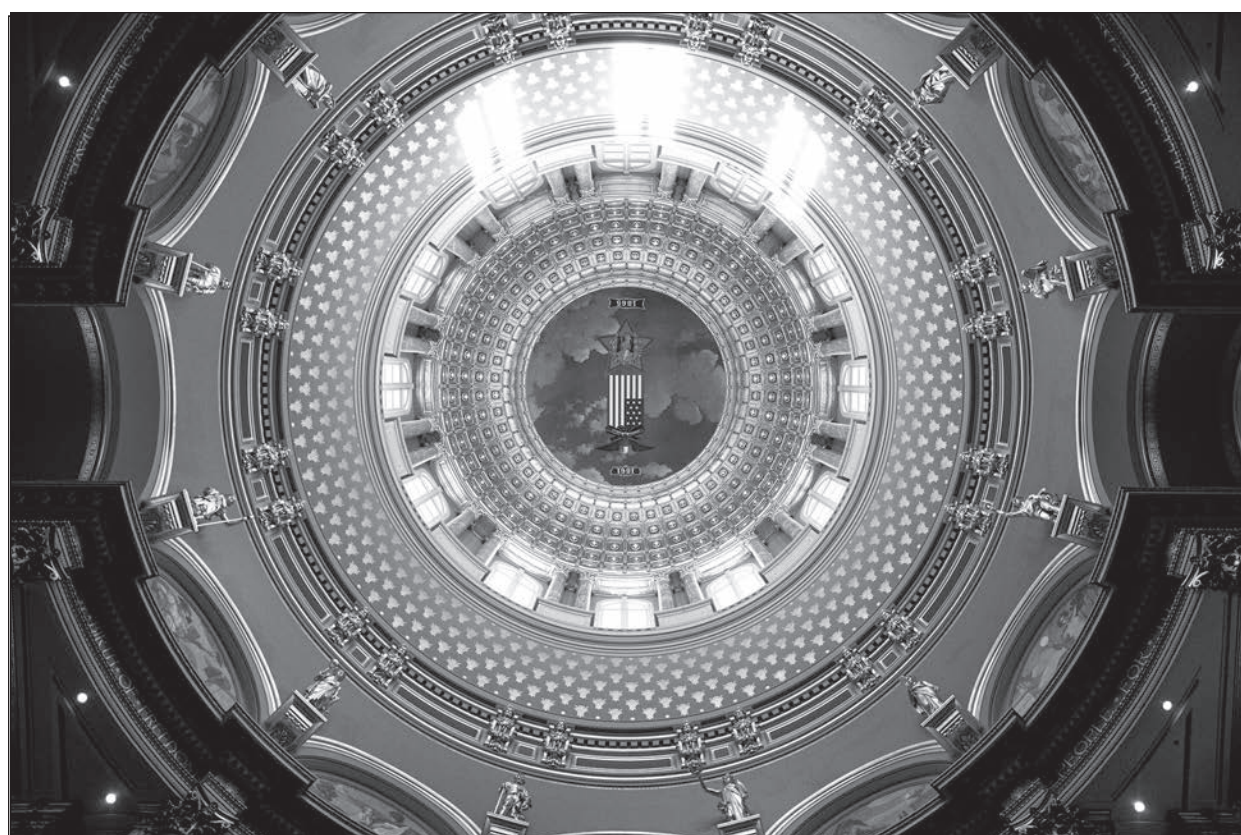
Sen. Sandy Salmon, R-Janesville, introduced legislation that would ban the teaching of critical race theory and allow parents of students, students, or employees of public elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools to file a lawsuit against the school and employee teaching the prohibited topics.

"Critical race theory is championed by history scholars and progressive movements for identifying implicit bias in the social systems built in western society," according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. The bill includes provisions that specify that diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives are still permitted.

Another bill introduced by Rep. Steven Holt, R-Denison, would prohibit tenure policies and contracts at regent-controlled universities. The legislation, if enacted, would only affect contracts made after July 1.

Reynolds signs executive order to reexamine Iowa's administrative code, pausing current rulemaking

Gov. Kim Reynolds signed an executive order last Tuesday pausing all



The Iowa State Capitol is seen during the first day of the 90th Iowa legislative session at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines on Jan. 9.

administrative rulemaking in the state's executive branch and ordered a comprehensive review of the state's administrative code.

"Iowa's Administrative Code contains over 20,000 pages and 190,000 restrictive terms, putting undue burden on Iowans and the state's economy, increasing costs for employers, slowing job growth, and impacting private sector investments," Reynolds said in a news release. "In Iowa, we're taking a commonsense approach that gets government out of the way and leads to a

more robust economy in every community."

Reynolds said the review would require agencies to weigh the costs and benefits of the rules before reimplementing any administrative code.

Additionally, Reynolds announced last Tuesday in her Condition of the State address that she would be condensing Iowa's executive branch from the current 36 cabinet agencies to 16.

Woodbury County Supervisor's wife charged with 52 counts of election fraud, pled not guilty

Kim Phuong Taylor, the wife of Woodbury County Supervisor Jeremy Taylor, was arrested on 52 counts of alleged election fraud last Thursday.

Taylor allegedly completed fraudulent absentee ballot request forms, voter registration forms, and ballots for others in her husband's unsuccessful 2020 Republican primary run in Iowa's 4th Congressional District, the Sioux City Times reported.

Taylor allegedly approached elderly Vietnamese Sioux City residents who struggled

to read and understand English and offered to help them vote. She is also accused of signing absentee ballot request forms for residents who were not present and telling others they could sign the form for other family members, which is a violation of the absentee ballot registration affidavit.

Taylor pled not guilty to the 52 charges and was released on a personal recognizance bond. Her trial is set for March 20.

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Opinions

UI students benefit from future readiness

University of Iowa courses like Working for Social Justice should be required.



Naomi Rivera Morales
Opinions Columnist

The future should be on the forefront of students' minds.

At the University of Iowa, there are endless resources for career help, such as the Pomerantz Career Center. However, most students do not have the time or awareness to take advantage of this help.

The UI should not focus only on academia. Undergraduate students need support and guidance outside college life as well. UI courses like Working for Social Justice should be required of all students to jump-start thinking about life after graduation.

According to the Pomerantz Career Center, 95 percent of UI students are employed six months after graduation. The average debt for a 4-year bachelor's degree in the U.S. after graduation is \$34,100, according to the Education

Data Initiative.

The state Board of Regents 2022 financial aid report revealed that 2.2 percent of UI graduates fail to pay their student loans three years after graduation.

Because most students will leave the UI in debt, students should be aware of the importance of being well-prepared for the working world.

Undergraduate students need career help for a variety of reasons to successfully pay off debt and earn a steady wage. Though we learn a great deal throughout our university years, there is more to know than sole knowledge in academia.

Professor Teresa Mangum is the course instructor for Working for Social Justice at the UI. In an email to *The Daily Iowan*, Mangum emphasized the benefits offered by the course.

"This course helps students translate the value of their education and experience into terms that future employers can understand," Mangum wrote. "Together they learn by doing — helping one another explain how a class in literature or human

rights provides concepts, contents, and skills that will enrich any workplace."

At the beginning of last semester, I decided to enroll in Working for Social Justice. At the time, I was unsure about the paths pertaining to my major and how to best approach job markets. As an English and creative writing major, career questions and concerns are common.

During the semester, I learned how to connect and communicate with others and how to present myself to employers. I gained valuable perspectives and skill sets for numerous career fields. In just a few months, I learned more about myself and my goals for the future.

Toward the end of the semester, we worked on career guides as a final project. In these career guides, topics included jumpstart information on Art and Social Justice, Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy, LGBTQ+ Advocacy, Child Welfare, Environmental Justice, and several others that allow students to learn about whichever field best suits their interests.

Courses like Working



The Old Capitol Dome is seen in Iowa City on Jan. 25, 2022.

Ayrton Breckenridge/The Daily Iowan

for Social Justice should become a general education requirement in all UI schools. This course is beneficial for any student, no matter their major or career path.

If it were required during a student's first year, I believe they could avoid the questions and concerns about the future that worry most students.

The UI does try to pre-

pare students for the future with initiatives like the On Iowa! orientation program for undergraduate students. On Iowa! allows students the time to meet other students, learn Hawkeye traditions, explore organizations, and learn how to best excel in their chosen courses and majors.

Though this is an excellent addition to the curric-

ulum, students still need more to grab a hold of.

As I approach the second semester of my third year, I feel more prepared and more confident for what lies ahead. Requiring students to think about the future today will help them in their futures tomorrow.

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Abolish anti-labor union laws in Iowa

Ensure every worker has the right to organize by scrapping anti-labor union laws.



Evan Weidl
Opinions Columnist

The only thing standing between the dignity of workers and the greed of their employers and corporations are labor unions.

Last week, striking workers at Case New Holland, an agricultural machinery manufacturer in Iowa and Wisconsin, rejected a contract proposal that the company stated was its "last, best, and final offer." The workers have been on strike since May, and the proposal they rejected was the first contract proposal they received.

Labor unions are the key to a more democratic workplace. That's why Iowa needs to get rid of anti-labor union or so-called "right-to-work" laws.

These laws are presented as a way to help people get jobs without being "forced" to join unions. But they make it more difficult for workers to form unions and collectively bargain.

As of 2019, 14.5 percent of jobs in states without anti-labor union laws were low-wage jobs, according to the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. In states with anti-labor union laws, 24 percent of jobs are low wage. On average, worker pay drops 3 percent when anti-labor union laws are implemented.

Workers that are unionized see considerable benefits compared to workers

who are not unionized. The U.S. Department of Labor unionized workers on average earn over 120 percent of what non-unionized workers earn. Unionized workers are more likely to have employer-provided health insurance and pensions and safe working conditions.

Many states that have passed anti-labor union laws argue these laws protect workers from being forced to join a union, but

In states with anti-labor union laws

24%

are low wage.

it is already illegal at the federal level to force someone to join a union. Iowa recodified the anti-labor union law in 1977.

The effect of these laws in Iowa is startling. The amount of workers that have union membership

worker pay drops

3%

when anti-labor union laws are implemented.

and representation has been slashed by over 50 percent since 1989, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *The Des Moines Register* reports just 6.5 percent of Iowa workers are in a union, compared to

the national average of 10.3 percent.

It is because of the struggles of organized workers in the past that workers today can enjoy benefits that are often taken for granted, like the 8-hour workday, weekends, safety standards, and sick leave. What is happening with the Case New Holland strikes is a perfect example of why workers need unions. After eight long months on strike, the company finally presented a contract proposal. The members reportedly felt "disheartened" by the terms of the deal and felt they deserved a better deal.

Because of a union, the workers at Case New Holland were not only able to hold out for as long as they have, but they were able to reject terms they weren't satisfied with. Their rights have been protected, and they are not left at the mercy of their employer.

Opposition to unions is not a position that only one party or the other holds. President Joe Biden recently forced rail workers to accept a deal they did not want, leaving the workers with caps on their health care premiums and zero sick days.

On the other side of the isle, 121 Republican House members and 21 senators co-sponsored a bill that would weaken unions across the country.

Ultimately, unions are one of the most effective and available ways workers can secure themselves good conditions, benefits, and pay. Every worker in this country must have the option to unionize and collectively bargain without retaliation.

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Yes, we are having a recession

There are clear signs that the U.S. is going through a recession.



Chris Klepach
Opinions Columnist

Have you bought an RV recently?

One national trend points us to a recession: RV sales. Economists use RV sales to understand economic activity because it shows the rate of investment by average consumers for recreational purchases. In November 2022, RV sales decreased by 50.4 percent compared to last year.

This statistic proves our current reality: We are in a recession.

Iowans are facing both inflated costs and reduced Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, so they turn to food pantries to meet their food insecurities.

On January 3, the Des Moines Area Religious Council assisted a record 1,600 people in accessing food pantries. In addition, Gov. Kim Reynolds decreased the number of benefits since increasing the benefits in 2021 during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the number of working Iowans increased by 48,300 compared to 2021, the unemployment rate increased to 3.1 percent in November 2022, according to the Iowa Workforce Development.

"Historical trends during the holiday season and throughout the winter months tend to show a rise in unemployment," Beth Townsend, director of Iowa Workforce Development, said in a statement.

On Dec. 15, 2022, the federal government increased interest rates by 0.50 percent to prevent further inflation. This can potentially drive people away from not just RV sales but home owner-

ship, banking services, and other means of spending. At the same time, this is good news for those with a savings account because their investments will return more.

Many pundits, including White House Chief of Staff Ron Klain, believe we are not in a recession.

"We had today, this morning, come out with the fact that unemployment claims remain at a historical low," Klain said in a live discussion on Nov. 3, 2022.

However, there is more to a recession than unemployment claims, which only apply depending on past employment of individuals. Those without a job in the first place due to economic circumstances are not considered in that argument.

For workers living paycheck to paycheck, \$11 an hour is not enough to survive. The increase in the cost of living and the noticeable lack of workers in many industries is a sign of our current economic slump. We can't afford to ignore the fact that we are in a recession.

To survive this recession, shoppers are purchasing more store-brand essentials like food and hygiene products to cut back on grocery bills. With brand name products like Kellogg and Pepsi, you pay more for the brand name, not for the good.

Debt repayment should also be a consideration. Credit scores will need to be maintained for now and when the economy bounces back. You can even ask your credit card company to look into lowering interest rates.

It is an unfortunate truth we must face, but our economy is going through a recession. To ignore it for the sake of protecting a political allegiance shows an incomprehension with the facts. It's time we tighten our belts and prepare for further downturns in the economy.

The dollar isn't as strong as it used to be.

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Sophia Meador, Shahab Khan, Yasmina Sahir, Hannah Pinski

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be submitted via email to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu (as text, not attachments). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words and may be edited for clarity, length, and style.

GUEST OPINIONS must be arranged with the Opinions Editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected and edited in accordance with length, subject relevance, and space considerations. The DI will only publish one submission per author per month. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

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BARBER

Continued from Page 6A

Appropriately, the name Feel Good Studios is inspired by Colorado football head coach Deion Sanders' famous quote, "If you look good, you feel good. If you feel good, you play good. If you play good, they pay good."

After beginning to cut his own hair in San Diego, Castillo's family moved back to Iowa City for six months in 2011, and Castillo enrolled at West High.

There, students took notice of Castillo's haircuts, and he saw an opportunity.

"People would ask me, 'Hey, where'd you get your haircut?' Especially in 2011 when I was here going to West High," Castillo said. "Because people would be like, 'Yo, there really isn't a barber here. Where'd you get your haircut?' And I'd be like, 'I cut it.'"

Castillo then began giving

haircuts to other students at West High for the six-month period he was in Iowa City.

Castillo and his family returned to San Diego after six months, where he finished his high school career in 2013. After his graduation, he returned to the Iowa City area and began to cut hair out of his garage.

That's when he landed his first Hawkeye client: men's basketball player Anthony Clemmons.

It was then that Castillo decided he wanted to pursue barbering full-time with the intention of opening his own shop in Iowa City.

Following three years in his "decked out" garage, which he said had a TV and a PlayStation, Castillo went back to San Diego and attended California Barber and Beauty College until his graduation in 2018.

He worked in a since shut-down salon in



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Yoel Castillo cuts Iowa men's basketball center Josh Ogundele's hair at Feel Good Studios in Iowa City on Jan. 14. Castillo, the owner of Feel Good Studios, cuts the hair of several Iowa athletes.

Fast facts about Feel Good Studios

WEBSITE	ADDRESS
https://www.bookfgs.com	1705 S. 1st Ave.
HOURS	PRICES
Mon-Thurs, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	\$30 for kids
Fri-Sun, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.	\$40 for adults

Infographic by Jacob Statler

Coralville from 2018-20, and then he opened up his first shop, called Yoel's Hair Salon, on East Benton Street. After roughly two years there, he moved into a new location in the spring of 2022 and rebranded to Feel Good Studios.

Castillo's goal for Feel Good Studios is to create an inner-city barbershop feel, connect with the community, and inspire his three young children Aria, Elias,

and Carter.

Castillo said he wants his shop to become an Iowa City community meeting place.

"I just want to make sure I give Iowa a good barber shop — something that is impactful," Castillo said. "My favorite part is the connections, the relationships you make. I've had kids who are like, 'Man, I need a cut for prom,' or 'I'm going to this event,' and

they're in here at 10 p.m. the night before and we're just talking."

"This is exciting, being a part of their lives," Castillo continued. "You know, when they're like 30 they're going to be like, 'Dude, remember we used to go to Yoel's, and we were there at like 10 at night, 11?' Yeah, I love that part."

Castillo not only wants to impact the lives of the Iowa City youth but also

set an example for his children.

He said he wants to show his kids what success looks like.

"I grew up in a one-bedroom, six-people apartment, not seeing like ... not seeing achievement," Castillo said. "I wanted to go out, and I wanted to achieve something that my kids see."

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FOOTBALL

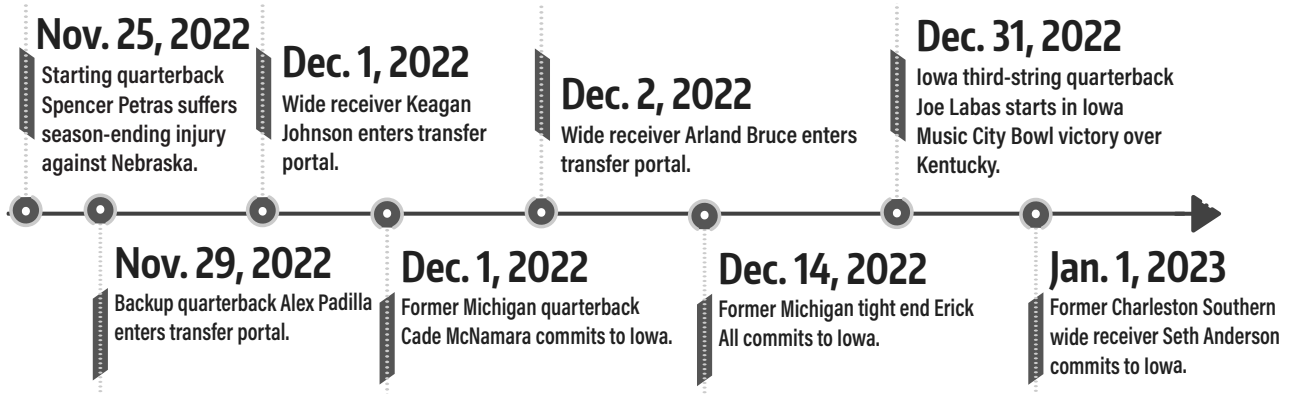
Continued from Page 6A

backup in 2022, and Addison Ostrenga in the TE room.

Help is also coming for the Hawkeyes' struggling offensive line, which allowed 38 sacks this season. Saginaw Valley State transfer Daijon Parker, a 6-foot-6 300-pound offensive tackle, flipped his commitment from Virginia to Iowa to plug the Hawkeyes' front line.

Iowa added wide receiver Seth Anderson, a transfer from Charleston Southern,

Offensive Shuffle



Infographic by Jacob Statler



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Then-Michigan tight end Erick All catches a pass over his shoulders during the Big Ten Championship game between No. 13 Iowa and No. 2 Michigan at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, on Dec. 4, 2021. All joined the Hawkeyes via the transfer portal after his teammate Cade McNamara in December.

following the departures of wideouts Arland Bruce and Keagan Johnson. Anderson tallied 628 yards for seven touchdowns last season.

The Hawkeyes lost running back Gavin Williams to the transfer portal following the 2022 season. Williams started the year as Iowa's top running back but had an ankle injury and mononucleosis during the season. Williams only had 138 yards on 45 attempts and fell to third string running back behind freshman Kaleb Johnson and sophomore Leshon Williams. Gavin Williams committed to Northern Illinois out of the transfer portal.

Johnson, who led the Hawkeyes with 779 rushing yards, and Leshon Williams will return for the Hawkeyes in 2023.

Joe Evans, Noah Shannon,

and Logan Lee are returning to the Hawkeye defensive line, but sophomore Lukas Van Ness declared for the NFL Draft. Van Ness was tied for the team lead with 6.5 sacks despite never making a start. Defensive lineman Deontae Craig, who also recorded 6.5 sacks this season, will fill a hole in the Hawkeyes' defensive line.

The Hawkeyes will have a thin linebacker room next season, as all three of their 2021 starters — Jack Campbell, Seth Benson, and Justin Jacobs — left the program. Campbell was the 2022 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year and Butkus Award winner — an award given to the nation's best linebacker.

Sophomore Jay Higgins, who started when Jacobs was out with injury, regis-

tered 39 tackles this season in 12 games. Logan Klemp, Tyler Fisher, and Karson Sharar will also have an opportunity to fill holes in the Hawkeyes' linebacker room.

Sebastian Castro and Xavier Nwankpa will likely compete for a starting position at cash for the Hawkeyes in 2023. Both have started for Iowa this season.

Finally, the Hawkeyes lost cornerback Riley Moss after five years with the program. Cooper DeJean, who led the Hawkeyes with five interceptions this season, will return in 2023. Jermari Harris will also return from an injury that kept him out the entire 2022 season.

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VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page 6A

sets aligned," so she restayed level-headed and had a dominant junior year. She was named the World School NYC Athlete of the Year, Offensive Athlete of the Year, and Most Versatile Player.

Mateo's athletic ability not only showed on the volleyball court, but on the track as well. She holds the World School NYC track and field records in the indoor 55-meter, 200-meter, and 300-meter, as well as the outdoor 100-meter and long jump.

Outside the gym, Mateo spends her time seeing and creating art, hanging out with her immediate and large extended family, and doing volunteer work. Mateo was a member of the Food and Hunger Advocacy Club and the Zero Waste Club in high school and volunteering at St. Clements Food Bank, Holy Apostles, and City Meals on Wheels.

Mateo also created three bilingual children's books addressing ocean contamination and read them aloud to second graders in New York City and Sao Paulo, Brazil, over a Zoom call.

"Volleyball aside, skills aside, just as people, [the class of 2023] are great



Contributed by Kaia Mateo

human beings," junior setter Bailey Ortega said in a press conference. "You can tell they're so passionate, and they're coming into this program just as hungry as all of us who have been here. I think that's great to have in a freshman class because it's going to make all of us work harder and want to be better."

Mateo reported early and will gain experience with the Hawkeyes throughout the spring semester. Three other

commits — outside hitters Alyssa Worden and Gabby Deery and libero Olivia Lombardi — will join her in the summer.

"I play volleyball because of the pure joy it brings me. I want to spread that to my teammates, our fans, and this school," Mateo said. "I can't wait to grind in the gym and on the court so I can play the game I love so much on the big stage."

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If you are interested, please visit the University of Iowa Jobs page at jobs.uiowa.edu and search 'custodian'.

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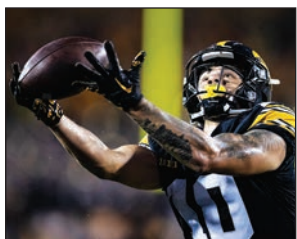
Iowa men's basketball game against Northwestern postponed

The Iowa men's basketball team's game against Northwestern on Wednesday at Carver-Hawkeye Arena has been postponed, Iowa Athletics announced Tuesday. Northwestern does not have the minimum seven scholarship players available because of health and safety protocols.

Wednesday's game was scheduled to be Chris Street Remembrance Day, recognizing the former Iowa men's basketball player 30 years after his death in a car crash in Iowa City on Jan. 19, 1993.

The Big Ten Network prepared to release a documentary about Street following the Hawkeye-Wildcat game. The documentary will now air at approximately 8 p.m. on Wednesday following the Ohio State-Nebraska men's basketball game.

The Big Ten stated it would work with Northwestern and Iowa for rescheduling options. The conference has not updated its COVID-19 postponement policy for the 2022-23 season, but 2021-22 guidelines state the game will be a



forfeiture for Northwestern if the two sides cannot find a rescheduled time. **Bruce commits to Oklahoma State**

Former Hawkeye wide receiver Arland Bruce committed to Oklahoma State, he announced Sunday on Twitter. He will have two years of eligibility remaining with the Cowboys.

Bruce was one of the Hawkeyes' starting wide receivers in 2022 but only registered 19 catches for 187 yards in 11 games. He ranked fourth on the squad with 47 rushing yards on 12 carries.

The 5-foot-10 wideout will join an Oklahoma State wide receiver room that was impacted by the transfer portal — the Cowboys lost five scholarship wide receivers following the 2022 season. Bruce will be one of five incoming scholarship wideouts to replace those.

Oklahoma State went 7-6 in the 2022 season, capping off the season with a loss to Wisconsin in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl in Phoenix.



Warren leaving Big Ten Commissioner post

Kevin Warren will leave his post as the Big Ten Commissioner to become the Chicago Bears' next president and CEO, it was announced Thursday.

Warren, an attorney, became the conference commissioner in 2019 after working two decades in the NFL, including time with the Minnesota Vikings, St. Louis Cardinals, and Detroit Lions. His hire marked the first Black commissioner of a Power Five conference.

Warren drew criticism for his decision to cancel the 2020 football season because of COVID-19 — the only Power Five conference to do so at the time. The conference walked back that policy and allowed football to play a shortened, conference-only schedule starting in October 2020.

In summer 2022, Warren orchestrated the addition of USC and UCLA to the Big Ten starting in August 2024, growing the conference from 14 to 16 teams and giving it a coast-to-coast presence.

He also negotiated a \$7 billion media rights deal with FOX, ABC, and NBC. Each school in the conference will receive \$75 million annually in the deal, which includes coverage of football, men's basketball, and women's basketball.

The Big Ten also stated it will work with Warren for a smooth transition period and start a nationwide search for a new conference commissioner.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"There's risk involved in walking into a restaurant downtown."

— Head coach Lisa Bluder on keeping Caitlin Clark in for a potential triple-double.

STAT OF THE DAY

300

— Number of wrestling duals inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

Cutting to the basket

Yoel Castillo, owner of Feel Good Studios in Iowa City, is the primary barber for four of the five Iowa men's basketball starters.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Yoel Castillo cuts Iowa men's basketball center Josh Ogundele's hair at Feel Good Studios in Iowa City on Jan. 14. Castillo, the owner of Feel Good Studios, cuts hair for several Iowa athletes.

Chris Werner Assistant Sports Editor

Iowa men's basketball center Filip Rebraca scored a team-high 24 points when the Hawkeyes hosted Eastern Illinois at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 21. Rebraca still decided something needed to change after the Hawkeyes' loss.

So, the 6-foot-9 Serbian, who had sported a low-drop fade hairstyle — long on the top and shaved on the sides — since the beginning of the season, opted for a buzz cut.

"I don't know why I had

this urge to get a buzz cut," Rebraca told the media Jan. 5. "It was like for the past two or three months, and then I just finally said like, 'Why not?'"

Like Rebraca, the newest member of Iowa's 1,000-rebound club and the team's double-double leader this season, the man behind his new style has pedigree, too.

Yoel Castillo, the 27-year-old owner of Feel Good Studios on 1705 S. First Ave., cuts the hair of Rebraca and fellow Hawkeye men's basketball players Kris Murray, Ahron Ullis, Tony Perkins, Dason-

te Bowen, and Josh Ogundele, as well as many other male athletes on campus.

He also cut former Iowa men's basketball guard Joe Toussaint and football player Tyler Goodson's hair when they were at Iowa.

Castillo was born in Honduras and moved to San Diego when he was five years old. He spent the rest of his childhood between San Diego and the Iowa City and Coralville area.

Most of Castillo's high school years were spent in San Diego, where he says appearance mattered a lot.

"In San Diego, it's really huge in the minority [cul-

ture] to dress very well," Castillo said. "Over here, kids are wearing Under Armour, Nike. Over there in San Diego, kids are wearing, like, Jordans, very nice clothing, designer clothes. They want to look good."

Castillo said, however, he and his family couldn't afford those things. Instead, with the help of his cousin Sammy Ratliff — who is also a barber — Castillo learned how to cut his own hair. That way, he could look good without breaking the bank.

"The second-best thing was to get a haircut, and if

I can learn how to cut my own hair, I can cut it weekly," Castillo said. "And my cousin was cutting his own hair, and so I asked him to teach me how to cut my own hair. And the passion just grew."

Castillo said he was very into drawing and creating things as a kid, and he sees cutting hair as an art form.

"I like changing people," Castillo said. "If you get a haircut by the right person with the right style, you can see what a difference a haircut can make in someone's life."

BARBER | Page 5A

Previewing Iowa's 2023 team

The Hawkeyes have added multiple skill players via the transfer portal for the upcoming season.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

Then-Michigan quarterback Cade McNamara throws a pass during the Big Ten Championship game between No. 13 Iowa and No. 2 Michigan at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, on Dec. 4, 2021. McNamara announced his transfer to Iowa on Dec. 1, 2022.

Chloe Peterson Sports Editor

Iowa football will look much different in 2023.

The Hawkeyes lost key players at quarterback, linebacker, tight end, wide receiver, and running back. But Hawkeye head coach Kirk Ferentz has been active in the transfer portal to fill those gaps.

Starting quarterback Spencer Petras injured his shoulder in the Hawkeyes' regular season finale against Nebraska on Nov. 25. His recovery will take over six months, and he is unsure of his plans for the 2023 season. Backup Alex Padilla and fourth-stringer Carson May entered the transfer portal.

But Ferentz got former Michigan quarterback Cade McNamara, who led the Wolverines to a 14-1 record and a College Football Playoff berth in 2021, to beef up the quarterback room. McNamara recently had knee surgery, however, and will not be at full strength for spring practice. The Hawkeyes also recruited former Wisconsin quarterback Deacon Hill, who originally committed to

Fordham in December.

"I'm not a quarterback expert, but just watching what he did a year ago just struck me as a winner," Ferentz said of McNamara. "And that's what you're looking for at that position: a leader and a winner — someone that's going to move the football team. He did a great job of that at his previous school, and yeah, whatever the details would have been this year and how things fell, to me it doesn't matter, but it was a real opportunity for us."

Ferentz also dipped into the transfer portal for a new tight end. Former Michigan tight end Erick All, who only played in three games for the Wolverines this season because of a back surgery, will play for the Hawkeyes in 2023. While he may not be ready for spring practice, Ferentz said, All will be prepared for the beginning of the 2023 season.

All will join tight end Luke Lachey, who served as former Hawkeye Sam LaPorta's

Underdog mentality

Iowa volleyball recruit Kaia Mateo is determined to make the Hawkeyes a household name in the Big Ten.



Contributed by Kaia Mateo

Kenna Roering Sports Reporter

Iowa volleyball 2023 recruit and setter Kaia Mateo is used to being the underdog.

As a four-year varsity starter and senior captain, Mateo led Avenues: The World School NYC to a 20-1 record and its first-ever state title match.

Now a Hawkeye, the setter is determined to change the trajectory of a squad that hasn't achieved a winning conference record in over two decades.

"I love being the underdog because it forces me to work 10 times harder," Mateo told *The Daily Iowan*. "I love when people underestimate me because it feeds the fire burning inside."

Iowa came on Mateo's radar when former Hawkeye head coach Vicki Brown

found, reached out, and offered her a spot early in her high school career.

Mateo took an official visit to Iowa City and fell in love with the campus and was overwhelmed by the support of student-athletes at the university. She committed to the Hawkeyes the summer after her sophomore year.

After Brown's dismissal in November 2021, however, Mateo wasn't sure if she was going to stay committed to Iowa. But after talking with newly appointed head coach Jim Barnes and the rest of the staff, she felt that their "visions, dreams, and mind-sets aligned," so she sets aligned," so she remained a Hawkeye.

Even through the coaching uncertainties, Mateo

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404 E. COLLEGE ST.

MINECRAFT AFTERSCHOOL

A new spin on capture the flag presented by Iowa City FabLab. This activity runs for four weeks every Thursday night from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. starting Jan. 12.

5:30 P.M. | IC FABLAB
870 S. CAPITOL ST.

FRI
JAN 20

AN EVENING WITH DAN KNIGHT

Dan Knight is a composer, pianist, educator and steinway artist who continues to extend the boundaries of style and composition in his performances of classical music, jazz, and free improvisation.

7:30 P.M. | THE ENGLERT
221 E WASHINGTON ST.

AMERICATURE WITH GOOD DEVILS & THE SLOW RETREAT

\$10 cover charge to see the alternative punk bands live at Gabe's.

8 P.M. | GABE'S
330 E. WASHINGTON ST.

AUDITIONS FOR 'FOLLIES'

Audition for Iowa City Community Theater's production of "Follies," a book by James Goldman with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Performances will open the last weekend of April.

5 P.M. | IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
123 S. LINN ST.

HOPES AND HOUSEPLANTS SPEED DATING

Tickets cost \$40 but covers 10 beer samples, a 4-inch perfect pairing houseplant, a pairing course presentation, and an available potting bar for interested parties. This event, brought in part by John's Grocery.

4 P.M. | EARL MAY GARDEN CENTER
1901 LOWER MUSCATINE ROAD

SAT
JAN 21

'STOMP'

The return of the percussive hit music performance, "Stomp" brings some new surprises — including two new full-scale routines utilizing props like tractor tire inner tubes and paint cans.

7:30 P.M. | HANCHER AUDITORIUM
141 E. PARK ROAD

LOCAL SHOWCASE SERIES WITH YOUNGER, SOPHIE MITCHELL, DEATH KILL OVERDRIVE

Each performance in the event features Iowa City's emerging artists, curated by members of the Englert staff.

7:30 P.M. | THE ENGLERT
221 E. WASHINGTON ST.

CJ SOLAR

With the influence of country, southern rock and delta blues pumping through his veins, CJ Solar fuses all of his inspirations with his instrumental talent and vocals into a entirely new sound.

9 P.M. | ELRAY'S LIVE & DIVE
211 IOWA AVE

AUDITIONS FOR 'FOLLIES'

Audition for Iowa City Community Theater's production of "Follies," a book by James Goldman with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Performances will open the last weekend of April.

5 P.M. | IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
123 S. LINN ST.

SUN
JAN 19

IOWA WOMEN'S JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Williamsburg Music Association presents the IWJO, a jazz band made up of female musicians from across the state of Iowa dedicated to showcasing female jazz talent.

12 P.M. | AMANA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
39 38TH AVE.

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

This craft show comes with homemade hot soups and desserts provided by the lodge with donation. Twenty-six diverse vendors will be present and ready to sell their crafts.

10 A.M. | IOWA CITY ODD FELLOWS EUREKA LODGE #44
1839 B ST.

CHESS BUTTERFLIES

This all-girls chess club for elementary age girls aims to encourage young girls to play and practice chess.

1 P.M. | CORALVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
1401 5TH ST.

SUNDAY FUN DAY: POPSICLE STICK SNOWFLAKES

From 1 p.m.- 4 p.m., the library will host a snowflake making workshop, with snowflakes to be hung in the story room.

1 P.M. | IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
123 S. LINN ST.



ASK THE AUTHOR

Taylor Bradley

On Dec. 9, 2022, author Taylor Bradley released her book "There's No Place Like House" based on Bradley's time couch-hopping across America after the end of a long-term relationship.

Ariana Lessard
Assistant Arts Editor

Author Taylor Bradley grew up as a child actress in Los Angeles and graduated from the University of Iowa in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in theater and a minor in English. On Dec. 9, 2022, Bradley released her newest book, "There's No Place Like House," which is based on her time couch-hopping across America following a long-term relationship.

The Daily Iowan: What inspired your novel?

Taylor Bradley: My book actually takes place over the course of two years in 2018. I got out of a 10-year relationship, and I was kind of just, like, free-falling basically, trying to figure out what the heck I was going to do. So, I don't have any family or anything nearby. I was kind of in free fall. One of my best friends whose grandfather had just passed had a big giant house that was sitting empty. While they were waiting to clean it out to sell it, he said, "Just go live at my grandpa's," and I said, "Let me help you clean it out at least." So, when I was sitting there in December of 2019, Christmas time and everything, I was like, "What a weird first Christmas to spend alone in this big empty house with this other person's stuff in it," and I knew him. I knew his grandfather and I loved him very dearly. But I was sitting there,

and I was like, "This seems like a great start to a book, right?"

DI: What is your artistic process?

Bradley: It's hard to say because it varies based on whatever it is I'm working on. Right now, I just finished the first draft of a children's book for adults about the process of grief and loss. And so, I'm working with an illustrator right now. But it depends, it really depends. For poetry, it's usually like if it's something that I need to just get out really quick and try to put on paper. I'll just, you know, sit down and basically journal but try to make it beautiful. Try to pick the most words that feel the best in your mouth, essentially. But when it comes to, like, essay writing and things like that, I generally will take notes. I have a Google document that's always open on my phone, like on the home screen, and I will take notes whenever something of prominence happens that I feel has sparked something in me that I need to process. I'll just kind of jot down like the thought or what happened and then sometimes something else will happen along the same lines



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE



HOUSE
TAYLOR BRADLEY

or in the same vein, and I'll be like, "Oh, this would go really good actually took to kind of pair with this other life event." And then once I start to have kind of a connection between things, I'll sit down and start writing out the essay. Usually, it's like one specific line or observation that

stands out to me that I'd be like, "This is a great opening line," something that's really poignant, or very, like, visually motivated, that would really draw a reader in and then sometimes that'll pick it off.

DI: What was it like couch-surfing for two years?

Bradley: So, the title of the book is "There's No Place Like House." The title came from around that same time when I was kind of flailing. As I said, I was trying to figure out what house I was going to live in and I was bouncing all over. I had 43 addresses that I stayed at within that two-year period and a handful of hotels. I slept in a hammock for a little bit. Like basically I had a friend who was working in the Sequoias and so I stayed up there for a couple of days. It was literally just like, I had zero home base. I was glamorously living out of my car because I had the privilege of having so many friends who were willing to open their doors to me.

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STREAMING

THAT '90S SHOW

NETFLIX

Genre: Sitcom

Number of episodes: 10

Starring:

Debra Jo Rupp

Kurtwood Smith

Callie Haverda

Ashley Aufderheide

Mace Coronel

Maxwell Acee Donovan

Reyn Doi

Sam Morelos

Parker Jones
Arts Editor

Fans will soon be reunited with their favorite characters through a sequel to one of the staple sitcoms of the 1990s and early 2000s: "That '70s Show." A new era will dawn with the premiere of "That '90s Show" on Netflix on Jan. 19.

Two decades after the events of "That '70s Show," viewers will see the next generation take the spotlight. The new 10-episode

series follows Leia Forman, the teenage daughter of Eric Forman and Donna Pinciotti, meeting and befriending fellow teenagers as she spends the summer of 1995 with her grandparents Red and Kitty in Point Place, Wisconsin. Expected to have a similar vibe to the original yet decidedly '90s in terms of aesthetics, the show has been much awaited by fans of the original series.

Although there will be new members to freshen up the cast, some familiar faces will take the screen as well, notably Debra Jo Rupp and Kurtwood Smith, who played Kitty and Red in "That '70s Show." Additional cameos will be made from previous cast members like Topher Grace as Eric, Laura Prepon as Donna, Mila Kunis as Jackie Burkhart, former University of Iowa student Ashton Kutcher as Michael Kelso, and Wilmer Valderrama as Fez, who is now a popular hairstylist in the series.

New cast members will include Callie Haverda as Leia; Mace Coronel as Jay Kelso, Leia's love interest and the son of Michael and Jackie; and Ashley Aufderheide as Gwen Runck, a rebellious "Riot grrrr!" who becomes Leia's friend. Although the original cast has aged and the new members have yet to charm the audience, "That '90s Show" will be sure to capture the same fans and draw in new viewers to the next era of the teen sitcom.

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REVIEW



FEEDBACK

UI professor updates classic German work

UI German professor Waltraud Maierhofer and colleague Jennifer Vanderbeek translated Eveline Hasler's "Die Vogelmacherin" into English.

Ariana Lessard
Arts Reporter

Witch trials existed long before Salem, Massachusetts. Waltraud Maierhofer, a University of Iowa professor of German, teaches Witch Hunts in Fact and Fiction, which explores European witch hunts.

She has recently gone a step further as an educator and translated a key historical text, "The Child Witches of Lucerne and Buchau," into English to share with the English-speaking world.

Translation is a cumulative artform because translators often not only translate a work but build upon the initial texts. This is the case with Maierhofer, who revitalized the Swiss and German work "Die Vogelmacherin" by Eveline Hasler and republished the English translation. Maierhofer's in-depth introduction and heart-felt annotations revive the relevance of Hasler's writing.

Published by Lehigh University Press and The Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group Inc., the book spans 181 pages and includes several beautiful black-and-white illustrations. Jennifer Vanderbeek,

a freelance translator, worked on the book with Maierhofer.

Hasler's novel details three children who were prosecuted for witchcraft in seventeenth-century Europe. The book carefully balances fiction and history. Hasler relies on history for the backbone of the novel, using trial records and other archival sources.

Translations are rarely directly taken word-for-word from the original text because of differences in language and writing style.

While the original text explores political and religious violence, Maierhofer goes further and includes essential context for the novel. The introduction and annotations done by Maierhofer and Vanderbeek provide history buffs and witch enthusiasts alike the chance to better understand the role that witch hunts have played in society over time.

Some witch hunts still exist in the modern era, although they are not often referred to as such. Maierhofer's "The Child Witches of Lucerne and Buchau" provides an opportunity for the English-speaking world to examine what has changed.

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PLAYLIST

**BACK TO SCHOOL AGAIN:
BOPS TO GET BACK INTO THE GROOVE OF CLASSES**

22 | Taylor Swift
KILLER QUEEN | Queen
DON'T STOP ME NOW | Queen
ELENORE | The Turtles
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS | The Beatles

Brink Literary Journal holds contest for hybrid writing

Brink Literary Journal is holding a hybrid writing contest from Jan. 1 until Feb. 15. The contest will be judged by author Lars Horn.

Stella Shipman
Arts Reporter

Printed with colorful imagery and compelling literary pieces spanning genres, the *Brink Literary Journal* in Iowa City offers a creative outlet for both readers and writers. Now, writers have the opportunity to receive awards for submitting their work.

From Jan. 1 to Feb. 15, the *Brink Literary Journal* will accept submissions for its hybrid writing contest and will award the winner with \$1,000 and the publication of their piece in the journal's October issue.

The *Brink Literary Journal* is an Iowa City-based literary publication that focuses on hybrid writing, which is any form of literary work that combines mediums or cross-genres. Nina Lohman, founder and publisher of *Brink*, said it is work "that doesn't fit in a lot of literary boxes."

Lohman launched *Brink* in spring 2021 as a place for authors whose writing did not fit standard literary categories to share their pieces. She realized the necessity for such a platform after struggling to find somewhere to share her own hybrid work.

"I came to realize that if I had this trouble, I am certainly not alone," said Lohman. "I know this because a lot of the work that I like to read is writing that is hybrid in nature, you know, writing that requires more than one discipline or its dynamic or uses different parts from different literary traditions to tell the story that it needs to tell."

The contest will be judged by Lars Horn, a writer and translator working in literary and experimental nonfiction. They are the author of the award-winning essay collection "Voice of the Fish."

The winning contest submission will gain more recognition if chosen by Horn because of Horn's credibility as an author and hybrid writer, Lohman said. She added this kind of recognition might otherwise be difficult to find in the literary world because of literary boxes that constrain hybrid writing.

In mid-November 2022, Humanities Iowa granted *Brink* with fund-

ing for its contest prize. Humanities Iowa is a non-profit organization located in Iowa City and neighboring states that is committed to providing individuals or programs in communities equitable access to support.

Heather Plucar, acting executive director of Humanities Iowa, said the organization's mission has recently been evolving "to target intergenerational audiences as opposed to just purely the out-of-school adult public."

Brink built a strong foundation of publicity, reaching a vast majority of high school students in Iowa



Photo courtesy of Brink Literary Journal.

City, Plucar said. This audience corresponds with Humanities Iowa's evolved mission to reach intergenerational audiences.

As a new arts organization in Iowa City, *Brink* has been welcomed with open arms. Hannah Bonner, the poetry editor for *Brink*, explained that other organizations within the community, like Iowa City Poetry and Public Space One, have embraced the publication.

Like Lohman, Bonner hopes the contest will offer hybrid writers an outlet and opportunity to gain traction in the literary world and continue to provide *Brink* with visibility.

"I feel like anyone, like any arts organization, is really psyched to support everyone," Bonner said. "It just always feels like you are part of a group who is eager to amplify, like anyone who starts something new."

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Stanley exhibit on display until July 2025

The museum's exhibit marks a new beginning for art in the university community.

Emma Gaughan
Arts Reporter

In the Stanley Museum of Art's galleries, viewers can experience a vast range of art, from contemporary paintings to ceramics and photography to an abundance of Asian and African pieces. The "Homecoming" exhibit showcases the story of the original museum before it flooded 14 years ago.

The museum opened its new building in August 2022, returning old art to campus as well as introducing new pieces. The inaugural exhibit, aptly titled "Homecoming," allows students and community members to experience the artwork firsthand. The art featured in the exhibit will be on display until July 2025.

"Homecoming" is composed of multiple smaller installations titled "Generations," "Fragments of the Canon: African Art from the Saunders and Stanley Collections," and "History is Always Now." Each of the installations tell stories about the Stanley and its mission.

"Generations" aims to tell the story of the UI's history with art and art education through pieces that symbolize these concepts. Important modern and contemporary artists are featured alongside university staff and alumni like Elizabeth Catlett, Mauricio Lasansky, and Ana Mendieta.

"Fragments of the Canon: African Art from the Saunders and Stanley Collections" shares a unique perspective on African art. The extensive collection displays art from the Stanley collection and from the collection of Meredith Saunders, who was a Black Iowan collector.

Additionally, two other installations preface the works in "Fragments of the Canon." One, titled "Centering on Cloth: The Art of African Textiles" serves as an entryway to the surrounding works from the African collection. With 15 works, it highlights the use and creation of cloth from various time periods across Africa, including examples from Egypt, Nigeria, Tunisia, Liberia, Ghana, and more.

The other installation, "About Face: African Masks in Iowa," features nearly 30 wooden masks that the UI has acquired since 1956. This portion of the exhibit emphasizes the historical artistic relationships between many West and Central African cultures, which were characterized by "ritual performance, spiritual authority, and sculptural ingenuity," according to the Stanley's website.

"History is Always Now" shares a personal approach to the understanding of art and culture, aiming to connect the viewer to these concepts more deeply. This installation features art from Africa and Asia and Indigenous pieces from the Americas and Oceania.

"By default, most universities are organized in terms of departmental classifications, and a museum is a place where everyone can come together and collaborate in ways that aren't necessarily as possible within the silos of the arts and sciences," said Cory Gundlach, the curator of African art at the Stanley.

Aside from being a place of collection and display, Gundlach said the museum seeks to reach across boundaries as a gathering place and allow for open communication between

people and art. This communication then allows for further creativity and audience connection.

"People can get together and talk across the disciplines, and that can be very challenging because we develop our own sort of idioms and expressions. As art historians, as engineers, as creative writers, we each have our own style and language to a certain extent," Gundlach said.

Gundlach added that those kinds of interdisciplinary interactions force viewers to rethink the way they function in their work or way of thinking.

With the reopening of the museum, the Stanley's vast collection has been brought back to the university in an environment where students can learn and grow from it. The collections are curated and structured to aid museumgoers and students to gain as much as they can from the art while they are there.

"One of the biggest problems with museums is that they've been too narrowly focused on serving the art history community," Gundlach said. "With that sort of restriction, there's been this perception of elitism, and I think museums have finally recognized, at least in the last generation, it's important to embrace more than just people who are working in art history so that we can offer an inclusive experience."

As the art community grows, especially in Iowa City, the Stanley aims to connect people in all fields of study or paths, creating a more diverse understanding of art.

"Students are encouraged to use it as a resource for their own research," Gundlach said. "I think it's



"Guardian" (2021), by Donté K. Hayes, Museum purchase with Support from Sharman Hunter, 2022.8, University of Iowa Stanley Museum of Art.

really important to recognize that the University of Iowa was the first university in the world to offer the MFA in creative art."

The inaugural exhibit displays a wide variety of art, including pieces that were displayed at the old museum as well as brand-new pieces that the UI is displaying for the first time. The collection invites its viewers to explore the many types and styles of art throughout the gallery from a plethora of acclaimed artists.

One displayed piece is by Elizabeth Catlett, the first African American woman in the country to earn a Master of Fine Arts, Gundlach said. Some of Catlett's art can be seen at the Stanley, including a recently acquired 1981 sculpted portrait bust called "Glory."

"The Homecoming exhibition is much like it sounds — a homecoming exhibition," student gallery host Josie Duccini said. "Now that we have this new building and can have our whole collection back in one place, it really is like welcoming the art back home to Iowa City."

Before the new museum opened, the UI's art collection was moved to other museums and collections

until it could be returned to the UI.

"The art has been everywhere. A lot of it has been in Davenport since the old museum flooded," Duccini said.

As a university museum, the Stanley creates an open space for learning and exploring to occur, Duccini said. Students of all fields and disciplines are invited to gather and learn about art, as well as themselves.

"Art is so much more than just paint on paper or just a sculpture out of bronze," Duccini said. "It really can do something for you, it is something you can interact with and start a dialogue with. It is something that introduces you to your own past, even."

The piece that draws many to the Stanley is "Mural" by Jackson Pollock, Duccini shared. This piece from 1943 is featured in many of the advertisements for the Homecoming Exhibit. "Mural" is an abstract piece using a variety of different shapes and colors contrasting circular shapes with straight lines, and light yellows and pinks with dark blues and greens.

The museum also hosts

events throughout the year to bring its audiences together and draw in new visitors. These events allow students and others to connect to people and art, further connecting the Iowa City and the UI communities.

Duccini said the museum ultimately seeks to teach students that they should interact with art and how to do so. Different events and tours allow viewers to experience art in different ways, and the different collections each seek to guide this experience while appealing to students.

"Art can certainly have an impact on student life," third-year UI art student Trick Lucero said. "It helps to expose people to objects and ways of thinking they wouldn't experience in their own bubbles."

Lucero shared they visited the museum multiple times, and they thought it was an important part of the university.

"Art is meant to push through to neglected but important topics," Lucero said. "This is especially important for college students."

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"Glory" (1981), by Elizabeth Catlett, Museum purchase with support from the Joyce P. Summerwill Art Fund, 2022.1. Photo by Jerod Ringwald

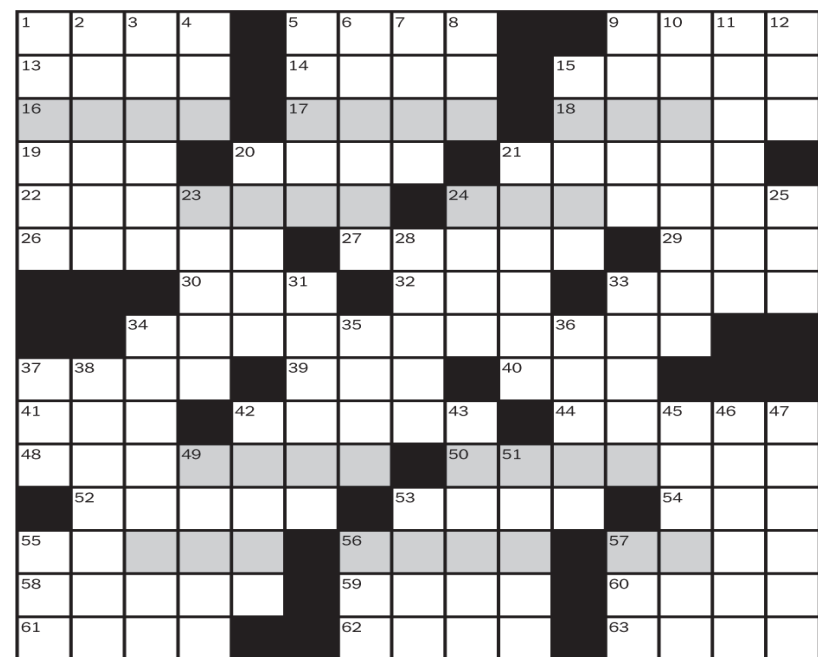
Pictured on 1B | "Mural" (1943), by Jackson Pollock, Gift of Peggy Guggenheim, 1959.6. Photo by Jerod Ringwald.

The Daily Break

Puzzle solutions on page 2A

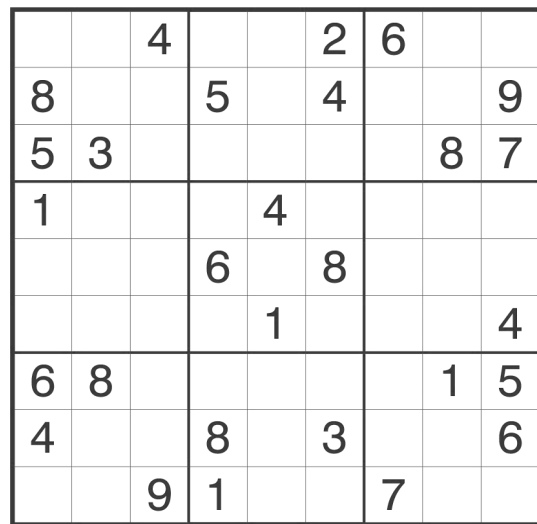
The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1214



- Across**
- 1 Word with straw or exit
 - 5 Kept in the loop, in a way
 - 9 Org. originally founded to protect carriage horses
 - 13 Oregon-based shoe company
 - 14 Ring light?
 - 15 Broken up
 - 16 Atingle, maybe
 - 17 Gaelic language
 - 18 The hate in hate mail
 - 19 Name in price lists?
 - 20 Larson who won Best Actress for 2015's "Room"
 - 21 ___ Heights
 - 22 Instruct for a new job, say
 - 24 Unfashionable unisex hairstyle
 - 26 Burros
 - 27 Black-tie affairs
 - 29 Projection from the fashionably late
 - 30 Short life?
 - 32 Groove
 - 33 Fresh talk
 - 34 Fortunate circumstances ... or a punny hint to the shaded letters
 - 37 Some tap offerings, in brief
 - 39 Susan of "L.A. Law"
 - 40 Cousin of a cassowary
 - 41 Like some of the mil.
 - 42 Actress Thompson of "Sorry to Bother You"
 - 44 Super-super-
 - 48 John who wrote "The Pelican Brief"
 - 50 More up-and-down, as a relationship
 - 52 Up
 - 53 Guitarist's accessory
 - 54 Surveillance org.
 - 55 Really hate
 - 56 Short meeting?
 - 57 French breakfast item that sounds like a response

- Down**
- 1 Big bakery/cafe chain
 - 2 Seeds-to-be
 - 3 Caps
 - 4 Place to conduct forensics
 - 5 French beloved
 - 6 What sharing is, per a rhyming expression
 - 7 Otherwise
 - 8 Mommie deer-est?
 - 9 Something you need to do to solve crosswords
 - 10 Universal solutions
 - 11 Pastries with a portmanteau name
 - 12 Where bills get passed, for short
 - 15 Swears
 - 20 Meat-and-potatoes
 - 21 Colonel Sanders feature
 - 23 "U R A Q-TI," e.g.
 - 24 "It was all a ___"
 - 25 Some Ph.D. students
 - 28 Fast-food chain with a cowboy hat in its logo
 - 31 "Whatever you say, hon"
 - 33 Move furtively
 - 34 Showered, as with gifts
 - 35 Quaint response of agreement
 - 36 "Duck ___" (classic Warner Bros. cartoon short)
 - 37 Gerund suffix
 - 38 Bit of preachy prose
 - 42 Left base?
 - 43 Emerges
 - 45 Lack of musical skill
 - 46 Take up again
 - 47 Oslo Accords figure
 - 49 Gem
 - 51 Earthy hue
 - 53 Philippine currency
 - 55 Start of a kindergarten ditty
 - 56 Good picnic forecast
 - 57 56-Down, e.g.

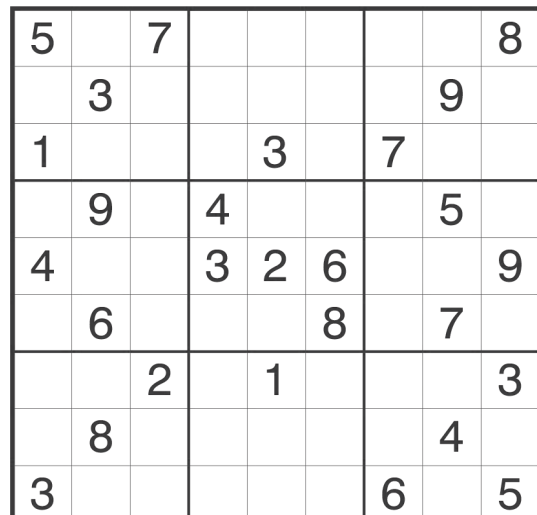


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Prairie Lights Bookstore thrives 45 years later

Prairie Lights continues to flourish thanks to owner Jan Weissmiller's dedication to the bookstore.



Grace Smith/The Daily Iowan

First-year University of Iowa student Meredith Onions looks through a book at Prairie Lights Books & Cafe in Iowa City on Tuesday.

Anaka Sanders
Arts Reporter

Take a step into Iowa City's independent bookstore Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, and one will be overtaken by a comforting sense of homeliness between the stretching walls and winding tables of books.

Prairie Lights opened in 1978 in a cramped 1000-square-foot storefront west of its current location on South Dubuque Street. Jan Weissmiller is the current owner and graduated from the University of Iowa in 1978.

Weissmiller was immersed in creative writing and poetry classes as a double major in history and English. She often found her way to Prairie Light's poetry section to take in the aura of older graduate students and intriguing poems.

Original owner Jim Harris got to know her after she started spending most of her time in the store, and Harris eventually asked her if she wanted to work there. As a young college student, she was saving up for graduate school by waitressing, a job that she knew would make her more money. Harris felt that if she gave it a try, making less money wouldn't matter.

"That's the thing about bookstores: They're really fun," Weissmiller said. "It's not like there isn't work, but it's around books and people, and something new happens every day. Somebody comes in, and you have some amazing conver-

sation about a book. I was really very quickly addicted to it."

As time moved forward and Weissmiller spent more time working in the bookstore, Harris approached her in 2005 and asked if she wanted to buy Prairie Lights. She declined his offer knowing it would be too much for her.

Her close friend and fellow poet Jane Mead, who she knew from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, kept a small house in Iowa City after moving back home to Napa, California. Mead asked Weissmiller and Harris to visit while she was out west, and they both took her up on her offers.

When Weissmiller was reading poetry with Mead during a trip in 2007, Harris called and asked them if they would like to buy the bookstore — this time together.

They kicked this idea around for the remainder of their trip and decided they could afford it if they were partners and split an equal share. Over the course of the following year, they went through a transition period where all three owned a stake in Prairie Lights. But by the end of 2008, the two women were on their own.

"Jane and I were good friends, and we had the same values, so we did not have a hard time running the business together," Weissmiller said.

While they both co-owned the bookstore, Weissmiller spent the most time inside Prairie Lights

running their business in the public eye. However, they took over the formerly run Java House on the second floor for a café of their own. Of course, they always had each other to bounce ideas off of.

On Sept. 8, 2019, Mead died of cancer, leaving Weissmiller alone to run Prairie Lights and continue their dedication for the bookstore. Tucked in the quiet nook on the second floor between the staircase and the café are two framed poems by Mead: "I Wonder If I Will Miss The Most" and "Experience As Visitation." In this place, Mead's legacy as a poet carries on.

"I like having these here because people do read them," Weissmiller said. "Often, someone will come downstairs and look for her poems because they've read these on the wall."

It's hard for Weissmiller to decipher how her role in her job has changed since Mead's passing because the COVID-19 pandemic started quickly afterward. Only five months later, Prairie Lights closed to all in-person activity for 14 months, only reopening in May 2021.

Bookstores have seen their share of challenges post-pandemic as well as within the 21st century.

Weissmiller said Prairie Light's online sales have skyrocketed since the pandemic, with many customers still choosing online orders rather than in-person shopping. To be a successful independent book-

store owner, Weissmiller believes someone must develop strong relationships with the community.

"We do it through our reading series because the reading series is not just famous people. We also have local authors, and luckily, we have really good local authors through the workshop," Weissmiller said. "Also just having really strong community relations and with other businesses downtown and with all the people that we buy things from and with each other."

Iowa City is a designated UNESCO City of Literature based on its writing programs, libraries, bookstores, and history and heritage of

literature. Its Creative Cities Network recognizes cities worldwide with exemplary programming in seven different areas, one of which is literature.

John Kenyon, executive director of the Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature, said the city couldn't be a City of Literature without having a bookstore like Prairie Lights.

"Prairie Lights is the kind of place where you can find stories, poetry, essays, non-fiction, books, magazines, journals — whatever you need to fill your soul, you can find there," Kenyon said.

A pivotal pillar both Prairie Lights and Weissmiller

er stand on is keeping the bookstore filled with books. She said many stores in other cities are predominantly selling 30 to 40 percent "sidelines," which are items like socks and stuffed animals. Weissmiller said Prairie Lights is lucky to live in a city of literature because there are many writers in town with works to fill up the shelves.

"So as long as it's possible, I want to keep very Prairie Lights books, mostly books — and that means lots of books because we have so much space," Weissmiller said.

There are many reasons why bookstores will always be around, Weissmiller said. She said it is a different experience to go online than it is to come into the store and see all the things that a customer might not have known existed.

Kenyon's reasoning is more philosophical.

"The written word and books and literature — it's such an important part of us telling each other about who we are, what we've done, what we're capable of doing," Kenyon said.

Talking to people about books and coming into Prairie Lights is Weissmiller's favorite part of the job. Every day is a new day that is already in motion when she enters the bookstore every morning at 11 a.m. She explained it as "knowing you're going to a movie you really want to see."

"The lights are going to come on and the phone is going to ring and somebody's going to walk in the door," Weissmiller said. "You don't know what it is, but you're excited you know that it's going to be interesting, whatever it is."

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Prairie Lights co-owners Jane Mead (right) and Jan Weissmiller (left) flip through a photo book. Photo contributed by Jan Weissmiller.

BREAKING NEWS TOP STORIES POSTGAME AND MORE

The Daily Iowan
January 18, 2023

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The Daily Iowan
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

Student surplus, dorms crowded
Hawkeyes descended on Iowa City this week to live on campus for the 2022-23 academic year.

Large incoming class strains UI faculty, departments
The University of Iowa expanded the capacity of more than 50 courses to accommodate the large number of students.

Johnson County officials work to minimize monkeypox spread
State health officials are providing tips to those people at risk of contracting the disease.

INSIDE
Challenge: How do you get to the top?
Betsy Johnson ready for 2023
ONLINE
Daily Iowan news on YouTube

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Executive Editor for the 2023-24 year

The board of Student Publications, Inc., which oversees The Daily Iowan, is seeking applicants for the 2023-24 Executive Editor position.

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Iowa men's basketball picks up third straight win, defeats Michigan in overtime
Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren named as Chicago Bears president and CEO
Caitlin Clark moves to second all-time leading scorer as Iowa women's basketball beats Northwestern
Iowa Chief Justice Susan Cernigoi looks to include Iowa in judicial reform

News
Reynolds touts Republican policy during Condition of the State address
Iowa City Council appoints Andrew Quinn as councillor
Iowa City Hamburg fires No. 2 to replace in February
UI student among finalists for vacant city council position
Iowa City Hamburg fires No. 2 to potentially close in 2023

DTV
DITV NewsCast Ep. 1
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Details and application available at:
dailyiowan.com/editor-application
Deadline: February 24, 2023