

# The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023

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## ONLINE



### Gov. Kim Reynolds signs \$107 million for public school aid into law

After floor debate and multiple failed amendments, the Iowa House passed the Senate's 3 percent increase in state funding for public school districts.

## UPCOMING



### Building the nation's first Power Five women's wrestling team

Clarissa Chun was planning to return and coach at her alma mater Missouri Valley College, but the allure of Iowa women's wrestling was too difficult to pass up. Check out *The Daily Iowan's* project on the new women's wrestling coach on Monday.

## INSIDE



### Iowa City rest areas to add accessible changing rooms

Rest areas across Iowa, including one near Iowa City, will have adult changing rooms to assist caregivers of those with disabilities.

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### Proposed SNAP cuts spark concern

A bill that would limit food stamp benefits is creating concern for Iowa City food bank staff and a UI expert.

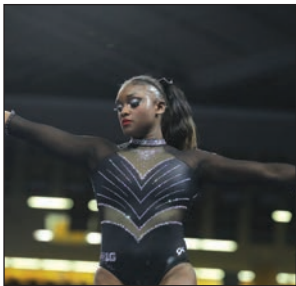
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### 80 HOURS | SpareMe vs. Colonial Lanes: Pinning down Iowa City's two bowling alleys

Which Iowa City bowling alley reigns supreme? More separates these two bowling alleys than just the length of their lanes.

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### Finding value outside of gymnastics

JerQuavia Henderson, a senior on the Iowa women's gymnastics team, discusses finding her own identity beyond her role as a gymnast.

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## DITV

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## IOWA POLITICS

# 'You can't put a value on a life'

Iowa lawmakers move forward with caps on awards for "pain and suffering" in liability lawsuits.



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

The Iowa House gets ready to meet during the first day of the 90th Iowa General Assembly at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines on Jan. 9.

Liam Halawith  
Politics Editor

An Iowa City jury awarded a local couple \$98 million in damages last November because of negligence by a doctor at the OBGYN Associates of Iowa City after a physician hurt a newborn with improper use of medical tools during delivery.

The verdict, handed down after a two-week trial in late October 2022, is believed to be one of the largest jury verdicts in a medical malpractice lawsuit in Iowa history, according to the couple's lawyer.

The large verdict caused the clinic to file for bankruptcy after its malpractice insurance refused to pay the large settlement that exceeded its coverage.

This case is an example of what insurance experts call "nuclear verdicts," which are large verdicts that advocates for caps say can raise

insurance prices in surrounding areas.

The Iowa House and Senate are considering legislation to add caps on medical malpractice and commercial vehicle liability. Each chamber has its own version of the legislation moving through the legislature.

The House's versions are both eligible for debate this week, and the Senate is considering bills on the committee level this week.

### Bill would cap 'pain and suffering' awards at \$1 million

Rep. Ann Meyer, the chair of the House Health and Human Services Committee and a Republican from Fort Dodge, led a discussion of House File 102 during a Health and Human Services Committee meeting on the bill.

The bill would place a total cap of \$1 million on non-economic damages for claims against health care providers. Current law sets a cap

of \$250,000 for non-economic damages unless a jury finds that the cap would not compensate the patient.

The new law would place a hard cap of \$1 million on judgments larger than \$250,000 where previous claims that exceeded the \$250,000 cap were unlimited.

The bill, however, does not cap economic damages that can be recovered against a defendant. The bill also does not cap damages that are able to be recovered if the negligence is of "actual malice" or actions that are intended to cause pain and suffering.

Meyer said doctors in Iowa face high medical malpractice insurance premiums, driving some doctors out of the state when deciding where to practice after residency. Meyers said the bill would put Iowa on a level playing field with the surrounding states.

TORTS | Page 2

## COGS to gather with state unions on campus

COGS union to participate in first-ever Iowa Troublemakers School.



Shuntaro Kawasaki/The Daily Iowan

COGS protesters are seen in front of the Old Capitol in Iowa City on Monday.

Grace Katzer  
News Reporter

The University of Iowa Campaign to Organize Graduate Students union is bringing the first Iowa Labor Notes Troublemakers School to campus.

The event will bring together union members, labor activists, and local officers from across Iowa on April 22, according to the announcement. The Troublemakers School will serve as a networking event to inspire unionizers and activists.

COGS President Hannah Zadeh said the union attended the national Labor Notes Conference in 2022 and was inspired by the interactive panels and training.

"It was such a great opportunity to connect with organizers across the county," they said. "Bringing this event to Iowa is important because bringing worker power to the labor move-

ment is how we're going to improve the livelihoods of Iowans."

Zadeh said the event is important following legislative developments in the last five years that have prevented graduate student workers from getting "living wages" from the state Board of Regents.

An "anti-union" law, House File 291, signed by former Gov. Terry Branstad in 2017, limited contract negotiations for unions in Iowa, Zadeh said.

The Iowa Troublemakers School event comes in light of an ongoing nationwide labor movement, with organizing happening at universities across the U.S., including:

- University of California, where 48,000 campus workers participated in a six-week strike that began on Nov. 14

COGS | Page 2

## IC residents to see increased expenses

The fiscal 2024 budget considers raising utility rates and other fees.

Sydney Libert  
News Reporter

Nationwide inflation trends are hitting close to home as the Iowa City City Council continues its consideration of a potential increase in expenses for residents.

Under the city's current proposal of the fiscal 2024 budget, water, wastewater, recycling/refuse, and stormwater utility rates will rise when the 2024 budget goes into effect July 1.

Notably, the city's wastewater rate will increase by 2 percent, costing residents approximately \$2.85 more per month. The last time Iowa City changed the wastewater utility rate was during the 2009 fiscal budget nearly 14 years ago.

Iowa City wastewater superintendent Tim Wilkey said the raised rates are partly because of increased costs in running the division's services. Wilkey added that a lot of wastewater equipment is reaching the end of their useful life.

While some of the equipment replacements use money from the division's reserve funds, the increased rates will help the division invest in new machinery that will make the treatment process more energy efficient.

"There's been a lot of increasing costs with energy, equipment, [and] chemicals," Wilkey said. "As one of the larger energy users in the city itself, some of that funding will be used to help offset that cost and still allow us to maintain our reserves."

The city's refuse and recycling rate will also cost an extra \$2 per month. Unlike the fiscal 2023 budget, the organics utility rate, which accounts for compost and yard waste costs, will not increase.

Jennifer Jordan, Iowa City's resource management superintendent, said the proposed changes match the quality of the city's landfill and recycling services. "[It's] just the cost of doing business.

FEES | Page 2

Feature photo | HawkeyEsports Arcade hosts gamers



Emily Nyberg/The Daily Iowan

University of Iowa juniors Zach Morden and Griffin Hancock pass the time between classes playing Valorant in the HawkeyEsports Arcade in the Iowa Memorial Union on Tuesday. The arcade, which features 24 gaming computers, three console stations, and three stand-up arcade systems, opened on the ground floor of the Memorial Union on Sept. 27, 2022.

TORTS

Continued from Front

Several states surrounding Iowa placed caps on non-economic damages in medical malpractice liability awards, apart from Illinois and Minnesota.

However, two bordering states have lower insurance premiums — South Dakota and Minnesota. Minnesota, which doesn't have caps on medical malpractice judgments, has the lowest cost for malpractice insurance, at just over \$12,000 a year.

Iowa's average cost for medical malpractice insurance was around \$22,000 in 2022 and has stayed stable for the past decade, according to data from the Medical Liability Monitor. Iowa also has some of the lowest medical malpractice insurance costs in the country, placing fifth in the nation.

Iowa also has the fewest number of medical mal-

practice lawsuits per capita in the nation. With only 15.2 malpractice cases per 100,000 residents in 2015, Iowa places 42 in the number of lawsuits per capita, according to data from the National Practitioners Data Bank.

There were only 15 medical malpractice lawsuit verdicts in 2021, with seven of the verdicts in Polk County, according to data from the Iowa Judicial Branch.

Opponents say insurance industry is at fault

Opponents of the bill say the insurance industry is more to blame for nuclear verdicts than Iowa's legal climate, which experts say is favorable to doctors in liability cases.

Darin Luneckas, a University of Iowa College of Law Alumni and legal counsel for the Iowa Association of Justice, said

in an interview with *The Daily Iowan* that these caps don't benefit doctors — they only help insurance companies.

"That's where the genesis of all this is really coming from, is from the insurance companies that dominate the collection of premiums from doctors and nurses and clinics all over the state," Luneckas said. "They want to pay less. They want to keep more, and it's not for the doctors."

Luneckas also said the caps are unconstitutional and limit Iowans' rights to have their claims heard by a jury of their peers to decide just compensation for a wrong.

"We're going to put the constitutional right to a jury trial; we're going to put that on the back burner," he said. "And we're going to circumscribe Iowan's rights to get into the court system and have their peers decide these

cases so that the insurance companies can get more wealthy."

Nine states have declared caps on medical malpractice awards unconstitutional.

Capping commercial vehicle liability claims for non-economic damages at \$1 million

Under a bill advanced out of the Iowa House Judiciary Committee last week, employers wouldn't be culpable for negligence in the hiring process of commercial drivers. The bill would also cap the amount of non-economic damages that could be awarded in suits against a driver's employer to \$1 million.

This bill has had similar versions advance in both chambers, and the bill could see floor debate later this week.

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COGS

Continued from Front

- University of Illinois-Chicago, where there was a four-day long faculty strike on Jan. 17
- Temple University, where hundreds of graduate students struck on Jan. 31
- University of Washington, where librarians, campus employees, and staff walked out on Jan. 25

For UI workers, going on strike is illegal under the 2017 law.

"Organizing and unionizing in a red state with a Republican Legislature is very different from organizing in California or New York," Zadeh said.

The UI Hospitals and Clinics nurse union, UIHC chapter of Service Employees International Union Local 199, went to wage negotiations in January demanding a 14 percent pay increase. The regents offered them a 1.5 to 3 percent increase instead.

Zadeh said the regents' offer was an example of how hard it is for workers to get a real raise, Zadeh said.

Bringing trainings to Iowa union members will



Shuntaro Kawasaki/The Daily Iowan

COGS protesters are seen in front of the Old Capitol in Iowa City on Monday.

help people understand how to organize in a red state more effectively, they said.

Caleb Klipowicz, COGS press and publicity committee chair, said the Troublemakers School comes at time of high profile strikes and unionizing in Eastern Iowa.

"John Deere, for example, went on strike in Cedar Rapids a couple of years ago, as well as the UI nurses' union and other university workers, demanding higher raises" he said. "[The Troublemakers school] is really an awesome opportunity for us

to show the university and our community that we are part of a vibrant and growing labor movement."

Klipowicz said he expects to see a good amount of engagement from colleagues, members, and people from all over the state. COGS is expecting to see unionizers from John Deere, immigrant and refugee workers at Tyson food processing plants, the Grinnell College undergraduate student union, and many more.

"There will be speakers at the event sharing their experiences as well as workshops teaching par-

ticipants how to form their own unions and be successful with organizing," he said. "We will talk about the unique challenges we face here in Iowa, given the strict labor laws."

The event will not happen just because of COGS by any means, Klipowicz said.

"We're just happy to help coordinate and plan parts of the event and help get the word out in advance," he said. "We are really excited to come together as unions from across the state."

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FEES

Continued from Front

We offer a premier weekly service that has carts available for all of our customers for three different collection streams — trash, recycling, and yard waste," Jordan said. "Each of those takes trucks, fuel, and staff to operate, and each of those things go up in cost every day."

Jordan also pointed out that the cost of the utility for the estimated 16,500 Iowa City households that the collection division serves — just over half of the households in the city — prevents all residents from having to pay additional charges on taxes.

"This covers the entire cost of trash, recycling, and organic services unless people have additional items to pick up," Jordan

said. Other utility expense differences include a 4 percent increase in water utilities and an added 50 cents monthly for the city's stormwater rate.

While utility prices may increase this upcoming fiscal year, the budget proposes to keep the city's property tax rate the same.

For the past decade, the city's property tax rate has decreased. City of Iowa City Finance Director Nicole Davies said the city cannot continue the trend this year because the amount of property taxes the city collects has begun to decrease.

"This year, our property taxes that we should be collecting are about 2 percent higher than last year," Davies said. "Our costs are definitely increasing at a much faster rate than

2 percent. There's just no way that we could continue to lower that property tax rate."

During the city's 2024 budget work session meeting on Jan. 7, Assistant City Manager Rachel Kilburg echoed Davies's sentiments.

"If we don't see an increase in our tax base in the next year or two — if we stay at the one or two percent growth in tax base — we're not going to be able to sustain our operations as they are now," Kilburg said.

The City Council will have a public hearing for the proposed budget and will adopt a resolution for the maximum property tax on Feb. 21. The budget is set to be adopted on March 21.

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CORRECTION

In the Monday print edition of *The Daily Iowan*, an article had a misleading headline titled Students experience insulin shortage from weight loss trend. The correct medication is Tirzepatide, sold under the name Mounjaro by Eli Lilly and Company. The drug also treats people with Type 2 diabetes. The *DI* regrets this error.

-Hannah Pinski, Executive Editor

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# Iowa rest areas to add accessible changing rooms

The new restrooms will aid caregivers of people with disabilities.

Sofia Mamakos  
News Reporter

Adult changing rooms will soon be available for use in Johnson County on Interstate 380 to assist caregivers of people with disabilities.

The Iowa Department of Transportation is adding adult changing rooms to four interstate rest areas this year, including on Interstate 380 northbound between Iowa City and Cedar Rapids and on Interstate 80 westbound near Tiffin.

Adult changing rooms are designed for use by people with physical or intellectual disabilities who may have difficulty using a standard toilet. The amenities in these restrooms typically include a hoist and height-adjustable changing table, which help people remain sanitary and make the process easier for caregivers.

Steve McMenam, Iowa Department of Transportation rest area administrator, said the organization is working to remodel restrooms in these buildings to make the building more accessible for all people.

"We're modifying all the larger buildings to add an adult changing station in the family rooms," McMenam said. "The problem was out there for a

large portion of the population, and it's an issue that we thought we could address because we had the space."

McMenamin said they are currently wrapping up projects with plans for more accessible bathrooms being placed in rest stops in the future.

"We started in our last building where we opened the first adult changing station in an Iowa county building," McMenam said. "We're in the process of finishing up four other buildings, and in the future here, probably next month in March, we'll be getting contracts for five more buildings."

There are some concerns that came along with the construction, primarily surrounding the usage of the changing areas for activities it was not designed for, McMenam said.

"The room has a lock from the inside, which is unusual," he said. "I think it's a good idea, but you never know for sure."

Nancy Baker Curtis, an Iowa mother of two and a member of Changing Spaces Iowa — an organization that advocates for more height-adjustable adult sized changing tables across Iowa — the new restrooms are accessible to her family's necessities.

"My 7-year-old son Charlie is disabled. He



The Iowa Interstate Rest Area is seen in on I-80 in Johnson County on Jan. 30. Iowa rest areas are getting adult changing rooms to help caregivers of people with disabilities.

Madysen Gomez/The Daily Iowan

does not speak, and he requires the use of diapers," Baker Curtis said.

Baker Curtis said she has been advocating for more accessible changing rooms in rest stops and other buildings across the state for multiple years.

"When I first became aware of this issue was in 2018," Baker Curtis said. "He was 2 years old at the

time, and well, he was small enough to fit on an infant wall mounted changing table, but he was too long. I would change him in my car whenever I could."

As the winter months approached, however, Baker Curtis realized she was no longer able to use her car because of the cold temperatures.

"We realized that we

really only had the option of going back inside to the rest area and having to use that dirty bathroom floor," she said.

Baker Curtis said she is thrilled about the addition of rest areas, and she hopes that it sheds a light on public advocacy for populations who benefit from having accessible restrooms available.

"I would encourage anyone if they go someplace to speak up and to be an ally," Baker Curtis said. "You don't have to have a loved one with a disability in order to be an advocate for them or to want them to have access to the exact same thing everybody else does."

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## Proposed SNAP cuts spark concern

Food bank officials are worried after the Iowa House recommended cutting food assistance items.

Kufre Ituk  
News Reporter

People who are eligible for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program in Iowa City may have fewer food options to choose from in the future.

A proposed bill in the Iowa legislature, House File 3, would reduce benefits and increase restrictions for those who receive government food and health assistance in the state. The legislation was introduced in the Iowa House on Jan. 11 and is currently in committee deliberation.

The two assistance programs primarily targeted are SNAP and Medicaid. SNAP is federally funded and operated at the state level, while Medicaid is funded by local, state, and federal government.

Adrienne Korbakes, Iowa City Community Crisis Services and Food Bank chief operating officer, said with the cost of food increasing and with the possible bill, local food banks will feel strained to meet the needs of its customers.

The food bank saw a 30 percent increase in the number of new households that are coming to its food pantry, Korbakes said.

"We're seeing that working families and individuals like seniors who are on a fixed income are already struggling as the

cost of food is increasing," Korbakes said. "A bill like this creates more barriers for people to get food."

The restrictions originally proposed in HF 3 included limiting the types of food a person can receive with SNAP such as fresh meat, white grains, and snack items. Now, the limited items are soda and candy, but the bill also includes asset limits, identity verification, mandatory work requirements, and employment and training programs.

The bill also suggests a limit on the assets a family can possess to maintain SNAP benefits. The limit is \$2,250, with a \$4,250 limit for those that have a person with a disability or an individual over 60 years old in the household. Households with more than one vehicle would also be reevaluated for the program.

Aislinn Conrad, a research fellow at the University of Iowa's Social and Education Policy Research Program and assistant professor in the school of social work, said the overall goal of the state should be to help children and families succeed.

"I think about the push for college education funding; we want kids to succeed in school. Often what would go in those categories of assets would be things like cars and savings accounts that



Food donations are seen inside the CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank in Iowa City on Feb. 14, 2022. The center is a volunteer-driven organization for grocery assistance.

Dimia Burrell/The Daily Iowan

might be helping kids go to school," Conrad said.

Conrad said these new legislative measures will most heavily affect SNAP recipients with children.

"Nearly 70 percent of people who get SNAP have children. People with kids tend to be poorer and have more stress because they have more stressors on their income," Conrad said. "The people who are hurt and are typically hurt by cuts to SNAP and cuts to anything that involves

resources at the federal level [are] typically families."

Conrad said federal assistance programs often help with poverty and financial insecurity. Decreasing benefits offered could have adverse effects, she said.

"There's been a lot of research that ties programs like SNAP to actually lifting people out of poverty, decreasing their food insecurity and hunger, and increasing med-

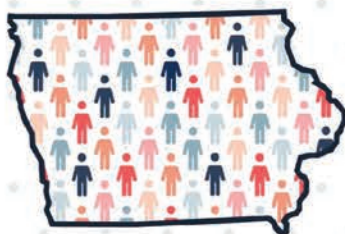
ical care access because those are all very expensive things for families," Conrad said. "By cutting those, it will probably force more families to make really hard choices between food and other things that they may need. There's just a lot of poor health outcomes that come out of that."

If the bill is passed, it will go against the goal of helping families that are in need improve themselves, she said.

"The question is, if we're wanting people to be self-sufficient, if we're wanting families to be on their feet to succeed without intervention; if we have this restrictive thing, it actually goes against the idea," Conrad said. "We really have to ask ourselves, 'Is this going in line with our values, or is it going against our values of helping families?'"

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# Opinions

## Revising my Amtrak take

Iowa City should focus on improving its own public transportation.



**Shahab Khan**  
Opinions Columnist

I have changed my mind about Iowa City and Amtrak — at least in the short term.

Previously, I argued that Amtrak coming to Iowa City would generate economic growth for the city, as it would connect it to Chicago.

However, a quote attributed to the late great economist John Maynard Keynes sums up my new thinking on this issue well: “When the facts change, I change my mind.”

It would be best for Iowa City to eschew a proposal to develop an Amtrak route connecting it to Chicago because these projects put great strain on small metropolitan areas.

Iowa City is not the large metropolitan area that could harness the benefits

of a rail line. Instead, municipal and state policymakers should focus on increasing urban density and improving the public transportation infrastructure.

In regions around the world where train travel is common, rail lines connect cities with high population density to each other. For example, in Italy, geography places six of the 10 largest cities in a relatively straight line going from north to south. As a result, a train route between these cities makes economic sense, as nearly 3.6 million Italians ride the line connecting Milan to Rome.

Contrast this with the proposed route connecting Iowa City to Chicago. The route would be comparable to Amtrak routes connecting the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor to Chicago, a route that only attracts a measly 156,462 riders a year.

Furthermore, the costs of Amtrak routes routinely balloon over budget. In Ann Arbor, it cost over \$170 million to build a train station that was originally project-

ed to cost \$30 million.

This phenomena has been documented when it comes to train projects as institutional factors such as NIMBYism, a catch all term referring to people who prevent new public works projects from proceeding and drive up costs astronomically.

Even if you ignored the fact that Amtrak routes go over budget, an Amtrak line still has a hefty price tag. According to Amtrak’s own projections, it would cost around \$230 million to connect Iowa City and the Quad Cities to Chicago — or around \$1 million per mile.

There are better ways for Iowa City to spend its money than building an unprofitable train route. For starters, city lawmakers could continue on their good work to improve the Iowa City bus system and expand bus routes to serve riders on weekends.

Weekend buses would be great for low-income Iowa City residents. It has been observed that when local public transport is



improved, people in lower income brackets have more access to work opportunities and are thus able to increase their own income.

The money that could potentially go to a wasteful Amtrak line could be used to build more affordable housing in Iowa City. When a city builds more housing, the price of homes and

apartments decrease. This attracts more people to live in Iowa City, resulting in economic and population growth.

I guarantee you that the proposed Iowa City to Chicago to Amtrak route will go over budget and not bring the promised economic benefits to the city. As a result, the state and the city would

be better off on spending the money on other projects.

Despite this, I am still hopeful that a train route could potentially connect Iowa City to Chicago. But only if Iowa City can increase its population density and improve its own local public transport.

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## Iowa must overhaul its primary system

Iowa should not be the first state to hold the Democratic primaries, nor should we keep the caucus system in place.



**Evan Weidl**  
Opinions Columnist

Since 1972, Iowa has been the first state in the nation to hold a Democratic caucus for the presidential election. Unfortunately, Iowa has never been the most ideal state to host it, and the Democratic National Committee recognized that.

Despite an effort from Iowa legislators to keep Iowa as the first state to

hold primaries, the DNC voted on Saturday to make South Carolina the first state to hold primaries.

The state that should go first should be one that is diverse on all fronts to reflect the diversity of the Democratic Party.

Iowa was ranked as the 46th on a list of the most diverse states. Iowa’s population is 84 percent white compared to just 4 percent Black. Additionally, Iowa ranks 36th in Hispanic and Latino population.

Iowa is also dominated by rural areas, and any state that deserves to go first should represent the populations of many different types of areas. Iowa’s largest city isn’t even in the top

100 most populous cities in America.

This is not to say that the voices and votes of farmers and rural voters do not matter, but the perspectives and preferences of many different groups of people should be considered.

One problem with Iowa going first is not just our lack of diversity, but also our outdated caucus system. To have voters physically stand in a designated part of a room to demonstrate their support is an unreliable system that makes no sense to maintain in 2023 and beyond.

Because the caucus requires everyone to vote at a specific time, it excludes

people who may have other commitments such as work at the time of voting. This is unfair to those people, and any form of exclusion like that is unacceptable.

The 2020 caucuses proved that unreliability beyond any doubt. While the caucuses were normally smooth and unproblematic in past years, everything that could’ve gone wrong went wrong.

It took over two weeks for the final results of the caucus to come in. In several caucuses, when delegate votes were too close to call, they settled for a literal coin toss to decide their results. Any election system that is left up to chance is completely useless and an-

ti-democratic.

The confusion led to Secretary Pete Buttigieg declaring victory before any results were reported. While Buttigieg ended up winning the most delegates, the popular vote was won by Sen. Bernie Sanders.

These problems were not a coincidence or a freak accident — they were caused by an election system that simply has no use when we have the voting technology that we have.

After 2016, the DNC made it clear they preferred straightforward primaries over caucuses due to accessibility. Seven states switched from caucuses to primaries, and it’s past time for Iowa to do the same.

While the caucus is certainly an interesting and historic tradition, the security of elections must take all priority over the power of nostalgia. Whether Iowa is the first state or the last state to have a primary, the caucus should be replaced with a normal primary.

Iowa represents some very important groups of people, and the voice of Iowans matters as much as any other state. However, it is not in the best interest of the Democrats or the voters to keep Iowa as the first state to select their candidates, and the decision they made will benefit democracy in America.

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### POINT/COUNTERPOINT

## Should laptops be allowed in the classroom?

Opinion writers debate whether students should be allowed to use laptops in University of Iowa classrooms.



**Naomi Rivera Morales**  
Opinions Columnist

### Yes

studies, students are better off bringing a laptop to class rather than handwriting their notes.

You are more likely to miss important points during a lesson when handwriting your notes. This often leads students to moments of stress because they are not able to gather what they need in a timely manner. With these worries in mind, the lesson often fades into the background.

By typing your notes, you can jot down what you need in a timely manner. If the notes are messy or out of order in the be-

ginning, the editing process is quick and easy.

In previous years, I have gone through several instances where my handwriting had been too messy to read after class. This often led to an inadequate amount of information for my studies.

Taking notes by laptop also allows students to easily store and access notes. There is no need to worry about bringing the wrong notebook to class or losing it along with pens or any other writing utensils.

Once a student’s notes are taken, they will have the opportunity to go back and easily look them over. They will then be able to exercise their memory by pulling out a notebook at home and writing what they remember from their notes. This process can be repeated until the information is fully retained.

Being able to gather and take the notes that you need is an important first step in one’s studies. If a student is too busy worrying about jotting everything down, it can jeopardize their performance in the classroom and during their study hours.

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**Gabriel Arboleda**  
Opinions Contributor

### No

the classroom serve as a distraction to the student and those around them.

When a professor is giving a lecture, it is important for students to listen. An open laptop can make it difficult for a student to fully understand the curriculum.

A laptop offers multiple outlets that can redirect the student’s attention away from the class that is going on around them. With the multitude of applications and options that are offered, there are so many ways that a student can be distract-

Laptops should not be opened during class unless advised by the professor.

Although necessary for homework, communication, and research, laptops in

ed. A few outlets include search engines, videos, emails, streaming services, games, shopping, and other work unrelated to the class.

Aside from distracting the individual student who decided to pull up their own laptop, students around them can also have their attention redirected to the activity on the screen. Attention can be redirected by an image on the screen that greatly contrasts with what can be seen around it. Things such as movement and brightness can cause any number of students behind the screen to be distracted.

Laptops should be used as a tool to improve learning activities and communication. Thus, it is important for the student to know when and where they should be utilized and what they are utilizing them for.

As a student, it is important to keep in mind that the classroom is a space where people go to learn and listen. We must recognize that an open laptop in a classroom can hinder the listening and learning process.

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**Sophia Meador, Shahab Khan, Yasmina Sahir, Hannah Pinski**

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**HENDERSON**  
Continued from Page 6A

son said. She said that she spent a lot of her life as a “trophy kid” where her value as a person was measured by how well she did in competition.

“It made it very hard for my confidence, my self-esteem,” Henderson said. “If I wasn’t good at gymnastics; I wasn’t good at anything.”

Henderson said one of the main reasons she chose to commit to Iowa was gymnastics head coach Larissa Libby.

She said Libby was adamant about treating Henderson like a human being outside of her skills as a gymnast.

“I wanted to be seen as a person before anything else, and that is what she gave me,” Henderson said. “I’m here to be a successful human being.”

Despite the improvement in environment and mentality, Henderson still had areas of growth that she had to learn the hard way.

At the end of 2019, Henderson ruptured her Achil-

les tendon during practice. The injury required surgery and a long road to recovery.

“The lesson that I learned the hard way, being with an injury, is that I am so much more than a gymnast,” Henderson said. “Once I did get injured, I had to figure that out for myself, and it was the hardest thing I have had to do my entire college career.”

Henderson said Libby was a significant factor in her recovery and growth process. The support she received from the Iowa coaching staff, Henderson said, helped her through one of the hardest times in her gymnastics career.

Libby said she has known Henderson for years. Along with coaching her for the past four seasons, Henderson also attended Iowa gymnastics camps as a kid.

Every year, Libby said, Henderson came to camp with a list of skills she wanted to accomplish. That drive and dedication is one of the reasons Libby and the other coaching staff sought out Henderson for the Hawkeyes.

“A lot of it was [because] she was coachable,” Libby said. “She wanted to be coached; she wanted to grow. She had a good head on her shoulders.”

The coaching staff emphasizes positivity, Henderson said. Knowing the importance of mentality, Libby said they do everything they can to show Henderson they care about her and her well-being.

“She just doesn’t see those things as easily. It’s easier to believe the bad stuff than it is to believe the good stuff,” Libby said. “We tried to make sure to surround her with all the positivity in the world.”

Having known Henderson for a good portion of her life, Libby said it is hard to say goodbye. In gymnastics, so much time and energy is dedicated to the sport, so the team and coaching staff have a very close relationship.

“It’s always a good thing and a bad thing to see them grow and that you got to have a little piece in helping them to get on their way,” Libby said. “I’ll always be grateful for that opportuni-



Lillie Hawker/The Daily Iowan  
Iowa gymnast JerQuavia Henderson kneels on the beam during a gymnastics meet between Iowa and Minnesota in Iowa City on Jan. 27. The Hawkeyes and the Gophers tied with each getting a score 196.875.

ty, but it’s also sad to watch them move on.”

As a senior, Henderson said one of her goals before she leaves is scoring a perfect 10.

Outside of that, Henderson said she is excited to receive her diploma. While she doesn’t know what her future in gymnastics looks

like, the health and human physiology major is looking forward to getting rewarded for the hard work she puts into her academics.

While she doesn’t have any specific goals for her team, Henderson said all she wants is to see them satisfied with their own performances.

“The team that we have, and like the potential, is absolutely insane. I love my team. I would do anything for my team,” Henderson said. “That is my family. At the end of the day, wherever we are, whatever happens, I just want them all to be happy.”

**WRESTLING**  
Continued from Page 6A

aggressive than I’ve ever seen him in a Hawkeye singlet. So if Warner regains his confidence, anything can happen.

But the absence of these three would be detrimental to Iowa’s title hopes. It’s also important to note that the replacements for Brands, Assad, and Warner have been true freshmen, which would be less than ideal in such a tough tournament setting.

Iowa’s 125-pounder Spencer Lee, who is on the hunt for his fourth individual NCAA title, is the only champion lock in the starting lineup, and it’s going to take a lot more than that for the Hawkeyes to bring home the title.

The Hawkeyes showed they could compete with the reigning national champion Nittany Lions when they won four bouts and came within two points or fewer in four of the matches they lost in their dual meet on Jan. 27. But Penn State is the obvious favorite going into March, with four returning individual national champions.

Iowa’s margin for error en route to a 2023 NCAA title is incredibly small. Of course, it’s not impossible, but the Hawkeyes will need everyone to chip in bonus points and have several reach All-American status. It would also help if at least one other wrestler besides Lee found their way to the top of the podium.

Do I believe in miracles? For the purposes of this article, yes.

As my colleague Ken-na said, the Iowa men’s wrestling team’s path to a 2023 NCAA team title this March in Tulsa is a narrow one — think a mountain biking trail where even the slightest mistake could be catastrophic.

But the Hawkeyes’ chances still exist, no matter how slim it may be.

First, as every Iowa wrestling fan knows, Spencer Lee has to earn his fourth 125-pound title for the Hawkeyes to have any shot at team glory, and he is a heavy — pun intended — favorite to do so.

Then, Northern Iowa transfer Brody Teske will have to attain All-American status at 133 pounds. He qualified for the NCAA championships twice at 125 pounds for UNI and is currently ranked 17th in the nation at 133. He has only wrestled in five matches this season at Iowa.

At 141 pounds, Stanford transfer Real Woods will likely have to win an individual title. He is currently No. 2 in the nation, at 11-0 on the year.

Max Murin will have to earn All-American status at 149 pounds, as he did in 2019-20. He is currently sixth in the country.

At 157 pounds, 15th-ranked Cobe Siebrecht will likely have to win two matches at the NCAA tournament. Siebrecht is 8-3 in his first year in the regular starting lineup.

Patrick Kennedy will need All-American honors at 165 pounds, too. The seventh-ranked sophomore is 13-2 this season.

At 174 and 184, No. 16 Nelson Brands and No. 12 Abe Assad will each have to reach the quarterfinals. Brands is 14-4 this season, and Assad is 14-2. Assad, however, has missed Iowa’s last two duals after being pinned by unranked Tyler Dow against Wisconsin on Jan. 22.

At the last two weights, to have any shot to de-



Ayrton Breckenridge/The Daily Iowan  
No. 2 nationally ranked 141-pound Iowa’s Real Woods wrestles No. 26 nationally ranked 141-pound Wisconsin’s Joe Zargo during a wrestling dual between No. 2 Iowa and No. 16 Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Field House in Madison, Wis. on Jan. 22. Woods defeated Zargo by decision, 9-2. The Hawkeyes defeated the Badgers, 19-18. After the dual, one point was awarded to Iowa for criteria for most match points to break the tie.

throne defending national champions Penn State, Iowa will likely have to win two individual titles.

197-pounder Jacob Warner placed second at the 2022 NCAA championships, losing to the Nittany Lions’ Max Dean in the title bout. He will probably have to beat him on his way to a championship this year.

Warner is ranked seventh, and Dean is fourth this season, and Dean defeated Warner, 2-0, on Jan. 27.

At heavyweight, No. 3 Tony Cassioppi will have to beat out Michigan’s No. 2 Mason Parris and Penn State’s top-ranked Greg Kerkvliet for the individual championship.

Cassioppi lost to Kerkvliet, 4-1, on Jan. 27, and will face Parris when the Hawkeyes welcome the Wolverines to Iowa City on Feb. 10.

Cassioppi is 3-1 all-time against Kerkvliet and 0-3 against Parris.

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**Chris Werner**  
Assistant Sports Editor

**MATTHEWS**  
Continued from Page 6A

on my team before who were quite shy, who I kind of helped encourage them to be more supportive of the team and loud. Just looking at how to include everyone equally to make sure everyone’s together as a team, not just like the loud people together.”

Matthews, who said she took a drama class in high school, was approached by former tennis play-

er Naomi Cavaday, who asked if she would like to be featured in the upcoming TV series, “15-Love.” During the filming, Matthews said camera crews took shots of her playing tennis. During the editing process, the main actress’s

face was imposed on Matthews’ body.

“It was really cool technology,” Matthews said. “It would look like it would be them, but it was actually me because the main actress couldn’t actually play tennis, so they used me.”

While filming the show, Matthews was told not to look at the giant camera recording her. Instead of naturally playing, Matthews was given stage directions on how to look and where to move.

“I have to make myself look really perfect with my technique, but then also compose the shots to make sure that looks good for the camera,” Matthews said. “People in the background telling me what to do ... ‘run here, then run

there and run there.”

Iowa women’s tennis head coach Sasha Schmid is not surprised by Matthews’ newfound acting credentials.

“I think that brings out her personality, how she’s up for anything,” Schmid said. “She’s really articulate and fun-loving, so she’s perfect for something like that.”

Matthews’ favorite professional tennis player is Serena Williams. Like Williams, Matthews’ goal on the court is to be dominant when it matters most.

“I’m a pretty dominant, controlling tennis player,” Matthews said. “I like to take control of the point and be quite aggressive with my shots to always get my bigger start in the point. I like to go out 100 percent fully — big serves and taking control of what happens rather than just seeing where it goes or letting them do what they want to do.”

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## HAWKEYE UPDATES



### Iowa Athletics amends contract of Hawkeye football offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz

Iowa athletic director Gary Barta announced Monday that the Hawkeye football program has amended offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz's contract for the 2023 season.

Iowa football had one of the worst offensive seasons of the Kirk Ferentz era in 2022, averaging just 17.7 points per game — 123rd in the FBS.

#### Brian Ferentz

Kirk Ferentz stayed committed to his son and offensive coordinator, however, in a press conference on Feb. 1.

"It's not much fun, certainly, to win eight games," Kirk Ferentz said. "That's no easy trick when you score 17.8 a game. That's not easy. But I'm optimistic. I think I know the causes, as I covered, for our challenges this year, and we've taken steps already in terms of addressing it."

"I think we have the right coaches in place, history would prove that," Kirk Ferentz added. "I think we've seen success with this coaching staff and plan on moving forward. I think we're prime to have a good year."

Barta, who is Brian Ferentz's direct supervisor because of nepotism laws in Iowa, said during the press conference that conversations about the offensive coordinator's role are ongoing.

"The conversation started right where Kirk took ownership, and that is obviously, offensively, the performance that we had last year is not going to cut it," Barta said. "It's not acceptable for anybody involved. Then we had deeper conversations, and I've had conversations with Brian about my expectations going forward."

Brian Ferentz will take a \$50,000 pay cut, from \$900,000 to \$850,000, Barta officially announced Monday.

Barta also removed the two-year rolling extension clause from Brian Ferentz's contract. Previously, Brian Ferentz's contract automatically extended for one-year periods on July 1 of each year.

Now, Brian Ferentz's terms of employment are from Feb. 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, according to an amendment to the contract document. If Ferentz meets his Designated Performance Objectives for the 2023 season, the contract will return to the two-year rolling agreement. Brian Ferentz will also receive a \$112,500 bonus, and his salary will be set at \$925,000.

Brian Ferentz's performance objectives include an average of at least 25 points per game and at least seven wins in the 2023 season, including any regular season or bowl games. In the 2022 season, 64 of the 131 FBS teams were above both marks.

While the contract does not specify if the 25 points need to come from the offensive side of the ball, an Iowa spokesperson confirmed to Sports Illustrated that "any points scored" will count toward the total.

Scoring 25 points per game in 2022 would have put Iowa at 85th out of 131 FBS teams in that category. Kirk Ferentz pointed out in his Feb. 1 press conference that the Hawkeyes are 55-3 in the last eight years when they score 25 points per game.

The contract amendment states if these performance objectives are not met, Brian Ferentz's contract will terminate on June 30, 2024.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"Whenever you do hard things, that prepares you for more hard things."**

— Iowa women's basketball guard Kate Martin on playing a No. 2 team on the road for the second time this season.

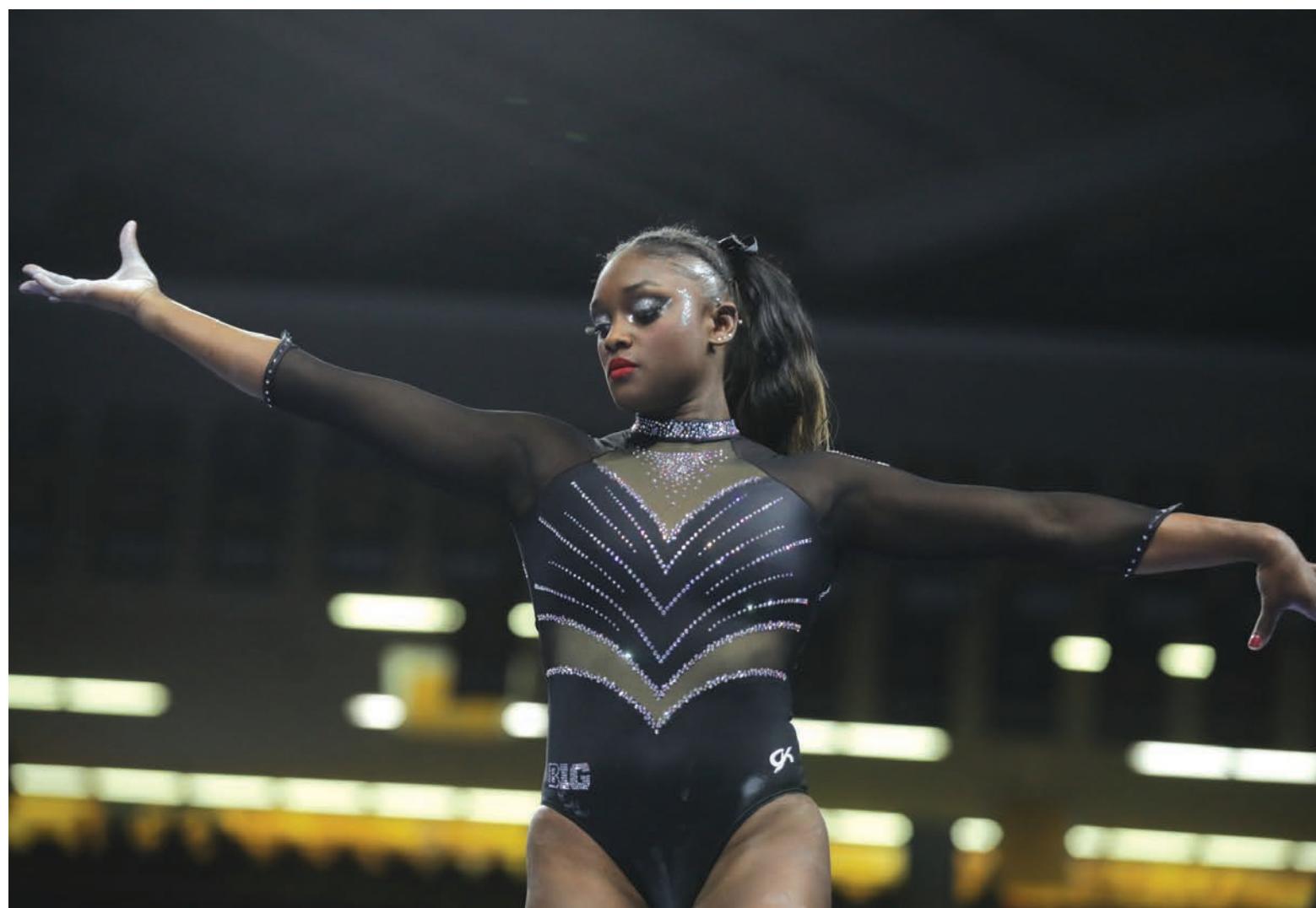
## STAT OF THE DAY

# 17

— Weekly Big Ten awards for Iowa women's basketball guard Caitlin Clark.

# Finding value outside of gymnastics

Iowa women's gymnastics senior JerQuavia Henderson shares how she found self-worth outside her role as a gymnast.



Lillie Hawker/The Daily Iowan

Iowa gymnast JerQuavia Henderson competes on the beam during a gymnastics meet between Iowa and Minnesota in Iowa City on Jan. 27. The Hawkeyes and the Gophers tied, with each getting a score 196.875.

#### Jami Martin-Trainor Assistant Digital Editor

The world of gymnastics is associated with numerous positive qualities — forming strong work ethics, building abnormal physical prowess, and providing one of the strongest communities in sports.

JerQuavia Henderson, a senior on the Iowa women's gymnastics team, said there's a darker side to gymnastics that is all too often brushed under the rug.

"I didn't have the best upbringing with gymnastics," Henderson said. "I loved it so much that I

stuck with it."

Henderson said she accidentally fell into gymnastics. When she was a child, her family drove one of her friends to a gymnastics practice. She took one step in the gym before asking if she could try the sport. She never looked back after that moment.

Despite her love for the sport, the Illinois native encountered several mental hardships. She said a lot of those struggles are deeply rooted in the culture of gymnastics and are difficulties faced by many.

"It's very hard because you don't want to put the sport in a negative light, but

there is a lot of truth that comes with it," Henderson said. "The upbringing for most gymnasts in general is hard because you're not seen as a person."

Self-worth and success were tightly associated with each other, Hender-

HENDERSON | Page 5A

## PCP

# Will Iowa men's wrestling win the 2023 NCAA title?

Two *DI* staffers debate the legitimacy of the No. 2 Hawkeyes' championship hopes.



Ayrton Breckenridge/The Daily Iowan

No. 2 nationally ranked 141-pound Iowa's Real Woods wrestles No. 26 nationally-ranked 141-pound Wisconsin's Joe Zargo during a wrestling dual between No. 2 Iowa and No. 16 Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Field House in Madison, Wis. on Jan. 22. Woods defeated Zargo by decision, 9-2. The Hawkeyes defeated the Badgers, 19-18. After the dual, one point was awarded to Iowa for criteria for most match points to break the tie.



Kenna Roering  
Sports Reporter

## No

It's widely known that regular season dual meets mean virtually nothing in college wrestling anymore. Iowa grapplers have said from the beginning of the season that they're preparing for what's most important — the Big Ten and NCAA tournaments in March.

Well, it's about that time, and Iowa has only put its highest-ranking starting lineup on the mat once this season in a 34-6 victory against No. 10 Nebraska on Jan. 20. Because of the lingering injuries and inconsistency throughout Iowa's lineup this season, the Hawkeyes will not leave Tulsa, Oklahoma, on March 18 hoisting the first-place trophy.

Iowa 174-pounder Nelson Brands missed the first four dual meets due to collarbone surgery and has been in-and-out of the lineup since his return. Brands showed he can compete with the best, as he narrowly fell to Penn State's top-ranked two-time NCAA champion Carter Starocci,

2-1, on Jan. 27.

Hawkeye Abe Assad hasn't seen the mat since getting pinned by Wisconsin's unranked Tyler Dow on Jan. 22. Despite the loss, Assad is Iowa's best bet for a podium finish at 184 pounds.

Iowa's 197-pounder Jacob Warner has had some tough losses lately, including a 2-0 loss to Penn State's reigning national champion Max Dean and a buzzer-beating defeat to Minnesota's unranked Michael Foy. Warner also missed two Big Ten dual meets.

Warner showed his potential with a runner-up finish at the NCAA's last season, and he started this season more

# Big screen, big serve

Iowa tennis recruit Jessica Matthews was featured in the upcoming Amazon Prime TV series "15-Love."

#### Matt McGowan Sports Reporter

Playing on the big stage has become almost routine for Iowa women's tennis recruit Jessica Matthews.

Not only has Matthews represented her country in international tournaments, but she also performed in front of the camera during the filming of the upcoming Amazon Prime TV series "15-Love."

Matthews signed a national letter of intent on Dec. 19, 2022, to play tennis for Iowa. Before her commitment to the Hawkeyes, the Hertfordshire, England, native competed in the main draw of the 2022 Wimbledon Junior Grand Slam, playing on the same grass courts as the professionals at the All-England Club.

"When I was young, I would be so excited just when it's that time of year just to watch [Wimbledon] on TV," Matthews said. "And then some of the times I got some tickets to watch in person. It was just such a memorable experience. I remember every time I went ... actually playing it was completely mind-blowing."

Matthews earned a bronze medal in the World School Championships for Team England in Italy in June 2019. In May 2022, Matthews won the junior doubles International Tennis Federation title in Wrexham, Great Britain.

"It's just amazing, especially when it's playing the country which the tournament's in," Matthews said. "Everyone's supporting you, everybody's wearing the flag, and they've got face paint of the flag. Just the support in general is amazing. I mean, for football players it's amazing, but for British players especially, it's just another whole atmosphere."

Matthews has also assumed leadership roles during her playing career, including captain of her girls' tennis school and the Independent Schools Tennis Association.

"I'm quite good at looking at how people respond to certain situations and then acting on it," Matthews said. "So, I had some people

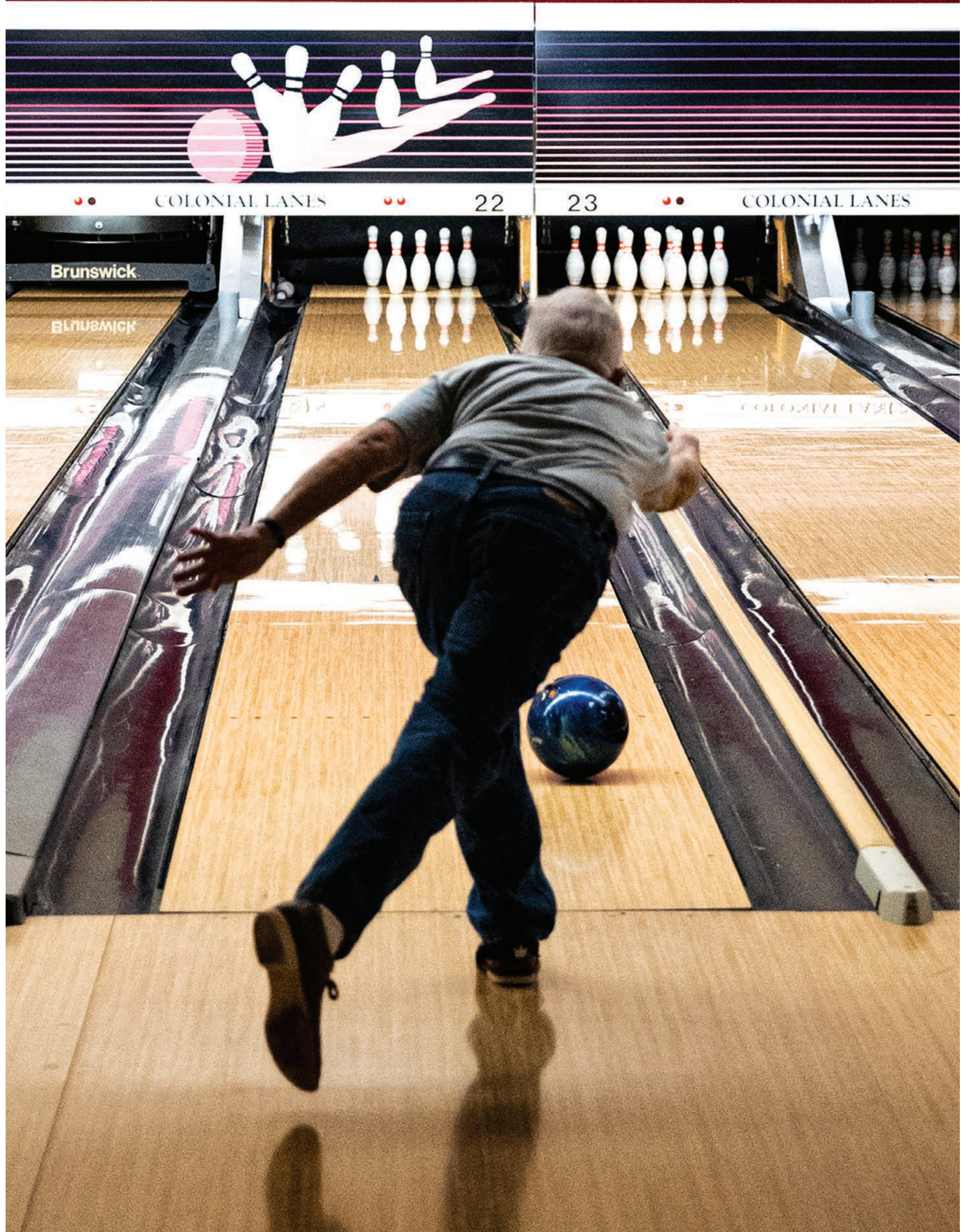
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023



## VINTAGE VS MODERN: IC'S BOWLING SCENE

While Colonial Lanes has been a fixture of Iowa City since the 1950s, SpareMe is only a few years old. More than just age separates these two bowling alleys — they have completely different environments. SpareMe has over 40 arcade games while Colonial Lanes offers an indoor miniature golf course.

# CALENDAR WEEKEND EVENTS

**THU**  
FEB 9

## GRADUATE SESSIONS: BLAKE SHAW QUARTET

Every second and fourth Thursday, the live jazz of the Black Shaw Quartet plays at the Graduate Food Hall.  
7 P.M. | GRADUATE IOWA CITY  
210 S. DUBUQUE ST.

## 50+ SINGLES GROUP

If you're over 50 and ready to mingle, join the gathering at Midtown's Family Restaurant.  
9:30 P.M. | MIDTOWN FAMILY RESTAURANT  
1069 IA-1

## STANLEY MUSEUM OF ART SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Join instructor Amanda Lensing as she leads a discussion on the works on display in the Stanley. You can register online or call the Stanley, and tickets are free.  
10 A.M. | IOWA CITY SENIOR CENTER  
28 S. LINN ST

## 'A WALK IN THE WOODS'

For \$15-\$35, go watch two superpower arms negotiators in the 1980s as they try to avoid nuclear destruction.  
7:30 P.M. | RIVERSIDE THEATRE  
119 E. COLLEGE ST.

**FRI**  
FEB 10

## ART SHOW: ART FROM THE INSIDE OUT

This event is free and aims to showcase the art of formerly incarcerated individuals with over 25 works of art.  
7 P.M. | THE ARTIFACTORY  
120 N. DUBUQUE ST.

## THE SECOND CITY SWIPES RIGHT

Tickets are \$20-\$48, summoning couples and singles alike to The Second City Swipes Right: An Incomplete Guide to The Ultimate Date Night. This 90-minute show hosts a cast of comedians roasting turn-ons and offs.  
7:30 P.M. | THE ENGLERT THEATRE  
221 E. WASHINGTON ST.

## 'A WALK IN THE WOODS'

For \$15 - \$35, watch two superpower arms negotiators in the 1980s as they try to avoid nuclear destruction.  
7:30 P.M. | RIVERSIDE THEATRE  
119 E. COLLEGE ST.

## SUMMER CAMP ON THE ROAD TOUR

For \$10, join the Summer Camp Music Festival.  
8 P.M. | GABE'S  
330 E. WASHINGTON ST.

**SAT**  
FEB 11

## PEYOTE BRACELET IN COLOR GRADIENT

For \$88, enjoy this six-hour workshop on color grading, which ends at 4 p.m. — just in time for dinner.  
10 A.M. | BEADOLGY IOWA  
355 S. CLINTON ST.

## CRAFTERS AND COFFEE

Open to knitters, crocheters, beadlers, felters, and more, this event will take place at the High Ground Cafe and focus on bringing together crafters over coffee.  
10 A.M. | THE HIGH GROUND CAFE  
301 E. MARKET ST.

## IC PRESS CO-OP OPEN STUDIO

For \$10 - \$20, visit Public Space One to use printing equipment. Make sure to sign up in advance for more advanced printing equipment.  
2 P.M. | PUBLIC SPACE ONE  
538 S. GILBERT ST.

## 'NILA'S PERFECT COAT' BOOK LAUNCH

Children's author Norene Paulson for the launch of her third picture book "Nila's Perfect Coat."  
11 A.M. | SIDEKICK COFFEE AND BOOKS  
1310 1/2 MELROSE AVE.

**SUN**  
FEB 12

## PLANNING FOR SURPRISE: A VIRTUAL POETRY WORKSHOP

This will be the last offering of this \$100 workshop by Iowa City Poetry. It's led by Chad Abushanab, whose poetry has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Best New Poets*, among others.  
12 P.M. | ONLINE  
119 E. COLLEGE ST.

## LONG POSE STUDIO GROUP

For \$15, join the long pose studio group to practice drawing from nude, partially-clothed, or fully-dressed models. Must be over 18 years old to attend.  
9 A.M. | THE ARTIFACTORY  
120 N. DUBUQUE ST.

## COLD CONNECTIONS: RIVETED DANGLE EARRINGS

For \$126, attend this four-hour workshop on creating riveted earrings with no soldering required.  
12 P.M. | BEADOLGY IOWA  
355 S. CLINTON ST.

## INTRO TO SPINNING YARN

Learn how to spin your own yarn with a drop spindle. These spindles are portable as well, so they can be taken anywhere.  
5:30 P.M. | IC FABLAB  
870 S. CAPITOL ST.



## ASK THE AUTHOR

### Tegan Nia Swanson

Tegan Nia Swanson read from her debut novel "Things We Found When the Water Went Down" at Prairie Lights on Feb. 2. The "Nordic eco-noir" debut combines Swanson's passions for the environment and social inequities.

Ariana Lessard  
Assistant Arts Editor

*Tegan Nia Swanson read her debut novel "Things We Found When the Water Went Down" at Prairie Lights in Iowa City on Feb. 2. This "Nordic eco-noir" novel came together while Swanson studied international conservation biology at Iowa State University. Since graduation, she's taught composition, creative writing, ESL, and environmental science. She has also facilitated therapeutic creative workshops for the National Alliance for Mental Illness of Central Iowa, worked at the Rosedale Shelter in Ames, Iowa, worked in public high schools in Madison, Wisconsin, and served as a legal advocate for survivors of violence in Dane County, Wisconsin. She currently works as the systems change coordinator for End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin and serves on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force for the Wisconsin*



Department of Justice.

**The Daily Iowan:** Would you mind giving the readers an outline of the plot?

**Tegan Nia Swanson:** Well, From a straightforward perspective, it's a murder mystery noir. It begins in the North Country at the very beginning of a blizzard, and they find a body on a lake, and the person they accused of being responsible for it is one of the main characters. Mariana Abernathy is the mother of the sort of main narrator of the story. So, in like very straightforward language, it's a story about a mother, a daughter, and a murderer. I think it's about community and violence that is rooted in social norms and

experiences that we have as people living near each other. It's about how the systems that we have are not effective, and they are in so many ways perpetuating the same violence that individual people experience.

**DI:** How has working with multiple mediums impacted your work?

**Swanson:** I think I am a pretty tangential thinker to begin with, so I get bored doing the same thing every day in any kind of work that I do. In any art that I do, I don't know that I've ever written a story or thought about a book-length project that was just one person's voice. It needed to have a communal narration, and I've talked about this a little bit with other folks about how this story, in particular, it is a story about an individual and an individual experience, but it's also a story about the community and healing and violence and trauma — and those are all community social issues. So, I couldn't just tell it from one person's perspective, and similarly, I felt I couldn't just use straight prose language. So, I'm lucky that I found a publisher that was excited about that layer of experiment because it's definitely not something I was expecting to find an easy home for.

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# Asya Fateyeva performs saxophone concert

The concert at Voxman, which took place Feb. 5, displayed the range of Fateyeva's capabilities.

Emma Gaughan  
Arts Reporter

The University of Iowa Voxman Concert Hall fell quiet as Asya Fateyeva walked on stage, saxophone in hand. Everyone waited in anticipation as she prepared her instrument, nodded to the pianist, and started to play.

The UI hosted Fateyeva on Sunday. Her performance featured piano accompaniment by Asiya Korepanova and Casey Dierlam Tse and soprano saxophone accompaniment by Kenneth Tse.

The audience was filled with guests of different backgrounds,

from UI students and students from other schools to teachers and fans fans of Fateyeva. Students Ashley Tyson and Abby Hartlane worked with Dierlam Tse and also attended the performance.

"We are both music education majors, saxophone, so our whole lives have been about music," Tyson said.

Tyson added that music is a big part of her life, and she was excited to see the performance after Dierlam Tse recommended it to her. Hartlane said before the concert she was looking forward to learning and hearing new pieces on the saxophone. She found it interesting that some of the

pieces were original works.

"One of the big things for educators is getting a new range of pieces," Hartlane said.

The concert showed off Fateyeva's wide range of skills on the sax-

movement, each making light and airy additions.

Following the sonata, Tse joined on soprano saxophone, and Dierlam Tse joined on piano for "Five Pieces," composed by Dmitri Shostakovich,

“Music is fun; music is emotional. It is as exciting to listen to music as it is to watch a cinema.”

— Saxophonist Asya Fateyeva

ophone with both chilling, intense pieces and softer, lighthearted pieces. The concert started with a piece called "Seven Deadly Sins," which was composed by Thomas Sleeper. In three movements, the dark and compelling piece showcased musical interaction between the piano and the saxophone.

The next piece performed was "Poème," composed by Korepanova, with a special focus on how piano and saxophone could be played together to optimize each instrument's full potential. The piece displayed the range of sounds a saxophone can make and was a deep and compelling piece overall.

After an intermission, Fateyeva and Korepanova returned with "Sonata Op. 11, No. 4," which was a more uplifting selection than the previous two. The piece had three movements,

and "Spreetz for Two Soprano Saxophones and Piano," composed by Emile Lukas.

Fateyeva started her musical career when she was young and first learned piano until she discovered the saxophone. As a guest professor at the UI, she will take over Tse's class while he is on sabbatical. She shared that it has been an interesting experience in the class.

"Music is fun; music is emotional," Fateyeva said. "It is as exciting to listen to music as it is to watch a cinema."

The spirit of the city is something that Fateyeva likes about Iowa City, but she admitted that she finds Iowa cold. She shared that it has been a dream to be in the music department, and she said the people in the department are amazing.

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## Creative ways to spend your



Iowa City has more to offer than drinks upon drinks — here's a list of new ways to spend your 21st in Iowa City.

Parker Jones  
Arts Editor

The expectations for a 21st birthday usually involve copious amounts of alcohol, a raging party, going to a bar or two, or other drinking-related activities. Despite being a college town with no short supply of these options, make your 21st memorable by checking out this list of ways to get creative in Iowa City with your birthday celebration.

**Awaken your inner child** — For many, turning 21 often marks the last real "adult milestone": unlocking the secrets of legal drinking. However, Iowa City has a lot to offer when it comes to childhood whimsy in the form of activities like laser tag, bowling, or mini golf. Apex Laser Tag, SpareMe Bowl and Arcade, and Colonial Lanes are all great locations to reconnect with your inner child.

**Visit sober spaces** — Despite what society might expect, alcohol is not required on the night of your 21st birthday. If you are sober or just don't feel like drinking, visiting sober spaces around town might be the way to go. Places like Unimpaired Dry Bar and Eats or any of the cute coffee shops in Iowa City would make great spots to get together with friends for some alcohol-free beverages.

**See a performance** — The performing arts scene in Iowa City is a booming one. Refine your artistic palette by seeing a play, concert, or something in between at locations like the Englert Theatre, Hancher Auditorium, or Riverside Theatre.

If you want to drink, try out the combo of beer and live music at locations like Elray's Live & Dive or Gabe's in Iowa City.

**Spa day** — Birthdays can be stressful, so getting a massage, facial, mani-pedi, or all three would be a great way to relax and enjoy your new age. Visit Iowa City's Zen Salon & Spa or Spa Bilancia in Coralville for a meditative birthday moment.

**Learn something new** — There is no time like your birthday to learn a new fact or two. Visiting a local museum could be a fun group activity and a way to feel unusually intellectual for a 21st birthday. The University of Iowa has its famed Pentacrest Museums and the newly opened Stanley Museum of Art, and both have no shortage of information to consume.

**Treat yourself** — Nothing brightens birthday spirits like a shopping splurge. Whether it be clothes, gadgets, books, or just a nice meal, spending more than you usually would is a great way to give yourself something special for the big 21. It also supports small local businesses in downtown Iowa City.

**Take a road trip** — Although Iowa City is a great place to turn 21, there are multitudes of places outside city limits to have a birthday celebration. Reconnect with nature by visiting the Devonian Fossil Gorge or Lake Macbride State Park, or visit some small towns you might normally pass by — make your birthday an adventure.

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**Madysen Gomez/The Daily Iowan**  
Patrons play skee-ball in Double Tap in Iowa city. Double Tap opened its door in the summer of 2022 and features many vintage video gaming machines along with a full service bar.



**FAVORITE DISNEY DITTIES: SONGS TO FEEL GOOD**

**GO THE DISTANCE** | Hercules

**HOW FAR I'LL GO** | Moana

**UN COCO LOCO** | Coco

**WE DON'T TALK ABOUT BRUNO** | Encanto

**LOVE IS AN OPEN DOOR** | Frozen



## Your Place or Mine

NETFLIX

**Genre:** Romantic comedy

**Starring:**

Reese Witherspoon

Ashton Kutcher

Jesse Williams

Tig Notaro

Zoë Chao

Wesley Kimmel

Rachel Bloom

Steve Zahn

Parker Jones

Arts Editor

Reese Witherspoon and former University of Iowa student Ashton Kutcher will take the screen together again in a new Netflix romantic comedy that harkens back to the heyday of quirky, happenstance romance movies. "Your Place or Mine" will premiere

on the streaming site on Feb. 10.

Two best friends Debbie and Peter live opposite lives. Debbie lives in Los Angeles with her son while Peter lives in New York City. When they swap houses for one tumultuous but impactful week, they find that embracing change might be the key to the future of their 20-year relationship.

The film was written and directed by filmmaker Aline Brosh McKenna, who is known for writing films like "The Devil Wears Prada," "27 Dresses," and "We Bought A Zoo." She also co-created the CW series "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend." This will be the first time McKenna has directed a feature-length film.

In addition to starring as main character Debbie, Reese Witherspoon also produced "Your Place or Mine." She will act across co-star Ashton Kutcher, who plays Peter in his first rom-com role in more than 12 years. The last film of the genre he starred in was "No Strings Attached" in 2011. Additional cast members of "Your Place or Mine" include "Grey's Anatomy" star Jesse Williams as Theo, Debbie's secondary love interest, and up-and-comer Wesley Kimmel as Debbie's son, Jack.

With 4.2 million views on the film's trailer posted by Netflix on YouTube, "Your Place or Mine" may be an unexpected but definitive smash of the streaming site.

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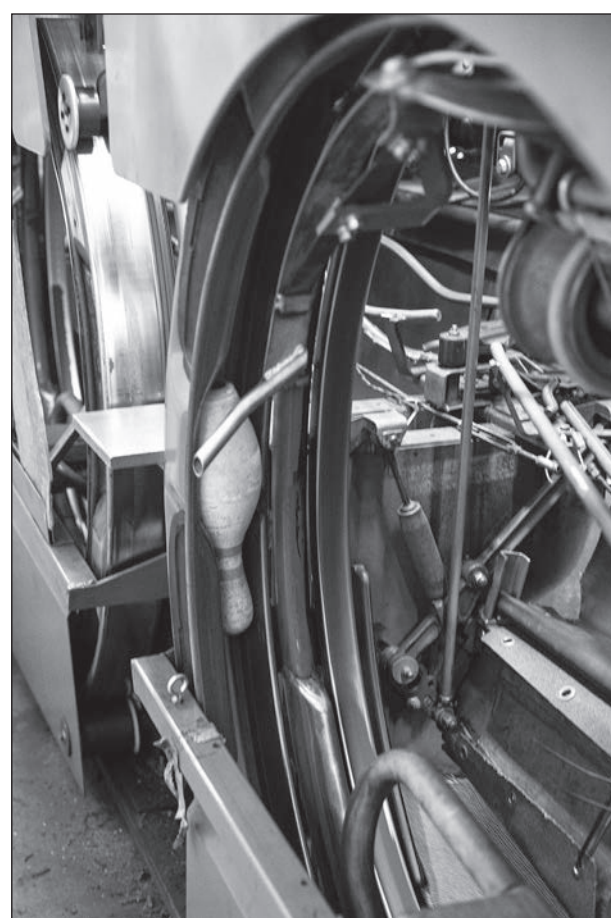


# Pinning down Iowa City bowling

SpareMe may sparkle, but Colonial Lanes' character is undeniable. The best option for bowling night depends on individual taste.



Avi Lapchick/The Daily Iowan



Jerod Ringwald/The Daily Iowan

A pin gets picked up after a frame at Colonial Lanes in Iowa City on Monday. Colonial Lanes has used the same pickup system since 1959.

A bowler seen on Tuesday rolls on a lane located at SpareMe, a bowling alley in Iowa City.

**Ariana Lessard**  
Assistant Arts Editor

Iowa City has two bowling alleys: SpareMe and Colonial Lanes. But location isn't the only thing that separates the two. These competitors provide completely different environments and experiences, each catering to different audiences.

SpareMe opened in August 2021, gifting Iowa City another option for bowling night. It's located in the Chauncey Hotel right in the heart of downtown Iowa City on 404 E. College St.

SpareMe's ties to the Chauncey provide the bowling alley with access to a full kitchen and a high-end bar. It also has space for 40 arcade games. Like the hotel, SpareMe opens at 6:30 a.m., and the addition of the bar means it stays open until midnight on weekends and 10 p.m. on weeknights.

SpareMe matches the minimalist style of the Chauncey, which gives it its elegance. Wall-sized windows and wooden beams line the door entering the bowling alley and complement the exposed concrete ceilings and floors, making the venue feel larger than it is.

While being housed in the Chauncey allows for additional resources and a sleek aesthetic, it is not up to league standard to host tournaments.

However, this has provided SpareMe with an opportunity to specialize in family and date nights. They don't coat the lanes with oil, making it easier for kids to bowl.

"I think the fact that our lanes aren't actually regulation length, so we don't offer leagues, which leaves more availability for families," Kristie Dixon, a bartender at SpareMe, explained.

Colonial Lanes' charm

pulled me in immediately. While SpareMe certainly felt more chic, the character of Colonial Lanes was undeniable.

The building is originally from the 1950s, and much of the interior has hardly been updated since the '70s, James Dickens, a Colonial Lanes employee, said.

The ball machines themselves are from the '60s, with the newest from the '70s, and I was given the opportunity to see their mechanics. While I'm unsure how the interior of modern ball machines look, I doubt they're as aesthetic as the ones from the '60s, which have exposed organs and a series of pulleys and levers.

Additionally, there was a vintage soda pop bar Dickens said was from the 1950s — which looked the part — and a miniature golf course with a matching bowling theme.

Since this bowling alley has been around so long, the community there is loyal and vibrant. Colonial Lanes also offers scholarships to high school bowlers, again prioritizing community. The employees at Colonial are a mix of champion bowlers from professional leagues and college-aged bowlers.

The different generations of passionate bowlers working there also serve as a testimony to the alley's heritage. The staff demonstrated that generations of bowlers have gathered and worked there, as the staff has largely grown-up bowling at Colonial Lanes.

Specifically, Dickens, who gave me a tour, seemed passionate for the game. He explained that he grew up playing with his dad and brother at Colonial Lanes and now plays for the league there. It's unusual for employees

to frequent their workplace in their free time — let alone for fun — which speaks to Colonial Lane's welcoming vibe.

"I think it really comes down to that the people that work here and the people that run this place because you look over on that Hall of Fame over there, and the names of the people who won all these bowling tournaments are people that run this place," Dickens said. "There's just all this whole community around the sport itself and love for the sport that just makes this place so great."

Colonial Lanes' bar was reminiscent of a sports bar, which felt appropriate given its location in a bowling alley. Everything in the bar was originally built in the '70s at the latest. Shane Johnson, senior

vice president of Colonial Lanes, was working the bar when I visited.

"We are all friendly to all our customers, and we make sure we have a good communication and a good relationship with everyone that comes in the store," Johnson said.

Johnson said the building has been under Brad Huff's ownership for almost 30 years. Huff is who to thank for the organically retro environment.

If you are passionate about bowling as a sport and the community that comes with it, then Colonial Lanes is the clear choice. If you are with your family or going on a date and are willing to sacrifice a league-length approach, then SpareMe is the better option.

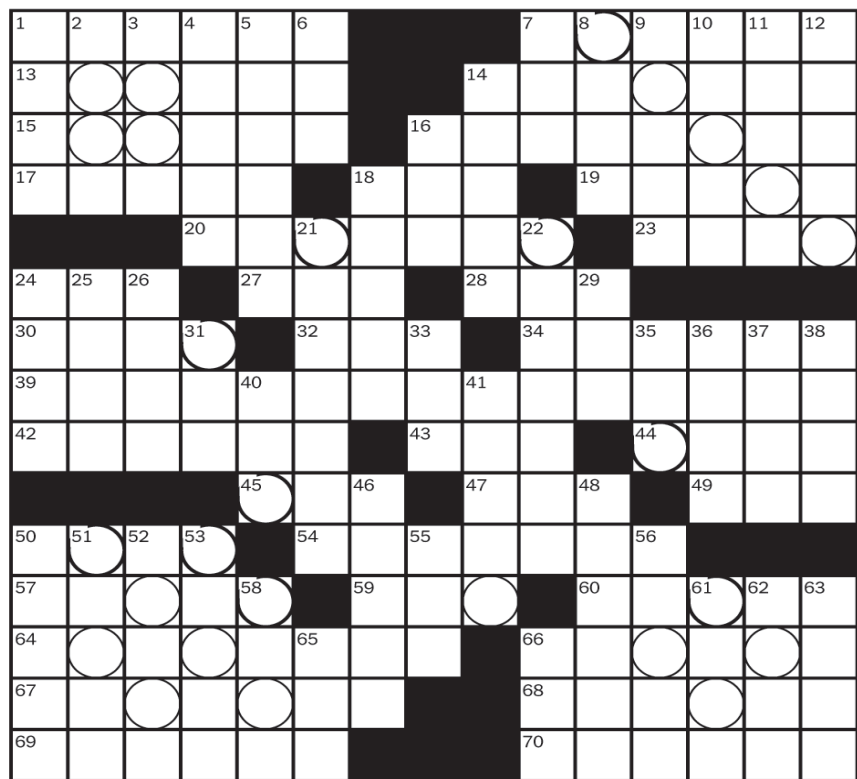
ariana-lessard@uiowa.edu

## The Daily Break

The New York Times  
Crossword

Puzzle solutions on page 2A

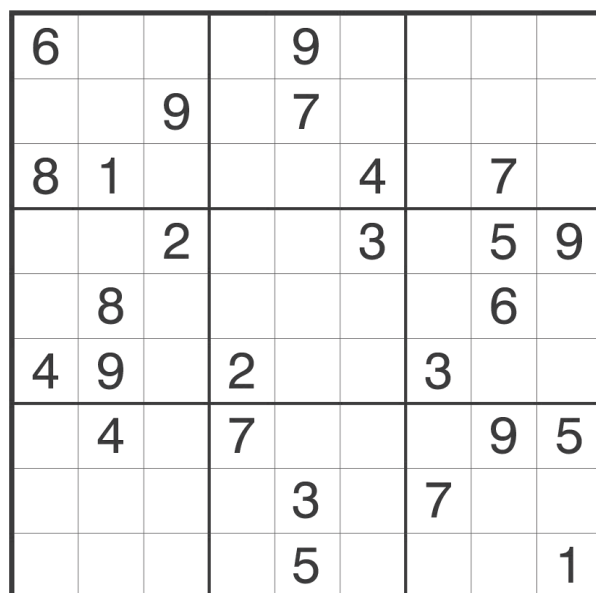
Edited by Will Shortz No. 0104



- ACROSS**
- 1 Nonmagical sort, in the Harry Potter universe
  - 7 What's found in cafés but not coffee shops?
  - 13 Spanish loves
  - 14 St. Bernard or mastiff, often
  - 15 Hoity-toity types
  - 16 Goofus
  - 17 Wireless speaker brand
  - 18 Place
  - 19 Fencing equipment
  - 20 Shade akin to fuchsia
  - 23 Part of Q.E.D.
  - 24 \_\_\_ blind
  - 27 Dispenser of drafts
  - 28 "Black gold" or "Texas tea"
  - 30 Out of the office
  - 32 Nine-digit ID
  - 34 One leaving its pad quickly
  - 39 Astronomical objects represented by the circled letters in this puzzle
  - 42 One righting writing
  - 43 "The lowest form of humor — when you don't think of it first," per Oscar Levant
  - 44 "The Song of the \_\_\_" (Willa Cather novel)
  - 45 First Chinese dynasty
  - 47 Broadcaster of "The Price Is Right" for more than four decades
  - 49 Letters requesting help
  - 50 Back talk

- 54 Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, for two
  - 57 Offering in church
  - 59 Noche's counterpart
  - 60 Nevada senator Jacky
  - 64 Low-calorie cookie spinoff
  - 66 Adverb in a contract
  - 67 Eccentrics
  - 68 Produce oxidation in
  - 69 Author Hemingway
  - 70 Tablet tool
- DOWN**
- 1 Service that might be in Latin
  - 2 "Yeah, that won't work for me"
  - 3 "I'm listening ..."
  - 4 Many a wedding cake topper
  - 5 Unleashes on
  - 6 Intro to sociology?
  - 7 "Evita" setting; Abbr.
  - 8 Word with tax or cheat
  - 9 Type of car whose name comes from the French word for "cut"
  - 10 Toon hunting for a "scwevy wabbit"
  - 11 Site of a mythical lion slaying
  - 12 Romantic rendezvous
  - 14 "Me, too!"
  - 16 Patty's place
  - 18 \_\_\_ Challenge (famous taste test)

- 21 Gut-related
- 22 Some short-term rentals
- 24 Hightail it
- 25 Was behind
- 26 Island between Java and Lombok
- 29 W.C.
- 31 As of now
- 33 Bit of shut-eye
- 35 450, in ancient Rome
- 36 Sorento and Telluride
- 37 Amazon-owned home Wi-Fi brand
- 38 Scolding sounds
- 40 Part of some "Red" or "White" uniforms
- 41 St. \_\_\_ (Caribbean isle)
- 46 Some German cars
- 48 Word on the \_\_\_
- 50 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" author
- 51 Broadcaster
- 52 Oktoberfest vessel
- 53 Place to wash up?
- 55 Son of, in Arabic surnames
- 56 "\_\_\_, not \_\_\_!"
- 58 Approx. when planes take off
- 61 Circus barker?
- 62 "Not you, too!?"
- 63 Disappointing R.S.V.P.s
- 65 Over 100, say
- 66 Gives birth to



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# 'Braided Sorrow' honors women silenced by femicide

The UI Theatre Department presented a powerful play about the women lost to femicide in the city of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.



Lillie Hawker/The Daily Iowan

Eulalia, played by Dajzané Meadows-Sanderlin, prays during a dress rehearsal for the University of Iowa theater department's production of "Braided Sorrow" on Feb. 2.

Stella Shipman  
Arts Reporter

Blue light bruised the dark stage where a young girl sat on a small box. She ran her fingers over her long braid before slicing it off with scissors.

The play "Braided Sorrow," originally written by Marisela Treviño Orta and directed by Natalie Villamonte Zito, opened Feb. 5 in the University of Iowa Theatre Building's David Thayer Theatre.

The UI Theatre Department will present "Braided Sorrow" through

Feb. 11.

This play follows the story of Alma, a young woman who starts working in a factory in Ciudad Juárez near the Mexican-American border. Juárez is plagued by femicide, and no one is doing anything about it except a mythical Aztec spirit called La Llorona who appears to Alma and sends her on a journey to protect the women of Juárez.

Femicide is the killing of women or girls, in particular by a man because of her gender.

The performance began

with La Llorona, played by performer Kat Guerrero, gliding across the rafters of the theater in a long white dress paired with the sound of dripping water. Her damp hair hung in wavy tresses down her back, and on her head perched a golden crown resembling the sun.

According to the information posted on the wall outside the theater, in popular culture, La Llorona was a woman who fell in love with a rich man. When he left her for another woman, she drowned their two



Lillie Hawker/The Daily Iowan

Señor Fillmore, played by Johan Avila, helps Alma, played by Sara Alvidrez, with her work during a dress rehearsal for the University of Iowa theater department's production of "Braided Sorrow" on Feb. 2.

children and herself. Legend says she still haunts bodies of water, crying for her children.

This tragic story differs slightly from original Aztec mythology. La Llorona was a ghostly woman walking through the city of Tenochtitlan after its fall. She was thought to be an omen associated with childbirth, fertility, and infanticide.

In the play, she was a supernatural protector of the women in the desert of Juárez. She mourned their deaths and gave a voice to the voiceless. When she saved Alma from a group of men, she set her on a dangerous mission to make the people of Juárez listen and take action to stop the femicide.

Alma, played by performer Sara Alvidrez, lived with older brother, her brother's wife, and her aunt. When she turned 16 years old, she started working in a factory that made and sold products like circuit boards and washing machines.

As the play went on, Alma was exposed to the intimidation and violence enacted against women in

Juárez from men prowling the streets or from bosses in their workplaces. Her experiences were, unfortunately, very accurate representations of daily life for real women in Juárez.

The play is a beautiful and powerful story of resilience that hardly shies away from depicting the intense brutality and grotesque treatment of women in Juárez.

However, just as palpable were the depictions of familial love. Like her brother Carlos, Alma worked hard to send money home to her parents. Carlos was also working to help support his pregnant wife, who could no longer work.

The idea of family was one of the biggest themes of the play. As evil as the other male characters in the play might have seemed, Carlos, played by actor Orlando Lopez, was a good man who only cared about protecting his loved ones.

As the title of the play suggests, the symbol of a braid is notably important. Alma cuts it off as a form of self-defense, rebelling against the idea that a

woman's prettiness is power — an idea discussed during the panel. Her braid becomes essential to La Llorona's mission to save the women of Juárez.

Another unique aspect of the play is that it was told out of order. It flashed between earlier events in Alma's life and present day. This form offered relief from the dark subject matter, particularly presented during Alma's present. It also created a circular story with a powerful conclusion that left me with chills.

This show would not have been near as impactful if it wasn't for the amazing acting. The most emotional moments of the well-written play were exquisitely executed. I fought tears toward the end during Lopez's heart-wrenching scenes.

I can safely say that the intentions of this play were realized. Now that I have been made aware of the situation in Juárez, I cannot stop thinking about it or the women who continue to lose their lives to lessons of silence.

stella-shipman@uiowa.edu



Photo: Jason Ayer/University of South Carolina

**\$10** STUDENT & YOUTH TICKETS

A HANCHER COMMISSION

## KRONOS QUARTET AT WAR WITH OURSELVES—400 YEARS OF YOU

COMPOSED BY MICHAEL ABELS  
TEXT & NARRATION BY NIKKY FINNEY  
WITH TONALITY, CONDUCTED BY VALÉRIE SAINTE-AGATHE

Saturday, February 11, 7:30 pm

A rhapsodic modern-day song cycle spun from the skin of history for string quartet, chorus, and narrator, *At War With Ourselves – 400 Years of You* features a text by National Book Award-winning poet Nikky Finney inspired by her 2013 poem "The Battle of and for the Black Face Boy." The music was composed by Michael Abels, composer for the Jordan Peele films *Us* and *Get Out*. This powerful new work explores race relations, social justice, and civil rights in 21<sup>st</sup> century America.



This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov).

EVENT PARTNERS  
David and Sally Dierks  
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### TICKETS

**Adults**  
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