

## INSIDE



### 80 HOURS | An inside look at Iowa City's thriving local theater scene

Every theater is unique, but all Iowa City theaters seek to support local artists and one another as they continue to grow.

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### AMPLIFY | Growing up first-gen

University of Iowa students reflect on their experiences as first-generation students.

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### End of an era

As Monika Czinano and McKenna Warnock finished their Hawkeye careers on Sunday, the Hawkeye starting five finished out a storied three-year run.

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## ONLINE



### UI lab destroyed in Coralville tornado

The research laboratory, used by the UI College of Engineering and located on James St. in Coralville, suffered a total loss during the storm March 31.



### Project PEARLS receives \$500,000 grant

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded three UI professors a \$500,000 grant to launch a mental health awareness training program.



### Gov. Kim Reynolds signed 1500-page state government restructuring bill into law

The massive bill will reduce the number of state cabinet agencies in Iowa from 37 to 16. The restructuring is the first reorganization of the state's executive branch in over 40 years.

## DITV

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# South District Market opens

The Pepperwood Plaza market includes restaurant and retail spaces, a food court, and more.



Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

Restaurant owner and supervisor on the Johnson County Board of Supervisors, Royceann Porter, embraces Human Rights Commissioner Bijou Maliabo during the grand opening of Royceann's Soul Food Restaurant in the South District Market in Iowa City on March 25. "Today has been very overwhelming — very, very overwhelming," Porter said. "But it's awesome, the support. The love of the community has been tremendously wonderful."

Hannah Lipski  
News Reporter

New year-round business options are coming to Iowa City's South Side.

The South District Market opened its doors March 28, celebrating the opening of a new retail space in Pepperwood Plaza.

Located at 947 US-6, the building space is just un-

der 39,000 square feet and holds four restaurant or retail spaces, a food court, and a self-storage unit.

Formerly a Slumberland Furniture store, the property owners were initially planning to turn the entire building into self-storage.

When Wendy Ford, the economic development coordinator for the City of Iowa City, heard that the proper-

ty owners of where the District Market currently sits wanted to build a storage facility, she said her heart sank. Ford said the city had other plans for the space that were more beneficial to the community.

"The city suggested that they do something to activate the storefront area," Ford said. "The suggestion was made to put that stor-

age in the back portion of the building."

The community members got their wish after the property owners announced in July 2022 that the space would be turned into a year-round indoor market.

Angie Jordan, South of 6 Iowa City Business District executive director, said the property owners wanted to

prioritize what members of the community wanted to do with the space.

One of the biggest requests was to have a restaurant central to the South District, she said.

"We've never had a place to sit down and eat and meet in this part of town before," Jordan said. "You

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## IC continues flood preparation

The city is continuing flood mitigation efforts nearly 15 years after the 2008 flood.



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Floodwaters engulf Lower City Park on June 10, 2008.

Isabelle Foland  
News Reporter

Nearly 15 years after the 2008 flood, the City of Iowa City has made significant progress in flood mitigation efforts.

The city has changed city codes, made infrastructural improvements, and executed property buyouts with the aim of mitigating immediate and lasting flood damage and making it easier for residents to evacuate the city.

The City of Iowa City began updating its flood plain ordinance two years after the 2008 flood to designate where new buildings within a major flood-susceptible area could go, Iowa City Neighborhood and Development Services Director Tracy Hightshoe wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan*.

The city also purchased 104 properties with in flood plains for demolition and preserved as

green space, she said. The most recent residential buyout the city approved was that of 500 Manor Drive for \$276,000 at the Feb. 21 city council meeting.

These properties were purchased either by federal grant programs or by the city from its own general fund, she wrote.

Hightshoe added that the city was also awarded federal funding to build new homes to combat the tax revenue the city would lose from the demolition of flood-susceptible properties.

"In addition to buying out homes, we were also awarded funding under the Single Family New Construction program that built 141 homes outside the floodplain and provided down payment assistance to income qualified homebuyers," Hightshoe wrote. "It spurred an investment of approximately \$25 million in new construction

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## Hall of Birds in UI museum to undergo repairs

The cyclorama slated for updates is located in the UI Museum of Natural History.

Hannah Lipski  
News Reporter

Officials from the University of Iowa's Museum of Natural History are trying to raise \$1 million to pay for the restoration of an exhibit in the Hall of Birds after over 100 years of operation.

The Laysan Island Cyclorama exhibit needs a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system and professional conservators to restore the mural and foreground included in the cyclorama.

The UI is home to one of few cycloramas in the world and the first to focus on a single ecosystem. The cyclorama is a 360-degree exhibit located in the museum's Hall of Birds.

First open to the public in 1914, the exhibit holds specimens from Laysan Island, one of the largest single landmasses located in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The cyclorama tells the story of human interaction in the environment.

Former UI museum director Charles Nutting set out on an expedition in 1902 to Northwestern Hawaii, where he found Laysan Island. He wanted to bring his findings back with him to Iowa, so he sent a team back to the island in 1911 to bring back bird specimens, eggs, plant material, and anything else they could.

By the time the team returned, the Laysan Island ecosystem was destroyed because of Japanese feather poachers and invasive rabbits.

Instead, the director decided to create a cyclorama to preserve what the ecosystem once looked like.

Although it's sealed off from human interaction unlike the island, the cyclorama has

MUSEUM | Page 2A

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Feature photo | Students take the stage



Shuntaro Kawasaki/The Daily Iowan  
Students dance for the multicultural fashion show hosted by Walk It Out at the Main Lounge in the Iowa Memorial Union on April 1.

The Daily Iowan

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Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan  
People gather to order and eat food during the grand opening of Royceann's Soul Food Restaurant in the South District Market in Iowa City on March 25.

**MARKET**  
Continued from Front

had to travel outside to do that.”  
As the executive director of the South of 6 Iowa City Business District, which was recently renamed from Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District, Jordan’s role is to unify the

new business district and increase foot traffic, customers, events, and excitement.  
Additionally, Jordan is tasked with transforming the area south of Highway 6, which could be considered a geological border from the south to the east of Iowa City. The South Iowa City Business District was started in April 2022 and is the newest

commercial district in Iowa, Jordan said.  
“Recruiting and getting folks excited to start up businesses over here and then working really hard to retain them and serve their needs,” she said.  
“But a lot of what we’re doing is the continuation of revitalization on this side of town.”  
Chris Villhauer, South-Gate Properties commer-

cial property manager, said the property owners hope to have a coffee shop, a bakery, and a store where an artist can sell work in the spaces in the market that are open for rent.  
“To expand on that, is have people who would do local artwork, you know, pictures, so they can hang on the wall to kind of decorate the walls,” Villhauer said.  
Villhauer said the two floors of climate-controlled self-storage in the market will operate through Bluetooth on renters’ phones. The self-storage will contain 600 units.  
Additionally, with the prospect of a space for artists to show their work in the South District Market, Villhauer said more local art will reach the community and be sold throughout Iowa City while also being promoted.  
Currently, the first person to lease space in the South District Market is Johnson County Board of Supervisor Royceann Porter, who opened a soul food restaurant. The restaurant had its grand opening on March 25.

At the opening, Porter said she was grateful for the support she received from the Iowa City community. The market’s website states that two to three new vendors will be opening in spaces in the market soon.

“Today has been very overwhelming, very overwhelming. But it’s awesome, the support. The love of the community has been tremendously wonderful,” Porter said.  
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**FLOOD**  
Continued from Front

to help in our recovery efforts and to replace lost tax revenue from the buyouts.”  
Regarding future buyouts, Hightshoe wrote the funding would most likely come from the city rather than federal assistance because it has been so long since a major flood has hit the area, and the eligibility to qualify for this kind of federal funding is narrow.  
“You also get more assistance for repetitive flood loss, and if they could show repetitive flood loss, we’re more likely to get funded in greater flexibility. But after the flood, not so much anymore,” Hightshoe wrote.  
“Our rationale with buying out is that we’re permanently reducing the risk of flood [damages], and our rescue efforts of evacuating keeps reducing as we keep getting people out of the floodplain.”  
The city also made several infrastructural changes

following the 2008 flood, Iowa City Public Works Director Ron Knoche said. The city focused on two major projects and several smaller ones to make the city easier to get in and out of during a flood event and to treat wastewater, which was severely impacted during the 2008 flood, he said.  
Following the flood, the city started its first major infrastructural recovery effort, the Gateway Project, which raised Dubuque Street and Park Road Bridge one foot above the 100-year flood level reached by the flood.  
To combat the wastewater treatment issue, the city increased its treatment capacity at the city’s southern wastewater treatment plant to demolish the northern treatment plant and turn it into Riverfront Crossings Park, Knoche said.  
Smaller mitigation projects included sandbagging and flood-proofing necessary infrastructure in flood plains as well as the construction of a levee, a flood gate, and a pump station at various vulnerable areas of the city, Knoche said.  
Knoche said the city is currently looking at flood mitigation efforts in the area of the Peninsula neighborhood, which had its only access point, Foster Road, entirely flooded in 2008.  
“There has been some talk of redevelopment in [the Forest View neighborhood] ... If that area would redevelop, we would look at gaining access to the Peninsula neighborhood through the Forest View area, which is much higher and wouldn’t flood,” Knoche said. “Or if that area doesn’t redevelop, then we will be looking at the potential for a Foster Road elevation project in the future.”  
In terms of preparedness for the next major flood in the area, IIHR–Hydroscience and Engineering research engineer Nathan Young said Iowa City is more prepared now than it was before the 2008 flood.

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Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan  
Floodwaters run over the spillway and through the Devonian Fossil Gorge in Iowa City, unveiled by the flood of 1993, on June 11, 2008.

“The previous major flood in Iowa City was the 1993 flood. A lot of people in the community didn’t appreciate that the 1993 flood could happen again ... until the 2008 flood hit,” Young said.

Young said the 2008 flood’s disastrous outcome inspired the community to take the appropriate precautions and mitigation efforts needed to lessen the blow of a flood like in 2008 or greater.  
“They’ve really put a lot

of effort into reducing our flood risk and reducing the likelihood of something like 2008 happening again here in our community,” Young said.  
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Shuntaro Kawasaki/The Daily Iowan  
Laysan Island Cyclorama is seen at MacBride Hall in Iowa City on March 23. As a collection of the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, the cyclorama replicates the avian population and scenery of Laysan Island in Hawaii before the 1910s.

**MUSEUM**  
Continued from Front

taken on natural wear and tear from extreme weather changes, light deteriora-

tion, and dust build-up.  
Jessica Smith, communications coordinator at the UI Pentacrest Museums, said the exhibit is a cautionary tale.  
“There are a number of

concerns that conservators have about making sure that we can preserve the cyclorama to be available and safe for future generations because it is so important,” Smith said.

She said there are long-term and short-term goals for restoring the cyclorama.  
“The short-term goals are fundraising,” she said. “After that, installing a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system would be at the top of the list.”  
Samuel Hudziak, a doctoral candidate in the UI Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, said the cyclorama is a unique resource in an email to *The Daily Iowan*.  
“As is often the case with island ecosystems, human involvement has negatively impacted local populations with the introduction of non-native predators, and in more recent history, trash washing up on shores posing significant health risks to local birds,” Hudziak wrote.  
Hudziak wrote that he thinks resources are appropriate to update and restore the exhibit.  
“Our department utilizes the Museum as a teaching aid, and I think getting students out of the traditional

classroom environment to engage with materials in different and new ways is a powerful teaching technique that strengthens students’ understanding and connection to the materials,” he wrote.  
Within the last five years, the museum has become part of the International Panoramic Council. According to its website, the council’s goal is to promote professional trusteeship and to stimulate worldwide research and communication on panoramas and cycloramas both modern and historic. That means saving and preserving the few surviving panoramas and their buildings.  
UI Pentacrest Museums Director Liz Crooks serves as part of the council and has spoken at conferences all around the world. This upcoming fall, the yearly International Panorama Conference is coming to MacBride Hall at the UI.  
First-year student Sophia Heim said as an environmental science major, she

favours anything that supports the environment.  
“It’s definitely an important thing for Iowa to keep,” she said. “[Climate change] is a hot topic, and it’s something that can help educate people on the issues.”  
The Laysan Island Cyclorama was also a part of One Day For Iowa this year to fundraise the efforts to restore the exhibit. The museum had a donor willing to match every donation made to the fund and exceeded its \$2,000 match goal, Smith said.  
The cyclorama restoration fund has raised a total of \$309,119, as of April 3.  
“Overall, the Museum of Natural History saw a record number of gifts and engagement during the day of online giving,” Smith said. “Museum staff are touched and inspired by the commitment from our campus and community.”  
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# Amplify

## Growing up first-gen

UI students reflect on their experiences as first-generation students.

Archie Wagner  
News Reporter

I once waited three hours in a very hot gym, flipping through a pamphlet to pass the time, so I could watch the 30-or-so seconds when my mother walked across the stage for a diploma. I didn't appreciate it enough.

For some people, that moment of watching their parents receive a diploma in a hot and sweat gym didn't happen.

It wasn't until I got to the University of Iowa that I met first-generation students whose parents were at varying levels of education.

First-generation students are those whose parents or legal guardians haven't earned a four-year degree. Colleges and universities have tried to come up with more inclusive definitions, such as Brown University, which identifies first-generation students as "any student who may self-identify as not having prior exposure to or knowledge of navigating higher education institutions ... and may need additional resources."

No first-generation student is the same, but there's a sense of community in that lived experience that can be hard to convey to those who don't have it. At the UI, about one in five undergraduate students identify as first-generation.

In the words of UI fourth-

year student Selveyah Gamblin, being a first-generation student is like learning a new language that it feels like everyone else already knows.

For Gamblin, she said her parents encouraged learning at every opportunity.

"Everything was always a learning moment. So, we'd watch a TV show, and my parents would always ask me like, 'Oh, what do you think about that show,'" Gamblin said. "Like, how does that make you feel? Like, do you feel like you agree with the characters' decisions in this movie?"

She said she remembers her parents bringing home different books from the library that taught her various skills and providing her with consistent encouragement to stay involved in activities.

"My goal became very early on to go to college," Gamblin said. "Not only to make my parents proud, but to be able to step into a world that otherwise I only got to see in the movies and TV shows that my parents showed me."

This encouragement of learning didn't necessarily mean an expectation for higher education, Gamblin said.

"The biggest thing was at least trying and testing the waters, and if it works for you ... If it doesn't, we'll figure it out," Gamblin said.



Alex Snyder/The Daily Iowan

Karla Sierra, UI third-year first-generation student, stands for a portrait in front of the Old Capitol on Sunday.

"Their biggest hope when they were parenting was to just offer us things that they never got the chance to experience."

Growing up, Gamblin said her ability to make her own decisions was emphasized by her family.

"It's like for them growing up, it was about survival. It was about just finding odd jobs, paying bills, keeping a

roof over your head, and now it's to a point where they can say they're comfortable with their children having choices, being able to choose their path," Gamblin said.

While the choice may seem luxurious, it can also be overwhelming.

"Something that I feel like a lot of first-gen students get overwhelmed by

is not having any choices, and then all of a sudden it's like you need to choose a million things that will impact the rest of your life and your family's lives," Gamblin said.

The UI offers resources for first-generation students, including organizations like the First-Generation Task Force. The task force supports first-generation students and helps them succeed at the UI. The task force has over 50 faculty members and over 15 events and initiatives established.

UI third-year student Karla Sierra, another first-generation student, said she grew up comparing herself to her sibling's education level. Before she came to the UI, Sierra already had a sibling in college.

"You're like, okay, well, I'm not going to be the only one, one of the first generation, but my sibling is doing it too, but my sibling's also surpassing you in terms of education level," Sierra said.

Sierra said education was often poised as the only way out of poverty, generation cycles, and violence.

"Even to this day, my mom's still like, I have overheard her, she's like, 'You need to be careful you don't get pregnant because you're going to leave school, when you leave school, you're going to depend on them, and you're going to be broke,

and you're going to be unhappy,'" Sierra said.

As a first-generation student, Sierra said she feels pressure to continue with education past undergrad to prevent doing a disservice to her family.

"My parents have always expressed it as a fear, like they're afraid that if I take a gap year, I'll fall in love with working or making money, or I'll fall out of love with school," Sierra said. "So, they're always afraid that taking a gap year means not continuing at all."

Sierra said her stepfather expressed interest in going back to culinary school but said it isn't possible because of bills he has to pay.

"He still hasn't done it, but I think it's on my goals though, to like, get to a point in my life where I'm so financially well off that I can offer my parents some time to have the experience to go to school and do something that they wanted to do when they were young," Sierra said.

Sierra said it makes her wonder how much her parents gave up to ensure she would have choices.

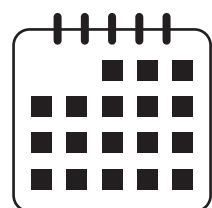
"It kind of inspires me, but it also off-puts me to the idea of having kids anytime soon, which I feel like a lot of people who are first gen feel the same way," Sierra said.

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Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

The Old Capitol Building is seen on March 31.



## Calendar

### Community Events on Campus



**Friday, April 7, 1:30 p.m.:** "Aniruddha Dutta, Modal Modulation Through Graha Bhedam: Notes On Attempted Musical Translation" (Voxman Music Building)



**Friday, April 7, 4:30 p.m.:** "Beyond Inclusion and Reconciliation: Decolonization in Science and Technology" (Biology Building East, Krollos Auditorium)



**Thursday, April 13, 6 p.m.:** "Paper Artisan Talk and Q&A" (Adler Building of Journalism and Mass Communication)



**Monday, April 17, 5 p.m.:** "WorldCanvass: An Evening with the Meitar Ensemble" (Voxman Music Building)



**Thursday, April 20, 6:30 p.m.:** "Hervé Youmbi & Willie Cole: A Conversation" (Stanley Museum of Art)

Stay tuned for more Amplify sections and community chats.

# Opinions

## COLUMN

# DI Editorial Board on JoCo Board of Supervisors opioid settlement offer

The Board of Supervisors should accept the offer to counteract the opioid epidemic.

### DI Editorial Board

Johnson County has an opportunity to act against the opioid epidemic.

Between 2018 and 2020, opioid-related deaths in Iowa increased by 54 percent, according to the Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy. Nationwide, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports opioids as the main driver of drug overdose deaths.

The pharmaceutical companies Teva and Allergan, along with the pharmacies Walgreens, CVS, and Walmart have offered a substantial settlement offer for an ongoing lawsuit. *The Daily Iowan* Editorial Board believes it is in the best interest of Johnson County that the Board of Supervisors to accept the settlement.

In 2018, 35 counties in Iowa — including Johnson County — sued five major opioid manufacturers for claims of deceptive marketing and sales practices. The municipalities involved in the lawsuit sought reimbursement costs associated with

fighting the epidemic and other unspecified damages.

Johnson County received \$600,000 from a settlement in 2021. This new settlement could bring Johnson County up to \$2.95 million over the course of the next 15 years. The supervisors will vote on whether to accept the settlement on Thursday.

This settlement was introduced on March 29. On the same day, the Food and Drug Administration approved the first over-the-counter nasal spray that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

The medication naloxone, which is sold under the brand name Narcan, is a 4-milligram hydrochloride nasal spray.

“Overdose persists as a major public health issue in the United States, from October 2021 to October 2022 more than 101,750 reported fatal overdoses occurred,” Johnson County Public Health said in a statement to the *DI*. “Naloxone, or Narcan, has been utilized in our community by law enforce-

ment, first responders, and health care workers to help save lives of individuals experiencing an overdose. Having this resource readily available at the individual level over the counter will absolutely save lives. Opioid use and addiction is a complex public health issue, and while we do the long-term work to resolve it, this is an excellent tool to have in our toolbox.”

The new regulations for Narcan makes the drug more accessible to people experiencing opioid addiction. The difficulty will be getting this drug in the hands of people.

The FDA is currently working with drug companies to increase the availability of this drug. One obstacle to making these drugs available to the public is cost. With the new litigation settlement, Johnson County can get this drug in the hands of the people who need it most.

If the supervisors accept this offer, Johnson County will begin receiving settlement claims in 2028. This gives Johnson County almost five years



Photo illustration by Matt Sindt

to begin preparing to disburse funds to counteract opioid use in Johnson County.

Once Narcan becomes available for public use, Johnson County can utilize settlement funds to purchase and distribute Narcan. In addition, money from these funds can be used for rehabilitation programs, and for existing-users, drug treatment programs and other resources for people with

addiction.

The Midwest and Northwest regions of the U.S. experience the highest rates of opioid use in the country. Even tucked in the corn belt, Iowans are dying from opioid overdose.

Action should have been taken years ago against the manufacturers who made these drugs too accessible to vulnerable populations. But that time has gone, and our

best action now is to deal with the issue at-large.

The *DI* Editorial Board believes this litigation settlement brings new hope in battling this epidemic. We strongly urge the Johnson County Board of Supervisors — V. Fixmer-Oraiz, Jon Green, Lisa Green-Douglas, Royceann Porter, and Rod Sullivan — to accept this offer.

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## COLUMN

# Take some time before entering graduate school

Individuals looking to attend graduate school after college should consider taking a gap year.



Kyle Tristan Ortega  
Opinions Contributor

I used to think that after I got my undergraduate degree, it was immediately off to law school for me — no breaks or anything like that.

But now that I am less than a semester and a half away from graduating, nothing seems more appealing to me now than a gap year.

Students looking to continue their studies

after college should consider taking a gap year because of the possible benefits and opportunities that can come with a year off.

Originally, I did not plan on taking a break because I wanted to finish my studies and work in my desired field as soon as possible. Then, I would begin earning already — essentially living the American dream. However, I eventually realized that this was not the best course of action for me.

According to Sallie Mae, two-thirds of college graduates see attending grad school as the new minimum

standard for professional careers. With more people viewing graduate degrees as a necessity, it may seem easier to finish graduate school as soon as possible. In fact, 63 percent of college graduates who seek a graduate degree will do so less than 12 months after completing their undergraduate degree.

There are multiple factors that made me change my mind about going to law school immediately after I finished my undergraduate degree. The most prominent of these factors is educational burnout.

I have been attending

school for 19 years, and the thought of having to attend another three is mentally daunting. At least with a gap year, there will be time to rest and reinvigorate myself before eventually going back into academe.

It seems relevant for me to mention that I am not just after the rest. Another reason I want to take a gap year is to gain life experiences. There are plenty of things the four corners of a classroom do not teach you, and a gap year is one of the best ways to gain this knowledge.

For instance, during the year off, I can look for relevant job

opportunities, engage in volunteer work, travel to places I have never been, study for entrance exams, etc.

You can of course still do all these things while attending classes or during summer break. However, a gap year provides you with more time to do so, with the benefit of allowing you to fully invest yourself in these experiences.

Taking a year off is a big commitment, but if spent properly, it will result in one of the most meaningful experiences a student can have.

Personally, the idea of getting my law degree as soon as possible still

appeals to me whenever I think about it because it would allow me to get to work and advance my career sooner. I am sure that others see things the same way as well.

However, the thought of taking a break and engaging with other things in life for a year is vastly more appealing to me now. Quite frankly, I am exhausted and need a change of scenery.

*Editor's note: The number of University of Iowa undergraduates that go directly to graduate school is unavailable at this time.*

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## POINT/COUNTERPOINT

# Should class attendance be mandatory?

Opinions contributors Luke Krchak and Katie Perkins on mandatory class attendance.



Luke Krchak  
Opinions Columnist

you will get penalized.

Jobs, for example, have required attendance. If you skip a day of work because you're not up to it, you will probably face consequences. You have to be actively present to achieve your career goals, you can't coast through your career like you may in college.

College prepares you for the real world, and class attendance only benefits your future and education. Class attendance should be mandatory to ensure students are engaged in their academics. But, even without required attendance, it is your job to show up.

Tests often reflect lectures, so being in class can help you more easily answer test

## Yes

The real world has attendance requirements. If you don't meet those expectations,

questions.

Most classes use participation to discuss topics in class, which goes beyond just needing to know it for the test. Attendance also makes it easier to work with fellow students and professors to better understand the topics.

Active participation is not just for jobs and school. It can help you in life as well. Attending class, especially as a requirement, would help emphasize that people need to be active in their role in America and society. This includes participating in things like elections, community service, and volunteerism.

Most notably, we must pay for the classes we take, so you are hurting yourself by wasting money, time, and educational opportunity. Not everyone gets to attend college, let alone the University of Iowa, so take advantage of this opportunity.

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Katie Perkins  
Opinions Contributor

put on my shoes, to stuff my belongings into my backpack, and to make my way to class.

There are days I may really want to choose not to go to class. But it is required, so I feel as though I have no choice at all. Maybe I feel a cold coming on but can't make it to a doctor for a note, or I had to work extra late at my part-time job the night before. Sometimes I need some extra time to catch up on the overwhelming amount of homework I have been assigned in all six of my classes.

Regardless of the reason, the choice

## No

I can choose whether or not to get out of bed in the morning, to

put on my shoes, to stuff my belongings into my backpack, and to make my way to class.

There are days I may really want to choose not to go to class. But it is required, so I feel as though I have no choice at all. Maybe I feel a cold coming on but can't make it to a doctor for a note, or I had to work extra late at my part-time job the night before. Sometimes I need some extra time to catch up on the overwhelming amount of homework I have been assigned in all six of my classes.

Regardless of the reason, the choice

should be mine. I understand that going to class is beneficial in many ways. But burnout is real, many full-time students work jobs just to make ends meet, and you can't always predict illnesses well enough to get a university approved absence.

The requirement to attend class can negatively affect grades and cause a great deal of stress for students that are under enough already. Many students who are not able to attend every single class are still deserving of a decent grade and work very hard to try and maintain one.

We are adults. We are choosing to further our education. Therefore, we should also be given the choice to attend class or not without it being detrimental to our grade.

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Sophia Meador, Shahab Khan, Yasmina Sahir, Hannah Pinski, Naomi Rivera-Morales, Evan Weidl

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**BASKETBALL**

Continued from Page 6A

player. And I'm just really lucky that I was able to play with Mon and share a lot of really fun moments with her."

Czinano finished her final game as a Hawkeye with 13 points and six rebounds in just 22 minutes of action.

Senior McKenna Warnock also finished her Hawkeye career on Sunday night, fouling out with under two minutes left in the game. While Warnock notched nine points and six rebounds, she took her fifth foul to stop the clock near the end of the game.

"You're looking at Monika Czinano and McKenna Warnock and thinking, 'Oh my gosh, I'm never going to pass her the ball again,'" associate head coach Jan Jensen said. "She's never going to wear 25 or 14 again. So, it's just that conundrum of emotions ... Losing is not fun."

Warnock had another season of eligibility because of COVID-19, but she decided to forgo that year to head to dental school.

The aspiring dentist will find out about the status of her applications on May 1, and she hopes to stay a Hawkeye. But dental school is competitive, she said, so she applied to multiple programs.

"If I get in, yeah, of course," Warnock said of staying at Iowa. "I would love to be around Iowa and go to the games and everything, but you apply kind of everywhere."

While Czinano exhausted her eligibility, she's planning to pursue basketball professionally — both in the WNBA and overseas.

But she'll make sure to watch the Hawkeyes next season, wherever she is in the world.

"I'm so excited, and I've been thinking about it — I'll probably be overseas, so I'm gonna be setting alarms at like 2 a.m., 3 a.m.," Czinano said. "But I just love these girls so much, being able to watch them do their things. I get so much more joy watching them make their shots, and honestly, if I can just do that all the time, that would be amazing."

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Daniel McGregor-Huyer/The Daily Iowan

Iowa center Monika Czinano hugs teammate McKenna Warnock during a senior day ceremony after a basketball game between No. 9 Iowa and No. 2 Indiana at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Feb. 26. The Hawkeyes defeated the Hoosiers, 86-85.



Daniel McGregor-Huyer/The Daily Iowan

Iowa City Mayor Bruce Teague and Coralville Mayor Meghann Foster take a selfie with members of the Iowa women's basketball team during a welcome home event for the Iowa women's basketball team's NCAA national championship runner-up finish outside of Hyatt Regency Hotel in Coralville on Monday. The Hawkeyes were greeted by hundreds of fans following a loss to LSU in the title game.

**SEASON**

Continued from Page 6A

three years — the longest streak in Division I history.

"I think, more than anything, we're losing two seniors that gave their heart and soul to this program," Clark said. "I think they set a really good example for other people that we have in that locker room of what it takes to be able to play at this level, on this stage. I'm really grateful that that's what they did, because we have to bring people along and bring people up to get back to this point."

With Martin and Marshall returning for a fifth season, the Hawkeyes will retain 68 percent of their scoring.

If the 2023-24 roster stays as is, expect freshman forward Hannah Stuelke and sophomore center Addison O'Grady to break into the starting lineup.

Stuelke was first off the bench for the Hawkeyes this season, averaging 6.5 points and 3.9 rebounds in 12 minutes per game. O'Grady played less than Stuelke, with just two points and 1.4 rebounds in 32 games this season.

While there has been talk

about bringing in a more experienced post player to mirror Clark, Bluder can't go portaling unless someone on the roster decides to leave. With two recruits coming in for 2023-24, Bluder's scholarship counter is full at 15.

But no matter who's on the roster, the Hawkeyes don't plan to make this Final Four appearance a one-time thing.

"This is our goal every single year," Clark said. "We're not just going to be satisfied with making it here one time."

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**BASEBALL**

Continued from Page 6A

fastball often gives the Hawkeyes a great start to a game on Fridays, but the Hawkeyes have lost major leads because of bullpen struggles.

In Iowa's series against Maryland, the Hawkeyes gave up a five-run first-inning lead in the first game and eventually lost, 10-9. While Brecht gave up three runs in his five-inning start, reliever Jared Simpson allowed five runs in just 2 1/3 innings.

"The pitching has been up and down, inconsistent," Heller said. "It was something we hoped to have

cleaned up before the conference started. But again, even in those games where we let up a few runs or gave some free bases, someone stepped up and closed it out."

Brecht is the only starter with an ERA under three so far this season. While Brecht boasts a 2.67 ERA, Saturday starter Zach Voelker has a 4.45 ERA, and Sunday starter Ty Langenberg sits at 5.52.

In the bullpen, Luke Llewellyn leads the Hawkeyes with a 1.93 ERA in 11 appearances.

Heller said the Hawkeyes' motto is to keep improving. Even when the Hawkeyes were winning games in the nonconference season, they

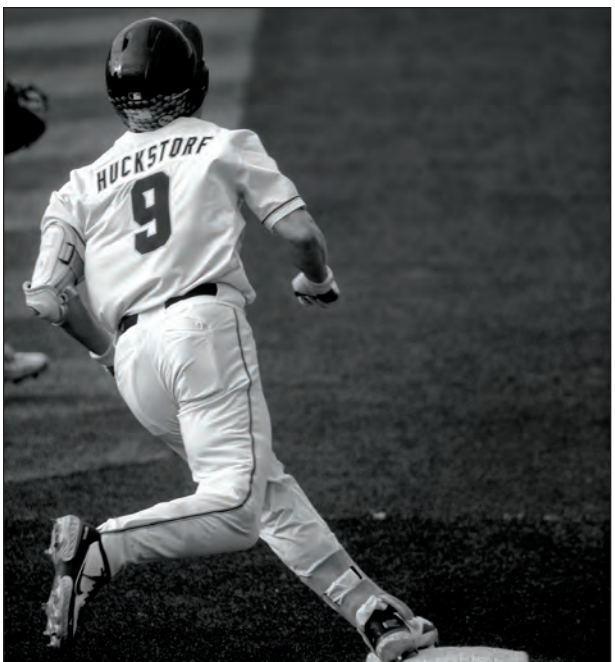
still knew they had a long way to go.

Iowa lost two of three games to Maryland at Duane Banks Field to start Big Ten play. But the Hawkeyes know they can clean up on the mound and get to the top of the Big Ten standings.

"We have to keep pushing and pushing to get better each week," Heller said. "That's been our motto. It kind of just fell in place for us."

Iowa will head to Bradley in Peoria, Illinois, on Wednesday for a midweek nonconference game. Then, the Hawkeyes will head to Bloomington, Indiana, to take on the Hoosiers in a three-game weekend series.

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Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

Iowa outfielder Kyle Huckstorf runs to second base after touching first base during a baseball game between Iowa and West Michigan at Duane Banks Field in Iowa City on March 24. The Hawkeyes defeated the Broncos, 9-3.

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## HAWKEYE UPDATES



Austin Kresley

### Iowa track and field sets four school records over weekend

The Iowa track and field team split up for five events around the country from March 29-April 1, and returned to Iowa City with four school records.

First, on Friday, senior James Carter Jr. and sophomore Max Murphy set new Iowa marks in the triple jump and 5,000-meter run, respectively.

Carter jumped 16.68 meters at the Texas Relays to break the 11-year-old record by .02 meters.

"James had an amazing day jumping into the record books," Iowa director of track and field Joey Woody said in a press release March 31. "He was sending a message for not getting added into the A section of the meet, setting a huge lifetime best in the triple jump."

"He had a very difficult indoor national meet," assistant coach Hadrion Choukroun said of Carter Jr. in the same release. "Being able to bounce back and have a half-a-meter personal record at his first outdoor meet shows his mental toughness."

Murphy crossed the line in 13:39.77 at the Stanford Invite, breaking a 16-year-old record by nearly 10 seconds.

"It's a great night at the track any time you break a record," associate head coach Randy Hasenbank said of Murphy in a release. "Great weather, great field, and Max put forth a great effort and shattered the 5K school record. I am so excited for him!"

On Saturday, two more Iowa records fell at the Texas Relays. First, the 4x100-meter relay team consisting of juniors Kalen Walker, Austin Kresley, Gratt Reed, and Damoy Allen set the school record of 38.70 and shattering the previous record by more than three-tenths of a second.

Then, Kresley added another school record in the 100-meter dash, finishing in 10.19.

"We had an amazing week across the country," Iowa director of track and field Joey Woody said in a release on April 1. "Breaking four school records in one weekend and especially in three different event groups is unprecedented. I'm very proud of our team for how everyone competed against the best athletes in the country this weekend. We stepped up with some big-time performances, but I believe we will take things to another level over the next few weeks."



### Clark sweeps NPOTY awards

On Tuesday, Caitlin Clark was named the winner of the 2023 Wooden Award, given annually to the nation's top player.

The honor completes Clark's sweep of all of this season's major Player of the Year awards, including the Naismith Trophy, Wade Trophy, AP Player of the Year, Ann Meyers Drysdale Award, and The Athletic Player of the Year.

At season's end, Clark averaged 27.8 points, 8.6 assists, and 7.1 rebounds per game. She ranked second nationally in points and first in rebounds.

This year, she became the first NCAA Division I women's player to tally 1,055 points and 320 rebounds — both of which are Iowa records.

Clark led the Hawkeyes to a 31-7 record, their first Final Four appearance since 1993, a 77-73 win over previously undefeated South Carolina in the national semifinals, and their first-ever national title game appearance.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"I want my legacy to be the impact that I can have on young kids and the people in the state of Iowa, and I hope I brought them a lot of joy this season. I hope this team brought them a lot of joy."**

— Iowa junior guard Caitlin Clark after Sunday's national championship loss to LSU.

## STAT OF THE DAY

# 9.9 million

— Number of viewers who tuned in to the Iowa-LSU women's basketball NCAA title game on Sunday and the most-watched NCAA women's basketball game ever, according to ESPN.

# End of an era

As Monika Czinano and McKenna Warnock finished their Iowa careers on Sunday, the Hawkeye starting five closed out a storied three-year run.



Ayrton Breckenridge/The Daily Iowan

Iowa center Monika Czinano looks at a gift a fan gave her during a welcome home event for the Iowa women's basketball team's NCAA national championship runner-up finish outside of Hyatt Regency Hotel in Coralville on Monday. The Hawkeyes were greeted by hundreds of fans following a loss to LSU in the title game.

**Chloe Peterson**  
Sports Editor

DALLAS — When fifth-year senior center Monika Czinano fouled out of the national championship game with six minutes remaining, she made sure to give junior guard Caitlin

Clark a long hug before leaving the court.

For the law firm — as fans like to call them — it was the end of an era.

"I was really bummed that somebody who has made me a really, really good player had to spend the six minutes on the

bench," Clark said. "Somebody who has given so much to our program ... I think we're one of the best post-guard duos to play the game, and I'm just really lucky and grateful to have had these years together."

Over three seasons,

Czinano and Clark grew into a daunting post-duo machine. Czinano was the recipient of many of Clark's passes, racking up the point guard's assist count.

This season, the duo hit a new level. Clark set a Big Ten record with 327

assists — many of them to Czinano for an easy layup in the paint.

"I told her after the game, 'I'm nothing without you,'" Clark said. "She's made me a better person, a better basketball

BASKETBALL | Page 5A

## COLUMN

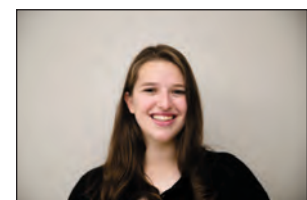
# Toasting a historic season

While the Iowa women's basketball team didn't win a national title, it had the most impressive season in program history.



Daniel McGregor-Huyer/The Daily Iowan

Iowa guard Caitlin Clark holds up a trophy during a welcome home event for the Iowa women's basketball team's NCAA national championship runner-up finish outside of Hyatt Regency Hotel in Coralville on Monday. The Hawkeyes were greeted by hundreds of fans following a loss to LSU in the title game.



**Chloe Peterson**  
Sports Editor

DALLAS — Iowa women's basketball didn't win a national championship on Sunday night.

But the Hawkeyes' 2022-23 season was still the most impressive the program has ever seen.

Not only did the Hawkeyes make their first Final Four in 30 years, but Iowa also took down South Carolina and its 42-game win streak — something nobody expected them to do.

The Gamecocks were defeated, the defending champions, and an 11.5-point favorite over the Hawkeyes.

But the Hawkeyes beat the odds.

"Why does it have to be the

same teams winning it year after year?" senior Kate Martin said. "I think the parity in this league has been amazing this year, and there's been upsets. There's been whatever in this women's March Madness tournament, and it's been really fun to see."

Iowa had a historic season — a program-first preseason No. 4 ranking, second consecutive Big Ten Tournament championship, a No. 2 ranking in the regular season, and momentous crowds. It was all capped by its first appearance in the national championship game in program history.

With a 31-7 mark this season, the Hawkeyes broke the program record for wins in a season.

With Caitlin Clark, the national player of the year, on their squad, the Hawkeyes drew more people to women's basketball throughout the season. Over 5.5 million people tuned into Iowa's game against South Carolina on Friday — exceeding NBA and college foot-

ball numbers.

"Once people really turn on the TV or come and sit in the seat, they see how good the product is and how fun the game is," Clark said. "Our team plays it the right way. They play basketball the right way."

Senior Monika Czinano said she's proud of what the Hawkeyes have done, despite adversity.

"Throughout the entire season, we've come out and given it our all," Czinano said. "That's all you can do in any given situation is put your heart into it and believe, and we did that."

Now, the Hawkeyes will have to move on without two of their most crucial starters. Forward McKenna Warnock and center Monika Czinano — the Hawkeyes' two leading scorers behind Clark — are leaving the program.

Warnock, Czinano, Clark, and seniors Kate Martin and Gabbie Marshall started 92 games together over the last

SEASON | Page 5A

# A hot start

The Hawkeyes have a 20-6 record through the first weekend of Big Ten play behind an impressive offense that averages 8.78 runs per game.



Matt Sindt/The Daily Iowan

Iowa catcher Cade Moss speaks to right-handed pitcher Brody Brecht during a baseball game between Iowa and West Michigan at Duane Banks Field in Iowa City on March 24. The Hawkeyes defeated the Broncos, 9-3.

**Keaton Speicher**  
Sports Reporter

With an overall record of 20-6, the Iowa baseball team is off to one of the best starts in program history. And the high-powered Iowa offense is a key reason for the hot start.

Iowa has scored 10 runs or more in 11 of its 26 games this season and over 20 runs in two.

The Hawkeyes have six players in their starting lineup batting over .300. Senior Brennen Dorighi leads the team with a .368 average, as well as 30 RBIs.

Sophomore Keaton Anthony leads the Hawkeyes with six home runs so far this season and hits .330. Anthony also hit a grand slam against Maryland on March 31 — the fifth this season for the Hawkeyes. Sophomore Sam Petersen and Kyle Huckstorf are right behind Anthony, with five home runs each.

But the Iowa offense isn't just carried by a few sluggers. Head coach Rick Heller said the consistency of the lineup is helping the Hawkeyes.

"We haven't just had to rely on 3-4 hitters," Heller said after a win against Maryland on April 2. "Like today, our bottom three hitters really picked us up, they had five or six hits."

Iowa's consistent offensive power has allowed the team more breathing room in a lot of early games this season. So, the Hawkeyes have experimented with pitching lineups up to the start of Big Ten play.

Iowa excels in their offensive consistency, but it's been inconsistent on the pitching side of the game.

Sophomore Brody Brecht and his 104 mph

BASEBALL | Page 5A



# BOD HOURS

THIS WEEKEND IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023

## **An inside look at IC's thriving local theater scene**

Smaller theaters in Iowa City are flourishing by collaborating with one another and moving into new spaces. An event hosted by Dreamwell brought Iowa City's most prominent theaters together to create short plays.



# CALENDAR WEEKEND EVENTS

**THU**  
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Mission Creek Festival returns live and in-person, presenting an array of world-class and local artists and writers to celebrate the finest of music and literature at various venues.  
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**5:30 P.M. | IC FABLAB  
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## GRANT WOOD FELLOW TALK: KIERON DWAYNE SARGEANT

Sergeant will talk about the fusion of African Retentive and continued Trimbagonian dances and contemporary American dance for the classroom and stage.  
**7 P.M. | UI STANLEY MUSEUM OF ART  
160 W. BURLINGTON ST.**

## JOKE-E-OKE

Comedy open mic followed by karaoke. Participants must sign up before 9:30 p.m.  
**9:30 P.M. | JOYSTICK COMEDY BAR & ARCADE  
13 S. LINN ST.**

**FRI**  
APRIL 7

## MISSION CREEK FESTIVAL 2023

Mission Creek Festival returns live and in-person, presenting an array of world-class and local artists and writers to celebrate the finest of music and literature at various venues.  
**ALL DAY | VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

## PEARL KNOTTING THROUGH KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In this class, students will learn the secrets of making pearl knotting easy. Each person will leave with a bracelet made with freshwater pearls and a sterling silver clasp.  
**1 P.M. | BEADOLGY IOWA  
355 S. CLINTON ST.**

## ART & WRITE NIGHT

The return of this popular program series welcomes guests into the Museum of Natural History's magical gallery spaces after-hours to work on sketching or writing projects with other campus and community artists.  
**6 P.M. | MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
MACBRIDE HALL**

## BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCING

Ballroom and Latin Social Dancing hosted by Iowa Corridor USA Dance Chapter #2100.  
**7:30 P.M. | OLD BRICK  
26 E. MARKET ST.**

**SAT**  
APRIL 8

## MISSION CREEK FESTIVAL 2023

Mission Creek Festival returns live and in-person, presenting an array of world-class and local artists and writers to celebrate the finest of music and literature at various venues.  
**ALL DAY | VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

## BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

The Easter Bunny is back at Hyatt Regency Coralville. Hop on over for breakfast with the Bunny and an Easter egg hunt.  
**10 A.M. | HYATT REGENCY HOTEL  
300 E. 9TH ST.**

## TRADITIONAL COUNTRY DANCE

The dances are great for beginners, as there is no fancy footwork to learn; the caller tells us what to do, and other dancers can help if you get mixed up.  
**5 P.M. | ROBERT A. LEE RECREATION CENTER  
220 S. GILBERT ST.**

## JAZZED UP COMEDY

The best comedians around do their set accompanied by musicians.  
**9:30 P.M. | JOYSTICK COMEDY BAR & ARCADE  
13 S. LINN ST.**

**SUN**  
APRIL 9

## EASTER BRUNCH

Join the Vue on the rooftop for Easter brunch. Reservations must be made in advance.  
**10 A.M. | VUE ROOFTOP  
328 S. CLINTON ST.**

## LOS PERFORMERS | JUAN CORREA

Juan Correa is an artist and printmaker currently located in Iowa City. Correa grew up in Los Angeles, a place that heavily influenced his work.  
**12 P.M. | PUBLIC SPACE ONE  
229 N. GILBERT ST.**

## FAMILY FOLK MACHINE

Come celebrate Family Folk Machine's 10th anniversary and prepare a great batch of songs for a concert.  
**3 P.M. | IOWA CITY SENIOR CENTER  
28 S. LINN ST.**

## SUNDAY FUNNIES OPEN MIC

An open mic comedy hour at Joystick every Sunday.  
**9:30 P.M. | JOYSTICK COMEDY BAR & ARCADE  
13 S. LINN ST.**

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# Dakota Roberts

**Graphic design student's exhibition "The Bangin' Bodega" displayed absurd original alternate-reality ads and labels for products.**

Zhenya Loughney  
Arts Reporter

"Boys' Tears," "Magic Mushrooms," "Fresh Can of Bullshit," and "Dumb Bitch Juice" were all products available for purchase at one graphic design student's recent exhibit.

Dakota Roberts is a fourth-year student at the University of Iowa who will graduate with her Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design this May. Her senior exhibition "The Bangin' Bodega" explored joy through absurdity with reimagined ads and labels for alternate-reality products found at a local corner store. The exhibit ran from March 27 to April 1.

"I've always loved art my whole life ever since I can hold a crayon," Roberts said. "That's all I've been doing. I even once colored on my cat because I've loved art my whole life."

The entryway to the exhibit — set up in a gallery of the Visual Arts Building — welcomed attendees with a white doorway and signs that read, "No Shirts, No Shoes, No Service, Sorry Hippies" and "ATM Not Available Inside."

"[The entryway] was one of my favorite things to build because I wanted to have that storefront effect. So, me and my dad created this," Roberts said. "I'm really happy with the way all of the branded aspects and the little store signs pull it all together."

After walking through the front door, visitors were met with a miniature bodega with absurd ads posted on the walls that read "Knuckle Sandwich \$8.99," "Devil's Lettuce: Grown in Some Dude's Basement \$15/gram," "All Clothing 100% Off," "Boys' Tears \$6.99/pack," "Forbidden Fruit 50 percent Off," and more. At the toy cash register stationed to the right of the door, visitors could take a printed card of the ads as a souvenir.

"I really like when people can relate to my art and maybe get a little laugh out of it as well," Rob-

erts said. "Because there's times these projects are very serious and everything like that. It's nice to put a really fun spin on it."

Everything in the exhibit boasted a vivid yet cool-toned color palette to emphasize the kidlike nature Roberts aimed for. The typography used was soft and gradient, reminiscent of the early 2000s and calling back to Roberts' own childhood. Growing up in a suburb north of Chicago, Roberts said bodegas bring her many positive memories.

"I was inspired by the lots of bodegas by where I used to live as a kid," Roberts said. "And they have big posters with the name of the item and the price and all that. And I thought I could take that and kind of do my own take on it."

Originally intending to hand draw everything, Roberts' plan was quickly halted. Halfway through the exhibit's development, Roberts broke her wrist because of a snowboarding accident, but she still completed it. She learned more about digital art and color illustration in the process by turning away from a coloring pencil and toward a computer mouse.

All of the exhibition's fake products were made from recycled containers from real-world products, with Roberts' labeling repackaging them. The products themselves consisted of labels like a "Do-It-Yourself-Lobotomy Kit" taped onto a box, "Bong Water" stuck to a soda can, "Instant Rizz" in a squirt bottle, "Chill Pills" in a small box, and "Sweet Nothings" in a larger box.

Every product was unique yet cohesive — believably only available in Roberts' alternate reality — bringing levity to graphic design as Roberts intended.

"I really like fun, unique things that are really different and humorous and make people laugh," Roberts said. "So, I really wanted to lean into that and show that graphic design isn't all just boring stuff."

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## REVIEW



FEEDBACK

# Lana Del Rey's latest album reflects on life and love

**"Did you know that there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd" released March 24 and explores new musical and lyrical ground, which sets it apart from Del Rey's previous music.**

Emma Gaughan  
Arts Reporter

An emotional and intimate journey that recounts past experiences and reflects on life and love, Lana Del Rey's ninth studio album "Did you know that there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd" was released March 24. It contains 16 songs that each add something a little different to the album's theme.

The album is musically diverse, containing notable themes of gospel music. The album was surprisingly religious, too. While Del Rey has used religious imagery in previous albums, this one embraces it more than in the past, as it includes a song titled, "Judah Smith Interlude," which is a recording of a preacher over some quiet melodies. "Margaret" and "Sweet" also follow gospel musical themes.

Some songs met my expectations of Del Rey but still display her growth as an artist and a person. Other songs are definitely new moves from the artist, reflecting on who she has been and who she wants to be — sometimes by literally using old music, such as in "Taco Truck x VB," which references her music from 2019.

The album's first track is called "The Grants," which starts off with a choral acapella section — a very different take on Del Rey's usual sound. Once the main bulk of the song started, it sounded a lot more like a typical song from her. The rest of the album followed suit, with new and experimental sounds in between more of her old sound.

While some songs reflect on her character and experience as a human, others reflect on her media presence, such as "A&W" and "Fingertips," which do a bit of both. These songs are reflective of her past, discussing her childhood and other past experiences that have stuck with her. Despite their similar themes, the songs have a unique sound, story, and lyrics, creating different feelings for the listener.

Del Rey's reflections on past and present is represented in the music: melancholic and quiet for many of the songs, but at times heavier and darker for others. "Fishtail" and "Peppers" are songs with louder beats and darker tones, with "Peppers" standing out as a different tone from the rest of the album.

The album largely follows lyrically darker subject matter, discussing her life and other topics blatantly unfiltered. This is common in Del Rey's songs. The artist is unafraid to say what she thinks and does not avoid any subjects. Her lyrics are open and honest, sometimes in a train-of-thought manner that feels deeply personal.

The album was overall beautiful and moving, a melancholic and emotional experience that certainly explored new forms of music. At times, I felt her songs were a bit boring and repetitive, but others were consistently interesting, making "Did you know that there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd" worth the listen.

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STREAMING

# Chupa

**Genre:** Fantasy adventure  
**Starring:**  
Demián Bichir  
Christian Slater  
Evan Whitten  
Ashley Ciarra  
Nickolas Verdugo

## Parker Jones

Arts Editor

After a history of supernatural successes like "Stranger Things" and "Wednesday," Netflix is taking another mystical step with its newest original movie. On April 7, the fantasy adventure film "Chupa" will premiere on the streaming service.

The film will follow a teenage boy from Kansas City named Alex who discovers a legendary Chupacabra while on a family trip to Mexico. After

befriending the creature in his grandfather's shed, Alex and his cousins accompany the mythical animal, nicknamed Chupa, on an adventure across Mexico.

"Chupa" is directed by Mexican filmmaker Jonás Cuarón, which he also co-wrote with screenwriters Marcus Rinehart, Sean Kennedy Moore, and Joe Barnathan. The film's title was announced in 2021 but was met with criticism because the word chupa can also be a slang term for fellatio in Spanish.

Despite this, stars like Mexican actor Demián Bichir and American actor Christian Slater were announced with leading roles in the film. Additional cast members include up-and-comers Evan Whitten as Alex, Ashley Ciarra as his cousin Luna, and Nickolas Verdugo as another cousin named Memo.

Although its name spawned controversy, the film has been met with excitement and adoration from audiences, mainly about the animated Chupacabra's design that puts a cute spin on a creature usually depicted as scary or evil. The film's trailer on Netflix garnered 3.4 million views in its first two weeks, which may foreshadow "Chupa's" critical success for the streaming site.

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PLAYLIST

**RAINY DAY MIX**

**SHOW ME HOW** | Men I Trust

**UMBRELLA** | Rihanna

**COME BACK TO EARTH** | Mac Miller

**RAINY DAY LOOP** | SALES

**SLEEP TALKING** | Indigo De Souza

## COVER

# Hailey Whitters sells out 'Raised' tour performance at Wildwood

**Whitters' latest album "Raised" is based on the singer-songwriter's experiences growing up in a small town in Iowa.**

Stella Shipman  
Arts Reporter

Hailey Whitters took to the stage Thursday at the Wildwood Smokehouse and Saloon in Iowa City to a sold-out show during the last weekend of her "Raised" tour.

Cowboy boot heels clicked on the saloon's wooden floors, lights bathed their rustic beams in colorful rays, and Busch Lights were stacked sky-high.

The concert showcased some of her most popular pieces as well as some songs from her latest album, "Raised," which released March 2022. Whitters announced on stage that "Raised" was inspired by her experiences growing up in Iowa.

Originally from Shueville, Iowa, Whitters has been performing live since she was 26 years old. For the last 16 years, she has pursued music in Nashville.

"Raised" is her fourth album and her first to reach the Billboard charts. Whitters was also nominated for a Grammy award in 2022 for Song of the Year with her track "A Beautiful Noise."

Stephen Wilson Jr., who is a fellow country singer-songwriter from Southern Indiana, opened the show. His music videos have won several film festival awards, and he has played with musical groups on national and international tours.

Wilson Jr. collaborated with Whitters on his latest single, "American Gothic," which debuted March 24. During his set, he pulled Hailey onstage to perform it with him, rounding out the song with their rich harmonies.

Wilson Jr. switched between two acoustic guitars during his set, which also featured Scotty Murray on soundboard, who lended each song the sounds of other instruments beneath Wilson Jr.'s intricate guitar chords.

The singer's bass voice rang with sultry vibrato, and every note flowed effortlessly. His lyrics painted nostalgic pictures of childhood moments and explored his Midwestern sense of identity.

Wilson Jr. was followed off the stage before Whitters took the spotlight. She was joined by several bandmates, including Trent Armstrong on drums, Ethan Burks on guitar, Mike Reilly on bass, and Sedra Bistodeau on fiddle.

With a pink and white dress and a fuchsia bow in her blond hair, Whitters was a vibrant presence on stage.

From the moment her set began, Whitters made a powerful connection with her audience. She linked fingers with the waving front row and blew kisses to the balcony, much to the adoration of fans.

To establish the tone for the concert, Whitters started her set with "How I Was Raised" and then moved right into an upbeat second song. Bistodeau introduced the fiddle to Whitters' music, offering her sound a bluegrass element, and contributed high harmonies to several pieces.

Whitters' narrative lyrics covered a wide range of topics, including love stories, self-acceptance, and friendships — a variety to which listeners attribute their enjoyment.

Attendee Courtleigh Stroughmatt from Wapello, Iowa, was introduced to Whitters' music by her friend Julia Wisnom, whom she went to Whitters' concert with, along with their friends Naomi Jaeger and Maryellen Baldwin.

"Honestly, before I met [Julia], I didn't know who [Whitters] was, and then I listened to her music, and I can relate so much more to her music than to most people that are out there nowadays," Stroughmatt said. "I love her music now that I know who she is and I can relate to who she is."

For several songs, Whitters also played the guitar, adding acoustic sounds to the twang of Burks' electric guitar and the foundational depth of Reilly's bass.

Among the songs that Whitters played from "Raised" were "College Town" and "Beer Tastes Better," both of which are about Whitters' life growing up in Iowa — another relatable aspect of her music.

"She's from Iowa, so she knows the living from around here," Jaeger said. "I'm from a small town, too, so I get where she's coming from."

Whitters' audience was incredibly responsive during the night, especially when it came to a particular song from her new album: "Plain Jane." Though Whitters sang the song, she hardly needed to because her fans sang it so passionately for her.

By the end of her set, after three encore songs and a grateful farewell, Whitters stepped off the stage and greeted fans on the floor. She left a powerful impression on her listeners, who have no doubt that she will continue to take the world of country music by storm.

"She's the next Shania Twain," Baldwin said.

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# Local theater scene continues to grow

Iowa City's theater scene flourishes as companies emerge and support local performers.

Stella Shipman  
Arts Reporter

Local theaters are booming in Iowa City through collaborations, new building openings, and an exciting season of shows.

Riverside Theatre, Willow Creek Theatre, Iowa City Community Theatre, and Run of the Mill Theatre Productions collaborated in Dreamwell's "All in a Day" event on March 10. Members of the companies were randomly grouped and tasked with producing a play that they would perform the next morning.

This collaboration allowed companies to crossover and learn more about one another in a show of support.

"We share technical stuff a lot. We work really closely with [other theaters] and really collaborate pretty well to make sure that we're not stepping on each other's toes," Dreamwell's Artistic Director Matthew Brewbaker, said. "I think it's fantastic that we've got so many opportunities, and there are enough variations on the types of live theater that we feel like we're able to

on the Pedestrian Mall in February 2022, is a vast economic booster because it has the budget to pay its performers more than other theaters.

The new building allows the theater to produce shows like "Fefu and Her Friends," which required the settings of several areas besides the stage and facilitated the movement of the audience around the space.

Riverside also expands Iowa City's influence as a town for the arts by bringing in regionally and nationally recognized actors for shows and local performers. Along with local productions, the theater organizes world and regional premieres during the year.

Since its founding in 1982, Riverside has valued itself as a theater that constantly pushes itself to pursue challenging works and expand its horizons.

"We aim to be doing work that's not only Iowa City-good but also at a regional and national level," Adam Knight, Riverside Theatre's producing artistic director, said. "A place not only for local talent but also to bring in outside professionals



Grace Kreber/The Daily Iowan

Willow Creek Theater Co. presented "Melancholy Play" by Sarah Ruhl and directed by Regen Kuker. This play was performed Sept. 9-12, 2021. The play follows a young woman, Tilly, who seems to attract everyone she meets until her melancholy goes away, and her connections change.

**“We aim to be doing work that's not only Iowa City-good but also at a regional and national level.”**

— Adam Knight, Riverside Theatre's producing artistic director

help each other without potentially hurting each other."

Other local performance venues include the Englert Theatre, Hancher Auditorium, the Iowa City Community Theatre, the James Theatre, and Run of the Mill Theatre Productions.

Not only is theater a driver of engagement, but it also helps boost the economy. Riverside Theatre, which opened its doors in a new space

to continue to challenge ourselves, to continue to widen that circle and that conversation, and to make a reputation for ourselves outside of the corridor."

Riverside will continue to further its mission in the future and raise the bar for itself, Knight said.

"Now that we're entering this new phase of operations after the worst of the pandemic, our challenge is to continue to fill the space and to fill a role

in downtown Iowa City," Knight said. "So, our aspirations are to continue to produce at a very high level and to be engaging more and more of the community in that process."

Every theater company is unique. For example, while Riverside's designated space is a defining factor of the theater, the Dreamwell Theatre Company's productions premiere on various stages.

Founded in 1997 by a group of college students involved in theater, Dreamwell considers itself what Brewbaker calls a theater of exploration. Dreamwell is always exploring the production of shows that other theaters may be more hesitant to pursue, whether for financial reasons or the possibility of social controversy.

When producing an original show written by community members, Dreamwell is even more inspired to pursue them to recognize local talent.

Dreamwell President Madonna Smith said she is grateful for the growth she has been able to encourage in local artists and herself.

"The other thing that's really my biggest reward is providing opportunities for people to make art," Smith said. "We had a woman that came back after she had taken a 25-year hiatus, and she came back and acted with us. And now she's into directing, and she's still acting and doing other things."

Dreamwell's primary performance space is the Artifactory on Dubuque Street, but it is currently searching for a designated theater. Despite this search, Dreamwell has been able to present powerful shows like "the fog comes on little cat feet" at the Artifactory and other temporary spaces.

The youngest of the local theater companies in Iowa City is Willow Creek Theatre on Gilbert Street,

which became an officially recognized nonprofit organization in 2020.

Willow Creek is another theater that appreciates the importance of compensating local performers so they have enough money to afford groceries, according to their website. At the same time, the theater tries to produce every show on a limited budget.

"I would say that, artistically, something that really motivates me and something I get a lot of joy out of is producing shows in cheap but effective ways," Luke Brooks, co-founder of Willow Creek, said. "I think that's what really being an artist is. It's taking the mundane and putting it together in interesting and creative ways to make the world better."

Willow Creek sets itself apart from other theaters in several ways, including through devising theater, according to the company's Executive Director

Brigid Martin.

"Our sort of major focus right now that we began last year was devising theater, which means that we gather a group of people and then they write, develop and produce the show as a group," said Martin. "It's really magical because you get perspectives that never would have come up with something like that on their own."

Along with devising theater, Willow Creek is proud of its mission to enlighten every production with joy and to enrich the community with improv.

"I personally love improv very, very much," Brooks said. "It's very dear to my heart. I'm getting to see that community starting to really blossom in a way that I feel like it has always been primed to do. It has really just been an honor to be a part of doing that work."

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## The Daily Break

The New York Times  
Crossword

Puzzle solutions on page 2A

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0301

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ACROSS

- 1 Like some plants that don't need watering
- 5 "G'day, \_\_\_!"
- 9 French destination that's one of UNESCO's "Great Spa Towns of Europe"
- 14 October birthstone
- 15 Bun holder, so to speak
- 16 Allergic reaction
- 17 Hark! And hear of the vengeful ruler who took great pleasure in expelling disloyal subjects, for he was the ...
- 20 Apt recourse for a deal gone sour?
- 21 Lead-in to an alias
- 22 Kind of computer port
- 24 Tiny tunneler
- 25 What a pitcher allows in a baseball shutout
- 28 Listen now! And I shall relate the story of the curious sovereign who adorned his castle with images of red fruit, for he was the ...
- 31 Common theme park sight
- 32 "Au contraire, \_\_\_ frère"
- 33 CPR provider
- 34 \_\_\_ Day (Down Under holiday)
- 36 Young seal
- 38 Longtime "Wheel of Fortune" host Pat
- 42 Sellout sign
- 44 Glimpsed
- 46 Walker's aid
- 47 Lend me your ear! And I will speak of the clumsy monarch who took twice as many golf strokes as his opponents, for he was the ...
- 50 Ice cream order
- 51 Fury
- 52 Guitarist Paul
- 53 Quaint lodging
- 54 Letter opening
- 57 Give heed! And listen to my tale of the mad tyrant who decreed that all toilets in his realm be installed the wrong way, for he was the ...
- 62 Worrier's words
- 63 Element of the Vegas strip?
- 64 French girlfriend
- 65 Like many attics
- 66 Zesty flavor
- 67 Holler

DOWN

- 1 Dandy
- 2 Donkey Kong, e.g.
- 3 German engineer who designed and built the first practical automobile (1885)
- 4 Otherwise
- 5 Cher or Madonna, e.g.
- 6 Experimental-but-accessible music genre
- 7 What a poker player wears shades to hide
- 8 With all judges present
- 9 Mobile dwelling for modern nomads
- 10 "So gross!"
- 11 Award-winning science fiction writer Ted
- 12 Din from a gaggle
- 13 Class with mats

- 18 \_\_\_ Little, "The Wire" antihero
- 19 Came to
- 22 Sch. whose newspaper is the Daily Bruin
- 23 Knee/ankle connector
- 26 Parts of glasses
- 27 Remove from a bulletin board, say
- 29 What "Why?" tries to uncover
- 30 Occupied
- 35 Gunk
- 37 French for "butterfly"
- 39 Certain legal consequence
- 40 Hathaway of film
- 41 Beer holders
- 43 With Springsteen, co-host of the podcast "Renegades: Born in the USA"
- 45 "Over There," e.g.
- 47 Chowderheads
- 48 Discovered, British-style
- 49 Move, in real estate jargon
- 50 Screw-up
- 53 Footnote abbr.
- 55 It's just a thought
- 56 Verbal thumbs-up
- 58 Dennings of "2 Broke Girls"
- 59 Ironically humorous
- 60 Zilch
- 61 Come together, as plans

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### EASTER SERVICES:

Join us in person or live via our YouTube channel, St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel Iowa City

**Maunder Thursday - 7:00 PM**  
**Good Friday - 7:00 PM**  
**Easter Sunday - 9:00 AM**

Website: [stpaulic.com](http://stpaulic.com) - check out our website for a calendar of upcoming events  
 Facebook: St Pauls Lutheran Chapel and University Center • Twitter: @StPaulsIowaCity





My cup is not my consent

Using alcohol to get sex is sexual assault



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-  May help deter theft



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## CONOR HANICK WITH KEIR GOGWILT AND JAY CAMPBELL

**\$10**  
STUDENT & YOUTH TICKETS

Friday, April 14, 7:30 pm

Iowa City native Conor Hanick has been called the "soloist of choice for...thorny works" by *The New York Times* and is a champion of many composers of his own generation—as well as a brilliant performer of works by the full range of great composers. Hancher welcomes Hanick home for a performance that will feature solo, duo, and trio works.

**TICKETS**  
 Adults \$20 / \$25 / \$30  
 College Students \$10 / \$10 / \$24  
 Youth \$10 / \$10 / \$24

**EVENT PARTNERS**  
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 Candace Wiebener



## EMERSON STRING QUARTET

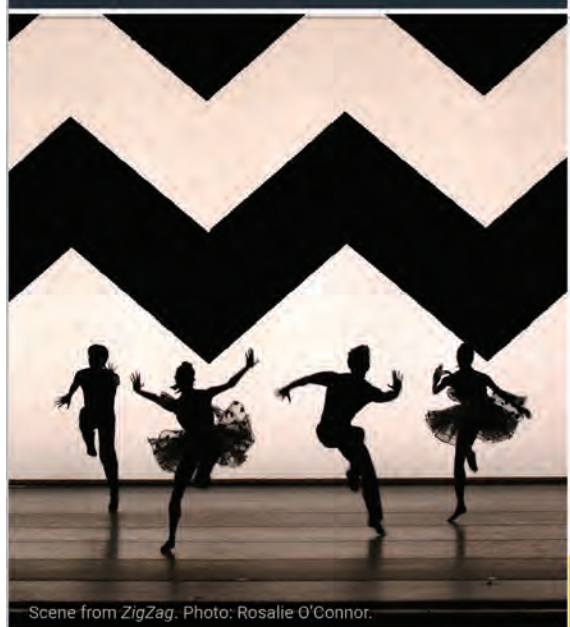
**\$10**  
STUDENT & YOUTH TICKETS

Friday, April 21, 7:30 pm

Undeniably one of the finest string quartets of the last four decades, the Emerson String Quartet has announced it will disband in 2023. Hancher is proud to once again present these incomparable musicians as part of their final tour. Don't miss your last chance to experience this essential ensemble live.

**TICKETS**  
 Adults \$40 / \$55 / \$60  
 College Students \$10 / \$10 / \$48  
 Youth \$10 / \$10 / \$48

**EVENT PARTNERS**  
 Bill and Fran Albrecht  
 Richard and Judith Hurtig



## AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Saturday, May 6, 7:30 pm

Over the last several years, American Ballet Theatre has delivered astonishing performances for Hancher audiences—including the whimsical *Whipped Cream* and an incredible outdoor show on the Fourth of July in 2021. Now the Company returns to close Hancher's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with a mixed repertory program—including *ZigZag*, choreographed by Jessica Lang to music by Tony Bennett—that is sure to thrill and delight everyone who experiences it.

**TICKETS**  
 Adults \$70 / \$85 / \$95  
 College Students \$56 / \$68 / \$76  
 Youth \$56 / \$68 / \$76

**EVENT PARTNERS**  
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 Robert and Karlen Fellows  
 Sue and Joan Strauss  
 LaDonna and Gary Wicklund

→ TICKETS AT 800-HANCHER OR HANCHER.UIOWA.EDU

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