

# The Daily Iowan

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## EXPLAINER

# UI DEI offices evaluate regent recommendations

The university could restructure diversity-related offices nonessential to accreditation.

Kate Perez

Senior Reporter

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The University of Iowa will have to revamp its diversity, equity, and inclusion departments, offices, policies, and efforts across campus after recommendations from the Iowa

Board of Regents were approved earlier this month following a months-long DEI study at regent institutions.

The approval, which came on Nov. 16 at the regents' meeting after over an hour of deliberation, will result in the restructuring of multiple DEI-related departments and groups for compliance and accreditation at all public

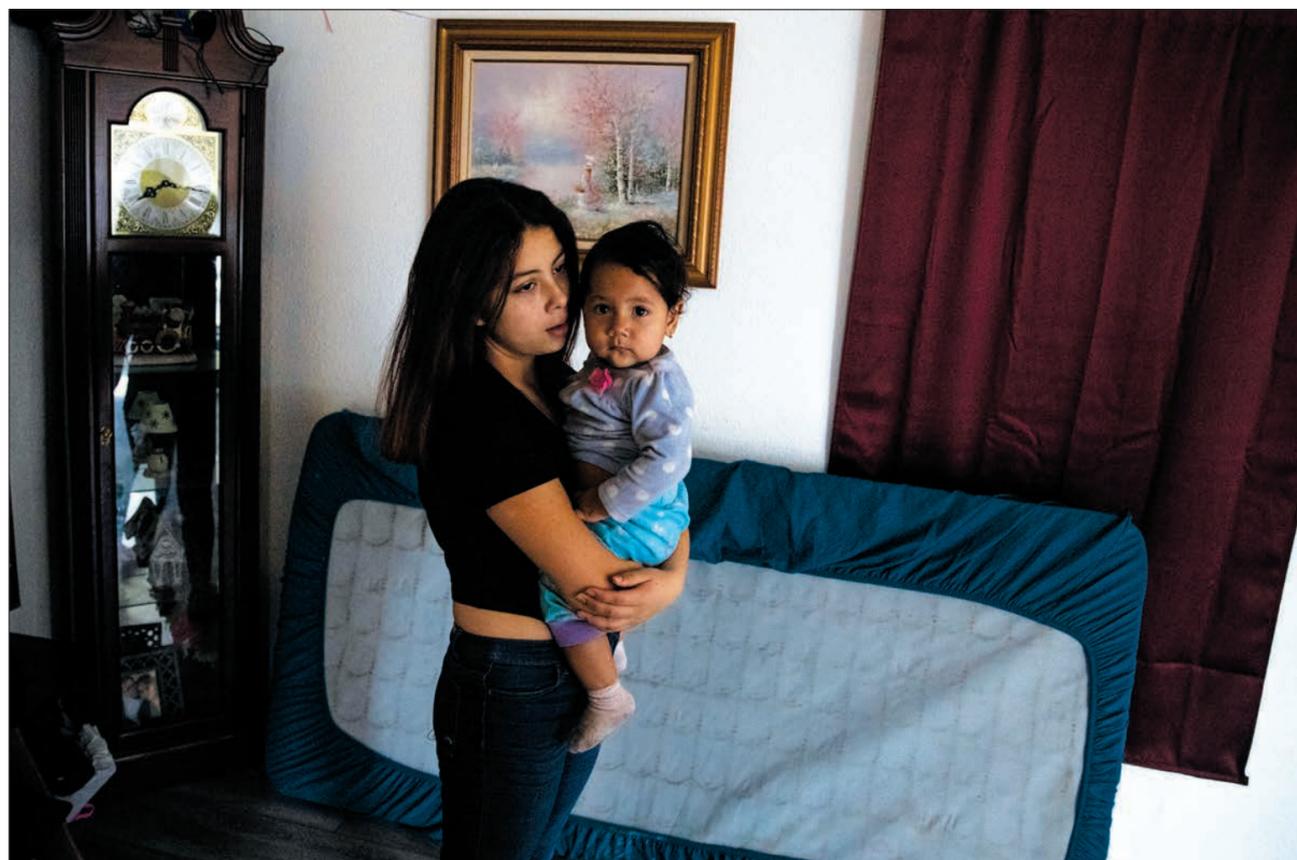
universities in Iowa.

Regents President Mike Richards first created the study group in March to investigate the need for DEI programs and initiatives at the three regent universities. The study was completed earlier this semester, with

DEI | 2A

# Housing code changes divide IC

The various amendments to the Iowa City housing code have polarized citizens' opinions.



Jordan Barry | The Daily Iowan

Members of the Vasquez Saravia family stand in front of an overturned bed during a visit to their residence at Cole's Mobile Home Court in Iowa City on Nov. 25. Eleven adults and eight kids share the limited living space as well as a bathroom in the trailer home. The National Low Income Housing Coalition reported that 55 percent of all Johnson County renters are housing cost-burdened.

Isabelle Foland

News Reporter

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When Danixa Johanna Saravia Santos returns home from her job as a house cleaner, her trailer home is bustling with 11 other adults and eight children. When she walks into the kitchen, her foot sinks down because of the home's uneven floor due to leaky pipes underneath that they can't afford to repair.

Saravia Santos is one of many immigrants and refugee residents in Iowa City who lives in poor conditions because she can't afford the cost of living anywhere else in the city.

The National Low Income Housing Coalition reported that 55 percent of all Johnson County renters are housing cost-burdened and 38 percent of renters in the county are severely housing cost-burdened.

She is also a member of Escucha Mi Voz, a community organization that advocates for the rights and equitable treatment of immigrants and refugees in Iowa City.

At the last few Iowa City City Council meetings, Escucha Mi Voz members have packed the council chambers to speak during public comment about their living conditions. At the Nov. 6 meeting and meetings prior, several members spoke of bus routes not adequately serving their neighborhoods and rodent and roach-infested

living quarters on top of unaffordable rent.

These members have spoken in favor of the various housing code amendments that are being discussed in the city council. These code changes aim to make housing design and zoning regulations more flexible in the hopes of increasing housing supply and thus making housing more affordable.

"As immigrants and refugees, we are facing problems and the solutions are in your hands. Housing is one of the major problems we are facing."

Clinton Dimambu

Escucha Mi Voz member

At the Oct. 17 city council meeting, Clinton Dimambu, an Escucha Mi Voz member and refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, read a statement in support of the housing code changes during public comment.

Dimambu also said the city council should invest money into creating affordable housing in addition to passing the code changes to further help address the housing crisis Iowa City's immigrant and refugee community is going through.

"As immigrants and refugees, we are facing problems and the solutions are in your hands. Housing is one of the major problems we are facing," Dimambu said.

At the Nov. 6 city council meeting, the first set of these amendments was officially passed and adopted into the code. At that same meeting, another set of code changes related to accessory dwelling units — also known as in-law suites — started the process of being passed.

At the city council meetings where these amendments have been discussed, there have been just as many community members who have expressed concern with the amendments as those who have spoken in favor of them.

Former Iowa City mayor Jim Throgmorton, who lives on the northside neighborhood in Iowa City, said he has lived in Iowa City since 1986 and has been a renter, landlord, and homeowner in his time here.

Throgmorton said he feels for the immigrant and refugee community in Iowa City and wants affordable housing for them as well as any other people wanting to live in the city, including students. However, he said the amendments the city is discussing are not guaranteed to target this issue.

While increasing housing supply could potentially drive down the cost of housing, it is not certain, Throgmorton said. He is concerned

HOUSING | 3A

# Home rehabilitation grants to residents

JoCo officials allocated an additional \$100,000 to residents to help with high living costs.

Roxy Ekberg

News Reporter

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According to its yearly affordable housing report, Johnson County has the highest percentage of cost-burdened households in Iowa. Renters in Iowa City are considered the most cost-burdened in the county.

Data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition shows that 55 percent of U.S. renters were reported as cost-burdened, with 17 percent of homeowners cost-burdened.

Johnson County Social Services Director Lynette Jacoby presented the report to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors. She said affordable housing is an ongoing issue in Johnson County because of a rapidly increasing population, with lackluster increases in the housing supply that combine with a high cost of living and relatively low wages.

Additionally, University of Iowa students and county residents must compete for low-rent housing.

The housing report stated households with the lowest incomes are disproportionately cost-burdened — 92 percent of extremely low-income and 67 percent of very low-income households are housing cost-burdened.

Extremely low income was defined as a four-person household earning less than \$34,600



Sara Stumpf | The Daily Iowan

A Johnson County Board of Supervisors meeting is held at the Johnson County Administration Building in Iowa City on Aug. 30. The supervisors voted to allocate additional ARPA funding for housing rehabilitation.

JOCO | 2A

**DEI**  
from 1A

an opportunity in August for the community to provide feedback. The final report was included with the regents' agenda for its Nov. 16-17 meeting.

The group and study were created in response to proposed bills from the Iowa Legislature that would defund, investigate, and restrict DEI programs at the three state universities. Consequently, Richards paused the implementation of new DEI programs at the three regent schools following the investigation, while existing programs could continue to operate.

Now, the UI will restructure and reevaluate DEI-related issues across campus based on recommendations that were presented by the study group — made up of regents Jim Lindenmayer, Greta Rouse, and David Barker, along with regents staff.

**Regent study group presents changes to faculty policies, DEI offices**

The study group presented a total of 10 recommendations to the regents involving the restructuring of DEI at the state universities, including the restructuring of the central DEI offices to eliminate anything DEI-related that is not required for compliance or accreditation.

According to the report, a concern was that services provided by the decentralized DEI offices were not being offered to all students.

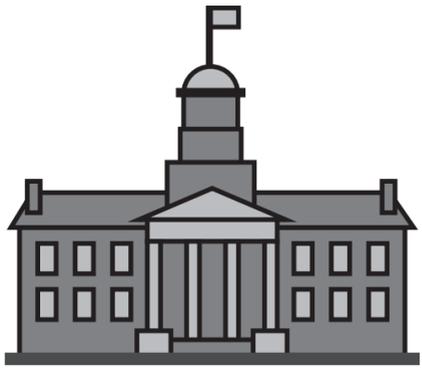
One specific area mentioned in this recommendation was the UI Office of Multicultural & International Student Support & Engagement since its programming is "centered on minority or underrepresented populations," meaning that interested students could reasonably interpret the services provided as "being limited to minority students."

"The study group agrees that staff in decentralized units and multicultural centers offer some important services that support student success, although better efforts could be made to assure that students understand that all are welcome," the report read.

The list also touched on DEI offices at regent universities, recommending the review of all "college, department, or unit-level DEI positions" to examine which, if any, DEI-related job responsibilities were necessary for compliance, accreditation, or student and employee support services.

According to the report, if the review finds that any DEI-related jobs or positions are not important or essential, it is recommended that those job responsibilities are eliminated or adjusted. The review would also examine positions or working titles to ensure the titles accurately reflected the jobs' responsibilities.

The presentation of the findings was met with some disagreements and resistance, specifically on recommendations one, two, eight, and nine of the study group's report. On recommendations one and two, which focused



**Recommendations on DEI programs accepted by the regents:**

1. Restructuring of all DEI offices nonessential to compliance and accreditation
2. A review of all college, department, and unit-level DEI-related positions to see which are nonessential to compliance and accreditation
3. Ensure that all DEI-related offices are available to all students and provide support for multicultural affairs and diversity
4. No employee, student, or other faculty member is required to state their pronouns upon application or submit a DEI statement
5. Development of regents policy stating admissions cannot be based on race
6. A review of all DEI-related general education courses to ensure that students have a wide array of courses to choose from to fulfill their requirements
7. Issuing standard employee guidance regarding separating personal political advocacy
8. Exploration of recruitment strategies that advance diversity in faculty and staff pools
9. Exploration, as amended at the Nov. 16 meeting, of a proposal that would include free speech and civic education training
10. Reminder issued by the regents on requirements in university websites



Cody Blissett | The Daily Iowan

Iowa Board of Regents Member David Barker observes a presentation during a board meeting in Cedar Falls, Iowa, on Nov. 15. The University of Iowa will have to restructure multiple DEI-related departments and groups for compliance and accreditation following an regents decision on Nov. 16.

on the restructuring of DEI offices and the reviewing of all positions, most of the regents voted yes, except for Nancy Dunkel and Abby Crow.

Recommendation eight was to find ways to advance the diversity of "intellectual and philosophical perspective" for the pool of faculty and staff applicants.

"The Study Group notes that universities across the country have or are considering the establishment of centers, institutes, or similar initiatives dedicated to freedom of expression and civic education," the report read. "The Study Group recommends that the regent universities evaluate whether such an initiative could be efficiently and effectively implemented within the regent system."

The last recommendation separated for individual discussion and vote was recommendation nine. This recommendation was to develop a proposal that would establish a widespread initiative that includes an opportunity for education and research on free speech and civic education.

For this recommendation, the study group focused on statements from the universities and each respective DEI office at the universities. They noted that some of these groups had published statements that the group believed could be perceived as being representative of the whole school, or in other cases, differed from the regents.

Following the presentation of the findings, regent Dunkel said she disagreed with the recommendations.

"We need to use our good judgment to steward the institutional systems forward," Dunkel said at the meeting. "We have a fiduciary duty of loyalty to our region schools' mission, and we're supposed to stay independent and faithfully serve our institutions over our other interests."

This prompted regents Lindenmayer and Barker to further discuss the study group's findings.

Lindenmayer said the group's report was sufficiently vague to give regents the latitude to continue to serve their students and also address the concerns that come from state legislators.

"It is of critical importance that our academic programs and institution prepare our students for successful post-graduate careers in a increasingly global and diverse workplace."

**Ed Gillan**  
UI Faculty Senate President

"I understand the concerns of the four points, and I think they're relevant concerns to be addressed, but I'm not sure even the study committee knows enough about the detail of how these will be implemented to make a recommendation here," Lindenmayer said at the meeting.

Regent Crow asked for recommendations eight and nine to be pulled from the initial vote with Dunkel asking for recommendations one and two to be pulled as well.

The regents then proceeded to vote on recommendations three through seven and recommendation ten. All regents voted yes except for Lindenmayer when Dunkel motioned to reconsider the vote after a brief recess. She proceeded to vote no, while Lindenmayer changed his vote to yes.

On recommendation eight, all regents voted yes, except Dunkel, Lindenmayer, and Crow. On recommendation nine, the dissenting votes came from Dunkel and Barker after the passing of amended language.

Regents Crow and Dunkel disagreed with the adoption of the four recommendations. "I have full faith in our institutions' ability to evaluate what services to offer for our students," Crow said at the meeting. "I do value the importance of having internalized structures that support our students in a variety of ways."

Crow said she could not support the recommendations as it goes against students' comments and what many have come to her to talk about.

"I want to support the students that my constituency and I represent," Crow said at the meeting.

**UI stakeholders respond to required changes**

Multiple UI offices, groups, and departments have issued statements following the regents' decision earlier this month, including The Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

According to a Nov. 16 statement written by UI Executive Officer and Associate Vice President of Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Liz Tovar and UI Vice President for External Relations and Senior Advisor to the

"We have a fiduciary duty of loyalty to our region schools' mission, and we're supposed to stay independent and faithfully serve our institutions over our other interests."

**Nancy Dunkel**  
Iowa Board of Regents member

President Peter Matthes, the recommendations are an opportunity to use the current DEI initiatives in a way that aligns and ensures compliance and accreditation.

"We know there will be many questions from students, faculty, and staff regarding how this will impact the university's ability to provide a welcoming and inclusive campus," the statement reads. "We want to provide the campus with some information about the recommendations to address some of the questions."

UI Faculty Senate President Ed Gillan wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan* that while faculty will be impacted by the study and the soon-to-be-implemented changes, he is hopeful that the updates will have a positive effect.

"I see value in UI's proposed review of our current campus DEI efforts and its structure and function," he wrote. "I think we will find that UI already conducts much of its DEI work within the framework of federal rules, academic accreditation standards, as well as NCAA and federal research grant agency requirements."

Gillan added he is optimistic that the UI task force will find ways to improve the university's DEI effectiveness as it continues to "serve the needs of our faculty, students, and staff."

"It is of critical importance that our academic programs and institution prepare our students for successful post-graduate careers in an increasingly global and diverse workplace," he wrote.

Additionally, some programs have released statements in light of the regents' approval, including the UI Honors Program. In an email sent to students on Nov. 15, the letter states that the recommendations will represent a change to "the structure and delivery of some services on campus," but not the university's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

"This is also true of the commitment of the Honors Program to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment that is supportive of all identities, both visible and invisible," it states. "To help sustain our culture of accepting and uplifting students from all backgrounds and experiences, we are encouraging students to create a registered student organization focused on diversity and inclusion to support belonging and community in the Honors Program."

**Other areas of impact**

The news of the new requirements comes as colleges and universities across the United States change their admissions policies in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's Affirmative Action ruling earlier this year. Chris Brewer, UI public relations manager, wrote in an email to the *DI* that the study will not have an impact on the UI's undergraduate admissions process.

"Students are admitted to the state's three public universities based on their Regents Admission Index or RAI score, which is calculated on their academic and extracurricular achievements," he wrote.

**Next steps for UI DEI**

As the UI moves to implement the recommendations, a task force will be created to "review and evaluate the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and all campus-related diversity and inclusion efforts," according to the UI diversity website.

The task force will provide recommendations to UI President Barbara Wilson and Provost Kevin Kregel by March 2024. Those recommendations will then be shared with the regents at its April 2024 meeting.

*Alejandro Rojas and Shreya Reddy contributed to this report.*

**CORRECTION**

In a Nov. 14 article "Mercy IC officially a UI asset after months-long saga," a previous version of this article said Steindler Orthopedic Clinic objected to the sale of Mercy Iowa City. Steindler Orthopedic Clinic objected to any assignment of contracts between Steindler and Mercy to any other party. *The Daily Iowan* regrets this error.

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**HOUSING**  
from 1A

that investors looking to make a profit will instead take the increased flexibility the changes allow to build more expensive housing.

A particular area of concern for like-minded citizens is the area around the University of Iowa. Some residents, including Throgmorton, worry that the nearby historic neighborhoods will be overrun with rental properties, which could disrupt their character.

Sharon DeGraw, another community member from the northside neighborhood, said the area would likely be impacted the most by these changes because of its proximity to campus, which concerns her in relation to the neighborhood's character.

"If you have protected historical areas that are right next to unprotected historical areas, if something goes up that's inexpensive housing and that's very tall ... I think that could introduce a different sort of energy into the neighborhood," DeGraw said.



Thomas

Some members have stated they would like to see the area around the UI have special exceptions and changes in the amendments to try to address some of these concerns. For example, Councilor John Thomas proposed changing the amendments so that duplexes built in the UI area are required to have one unit affordable for lower incomes.



Russett

In an email to *The Daily Iowan*, Anne Russett, the city's senior planner, wrote that regulations restricting rentals in certain areas could lead to barriers for people with lower incomes, disabilities, special needs, and more.

In terms of historical character, Russett wrote the city has several historic and conservation districts within the city that are there to address these concerns and preserve the historic character of the city's neighborhoods.

Russett wrote these amendments aim to make the city have more diverse housing types across its neighborhoods, which some community members have highlighted in their support of the changes.

Kelcey Patrick-Feree, a citizen in the south district, said



Jordan Barry | The Daily Iowan

Children of the Vasquez Saravia family acknowledge the camera in their home at Cole's Mobile Home Court in Iowa City on Nov. 25. Eleven adults and eight kids share the limited living space as well as a single bathroom in the trailer home. The National Low Income Housing Coalition reported that 38 percent of renters in the county are severely housing cost burdened.

mixing rental and single-family residential properties within a neighborhood could actually help increase neighborhood cohesion. She said if the city is segregated based on the different types of housing, it makes it so that people need to move from one part of the city to another as their living and financial situations change.

Patrick-Feree said she is glad the amendments are being discussed and passed, and she trusts the city to

take the necessary steps to make their implementation as smooth as possible.

"The whole point is to make Iowa City an easier place for more people to live, and I would find it very frustrating if [the] city council lost sight of that goal," Patrick-Feree said. "I trust city council to go ahead with these changes and then respond to problems that arise, not scuttle them for the sake of possible harms that we just don't know if they'll actually happen."

**JOCO**  
from 1A

while a household earning \$57,700 is low income.

Jacoby said communities across the country are grappling with affordable housing, and as federal pandemic funds dry up, many communities' affordable housing needs will only grow.

In terms of supply, the report revealed a hefty shortage of affordable housing. For extremely low-income renters, there is a shortage of 57,191 affordable homes for rent in Iowa.

Johnson County represents 14 percent of the overall statewide deficit, with a shortfall of 8,205 units.

According to the housing report, Johnson County has the lowest number of affordable and accessible units in the state, with only 18 units per 100 extremely low-income households.

As the housing problem looms, county officials continue to invest in solutions. The county's investment in affordable housing increased 102 percent from fiscal 2020 to fiscal 2023.

Jacoby credited the increase in investment to a reflection of the need for housing in the county, and the infusion of

American Rescue Plan Act funds has allowed the county to further invest in affordable housing.

She presented several recommendations to the supervisors and highlighted current programs alleviating the housing problem in the county, including emergency shelter and housing rehabilitation.

Johnson County Vice Chair Rod Sullivan said many of Jacoby's approaches have already been adopted, and affordable housing is a huge priority for all five supervisors, and he is very proud of the work they have done and continue to do.

At the Nov. 9 formal session, the supervisors unanimously approved \$100,000 in additional ARPA funding to the East Central Iowa Council of Governments for housing rehabilitation, modification, and emergency home repair.

Jacoby said housing rehabilitation helps retain affordable homeowners, maintain properties, and improve the health and safety of residents while preserving valuable affordable housing stock in the county.

Since its start in February, the housing rehabilitation program has approved 30 projects for low-income Johnson County residents.

The program's grantees, East Central Iowa Council of Gov-

ernments and Habitat for Humanity assist residents who live outside of Iowa City limits at 50 percent of the area median income, which is roughly \$40,000 for one person.

Deanna Robinson, an East Central Iowa Council of Governments housing specialist, said her phone was busy when the program was announced, and funding was requested because the program ran out of its initial funding, but received more applications.

"There's a high demand for home rehab, and so all of the programs we have are obligated fairly quickly," Robinson said. "It's very challenging if you're already cost-burdened with normal housing expenses when you have extra housing expenses, like replacing an appliance or something like that, it really strains the household budget."

Tracey Achenbach, East Central Iowa Council of Governments housing director, said because of the response the program has received from homeowners, it has met a need in the communities of Johnson County.

With the maximum amount a household can receive reaching \$12,000, Robinson and Achenbach estimated that the additional funds would allow the East Central Iowa Council of Governments to assist five to 10 more applicants.

# ImpactLife implements new donor assessment

The new FDA-approved assessment will allow men who have sex with men to donate blood.



Isabella Tisdale | The Daily Iowan

Kaitlyn Clark squeezes a ball while she donates blood at Impact Life in Coralville on Nov. 25. Impact life receives about 228,000 blood donations a year.

**Shreya Reddy**  
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Coralville blood donation center ImpactLife recently implemented a new assessment strategy following approval by the FDA to allow men who have sex with men to donate blood.

Located at 1801 Second St., the center implemented the strategy on Sept. 25. The new assessment established a new set of criteria for donors and was originally adopted and approved by the Food and Drug Administration in May.

Vice president of donor services at ImpactLife Pete Lux said the assessment comes after years of what is commonly known as a "blanket deferral," where all men who had sex with men in the last three months were automatically ineligible to donate blood, regardless of the circumstances.

With the implementation of the new assessment, the criteria for eligibility changed and is now more individualized, focusing on specific persons' sexual partners, Lux said.

The questions are now asked according to any new sexual partners in which there has been anal sex as well as whether or not the individual has had multiple partners in the past three months.

If individuals answer yes to either of these questions, Lux said, they are automatically deferred for a period of three months and are ineligible to donate.

"The assessment is meant to determine the risk the donor may pose on the blood supply," Lux said.

The concern was that those donors may potentially carry human immunodeficiency virus, commonly known as HIV.

With this new assessment, Lux said, individuals are still turned away at a much

lower rate than before to the implementation and for entirely different reasons.

Since Sept. 25, ImpactLife has turned away 20 individual donors, both male and female, Lux said. These deferrals have been for men who have sex with men, females whose sexual partners are men who have sex with men, malaria risk, medications, and other high-risk activities.

"The assessment is meant to determine the risk the donor may pose on the blood supply."

**Pete Lux**  
Vice president of donor services at ImpactLife

Kirby Winn, public relations manager for ImpactLife, said before the new guidelines, any man in a monogamous relationship having sex with another man was ineligible to donate.

"People have come through and been screened with the new questions, and we have received primarily positive feedback from donors and our community," Winn said.

Winn said, however, that if a donor has any concerns regarding the new assessment, they are directed to fill out the "EarlyQ," which allows donors to fill out the questions posed on the assessment in a private setting from the comfort of their own home on a computer or medical device prior to coming into the donation center.

"From time to time, we will hear concern regarding donor acceptance and eligibility criteria, and our staff will document those donor concerns," Winn said.

In the future, ImpactLife looks forward to holding events that prior to the as-

essment were never possible, Lux said. Though ImpactLife prides itself in diversity, equity, and inclusion, Winn said, blood collection hasn't been affiliated with LGBTQ+ organizations.

"We want to be focused on the authenticity of those relationships and we want people to know about this change and hopefully come in and donate," Winn said.

Lux said he wants people to feel included in this new assessment while also understanding that deferrals will still happen.

"This new set of criteria has become deferring potential donors based on an assessment of their actions, medications, medical criteria, and more, allowing it to apply to everyone equally," Lux said.

**PC FARMLAND AUCTION**  
232.84 ACRES M/L IN JOHNSON & LINN COUNTIES

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023 | 10:00 AM**  
Tin Roof Hideaway Event Center | Lisbon, IA 52253

**Tract 1:** 122.84 surveyed acres containing 84.68 tillable acres m/l, CSR2 value of 38.  
**Tract 2:** 110 acres m/l containing 70.36 tillable acres m/l, CSR2 value of 47.2.

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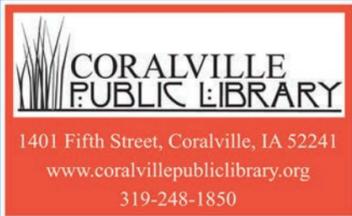
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# ETHICS & POLITICS

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## Young progressives stray from Democratic party

Pro-Palestine, Generation Z activists express frustration with state and national leaders.

Grace Katzer  
Politics Reporter  
grace-katzer@uiowa.edu

Mariam 'Mimi' Daoud grew up hearing about friends and family dying at the hands of the Israeli Defense Forces.

Daoud, a 22-year-old Muslim American living in Cedar Rapids, said her family told stories about loved ones who were detained by the IDF in the Gaza Strip, which is being destroyed by bombings and war since Hamas, the organization governing the Gaza Strip, launched its Oct. 7 rampage on hamlets, villages, and cities across Southern Israel killing 1,400 Israelis.

She found a passion for organizing college students since the war started to fight for a free Palestine despite recent backlash from Iowa Democratic leaders.

Daoud, who hails from Peoria, Illinois, graduated from Coe College with a bachelor's in social and criminal justice and psychology in May. She has dedicated the last month to engaging college students in the Free Palestine movement, where she said pro-Palestine voices have been underrepresented and wrongfully criticized.

Two months ahead of caucus season and less than a year out from the 2024 General Election, Democrats say they are relying on the youth vote, but are now unsure of how the Israel-Hamas war will impact the election.

According to a Nov. 5 *New York Times*/Siena College Poll, President Biden is losing in swing states that were critical to his win in 2020.

A Nov. 19 NBC News poll shows that Biden's support among young voters is dissipating, with 70 percent of voters aged 18 to 34 disapproving of Biden's handling of the Israel-Hamas conflict. The poll occurred before Israel and Hamas agreed to a temporary ceasefire, but shows that young people — a key voting block for Democrats — are turning away from the party's leader due to his handling of the conflict.

Since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, the Gazan Ministry of Health, run by Hamas, reported over 10,000 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli bombings and soldiers. Israeli officials reported the deaths of 1,400 Israelis since the war started.

Daoud found her voice organizing eastern Iowa protests where she believes college students and young Iowans are mostly overlooked.

"We have to get loud and annoying and in people's faces for them to pay attention to us ..." she said.

Daoud said she is overtly disappointed in the statewide response to the Israel-Hamas war, especially after the state Board of Regents released a statement on Nov. 1 supporting Israel and condemning all acts of terrorism.

She cited the recent conflict between the University Democrats at Iowa and the Iowa Democratic Party as a possible reason young Iowans are straying away from traditional politics — especially the Democratic party.

Tensions between state party leaders and three leaders at the University Democrats at Iowa boiled over in early November after three members of the group's executive board posted a statement in support of Palestinians on Nov. 1 calling for Palestinians' freedom from oppression by the state of Israel.

The group used a controversial phrase, "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free," which people who support Israel say calls for the genocide of the Jewish state, and those in support of Palestinians feel it calls for equal rights for Palestinians.

Following their statement on Nov. 1, the Iowa Democratic Party also released a statement from chair Rita Hart condemning the student group and calling for the resignation of the leaders who signed the letter.

Iowa State University Democrats announced after the statement that they would disaffiliate from the party due to concerns about Hart's hardline stance against the University Democrats at Iowa.

"It's unfortunate that a state party that has said they advocate for the freedom and liberation of Palestinians ... to turn and criticize the [University Democrats at Iowa] is unnecessarily cruel, and honestly a little embarrassing," Daoud said.

### Republicans join young progressives in disapproval of Biden

The NBC News poll also shows 69 percent of Republicans disapprove of Biden's handling of the conflict.

The conservative student group Young Americans for Freedom at Iowa Vice Chair Justin Petkus told the *DI* in an interview at a pro-Israel demonstration in Hubbard Park on Nov. 13 that he believes the Biden administration has not been explicit enough in his condemnation of Hamas.

"I don't think the Biden administration — I won't speak on specific political parties, but I feel we need a proper and firm stance against Hamas, a terrorist organization. We need a firm stance against them,"



Ava Neumaier | The Daily Iowan

Student protestors gather on the University of Iowa campus to demand more support for Palestinian students and anti-apartheid causes, and for University administrators to be held accountable for providing resources to Israel. The demonstration began outside of Jessup Hall and then marched to the President's Residence in Iowa City on Nov. 9.



Kaufmann

he said. Iowa GOP chair Jeff Kaufmann posted to X, formerly known as Twitter, shortly after the University Democrats at Iowa posted their original statement.

Kaufmann called the student group "insane" for their alleged support of "Hamas" equating support for Palestinian women and children to supporting the militant group.

"There's being liberal and there's being insane. UIowa Dems are siding with militantly anti-LGBT Hamas terrorists - who gleefully slaughter women and children," Kaufmann wrote in the post. "Of course, we'll hear nothing but crickets from Rita Hart as antisemitic loonies take over her party."

Shortly after this post, the Iowa Democratic Party released a statement condemning the student group.

The Iowa GOP could not be reached for comment despite multiple attempts by *The Daily Iowan*.

### Young voters follow national trend

Daoud is among a growing number of young activists who are separating themselves from the Democratic Party in light of the Israel-Hamas War.

Voters under 45 years old will make up roughly half of the voting electorate in November 2024, according to the Brookings Institute.

According to a Nov. 5 *New York Times*/Siena College poll, Trump would win five of six key swing states if the election were today.

Although a temporary ceasefire took effect last week for Hamas and Israel to release hostages, the White House has otherwise opposed these calls and upheld Israel's right to self-defense in the wake of Hamas' attack.

Because of the conflict between the two groups, Daoud said she has "1,000 percent" seen a shift in the narrative and conversation ahead of the 2024 general election.

In her view, both parties are relentlessly cruel in their unconditional support for Israel, which, in return, will take away the Democrats' youth vote.

"It's unfortunate that people who were once passionate about the Democratic Party are now seeing that the party, much like the Republican Party, is truly just prioritizing self-interest," Daoud said.

### Some Iowa Democrats express frustration, worry about youth vote

Brian McLain, chair of the Iowa Progressive Caucus, often engages with young voters who don't share views with the Iowa Democratic Party.

Young Democrats are often the party's door knockers, activists, and the people out on the campaign trail promoting candidates, McLain said, and the state party already has a hard enough time bringing those people in. Now he finds himself scrambling to find a plan to retain younger people in the party.

"[The Iowa Democratic Party] took young Democratic leaders, actually active Democrats, and threw them under the bus," McLain said.

According to a recent *Economist*/YouGov poll, 42 percent of Americans said they sympathized more with Israelis in their longstanding conflict with Palestinians — just 9 percent said they sympathized with Palestinians.

McLain said it's heartbreaking the Democratic party fails to recognize the

hard work of young activists, but he hopes young voters can find a place in the progressive movement.

"Unity without solidarity is obedience," McLain said, referring to the IDP. "The progressive caucus doesn't do that very well."

Newman Abuissa, chair of the Arab American Caucus, shared similar frustration as McLain and said he asked IDP Chair Rita Hart to issue an apology. Hart did not issue a public apology for the statement.

The Iowa Democratic party did not respond to multiple requests for comment from *The Daily Iowan*.

"We want [students] to stay in the party and be a part of this discussion to foster communication and understanding," Abuissa said. "We shouldn't be heavy-handed."

trying to do the right thing, and it's important to be less defensive so we can better advocate for those who are suffering," Melton said.

### Polling doesn't seal Biden's general election fate

Timothy Hagle, a University of Iowa political science professor, said it's hard to know how the youth vote will turn out a year from the 2024 election because younger voters are generally more unreliable and unpredictable.

"Most people sort of think younger voters tend to ... favor Democrats more than Republicans," Hagle said. "Democrats have to be prepared for that. That's where you need to increase your turnout efforts."

"We need to realize that people are just trying to do the right thing, and it's important to be less defensive so we can better advocate for those who are suffering."

Ryan Melton

Democrat running his second campaign for Congress in the 4th Congressional District covering western Iowa

Abuissa, originally from Damascus, Syria, has been involved with the Iowa Democratic party from Iowa City for over 20 years, where he specializes in Middle Eastern issues. He recognized the stance the Iowa Democratic party has taken throughout time, which has long supported Palestinian freedoms.

According to the state party's official platform most recently updated in June 2022, the state party supports:

- Eliminating military aid until Israel abides by 1967 borders, which secured clear borders for Palestinian and Israeli land
- Ending Israeli/Egyptian blockade in Gaza

The Iowa Democratic Party opposes:

- Israeli settlements in West Bank/Golan Heights
- Israeli apartheid
- Legislative interference on the pro-Palestinian boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement

"These students are just trying to learn the ropes and understand international politics, we want to get them engaged as much as we can," Abuissa said. "We want to have a position that leads to solutions, not empower one extremist group or another."

Ryan Melton, a Democrat running his second campaign for Congress in the 4th Congressional District covering western Iowa, considers himself to be a progressive, pro-Palestine Democrat.

He said he was also disappointed by the Iowa Democratic Party's leadership for calling for the UI students' resignations.

"If the [Iowa Democratic Party] leadership does not learn from this and modify their statement, there is a risk that the leadership is alienating our young activists and our young voters in the state," Melton said.

Melton said he believes the UI students were well-intentioned and the state party's leadership needs to grow from "punishing their young leaders," and instead support and engage youth voters.

Now, he says it's important for Iowa Democrats' leadership to be open to feedback and listen to young people.

"We need to realize that people are just

Hagle said that it's rare for international affairs to deeply impact the outcome of a U.S. election, but he said he believes the Israel-Hamas war has gained more attention and may influence more voters than the Russia-Ukraine war that started in February 2022.

However, most presidents running for reelection have less enthusiastic voters than their initial run, Hagle added, using former President Barack Obama's terms as an example.

"We saw a huge turnout for Obama in 2008, particularly among younger voters, because he had that sort of energy," he said. "But then in 2012, the shine had worn off."

According to the PEW Research Center, Obama captured 66 percent of youth in 2008. In 2012, that number dropped to 60 percent.

Obama's 66 percent contrasted Republican presidential candidate John McCain's 31 percent of youth voters, but voters aged 30 years or older were roughly divided evenly between the two candidates.

Presidential candidates promise all kinds of things they can't deliver on, Hagle added, which already puts Biden at a disadvantage going into the 2024 race.

### Some students continue to fight for a free Palestine

UI graduate student Sofia Ramirez has attended multiple Free Palestine protests on campus because she feels it's intrinsic to her identity to stand up against oppressors.

"My Arab siblings deserve the support from people who aren't from their country, which is why I'm here today," Ramirez said as she marched down Clinton Street to UI President Barbara Wilson's residence during a walkout.

Ramirez compared the deaths of Palestinians under siege by the Israeli military to genocide within her home country of Guatemala. Israel provided Guatemala with arsenals of weaponry, aircraft, and state-of-the-art intelligence during the Guatemala Genocide, which spanned from 1960-96.

"Why not advocate for people who are being brutally murdered in their homeland for simply existing?" Ramirez said.

The Democratic Party has a history of hypocrisy, Ramirez added, which is why she is a leftist, not a Democrat.

# OPINIONS

DAILYIOWAN.COM

COLUMN

## Electric vehicles are the way to drive

These type of vehicles are overall healthier to use for yourself and the planet.



**Kennedy Lein**  
Opinions Contributor  
kennedy-lein@uiowa.edu

Let the electric vehicle revolution begin. Despite their mixed public reception, electric vehicles are cleaner for the Earth and cheaper in the long run. Electric vehicles, or EVs, should be mandated across Iowa and eventually the country, completely replacing gas cars so that we can better serve ourselves and the planet.

Some may claim that EVs are not truly better for the environment, but the Environmental Protection Agency debunks this myth.

According to the agency's website, "greenhouse gas emissions associated with an electric vehicle over its lifetime are typically lower than those from an average gasoline-powered vehicle, even when accounting for manufacturing."

While EVs release some emissions because of their batteries, they are an overall better option than traditional gas-powered vehicles. EVs are better for the planet, and recycling their batteries also helps with that.

EVs are known to not pollute the air as much as a gasoline vehicle would. According to the Environmental Defense

Fund, a medium-sized electric vehicle produces around 65 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime than a gas-powered car.

Further, EVs can also travel four times farther than gas-powered vehicles on the same amount of energy, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Those who are against EVs may say that The cost is a major point of hesitation. While EVs can be very expensive to purchase, in the long run, an EV will be significantly cheaper.

According to Cleantechnica, the automotive pricing and research company Kelley Blue Book recently compared the cost of a new Tesla Model 3 — an EV — to an Audi TT, which is a similarly built gas-powered car. After five years of owning the vehicle, the Tesla averaged \$39,547 in collective expenses, while the Audi had a five-year cost of about \$63,075. These costs included gas, insurance, maintenance, and other expenses.

Gas expenses are a core issue with traditional vehicles, which overall largely increase the cost of owning a car. According to the Department of Energy, an EV can save you around \$800 to \$1,000 annually due to charging instead of pumping gas.

Another argument that those against EVs may bring up is that there is nowhere to charge electric vehicles, but this is also a myth. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Electric vehicles can be plugged into the same type of outlet as your toaster." The agency said that there



Larry Phan | The Daily Iowan

A Chevy Volt charges at a Hyvee parking lot in Iowa City on Oct. 13, 2021. A medium-sized electric vehicle produces around 65 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime.

are over 51,000 EV charging stations in the U.S. available to the public.

If EVs are mandated, then there would be no debate on where you could charge them. They would be everywhere, akin to the current abundance of gas stations. EVs are still quite expensive to buy, but if they were made as common as gas-powered vehicles, they would become more affordable to buy

and use for everyone.

Electric vehicles should be mandated in the state of Iowa and eventually everywhere else in the nation so that we can better help the planet and save on many costs. They are overall cheaper in the long run, quieter on roads, and lower the number of emissions we expel in comparison to traditional vehicles.

DI EDITORIAL BOARD

## Make university parking more accessible for students

The *DI* Editorial Board says the UI needs to address the number of parking spots readily available for students.

The University of Iowa must make on-campus parking more accessible for students.

As announced in the UI's five-year Housing and Dining plan, one potential long-term location for a new residence hall is the Recreation Center Lot at 500 S. Madison St. This decision would make the UI's already-slim number of parking spaces even more difficult for students and visitors to navigate.

The *DI* Editorial Board believes students should opt to use public transportation or other alternative forms to reduce the number of cars on campus. However, for students who commute or otherwise must use cars on campus, the *DI* Editorial Board believes that the UI should take steps to improve the campus parking experience.

There are around 16,000 parking spaces on campus managed by UI Parking and Transportation according to the department's website. These are comprised of gated and open surface lots, parking ramps, and metered spaces.

However, this figure is not broken down to represent the spaces that are restricted only to faculty or employees of certain departments. For example, the spaces in Lot 42 are largely restricted to employees of the College of Public Health, with only a few spaces available to the 614 students within the neighboring Visual Arts Building and Art Building West.

According to the parking map linked on the department's website, there are 15 lots or ramps available to the public, including students and staff without permits and UI visitors, and seven lots or ramps available to students with parking permits. However, there are 60 lots or ramps listed as only available to faculty and staff with permits at the UI.

These figures are immensely disproportionate, as there

are over 31,000 students enrolled at the UI, and only 1,300 tenured and tenure-track faculty and staff.

Additionally, although the Parking and Transportation site has a page dedicated to the real-time availability of public parking spaces, many lots are frequently full or have a long line of cars waiting to park. For example, at certain times of day, usually during the transfer of classes, the line for the Library Lot can stretch all the way to West Burlington Street.

The Library Lot is nestled between the English Philosophy Building, Adler Journalism Building, and the UI Main Library, and is the only public parking available for blocks with the nearest other spaces being the IMU Parking Ramp, Recreation Center Lot, and two hour restricted Stanley Museum of Art Ramp.

The *DI* Editorial Board believes existing parking locations should be made more accessible to students at the UI.

### Parking permits

For students and faculty who do have parking permits for otherwise restricted lots, like the Library Lot, finding parking is not guaranteed, either. Having a permit does not guarantee a space in any lot, instead only preventing being ticketed in a restricted lot.

Permit options for students can be found on the department's website, which directs interested students to the Parking Portal website. However, neither page directly conveys which permit goes with which lot and who exactly can apply for certain permits, making the process confusing for students seeking to avoid high hourly rates and citations.

The most basic permit offered for students is the free "Student Day Permit," which enables students to use the UI's public parking facilities without fear of a ticket. However, it does not guarantee a space nor omit the student from paying an hourly rate and is only available to students not living in residence halls.

While students can avoid real-time payment of parking by obtaining a parking access card, this does not wholly alleviate the burden of paying for parking, as payments are then charged to a student's U-Bill with a lengthy two-month delay. It does, however, allow students to access certain gated surface lots after hours.

For students with vehicles who do live in residence halls, they must pay for parking out-of-pocket or use the Hawkeye Storage Lot, located about two miles away from the main UI campus. To reach the Hawk Lot from the Pentacrest, students without vehicles must make a one-hour walk, take a 25-minute Cambus ride when available, or pay for an Uber ride there or back.

On top of that, the Hawk Lot is not free to use. Students must pay for a \$189 Hawkeye Storage Permit every semester if they wish to park in the lot. The *DI* Editorial Board believes the UI should lower this rate to accommodate students for the inconvenience they face when trying to reach the Hawk Lot.

*Editorials reflect the majority opinion of the DI Editorial Board and not the opinion of the publisher, Student Publications Inc., or the University of Iowa. The DI Editorial Board consists of Sabine Martin, Parker Jones, Evan Weidl, Jordan Coates, and Marandah Mangra-Dutcher.*

COLUMN

## University attendance policies must be more forgiving

Institutions should increase the number of excused absences and lower the attendance grade weight.



**Natalie Nye**  
Opinions Columnist  
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Strict college attendance policies are unfair and unrealistic for many students.

Several colleges in the nation employ unnecessarily strict attendance policies that only contribute to the stress of students who may be grappling with a job or other responsibilities along with their studies.

Colleges need to revise their attendance policies to make them more lenient for students. Attendance should not count toward a student's total grade if there are few allotted excused absences. Furthermore, the number of excused or free absence days should be increased.

Professors should absolutely encourage their students to go to class as much as possible, but there are countless possible hardships students could face, such as those who commute from long distances, students who have children, or students who have chronic illnesses. Strict attendance policies are the last thing they need.

It is also time to take full advantage of online education.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the advent of Zoom forever changed and evolved the student learning experience. With Zoom and other virtual class options, students can listen to lectures in real-time, virtually raising their hands in chatrooms to ask questions or discuss in breakout rooms for group projects, just as they would have in person.

These features could still be used if a teacher with a more lenient attendance policy made a Zoom class option for absentee students, still having them learn and participate in real-time for points. Teachers should also do Zoom classes for days with extreme weather that might prohibit some students from reaching campus.

Some may argue that students learn better with in-person classes, which can be true for some. However, this argument does not account for students' other responsibilities outside of classes.

Students who bear the weight of responsibilities that overlap with their school schedule need to be taken into consideration because they often struggle the most with attendance.

In a *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* survey from 2008, the most recent study that could be identified on this topic directed toward teachers about attendance policies, some teachers argued against mandated attendance policies because they believe students should come on their own accord.

The University of Iowa allows professors free reign to make

their attendance policies as strict as they want, according to the university's attendance policy.

"Each course may have different class attendance and absence policies, and these are set by the instructor."

This freedom often results in unnecessary pressure on the student to have perfect attendance, which is not realistic for students who are financially-independent.

The estimated cost of attendance for in-state residents at the UI is \$23,580 per academic year, according to UI admissions. If a student pays thousands of dollars every year they attend, then they should get to choose when they attend or at least be provided with lenient absence policies.

According to the Mayo Clinic Health System, 75 percent of college students who struggle with mental illness are not motivated to seek help. This is the prime demographic college attendance policies may affect.

There are so many solutions that would help, such as increasing the number of allotted excused absences, lowering attendance grade weight, or offering virtual class options like Zoom for disadvantaged students who cannot make it to class every day.

Colleges must reevaluate stringent attendance policies that disproportionately burden students juggling multiple responsibilities. Shifting toward more lenient policies and incorporating online learning solutions could alleviate stress and enhance the educational experience for students who bear multiple responsibilities outside of school.

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# HAWKEYE HAZE: THE NIGHT IS YOUNG

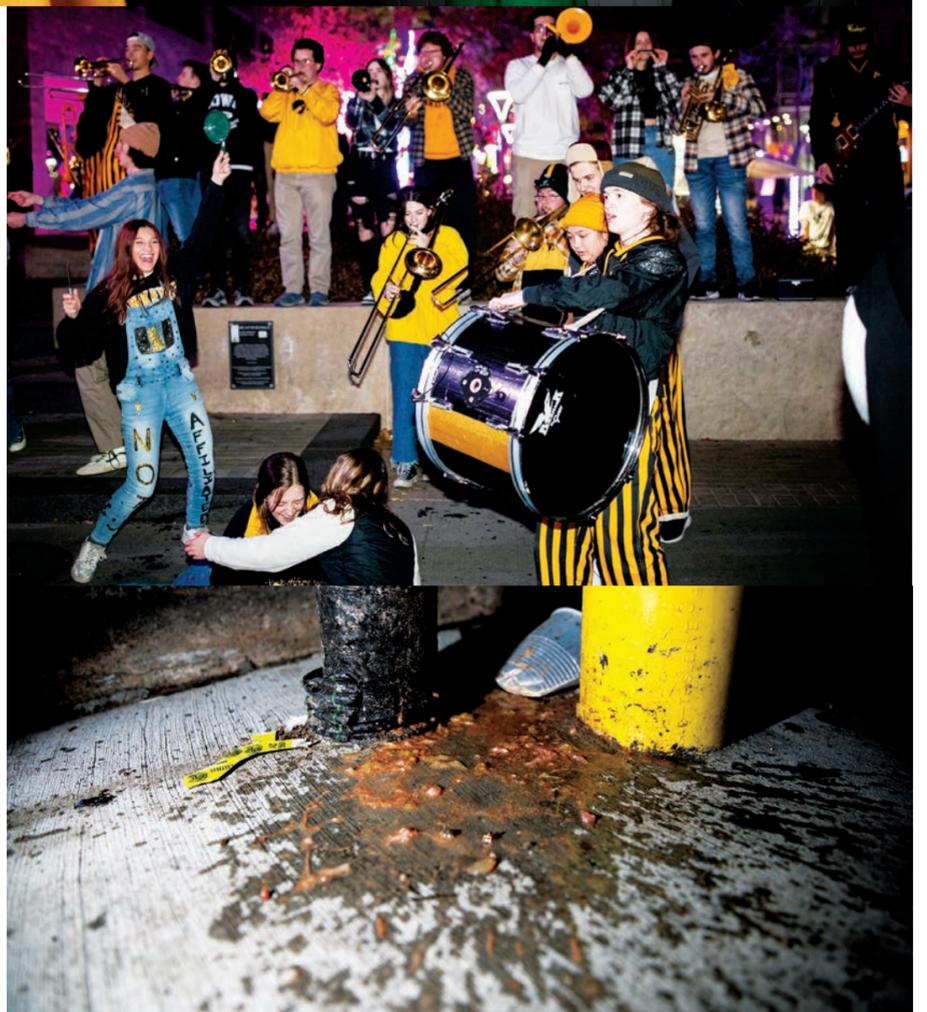


In 2013, the University of Iowa was ranked the No. 1 party school in the nation by the Princeton Review. Even after falling out of the top 20 list in 2018, party culture still remains a staple in the Iowa City social scene. There are a plethora of parties, bars, house concerts, and other drinking-influenced events. In all weather — even as temperatures start to drop — the party scene does not dwindle. Over the course of five nights during the fall semester, *The Daily Iowan* observed people vomit, stumble home, take drugs, and get lost on the streets of Iowa City.

**Cody Blissett** | *The Daily Iowan*  
 (Top left) Joe Barlow smokes a cigarette in his home after drumming with his friends until his knuckles bled in Iowa City on Sept. 23. (Top right above) Iowa City residents and students pose for portraits on Sept. 23. (Top right middle) Barlow bites the cap off a beer in his home in Iowa City. (Top right bottom) Iowa City residents and students pose for portraits on Sept. 23. (Middle top) Members of the beer band perform on Nov. 10. (Middle bottom) Vomit is seen on Sept. 22 behind Elray's Live and Dive in downtown Iowa City. (Bottom) Iowa City residents and students pose for portraits on Sept. 21 in Gabe's.

More online

See more online of *The Daily Iowan* coverage of Iowa City night life at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).





**PREGAME: Iowa vs. Michigan**

Check newsstands Dec. 2 for *The Daily Iowan's* 12th edition of Pregame.

**INSIDE 2B:**

- Hawkeye Updates
- Quote of the Week
- Stat of the Week
- Point/Counterpoint

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2023

THE MOST COMPLETE HAWKEYE SPORTS COVERAGE

DAILYIOWAN.COM

**FOOTBALL**

# The rocky road to Indianapolis

Hawkeye football faced adversity but managed a Big Ten Championship berth.



Cody Blissett | The Daily Iowan

Iowa players embrace Iowa kicker Marshall Meeder following a football game between Iowa and Nebraska at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb., on Nov. 23. The Hawkeyes defeated the Cornhuskers 13-10. The Hawkeyes will move on to play in the Big Ten championship against Michigan State at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Ind., on Dec. 2.

**Kenna Roering**  
Sports Editor  
mckenna-roering@uiowa.edu



K. Ferentz

The 2023 Iowa football team is one head coach Kirk Ferentz will talk about "10 years from now."

And it's not because of what this year's squad has achieved — but how they managed to do it.

Enduring a preseason gambling scandal that has kept defensive lineman Noah Shannon out the entire season, losing four key starters to injury, and having one of the worst offenses in college football under a coordinator who will be dismissed after this season is enough for most teams to make excuses and admit defeat.

However, giving up was never on Iowa's radar, and never has been during Ferentz's 24 years at the helm.

The 10-2 Hawkeyes are playing in the Big

Ten Championship against Michigan on Dec. 2, a rematch of the 2021 conference title game.

"All you can do is show up and try to do your best, give it an honest day's effort, and have a good attitude, and then you never quit. You never quit. That's what the guys are doing," Ferentz said.

### The path to Indy

Heading into this season, expectations were high for the Hawkeyes.

Picking up Michigan transfers Cade McNamara and Erick All along with wideouts Seth Anderson and Kaleb Brown in the offseason gave Iowa fans hope the offense would overcome its past struggles.

On Iowa's second offensive drive of the season against Utah State, those hopes for a rejuvenated offense looked promising.

McNamara threw a 36-yard dart to

**BIG TEN | 3B**

**ADMINISTRATION**

# Role as an interim AD

Goetz is making full-time decisions in part-time role.



Grace Smith | The Daily Iowan

University of Iowa's Interim Athletic Director Beth Goetz speaks with members of the media during a press conference at the Hansen Football Performance Center in Iowa City on Oct. 31. After Goetz said in a statement released on Oct. 30 that she informed offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz that "this is his last season with the program," Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz and Goetz answered questions from the media about the statement.

**Kenna Roering**  
Sports Editor  
mckenna-roering@uiowa.edu

The trajectory of Iowa Athletics is in the hands of Interim Athletic Director Beth Goetz.

Since the start of her term on Aug. 1, Goetz's has dealt with several different scenarios, from the state gambling investigation involving Iowa athletes to offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz's performance objectives and future with the football program.

Goetz handles herself as if the interim title doesn't exist, and that's exactly what University of Iowa President Barbara Wilson wanted when she promoted Goetz from deputy director of athletics to the interim AD.

"I told her when she took this position, ignore the interim and do the job, and she has," Wilson told *The Daily Iowan* on Oct. 17. "She's out and about connecting with community members. She's giving talks, she's representing us at the national and at the Big Ten level. And she's getting out and about and working with all the coaches."

One frequently asked question around Goetz's dismissal of Brian Ferentz was if she was even allowed to make such a big decision with an interim title — and the answer is yes.

### Interim role

According to an anonymous source, while situations vary from school to school, interim athletic directors are treated the same and are expected to take on the same roles as those in full-time positions. The source said Goetz has the power to make all the decisions a full-time AD would, and she is supposed to operate in the best interest of the university.

Goetz's \$650,000 annual salary is the same base stipend former AD Gary Barta received when he was in the full-time position.

In Goetz's contract, which was obtained through a public records request, it states her interim position is "At Will," meaning Goetz can be fired at any time, for any reason.

**GOETZ | 3B**

**BASKETBALL**

# Dembele brings impressive background

First-year forward Ladji Dembele is multifaceted on and off the court.

**Chris Meglio**  
Sports Reporter  
chris-meglio@uiowa.edu



Dembele

Ladji Dembele has embarked on a unique journey in life that led him to his commitment to the Iowa men's basketball team.

The first-year forward hails from Newark, New Jersey, but came into the Hawkeye program speaking five languages: Bambara, Soninke, French, Spanish, and English — each a representation of his diverse background.

Dembele spent most of his childhood in Mali — a big country in northwest Africa just below Algeria — where he first learned to speak Bambara and Soninke as well as French in school.

When Dembele was 13 years old, his family made the move from Africa to Spain. There, he added a fourth language to his arsenal with Spanish. After four years there, Dembele again moved, this time to the U.S. where he learned to speak English.

Initially a soccer player, the 6-foot-8, 250-pounder made the jump to basketball instead when he realized he was "too big and not fast enough" to continue the sport he grew up with.

The switch paid off.

Dembele began his basketball career playing at St. Benedict's Preparatory High School in Newark, New Jersey. There, he began gathering collegiate interest during his senior season as scouts recognized his potential to score at all three levels and pose a threat on both sides of the floor.

That season, Dembele averaged 16 points, 12 rebounds, 1.5 steals, 1.3 blocks, and 1.1 assists on a 52 percent clip from the field and 36 percent clip from beyond the arc.

Dembele also boasted an impressive resume beyond New Jersey, playing for the New York Rens of the Nike EYBL circuit and the Mali U-19 team in the 2021 FIBA World Cup.

Dembele amassed offers from Power Five teams such as Seton Hall, Pittsburgh, DePaul, Rutgers, Xavier, Wake Forest, and Iowa. He cut his list down to the Scarlet Knights, Demon Deacons, and Hawkeyes before ultimately committing to the Black and Gold.

**DEMBELE | 3B**

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

- Men's basketball**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 29**  
 vs. North Florida  
 8 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network
- Monday, Dec. 4**  
 At Purdue  
 6 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network
- Women's basketball**  
**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
 vs. Bowling Green  
 12:30 p.m., FS1 and Hawkeye Radio Network
- Wednesday, Dec. 6**  
 At Iowa State  
 6 p.m., ESPN2 and Hawkeye
- Men's wrestling**  
**Friday, Dec. 1**  
 At Penn State  
 6 p.m., ESPN Plus and Hawkeye Radio Network
- Men's and women's indoor track and field**  
**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
 At Sharon Colyear-Danville  
 Season Opener
- Swimming and Diving**  
**Nov. 30-Dec. 2**  
 Hawkeye Invite  
 Prelims 10 a.m., Finals 5 p.m.  
 Big Ten Plus

**GULF COAST CHAMPS**



**Bluder**  
 The No. 5 Iowa women's basketball team exacted revenge upon the No. 16 Kansas State Wildcats with a 77-70 win in the championship game of the Gulf Coast Showcase at Hertz Arena in Estero, Florida, on Sunday night. The Wildcats, who came into the contest at 6-0, and Hawkeyes last squared off just under two weeks ago in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Nov. 16 — Kansas State handing then-No. 2 Iowa its first loss of the season, 65-58. The No. 5 Iowa women's basketball team routed Florida Gulf Coast, 100-62, in the second round of the Gulf Coast Showcase at Hertz Arena in Estero, Florida, on Saturday night — marking Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder's 500th win at the helm of the program. The Hawkeyes rolled past the Purdue-Fort Wayne Mastodons, 98-59, in the first round and then routed Florida Gulf Coast, 100-62, in the second round to get to the title game.

**CY-HAWK WINNERS**



**Brands**  
 The first regular-season college wrestling dual meet to be broadcast on ESPN lived up to the hype. Iowa men's wrestling team walked out of a sold-out Hilton Coliseum on Sunday with an 18-14 win to notch their 19th straight dual meet victory over Iowa State. Still, Iowa head coach Tom Brands felt the Hawkeyes left much to be desired. Iowa won six of the 10 bouts but didn't score any bonus points. The Cyclones posted two major decisions. "We got guys that have tremendous scoring ability, and I'm not sure that showed up out there," he said. "We were beat up in the stalling department, so we have a lot of work to do. That's where I'm at. We're moving forward."

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"Football is not a beauty contest. It's not a gymnastics meet where you get style points. It's about finding a way to be successful and win the game."

Iowa head coach  
**Kirk Ferentz**

**STAT OF THE WEEK**

**19**  
 The consecutive number of times Iowa men's wrestling has defeated Iowa State.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

# From the course to the oval

Iowa cross country athletes double as track and field runners.



Ayrton Breckenridge | The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Amber Aesoph competes in the 800-meter run during day three of the Drake Relays at Drake Stadium in Des Moines on April 29. Aesoph finished third with a time of 2:08.93. She is one of several Iowa athletes that run both cross country and track and field.

**Mia Boulton**  
 Sports Reporter  
 mia-m-boulton@uiowa.edu

For the Iowa cross country squads, the end of one season marks the beginning of another. The distance runners compete as multi-sport athletes in cross country and track to continue competing, make improvements, and increase endurance.

Mere weeks after the team's final race of the cross country season, the distance runners will run an indoor track meet in Boston, Massachusetts, for the Iowa track and field program. The Sharon Colyear-Danville Open hosted by Boston University will take place on Dec. 2.



**Woody**  
 Following the opening competition, the Hawkeyes will stay in Iowa City for four meets in a row. These include the Jimmy Grant Alumni Invitational on Dec. 9, the Hawkeye Invitational on Jan. 13, 2024, the Larry Wiczorek

Invitational & Multi on Jan. 19-20, 2024 and the Black and Gold Invite on Jan. 27, 2024.

"We are always looking to compete against the best in the country," Iowa Director of Track and Field Joey Woody told Hawkeye Sports. "This schedule allows us to do that and to hit NCAA qualifying marks throughout the season."

While Iowa track and field is widely known for their hurdling and sprinting All-American honors, the distance squad achieves success of their own.

**On the women's side**



**Aesoph**  
 As a team, the women's track and field team finished third at the 2022 Big Ten Indoor Championships. Coming off a last-place finish in the conference cross country meet this year, the distance squad is looking to make strides on the track. Though the team results failed

"The whole Iowa team is just awesome. It makes the experience so much better to do it with your teammates"

**Alli Bookin-Nosbisch**  
 Fourth-year distance runner

to show much growth during cross country season, fourth-year distance runner Amber Aesoph argues most of their advancements were made in practice.

Aesoph notes the importance of "trusting the process" to give the women's team the results they deserve.

"It's just hard to see [our growth] on the stats sheet," Aesoph said. "We've made so many improvements that will help us down the road, but it is just going to take time."

On the track, last season was a year of rearranging the top 10 for the women's mid-distance and distance squad.



**A. Bookin-Nosbisch**  
 Fourth-year mid-distance and cross country runner Alli Bookin-Nosbisch broke the school record in the outdoor 800-meter race with a time of 2:04.28.



**G. Bookin-Nosbisch**  
 Her twin sister Grace Bookin-Nosbisch ranks fourth in the outdoor 800-meter race with a time of 2:05.49. Aesoph ran the fifth-best indoor 1,500-meter race with a time of 4:41.58. Finally, fourth-year Brooke McKee clinched the sixth-best 3,000-meter steeplechase time with a 10:39.88.

While the women hope to

achieve more record board top-ten finishes this year, the team also looks forward to another season to compete alongside their best friends.

"The whole Iowa team is just awesome," Alli Bookin-Nosbisch said. "It makes the experience so much better to do it with your teammates."

**On the men's side**



**Murphy**  
 Third-year Max Murphy is the Iowa top all-time performer in the 1,500-meter race and 5,000-meter race. Last year, Murphy also recorded the fourth best time in the 10,000-meter race.

During the 2023 cross country season, Murphy qualified for the NCAA Championship meet and finished 69th in the nation.



**Ryan**  
 "[Murphy's NCAA Championship qualification] validates what we are doing here at the University of Iowa in our cross country and distance track programs," second-year distance runner Will Ryan said. "Having a guy like [Murphy] do so well makes us believe more in ourselves and the training we put in."

The track season is expected to be a break-through season for Ryan as well. Last year, Ryan represented the U.S. in the U20 USATF Championships where he earned a bronze medal in the 5,000-meter race with a time of 14:57.87.

Another top distance crew is ranked seventh in Iowa history in the 6,400-meter relay with a time of 17:11.68. The quartet consists of second-year Hayden Kuhn, third-years Yohana Yual and Ian Geisler, and fourth-year Jack Pendergast.

**Q&A | KELLI TOSIC**

## Tosic discusses her passion for musical theater



**Kelli Tosic**  
 Fourth-year  
 Distance runner  
 Grayslake, Illinois  
 Theater arts major

**Mia Boulton**  
 Sports Reporter  
 mia-m-boulton@uiowa.edu

**The Daily Iowan: What's the best part about being a Hawkeye?**

Kelli Tosic: There are so many different events. Whatever you are interested in, there is something for you. There is a club, there is a social gathering, there is something.

**Who have you met at Iowa who has inspired you?**

One of my theater professors, Megan Gogerty. She is so amazing, and everything she has taught allows me to think about art in a different way. Seeing her be so accomplished and getting one-on-one experience with her is awesome.

**Do you major in theater?**

Yes. I am majoring in musical theater and minoring in cinema and Spanish.

**What is your favorite class you are taking this semester?**

It's probably musical theater history with Megan Gogerty. It's really interesting because I love musicals a lot, and I thought I knew a decent amount about them going into this class. Now my perception of a lot of things has shifted, and it's been really interesting.

**What is your favorite musical?**

It changes a lot. As of right now, in the top slot is probably "Chicago."

**Do you have any specific plans for after college?**

Yes and no. I know I want to go to Chicago to continue pursuing theater. I just really love Chicago a lot, and I am from the northern suburbs. There are a lot of people in the theater department that go to New York City post-graduation, but I really want to go to Chicago.

**What grabbed your attention about theater?**

For my entire life, I've loved performing in general. Even if it was just to give a presentation in class or something, I would

love doing that. But the defining moment that made me realize that this is what I want to do for the rest of my life was during my freshman year of high school when I saw a production of "Hamilton."

**What was so special about that performance?**

It blew me away. I had an idea of what a play is, but then I saw "Hamilton." I was like, "You can rap in this? You can have people moving chairs in an artistic way and tell a story about a founding father?" I mean, "Hamilton" isn't my favorite musical, but it is the musical that made me want to be a theater artist.

**Are there any elements of cross country and theater that overlap?**

I've been thinking about this so much. I think they overlap a lot. In a lot of my theater classes I've taken, we talk so much about the breath and the body through the lens of theater and how it fuels your performance. In athletics, it's also all about how you use your body during your performance.

**POINT | COUNTERPOINT**

## Which team will win the wrestling NCAA title?



**Matt McGowan**  
 Pregame Editor

**PENN STATE**

First off, I just wanted to say that I covered Iowa men's wrestling last year and was thoroughly impressed with what I saw. For Hawkeye wrestlers, coaches, and fans, dominance is expected, and even a runner-up finish in the NCAA Tournament is considered a disappointment.

Such a high bar is productive for the program but just isn't realistic this season. Instead, the national title is Penn State's to lose, as the Nittany Lions will be national champions for the third consecutive year after winning four straight titles from 2016-19.

While All-American Iowa grapplers Tony Cassioppi and Nelson Brands, as well as routine starters Abe Assad and Cobe Siebrecht, deal

with indefinite suspensions from the state gambling probe, Penn State returns five All-Americans. Even with the loss of four-time All-American Roman Bravo-Young, the Nittany Lions landed Cal-Poly transfer and three-time All-American Bernie Truax, who went 18-3 last season with a fourth-place finish at NCAAs.

Yes, Iowa grabbed talent from the transfer portal and has some potential in youngsters such as Gabe Arnold, but the Nittany Lions have more experience and a better track record on the big stage.

Aaron Brooks, 197-pounder, has won the past three national titles at his weight class while 174-pounder Carter Starocci has won the past two. And with Michigan heavyweight Mason Parrish graduating after winning the national title last year, his Penn State counterpart Greg Kerkvliet is set to reign at the top.

I saw Kerkvliet in the tunnel at the Big Ten Championships in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and after further review, I can say he is made entirely of pure, lean muscle. The Feb. 9 dual meeting between the schools will prove which school is superior. Judging by roster and track record, that nominee has to be Penn State.



**Brad Schultz**  
 Sports Reporter

**IOWA**

Though Penn State has certainly dominated the wrestling universe and are yet again favorites to capture another national championship, I'm still going to pick the Hawkeyes.

Iowa has been written off as a championship contender due to several key departures as well as a gambling scandal that wreaked havoc on the program.

Key wrestlers such as Cobe Siebrecht, Abe Assad, Nelson Brands, and Tony Cassioppi are most likely out for the rest of the season, which certainly hurts.

The Hawkeyes are one of the top wrestling programs in the country for a reason, and despite their tremendous losses, they are always going to have a deep bench that can make up for those holes.

In the offseason, Iowa dipped into the transfer portal and picked up Oklahoma State's Victor Voinovich and Jared Franek from North Dakota State.

Both are experienced wrestlers and should be able to help fill the spots left by those missing veterans. Also, both were previously recruited by Iowa head coach Tom Brands, so they were already familiar with the program, which made their transition easier.

The Hawkeyes have also brought in a talented freshman class, led by Iowa City High graduates Gabe Arnold and Ben Kueter.

Against Oregon State on Nov. 19, Arnold won his first-ever collegiate match and will be a pesky opponent for anyone he faces down the road. He defeated a previous All-American in his Cy-Hawk debut in front of a hostile Hilton Coliseum.

The bottom line here is that Iowa has proven that it can battle through adversity and continue to assert itself as the nation's best each year.

Recruiting is always going to be strong, and with a perfect mix of experience and youth, the Hawkeyes will have a great shot at a national title come March.

**BIG TEN**  
from 1B

Anderson for the first touchdown pass on a season-opening-drive in the Ferentz era. On the next possession, McNamara drove the Hawkeyes 75 yards and connected with All for a six-point score on fourth-and-goal. The Hawkeyes didn't reach two passing touchdowns until Week 5 of last season.

Iowa then marched into Ames the next week and reclaimed the Cy-Hawk Trophy. It wasn't a great game from McNamara in his Cy-Hawk debut, but the Hawkeye defense and special teams came in clutch, something the two units did consistently this season, to seal a 20-13 win.

Heading into Week 3 against Western Michigan, Iowa was without its top running back Kaleb Johnson, who suffered a lower leg injury near the end of the contest against the Cyclones.

Despite this setback, the running back room didn't break a sweat.

Leshon Williams carried the ball 12 times for 145 yards and was aided by rookies Kamari Moulton and Terrell Washington Jr. The efficient ground game against the Broncos was crucial, as star tight end Luke Lachey broke his right ankle trying to complete a catch on third down early in the game.

The Hawkeyes went into Happy Valley the next week and were shut out for the first time since 2000. Iowa's defense held strong in the first half, but the 'D' couldn't get off the field in the final 30 minutes, and Iowa suffered a 31-0 blowout.

How would Iowa respond? By winning seven of its next eight games.

Iowa rebounded from the Penn State loss with a thrilling 26-16 win over Michigan State thanks to a 70-yard punt return touchdown by Cooper DeJean with just over four minutes remaining.

That win didn't come without losing McNamara, who went down on the turf after scrambling under pressure on second down deep in Iowa territory. He tore his left ACL, and backup Deacon Hill was thrust into the starting position in the first quarter.

Hill, a Wisconsin transfer, hadn't played meaningful snaps since high school, so his first few games under center weren't pretty.

As he settled into the offense, other playmakers stepped up to fill the void.

Johnson returned from injury against Purdue and continued his hot streak against the Boilermakers with 134 yards on the ground, including a 67-yard touchdown run in the first quarter.

Iowa's next test was against Wisconsin, who came into this season with a highly touted Air Raid offense under new head coach Luke Fickell.

That offense had no success against the Hawkeye defense, largely due to a career game from defensive back Sebastian Castro on his 23rd birthday.

The next game against Minnesota was one Iowa fans, players, and coaches will never forget.

With under two minutes to go in the game, Iowa was trailing, 12-10. Minnesota punted the ball, and DeJean let it bounce before picking it up. He evaded a handful of Golden Gopher tacklers and dashed 54 yards into the end zone.

The energy inside Kinnick Stadium was electric, but it was all drained away in a matter of minutes.

After review, referees ruled that DeJean made an invalid fair catch signal, thus marking the ball dead at the spot of recovery. Left with the ball near midfield, the Hawkeye offense lasted just two plays before throwing a game-sealing interception.

Ferentz was still heated about the outcome against the Gophers after the win against Nebraska.

"That's still the most ridiculous thing I've seen the last, what, quarter-century? Take that replay stuff and blow it up and start over again," he said.

After the Minnesota game, Iowa Athletics announced that assistant coaches wouldn't be available to talk to the media during the bye week like in past years. Two days later, Interim Athletic Director Beth Goetz said in a statement she informed offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz that "this is his last season with the program."

This sparked controversy, not because of the decision itself, but because of the timing of the announcement. Many believed the players didn't need yet

another distraction thrown their way.

As Hill stated after clinching the Big Ten West, adversity has been "the story of [Iowa's] season."

"Just keep punching forward each and every play, each and every day. Keep moving forward, one step in front of the other," Hill said.

The Hawkeyes kept the winning train rolling with a 10-7 win over Northwestern at Wrigley Field, a game in which Iowa made clutch plays in all three phases to seal the victory.

Iowa defensive lineman Anterio Thompson blocked a punt in the third quarter to give the offense favorable field position. Hill took advantage, finding Ostrenga in the end zone for the tight end's first career touchdown.

Hill's confidence under center in the final drive against Northwestern transferred into the next game against Rutgers. Hill completed 64.5 percent of his passes and threw for 223 of Iowa's 402 total yards in a 22-0 win over the Scarlet Knights.

The Iowa defense complimented the offense, yielding just 127 yards — the lowest number of yards Iowa has allowed against a Big Ten opponent since its 2019 matchup against Rutgers — en route to its first shutout of the season.

Iowa had its mojo back and was a win away from clinching the Big Ten West title.

Then, the Hawks were hit with another gut check.

DeJean, who had played nearly 400 snaps in coverage this season without giving up a touchdown, suffered a season-ending injury during a midweek practice.

The chances of Iowa clinching the division against Illinois suddenly became slimmer — at least that's what people outside the football facility thought.

The Hawkeyes stayed focused on the task at hand and came away with a 15-13 win over the Fighting Illini in a game that was again won with crucial plays in all three phases. After a 46-yard punt by Taylor that was downed at Illinois' 7-yard line, the Hawkeye defense managed to tackle the opposing quarterback in the end zone for a safety.

Deshaun Lee and Jeremiah Harris stepped up in the secondary instead of



Harris

DeJean, and the defense totaled a season-high 13 pass breakups.

The Iowa 'D' had to make a stop and keep Illinois out of field goal range to seal the victory, and it did just that.

Brian Ferentz was doused in a Gatorade bath by the players after the clock hit zero to cap off his final ride in Kinnick Stadium.

"So glad it turned out the way it did. I was proud of him," Kirk said of his son. "He's been admirable in the way he's handled a very tough situation. And I'm not quite sure I know how he's done it, but I'm really proud of him as a dad."

The Hawks clinched the West, but they still had one more game to go, and it wasn't one they were just going to waltz into expecting to win.

Nebraska prevented Iowa from making the Big Ten Championship last season, knocking off the Hawkeyes 24-17 at Kinnick Stadium.

In a game with a kickoff temperature of 26 degrees, the Iowa offense froze in the second half, notching just two first downs, but it was assisted by a stout defense that gave the Hawkeyes a chance to ice the game in the final seconds.

Following a Nebraska punt, Iowa had the ball with 55 seconds left deep in its own territory and, on third down, Hill's desperation pass to receiver Nico Ragaini was picked off by Nebraska's Tommi Hill.

Calling the turnover a "miscommunication" between him and the wideouts, Hill took responsibility for the costly giveaway but knew that Iowa's "best in the country defense" would pick up the slack.

Just two plays later, the Hawkeye defense shocked the home crowd as Iowa defensive lineman Ethan Hurkett snagged a Purdy pass and returned the ball 10 yards to give the Hawkeyes another shot at an improbable victory.

As of Sunday, Iowa is a 21.5-point underdog against the third-ranked Michigan Wolverines on Saturday at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Despite this, no one in the Iowa locker room is counting the Hawkeyes out.

"We have pushed ourselves, and now we have opportunities like this," Higgins said. "Winning the Big Ten Championship has been a goal since day one."



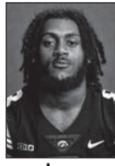
Castro



Johnson



B. Ferentz



Lee

**GOETZ**  
from 1B

This is different from Barta's contract, which says the university may terminate him for cause. This means the university must have a specific reason to fire Barta and provide 30 days written notice "of the cause asserted against the director and a reasonable opportunity to respond."

Goetz's contract said the university will open a search for full-time AD, and she will be encouraged to apply. If Goetz is not hired full-time, the contract states she will return to her role as Iowa's deputy director, which she started in September 2022.

When Wilson spoke with the *DI* on Oct. 17, the president said the search for a new athletic director was not yet underway and that she "very much hopes" that Goetz applies for the position.

Since Goetz started her new role, she has improved the athletic department's relationship with Iowa's NIL collective and continued construction of various facilities, including the Goschke Family Wrestling Training Center and a new Gymnastics and Spirit Squads Training Center.

Duane Banks Field, home of the Iowa baseball team, will also go through \$27.4 million of renovations following the 2024 season, pending regents' approval.

The Iowa women's basketball squad broke the all-time attendance record for a women's basketball game on Oct. 15 with 55,646 fans, and the UI completed a feasibility study on Carver-Hawkeye Arena to possibly move the student section closer to the floor to create a better fan environment during Goetz's tenure so far.

Goetz is making a strong case for the full-time position and has plenty of previous experience at other

**Power Five schools.**

Her first role in an athletics department was from 2001-08 as an assistant athletic director at Missouri-St. Louis. She then transitioned to Butler and acted as the associate athletic director from 2008-13.

Goetz got her first taste of the Big Ten when she was hired as deputy athletics director at Minnesota from 2013-15 and then promoted to interim athletic director for the Gophers in 2015-16.

She then acted as the chief operating officer at UConn from 2016-18 and spent four years as athletic director at Ball State before becoming Iowa's deputy director of athletics and chief operating officer on Sept. 7, 2022.

**Interims around the country**

Goetz isn't the only one who has been hired as an interim AD under tough circumstances.

On Jan. 26, 2018, former USA Gymnastics doctor and Michigan State employee Larry Nassar was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison for sexually abusing more than 150 girls and young women, including some Spartan athletes.

That same day, Michigan State Athletic Director Mark Hollis stepped down. MSU President Lou Anna Simon also stepped down.

Two days after the sentencing, ESPN aired a special edition of "E:60" that gave details on how MSU handled the Nassar sexual abuse scandal and the alleged rape culture at the school.

Bill Beekman was thrown right into the fire and hired as the interim athletic director on Feb. 5 by then-interim president John Engler.

Beekman had no previous athletic administration ex-

perience but was hired full-time on July 26, 2018, by Engler, who was still interim at the time. Beekman later resigned on Aug. 5, 2021.

Another interim who was appointed in a time of strife was Ted Kadowaki at Long Beach State University in August 2022. The school was facing a budget deficit, and Kadowaki came out of retirement to be in charge of mitigating it as much as possible.

Kadowaki had previous athletic department and finance experience from Long Beach State, as he served in the university's finance department and was the associate athletics director of business from 1998 to 2006. Kadowaki did not get hired as the full-time athletic director and instead went back into retirement once his contract was up.

It's unclear where the future of Iowa Athletics will go as Goetz's contract ends early 2024.

**DEMBELE**  
from 1B

Dembele loved the way Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery utilizes his men on the floor.

"I used to watch Keegan Murray, the way that he plays, so I really like their style [at Iowa]," he said. "That was basically why I chose Iowa."

In fact, McCaffery has always seen the potential in Dembele.

"He's always been a good three-point shooter," McCaffery said at media day. "You look at him and think, 'Well, he's a bruising power forward,' and he can play that way. He can back down and get traffic rebounds. He's a really good passer as well. He's big and strong, but he's always had a really good perimeter skillset."

Through the first six games this season, though, the first-year big is molding into a role at the next level, averaging 3.7 points, 2.3 rebounds, 0.7 assists, 0.5 steals and 0.2 blocks on 53/50/50 shooting splits in 12.7 minutes per game.

Dembele's best game came in a hostile road contest against Creighton where he showed a big glimpse of his potential: He put up eight points, two rebounds, and two assists on 3-for-4 shooting from the field as he knocked down both of his three-point attempts in 14 minutes of confident play.

"It gives us a lot of flexibility because we can move him [around the floor]," McCaffery said of Dembele's versatile skill set. "We could play him at the five if we have to, but he's primarily a forward that can stretch the floor, and he runs very well ... He's someone we felt could really be special, and he's proven to be that."

TRON DRJ JARGON  
COMETRU E ONEIDA  
MEGWHITE HAMMER  
COPARENT LUC  
ORGAN BIEB AIMS  
DOUR RANSOMS  
IMS DIGG NASSER  
SESTINA WHITTLE  
TOYING SIAM OMA  
EGOTISM CUED  
BBQS SECT LITRE  
YOU STAKEOUT  
GRAMMA DRUMROLL  
UNDOER AIRPORTS  
MESMER YAS NEED

Easy

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3	7	1	8	9	5	2	6	4
5	9	6	1	2	4	8	7	3
7	5	8	2	3	9	4	1	6
2	6	3	4	8	1	5	9	7
1	4	9	5	7	6	3	8	2
4	3	7	9	1	8	6	2	5
6	8	2	7	5	3	1	4	9
9	1	5	6	4	2	7	3	8

Medium

2	8	5	6	1	3	7	9	4
1	6	7	4	2	9	8	5	3
3	9	4	8	7	5	6	2	1
5	4	9	2	3	8	1	6	7
6	1	8	5	9	7	3	4	2
7	2	3	1	6	4	9	8	5
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9	5	2	3	8	1	4	7	6
4	7	1	9	5	6	2	3	8

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**THE DAILY IOWAN BIG 10 CHAMPIONSHIP PREGAME • DEC. 1**



# HAWKEYES KEEP STREAK ALIVE

No. 4 Iowa defeated No. 8 Iowa State for the 19th straight time on Nov. 26. The Hawkeyes won six of the 10 matches.



**18-14**


**174**  
pounds

**184**  
pounds



**PATRICK KENNEDY**

made his season debut at the Cy-Hawk dual.



**GABE ARNOLD**

made his career Cy-Hawk debut.



**Ayrton Breckenridge** | The Daily Iowan

(Top) Iowa's No. 22 197-pound Zach Glazier wrestles Iowa State's No. 24 Julien Broderon during a Cy-Hawk men's wrestling dual between No. 4 Iowa and No. 8 Iowa State at Hilton Coliseum on Nov. 26. The Hawkeyes defeated the Cyclones, 18-14. Glazier defeated Broderon by decision, 7-3. (Middle top) Iowa's No. 17 125-pound Drake Ayala wrestles Iowa State's No. 8 Kysen Terukina during a Cy-Hawk men's wrestling dual between No. 4 Iowa and No. 8 Iowa State at Hilton Coliseum on Nov. 26. Ayala defeated Terukina by decision, 7-2. (Middle bottom) Iowa men's wrestling head coach Tom Brands signals for stalling during the wrestling dual. Brands has been the head coach for 17 years. (Bottom) Iowa's No. 1 141-pound Real Woods wrestles Iowa State's No. 19 Anthony Echemendia during the dual. The last time Iowa and Iowa State matched up in Hilton Coliseum in 2021, both squads had a team point deducted for unsportsmanlike conduct.



# 80 HOURS



## IOWA CITY (TAYLOR'S VERSION)

With on-campus clubs and sing-along events, Taylor Swift is influencing Iowa City's social scene.

Stella Shipman  
Arts Editor  
stella-shipman@uiowa.edu

University of Iowa third-year Tori Ghyzel became a die-hard Taylor Swift fan following her first listen to the singer's

2010 album "Speak Now." She even got her older sister in on the fandom, too, with a good part of their conversations surrounding the country-turned-pop icon.

With her sister's encouragement, Ghyzel has since created the UI's first and only stu-

dent organization dedicated to Swift. The organization acts as a place for the icon's devoted fans to unabashedly share their love — where they don't have to feel like

# CALENDAR WEEKLY EVENTS

## THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 30

### - DOWNTOWN HUNT FOR THE ELVES

Until New Year's Eve, people can participate in finding elves in downtown Iowa City restaurants and stores. Document your findings and turn them in to the Iowa City Public Library for a chance to win big prizes.

### 10 A.M. | DOWNTOWN IC

### - TEDDY BEAR ROOM

Ever dreamed of being in a room surrounded by hundreds of teddy bears? Now's your chance to make that a reality. Until Dec. 31, the exhibit will be open to the public for photos and fuzzy hugs.

### 10 A.M. | HILTON GARDEN INN 328 S. CLINTON ST.

## FRIDAY

DECEMBER 1

### - EASTSIDE ARTISTS ANNUAL SHOW & SALE

Featuring work from over 20 local artists, the Eastside show will display artwork for sale until Dec. 3.

### 10 A.M. | THE MASONIC BUILDING 312 COLLEGE ST.

### - BLACK & GOLD JAZZ CABARET

The University of Iowa jazz faculty will perform alongside award-winning special guests Curtis Taylor and Carl Allen in the first of a four-part jazz cabaret series.

### 8 P.M. | THE GRADUATE HOTEL 210 S. DUBUQUE ST.

## SATURDAY

DECEMBER 2

### - TRACTOR WAGON RIDES

Hills Bank is offering free tractor rides around downtown Iowa City in addition to some festive activities and treats.

### 10 A.M. | HILLS BANK 201 S. CLINTON ST.

### - FIGHT NIGHT

The Iowa Boxing Club presents its annual fight night event featuring club members up against fighters from other schools.

### 3 P.M. | IMU BALLROOM 125 N. MADISON ST.

## TUESDAY

DECEMBER 5

### - CHRISTOPHER'S BAR EXAM

Spice up your Tuesday night by tuning into this locally-loved interactive pub trivia program.

### 8 P.M. | QUINTON'S BAR AND DELI 215 E. WASHINGTON ST.

### - JOURNALING TO HEAL

Attend a two-hour workshop to explore healing through journaling techniques. Bring a photo or image that is sentimental.

### 6 P.M. | URBAN DALE PUBLIC LIBRARY 3600 86TH ST., URBAN DALE, IOWA

## WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 6

### - POETRY READING CIRCLE

Instructed by Joi Haskins and open to all, the Iowa City Senior Center invites poetry lovers of all ages to come together and enjoy readings from the work of beloved poets like Rita Dove and Walt Whitman.

### 4 P.M. | IOWA CITY SENIOR CENTER 28 S. LINN ST.

### - PUBLIC TOURS OF HANCHER AUDITORIUM

Meet in the lobby of the Stanley Museum of Art for a tour by the Hancher Guild to see the new and old works of the museum.

### 11 A.M. | STANLEY MUSEUM OF ART 141 PARK ROAD

## Q&A | DI HEADLINERS

# Two Canes

Two Canes is one of four bands featured in the latest episode of Headliners, a concert video series by *The Daily Iowan*.

**Avi Lapchick**  
Arts Editor  
olivia-lapchick@uiowa.edu

*Two Canes is an Iowa City-born punk rock band consisting of lead singer Myles Evangelista, guitarists Evan Weidl and Edwin Svoboda, drummer Chloe Weidl, and bassist Jack Moore.*

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity.*

### **The Daily Iowan: How did the band form?**

Chloe Weidl: Evan and I were kind of the stem of it. We grew up doing music together and we always talked about being in a band in college, but Evan kicked it off by asking [Edwin] to join the group as a guitar player, and then I asked Jack, who I worked with at the time, to be the bassist, and then Myles, who I met through a student organization. It became kind of a weird eclectic group of people who I didn't really know for the most part, but

we played a show at Trumpet Blossom and it worked out.

Evangelista: I think we had only one practice as a full five-piece the night before the show.

### **What are some career highlights so far?**

Evan Weidl: Winning the battle of the bands was the best moment for us because everything that we had built during the months before was on full display during the show. It felt like a moment of maximum potential.

Svoboda: Also, when we were recording, that was a great time. We were letting our creative juices flow; it felt like we were on fire. Having a product of your band's creation out there is something really valuable.

### **How would you describe your part in the Iowa City music scene? How do you fit in?**

Chloe Weidl: I really like the



Emily Nyberg | The Daily Iowan  
Iowa City band Two Canes performs at The Daily Iowan Headliners in The Daily Iowan newsroom on Oct. 28.

Iowa City music scene because it feels collaborative rather than competitive. In bigger cities like Nashville, everyone is kind of cutthroat in order to get to the top but, here, bands are much more willing to support and help build the foundation of another band. Everyone collaborates. We've had some people featured in our shows and we've been featured in other shows, so it's really cool to see all the projects that have come through blending together. It's very supportive.

### **What are your favorite parts about performing live?**

Evangelista: That mentality also applies to the audience

we bring in. Our shows are for everybody. They're a safe space. They see the energy that we bring, and they feel safe, especially for folks who may not necessarily be comfortable at other rock shows like femme-presenting folks or queer folks. It feels nice to know we can bring that safe space to the scene.

*Editor's note: Evan Weidl and Jack Moore are employed at The Daily Iowan.*

*Jami Martin-Trainor, Natalie Dunlap, and Evan Weidl are the executive producers of Headliners. Sound production was by Dan Miller, and videography and editing were by Emily Nyberg and Cody Blissett.*

## REVIEW

# ★ ✧ ✧ ✧ ✧ ✧ ✧ ★ Disney's 'Wish' was passable at best

Disney released its newest movie this month that failed to live up to expectations.

**Riley Dunn**  
Arts Reporter  
riley-dunn@uiowa.edu

Walking into the theater to see "Wish," I'll admit I was excited. After watching several previews and listening to a few pre-released songs, I was curious to find out where Disney could take a story that seemed incredibly unique.

After watching the film, I can definitively say it was frustrating — not in the sense that the movie was necessarily bad, but in the sense that the characters and the storyline had the potential to be so much better.

"Wish" tells the story of a young, headstrong girl named Asha who lives in the city of Rosas, ruled by King Magnifico, a powerful sorcerer who collects people's greatest wishes once they turn 18 years old. Once a wish is collected, it is forgotten by its original owner.

Every month, Magnifico — voiced by Chris Pine — grants one of these wishes to someone whose wish he believes will benefit the kingdom, and himself in particular.

The main conflict of the movie begins when Asha — voiced by Ariana DeBose — discovers that the King has no intention of granting a majority of the wishes and refuses to return any of them to the people they came from.

After Asha wishes on a star, as many Disney protagonists have done before her, the star comes to life. With the help of the cute, round golden star, Asha resolves to return the wishes of Rosas to their rightful owners.

The movie's strengths lie in its compelling premise: the idea that people relinquish their wishes, in part because they are afraid to pursue them alone.

It establishes this through creative animation as well as callbacks to previous films, including the classic storybook opening and when Asha's wishing

star allows her to communicate with plants and animals.

Where this movie suffers, however, is in its lackluster execution of its premise. While I did enjoy the throwback to the times of more ruthless Disney villains with the evil nature of Magnifico, certain aspects of his character were lacking.

For instance, his backstory was hinted at a few times throughout the movie, to the point where I believed the audience would get a more in-depth explanation of why this king is the way he is and why the wishes are such a threat to him. It is refreshing that he is openly evil, but I was left with several unanswered questions about him.

Meanwhile, I enjoyed the protagonist, Asha. Her motivations and backstory were compelling, especially when she spoke about her father and his influence on her as she grew up. She seemed to possess a strong sense of compassion and showed that she truly cared about her family and those around her.

That being said, I felt like her character could be too silly at times when it didn't make sense.

Now, don't get me wrong, I love a good joke, and this movie had plenty of them, but the humor reached the point where there were just too many. A few more serious moments, both with Asha herself and throughout the movie as a whole, would have heightened the tension and raised the stakes.

Asha's friends felt forgettable, and I would have liked to further explore their characters. The song "Knowing What I Know Now," which I've concluded is the best song of the movie, was a fun and intense action song sung by Asha's friends. However, it would have been more impactful if the audience had become more acquainted with the characters.

All in all, I wish that "Wish" had been a stronger movie, because it certainly had the potential to reach for the stars.

## CARTOON



"What a ham."

Cartoon by Avi Lapchick | The Daily Iowan



# Treating the winter blues

Seasonal affective disorder can take a particular toll on students.

**Lily Czechowicz**  
Arts Reporter  
lilyczechowicz@gmail.com

Iowa winters have always been known for beautiful snow-covered fields and icy rivers as much as their bitter temperatures, shorter days, and subsequent seasonal depression for some individuals.

Seasonal affective disorder can have a particularly harsh impact on college students who, on top of academic responsibilities, may just be starting to learn how to deal with their own mental health.

For over 18 years, Natalie Benway-Correll, a licensed independent social worker, has worked as a psychotherapist and focused on reconnecting clients with themselves by incorporating holistic interventions.

Registered nurse Beth Pruessner is a professional coach and certified intuitive eating counselor in Iowa City. She teaches individuals how to tune into their bodies, to listen to themselves with food, and movement and activities that bring them joy.

Seasonal affective disorder typically affects people during the fall and winter months, but Benway-Correll said that people who have the disorder experience anxiety in the fall months in anticipation of having to cope with their symptoms.

"You are feeling just horrible about yourself, and you don't want to be around anybody because it feels like there's like a light being shined on it," Benway-Correll said.

Isolation was just one of the many symptoms Benway-Correll named for identifying someone who may struggle with seasonal affective disorder. Other signs included loss of motivation, excessive drug or alcohol use, insomnia or over-sleeping, negative self-talk, eating too much or too little, and neglected personal hygiene.

For many, beginning college also marks the begin-

ning of self-sufficiency. Students have to do their own laundry and get to class on time, but they also need to manage the responsibility of monitoring their own mental health.

When dealing with seasonal affective disorder, Pruessner stressed the importance of support systems by accessing a physician, therapist, or psychologist, if they're available. She also said it can be helpful for someone to recall what has made them feel supported in the past, and if nothing has worked, to try new ways until they start to feel themselves again.

Still, the well-being of someone should not be the sole responsibility of themselves or another peer.

"Our systems and our communities need to have to take some accountability," she said.

One aspect of community care is being of service to another person or group of people who may not have access to the resources others have.

Benway-Correll emphasized the importance of distinguishing clinical depression from low moods. Though it may seem obvious, Pruessner said in a technology-saturated and productivity-obsessed world, most people are more disconnected from themselves than they realize.

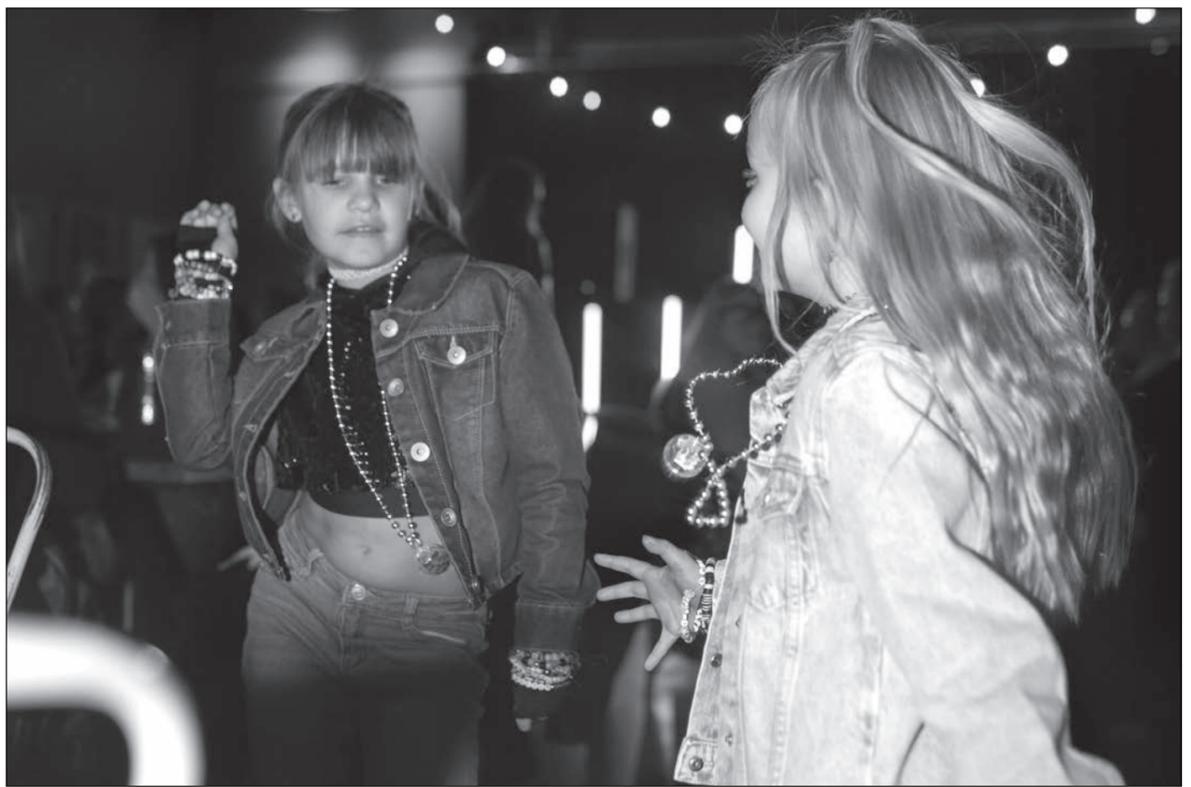
"Our society is so productivity-driven and we don't put as much value on making time for the quiet and the creative," she said.

Pruessner emphasized taking regular short breaks from work and challenged people to question what a break should be. She also suggested short breaks that make you sit with yourself like taking a walk outside, putting your phone on airplane mode, or even taking a few minutes to take a breath and focus on your senses.

"I really think it's much more important for people to learn how to listen to their own bodies and respond accordingly," Pruessner said.

**SWIFT**  
from IC

their passion for the singer is annoying. At the UI, die-hard Swift fans — known as Swifties — will be able to listen to the artist's music, play games inspired by the artist, and analyze her latest wardrobe choices and song lyrics to predict when her next album will be released. During the organization's October meeting, group members made friendship bracelet, which is inspired by a lyric in the 2022 album "Midnights," to celebrate the release of Swift's album, "1989 (Taylor's Version)." "We have just realized that there are so many activities you can do based on her music, like how people predict her outfits or her surprise songs," Ghyzel said. "There are just so many different aspects to look at...it has turned into almost a hobby." Swift's national influence is represented in Iowa City by enthusiastic fans like Ghyzel and the Swift-themed social events sweeping across the downtown area. Socially, the singer has unified masses of people with her work. The themes of her songs are highly relatable — groups of people can dissect how her pieces connect, and fans wearing her merchandise can identify each other on the street. While many celebrities use their platforms to promote certain political ideas, Swift has been selective about when she shares her affiliations with the public, which has also helped unify her listeners. The 2020 Netflix documentary about the singer, "Miss Americana," recounted an instance when Swift published an Instagram post persuading her followers not to vote for Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tennessee) during the run for Senate in 2018. She also urged her Tennessee fanbase to register to vote. Swift's atypical use of her platform received immediate reactions from followers, ranging from supportive to appalled. Though Swift may have lost some fans due to differing political opinions, in 2018, more than 169,000 people in the 18-20 age group registered to vote on the platform, according to *The Washington Post*. "I think she is just kind of sticking to encouraging people to vote but not posting about her political views because she knows that it would divide people who would only think of her as one party or another, and I think that's not what she wants to happen because she has the world at the tips of her fingers," Ghyzel said. What the public seems most divided about in regard to the artist half a decade later is not Swift's political actions, but her attendance at sporting events. In July, when the star went public with her relationship with Kansas City Chiefs' tight end Travis Kelce, Swift also started making appearances at his football games to support him. Since then, viewership of NFL games by sports fans and Taylor Swift fans alike has spiked. The Chiefs' showdown with the Eagles this past Monday, Nov. 20, was the most viewed Monday night football game in 27 years because of Swift's attendance the week before on Nov. 11. Though the NFL is benefitting from the viewership, some football fans disapprove of the Taylor Swift coverage invading sports channels. "My boyfriend is a really big football fan, and he's like 'This is so annoying' — he likes her, but he doesn't want her to infiltrate his football watching because to him that's, like, his time for the boys," Ghyzel said. Despite personal afflictions regarding Swift's fanbase crossover, the artist's positive impact, especially economically, is undeniable. The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia announced in July that the singer's



Charlotte, 7, and Ava, 8, dance to Taylor Swift's song "Shake It Off" during the ParTay event at Big Grove Brewery on Nov. 13. The event was in support of 29 local partner agencies of United Way of Johnson and Washington Counties. **Isabella Tisdale** | The Daily Iowan

Eras tour could rake in as much as \$5 billion for the U.S. economy, a statistic confirmed by market firm research software QuestionPro.

Swift's popularity has encouraged more Iowa City businesses, like Big Grove Brewery and Gabe's, to tailor Swift-themed events and activities. On Nov. 13, Big Grove Brewery hosted "ParTay," a benefit for the United Way of Johnson and Washington counties themed around the singer.

Event organizer Libby Knudsen of Big Grove wanted to go all out. Food and drinks were inspired by Taylor Swift songs, there was a DJ spinning her songs accompanied by music videos, a disco ball above the dance floor, goodie bags filled with Swift items, and a raffle for Swift-themed merchandise.

Though it was originally United Way organizer Katie Brown's idea to pursue the Taylor Swift theme, whom Knudsen referred to as the "mastermind" behind the event, Knudsen helped bring the idea to fruition in Big Grove's Taproom.

"Taylor Swift is so big right now. Her Eras tour, I feel, is like the talk of the town literally everywhere," Knudsen said. "I feel like you'd have to be avoiding the news to not hear about it."

Knudsen said the event was an overwhelming success and garnered such positive feedback that she plans to revisit the theme for future events.

"Anything Taylor Swift-themed I feel is just really big, and we had people here of all ages to celebrate which really made it special," Knudsen said.

In September of this year, local music venue Gabe's also hosted a Taylor Swift-themed event — a laser dance party. This is not the first time the singer has taken over the establishment. In May of 2022, the original Swift-inspired dance party, "The Taylor Party," stopped at Gabe's on its national tour, bringing the singer's discography to Iowa City.

"My brothers make fun of me and my sister and that's fine. But my dad will be like 'Boys, you can hate her, but you can't deny the fact that she is way more important and has way more social pull than anyone,'" Ghyzel said. "You might be annoyed by it, but you have to respect that, damn, a woman can do all that."



DJ Clife performs at Big Grove during the ParTay event at Big Grove Brewery on Nov. 13. The event was in support of 29 local partner agencies of United Way of Johnson and Washington Counties. **Isabella Tisdale** | The Daily Iowan

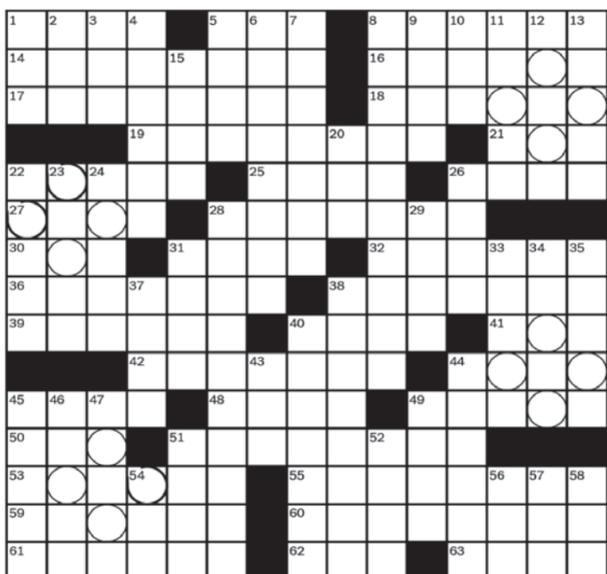
# THE BREAK

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON 3B

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## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz  
No. 1025



- Across**
- 1 1982 sci-fi film with a 2010 sequel
  - 5 Basketball great Erving, to fans
  - 8 Lingo
  - 14 Materialize
  - 16 Six Nations people
  - 17 Half of a 1990s-2000s rock duo with six Grammys
  - 18 Hit hard
  - 19 One sharing school drop-off duties, maybe
  - 21 Director Jean-\_\_\_ Godard
  - 22 Church fixture
  - 25 Nickname for singer Justin, with "the"
  - 26 Purposes
  - 27 Unsmiling in demeanor
  - 28 Return payments?
  - 30 WeChat chats, in brief
  - 31 Online news aggregator founded in 2004
  - 32 Leader prominent in the 1956 Suez Crisis
  - 36 Poetic form featuring lexical repetition rather than rhyme
- Down**
- 1 Channel for vintage film buffs
  - 2 Caviar
  - 3 "WHOA!"
  - 4 Stereotypical game show prize
  - 5 Boring person
  - 6 Vegetable with a purple top
  - 7 Ballpark fare served with raspberries?
  - 8 Member of Led Zeppelin
  - 9 Vet school subj.
  - 10 Dreamy sleep stage
  - 11 Dwarfs' representative in

- the Fellowship of the Ring
- 12 Ancient Greek theater
- 13 Deal breakers, informally?
- 15 Read-a-\_\_\_
- 20 Many M.I.T. grads: Abbr.
- 22 Olds, Keats or Shelley
- 23 Star-crossed Montague
- 24 Dress (up)
- 26 Helper: Abbr.
- 28 One of the Fab Four
- 29 Badly hurt
- 31 Fender blemish
- 33 Hearty draft pick
- 34 First name in "wabbit" hunting
- 35 Duane \_\_\_ (drugstore chain)
- 37 Fastens with string
- 38 Flowering plant that lent its name to a lane on "Desperate Housewives"
- 40 Short time off work
- 43 Something "spilled" by a gossip
- 44 Lemonlike fruit
- 45 "I mean it!," quaintly
- 46 Carried along
- 47 Targets of squats, informally
- 49 Sugar serving
- 51 Genial boatswain in "Peter Pan"
- 52 Not just mine
- 54 Stereotypical word in a heart tattoo
- 56 Mine yield
- 57 Letters in the corner of a phone screen
- 58 Drug that's "dropped"

Easy

		4		6		9		
3	7			8			2	
				1				3
						9	4	1
							6	
2	6				8			9
1	4	9	5					7
4						8		
		2				3		4
		5		4		7		9

Medium

2							7	
		7					8	3
		9		8	5			
5			2	3			6	7
6				9				2
7	2			6	4			5
				7	2		1	
9		2					4	
		1						8

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# Finding a sip of wine culture in IC

Though Iowa City is not known for its rich vineyard scene, local wine enthusiasts are finding ways to educate and inspire others to fully appreciate the wine they're drinking.



Sahithi Shankaihgari | The Daily Iowan

Customers wine and dine at Brix Cheese Shop and Wine Bar on Nov. 27. Emma Bohn started working at Brix Cheese Shop and Wine Bar during her third year as a student at the University of Iowa.

**Lily Czechowicz**  
Arts Reporter  
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When University of Iowa alum Emma Bohn took a job at Brix Cheese Shop and Wine Bar in Iowa City during her third year at the university, the political science major never anticipated the path it led her down.

Bohn held up a broken finger, having just finished working nearly two and a half months at Raptor Ridge Winery in Portland, Oregon, where she and her team often worked from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. harvesting and processing grapes for wine production.

The work took a toll on Bohn's body. Her hands turned a purple blend of wine stains and bruises as she spent hours watching fruit pound a MacroBin lid, sustaining herself on only beef jerky and a deep appreciation for the work devoted to wine production.

"It is, more than anything, a labor of love," Bohn said. "My literal blood, sweat and tears went into that wine."

Bohn started working at Brix in March of 2021. With no serving experience and a noticeable age gap between her and the rest of the small staff, she felt a little intimidated. However, Bohn quickly came to know her coworkers as kind, mellow, and knowledgeable.

"I was really lucky to be a young person being able to scoop up all that knowledge," Bohn said. "They laid it out for me and made [wine], something that can be so scary and overwhelming and pretentious, so low stakes, fun and approachable."

As a flyover state, Iowa is not widely known for its cultural enrichment and seems an unlikely home for sommeliers. However, wine enthusiasts in Iowa City are eager to dispel the idea that studying wine is a snob trade.

Recently, one Iowa City northside restaurant, the Webster, appeared on *The New York Times*' 2023 Restaurant List.

While it may seem odd that such a haute establishment exists in Iowa, Webster's

co-owner Reine Gelman said she believes there is a place for elevated dining in the Iowa City community.

"A lot of people who are born and bred Iowa City residents want something new and different," Gelman said. "It's a breath of fresh air."

When curating the wine list for the Webster, Gelman has always been careful to select a variety of wines that would appeal to different palettes. She tries to keep the selections young and fun while also taking cost into consideration.

"Having a wine list that does have different wines or different price points appeals to younger kids where it doesn't come off as intimidating," Gelman said.

Gelman's wine knowledge came from 20 years of working in front-of-house positions as well as in service and wine. Despite her experience, Gelman does not have the title of sommelier and said she felt no need to pursue it.

"To me, [sommelier certification] might have some people take me more seriously, but I think taking it too seriously takes a lot of the fun out of it," Gelman said.

Like Gelman, Bohn appreciates the title of sommelier but understands wine is not just for people with specialized knowledge.

"My favorite thing about wine is sharing it with people, people who know a lot, [and] people who know nothing at all — making it a communal thing," Bohn said.

Deb Coppage has been dubbed Bread Garden Market's "wine mom" by her young customers who approach her for guidance.

"Don't read the tasting notes," Coppage tells beginner wine tasters. "Close your eyes and tell me what it reminds you of, and use your own adjective."

Coppage began working with wine in 2000 after her ex-sister-in-law invited her to help make wine in her garage in Berkeley, California.

Coppage has flown out to California for each harvest season since. She helped begin the Four Wines Vineyard before selling it in 2018, then helped establish

Cypher Winery in Paso Robles.

At Bread Garden, Coppage helps customers find what they like in a wine. She explained she wants to cultivate an appreciation in others, not turn them into sommeliers.

"We don't need any more wine snobs in the world," Coppage joked.

Coppage recalled how when visiting Paso Robles, California, locals often ask her if she enjoys leaving Iowa to experience culture. This comment has always made her laugh; she affirmed it's

quite the opposite.

In Coppage's opinion, Paso Robles — a town known for its agriculture — is much less culturally diverse than Iowa City.

"We have literature, we have arts — we have all this multicultural diversity in this strange little pocket in Iowa City," Coppage said.

Iowa City's wine scene, while not well-known, exists because it invites people to try new things and fosters community. Good wine exists in Iowa, and everyone is invited to enjoy it.

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