

The Daily Iowan

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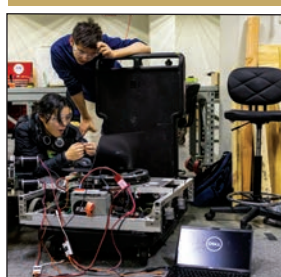
THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

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UI names Beth Goetz athletics director | 2A

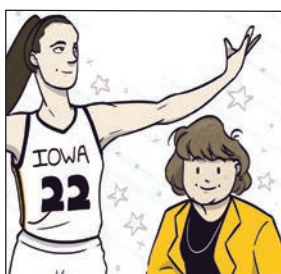
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IC Robotics build accessible vehicles for kids

IC Robotics created a modified car for a 16-month-old boy who has muscular dystrophy. The team of high schoolers plan to make more of the mini "Jeep" cars in the future.

IC ROBOTICS | 3A



The UI is a 'global hub' for fan fiction

UI creative writing students cite fan fiction as their inspiration to pursue writing.

80 HOURS | 1C

ONLINE

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CITY COUNCIL

IC residents smell trouble

Many residents fear air quality will be harmed by industrial development.

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When Anne Marie Kraus, a southside Iowa City resident, is out in her garden tending to her plants, she said she is often bombarded with many scents. These scents are not the pleasant aromas of peonies or fresh-grown vegetables, though.

Instead, Kraus said these scents are potent, headache-inducing odors put off by nearby industrial buildings. These kinds of odors have become somewhat of a norm in the neighborhood, according to residents.

These smells are so strong Kraus said she can tell the exact brand and product that is putting off the odor.

"You can tell today is Gain detergent, and then the next time is the shampoo, and now it's Febreze," Kraus said.

Kraus along with over a dozen community members came to the city's Jan. 17 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to voice their opposition to the industrial rezoning of the old campus. Many residents were specifically concerned about the effects an industrial building could have on the area's air quality.

These community members fear these scents may be amplified by a potential industrial development in the old Kirkwood campus, which is located near several residential zones in the southside area. At the meeting, manufacturing company Procter & Gamble said they are planning to purchase the old campus by February.

Also at the meeting was Tracy Daby, who said she gathered almost 30 signatures from community members against the rezoning before the meeting. She said she was angered by the result and even lost sleep while trying to write the statement she read to the commission.

The size of the land that was rezoned for industrial use is about seven acres, according to the commission's meeting agenda. Directly next to the old college campus is an Oral B manufacturing building, which is a Procter & Gamble company.



Matt Sindt | The Daily Iowan

The Iowa City Kirkwood campus is seen on Feb. 17, 2023. The rezoning would turn the former Kirkwood campus for industrial use by Procter & Gamble.

At the meeting, Procter & Gamble representative Joe Townsend said there are no current plans for what will be built on the land, but assured residents that if the manufacturing company were to expand its Oral B plant into the area, it would not create air quality issues.

In an email statement to *The Daily Iowan*, Patrick Blair, senior director of communications for Procter & Gamble, wrote the company has been in Iowa City for over six decades and is dedicated to doing good for the community.

REZONING | 3A

Faculty concerned by admin power in new policy

The changes in a CLAS manual would make an administrator co-chair of a faculty-led board.

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Amid changes to the manual of policy and procedures in the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, some professors have presented concerns about the revisions that will affect faculty and staff across the board.

These changes include changing the role of the faculty assembly, which is a group of faculty members representing the college, and the co-chair of the assembly becoming the CLAS Dean.

The College of Liberal Arts has two groups that advise Dean Sara Sanders: the executive committee and the faculty assembly.

American Association of University of Professors UI chapter President Ann Rhodes, who is also a UI clinical professor, said these changes will significantly impact non-tenured, instructional track, and clinical track faculty, as it would diminish their voices in decision-making during faculty assembly.

Non-tenured faculty members and clinical track faculty members do not have the protection of tenure, Rhodes said, meaning their positions at the university are constantly at risk.

The UI wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan* that the CLAS Dean and

executive committee have worked to draft revisions that "clarify roles and duties, improve transparency, and better align with institutional practices."

The statement also emphasized that the faculty assembly's role is frequently misunderstood and that the revision makes its existing role clearer. "Its role is consistent with the university's other shared governance bodies," the statement said.

In regards to the co-chair, the statement said the dean is valuable for all faculty and lecturers, not just those in leadership positions with the goal being to maintain active, ongoing communication with the dean's office and reiterate the college's commitment to shared governance. The faculty assembly, if necessary can meet without the dean present.

"These revisions strengthen the shared governance process, the values that have guided all our work together in CLAS, and elevate the voice of all our faculty. "We encourage faculty to vote yes," the statement said. Rhodes said instructional track faculty, in particular, are dependent on the dean reappointing them, saving their position as a faculty member at the university.

Appointing the dean to co-chair of the faculty assembly would cause instructional track faculty members to feel less willing to speak up, Rhodes said.

"They would be concerned about speaking freely as their jobs may be jeopardized if they disagree with [the dean]," Rhodes said.

FACULTY | 3A

Iowa's 'home run' hire

Beth Goetz was named Iowa's permanent athletics director on Jan. 18.

HEAR FROM IOWA HEAD COACHES

Seventeen head coaches responded to Beth Goetz being named UI Athletics Director.



"I am so excited for the future of the department and our program. Beth has been a tremendous asset to the university since she stepped foot on campus, and I am thrilled she will continue to lead the Iowa Department of Athletics. I have had the opportunity to work closely with Beth and that experience and her vision for the department has been impressive. The ability to work closely with her helps our program immensely."

Fran McCaffery
Men's basketball



"President Wilson hit a home run with the choice of Beth Goetz to lead our Department of Athletics. Beth is a unifying leader who communicates and listens with great effectiveness. Beth is the right person to lead our department into this ever-changing athletic landscape."

Lisa Bluder
Women's basketball



"I am pleased that Beth has been officially hired as our university's newest director of athletics. Since arriving at the University of Iowa, Beth has shown a tremendous dedication to the university and a passion for our student-athletes. She has a vision that is respectful of the traditions of our athletics programs while embracing opportunities in the rapidly changing college sports landscape. Beth is highly professional, and I believe is well-equipped to navigate this new era of collegiate sports."

Kirk Ferentz
Football



"Beth Goetz earned her way into the business by not making it about business. She is about the right things. The Hawks got the best."

Tom Brands
Men's wrestling



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, 2023. 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.

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The University of Iowa continues to break barriers for women in sports.

As the first public university to admit men and women on an equal basis, the UI hired Beth Goetz as its permanent athletics director on Jan. 18. Goetz was promoted after serving as the interim athletics director since Aug. 1, 2023.

She is the first woman to oversee the university's entire athletics department. Christine Grant, who played a pivotal role in the enactment of Title IX, served as the Iowa women's athletics director from 1973-2000.

The university launched a national search for a new athletic director at the end of November 2023. The search committee cost \$125,000, according to the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, and was chaired by Nicole Grosland, associate dean for academic programs in the UI College of Engineering and professor of biomedical engineering. Grosland said in a release that the committee interviewed multiple sitting athletic directors from across the country.

Goetz is currently the only woman AD in the Big Ten, but that will change when the University of Southern California joins the conference this summer. According to her signed term sheet, Goetz's base salary is \$850,000 plus \$200,000 per year in deferred compensation. Gary Barta, Goetz's predecessor, was earning \$650,000 in base salary and \$400,000 annually in deferred compensation.

"What an honor for us to follow her but also for her to take over from Christine Grant, who set the pace for women in NCAA sports," Iowa women's gymnastics head coach Larissa Libby told *The Daily Iowan*. "Every coach has said it — we hit a home run with this one. She got the perfect 10 from us because I don't know that we could have done better."

Libby is not the only one raving about Goetz. After the university made the hiring announcement, several coaches, from rowing to football, posted statements on social media in support of Goetz.

On Jan. 19, Iowa women's basketball star Caitlin Clark gifted Goetz flowers, and the new AD was introduced at Iowa men's wrestling's home dual meet against Purdue and received a standing ovation.

One Hawkeye fan posted on X, formerly Twitter, that hiring Goetz as the permanent AD was "The best decision the university has made in a long time."

Libby described Goetz as the "powerful female that we need," complimenting the athletics director's willingness to make hard decisions but also showing compassion.

"She takes what you say to heart, and you feel like you matter," Libby said of Goetz. Libby also questioned whether the AD ever sleeps, as she attends every Iowa sporting event possible.

"She showed up in the snowstorm that we had where we barely got Washington here and we could hardly get our own people to the meet," Libby said.

Head volleyball coach Jim Barnes also mentioned last August his appreciation for Goetz's visibility around campus. Goetz attended volleyball practices, which Barnes said she was "very involved in."

"I think you want to demonstrate that you're supportive of them in their process, and that means the process when they have a great day and when they have a challenging day," Goetz said of supporting athletes.

Last August, Goetz said one of her top priorities is to make sure Iowa Athletics continues to be innovative and host events that create traction for the university.

During Goetz's time as Iowa's interim athletics director, she improved the athletic department's relationship with The Swarm NIL collective and continued the construction of various facilities, including the Goshcke Family Wrestling Training Center and a new \$20 million Gymnastics and Spirit Squads Training Center.

The Hawkeye women's basketball squad broke the all-time attendance record for a women's basketball game with 55,646 fans. 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. Iowa baseball proposed a \$27.4 million makeover to Duane Banks Field to the Iowa Board of Regents. The upgrades include increasing stadium capacity, improving ADA access and seating, and enhancing the fan experience with premium seating opportunities, additional concessions, and restrooms.

Brad Heinrichs, founder of The Swarm, told the *DI* that Goetz "is completely on board with NIL" and has been "very receptive" to his ideas. The collective played a crucial role in recruiting football players Jay Higgins, Nick

Jackson, Sebastian Castro, Quinn Schulte, Jer-mari Harris, and Luke Lachey to return to the Hawkeyes for a final season. Former five-star recruit and Alabama offensive tackle Kadyn Proctor also announced his commitment to the Hawkeyes on Jan. 20.

One of Goetz's biggest moves yet was announcing the release of offensive coordinator Brian Ferentz. Iowa football had one of the worst offensive seasons of head coach Kirk Ferentz's tenure in 2022. The Hawkeyes averaged 17.7 points per game — 123rd in the FBS — and ranked second-to-last in total offense with 251.6 yards per contest.

It got worse in 2023. The 10-4 Hawkeyes averaged 15.4 points and 235.4 yards per game, ranking second-to-last and last in the FBS, respectively.

The next offensive coordinator has not been announced, but Goetz said she "feels really good" about where the search stands. Linebackers coach Seth Wallace and defensive coordinator Phil Parker's contracts were recently revised. Wallace was elevated to assistant head coach, the first one to be named during Kirk Ferentz's time at the helm. According to the release, Wallace will continue his duties as linebackers coach and assistant defensive coordinator but receive a yearly salary of \$1 million instead of \$775,000. Parker's base salary was upgraded to \$1.9 million per year.

Wide receivers coach Kelton Copeland, on the other hand, parted ways with the program. His replacement has not been announced.

Goetz will likely have to make more personnel changes in the future.

Kirk Ferentz and Iowa basketball coaches Fran McCaffery and Lisa Bluder are 68, 64, and 62, respectively. Goetz, who is 49 years old, will likely hire their successors.

Goetz's introductory press conference on Jan. 23 was packed with every local media outlet to Hawkeye athletes, coaches, Barta, and UI President Barbara Wilson.

During her opening remarks, Goetz pledged to lead the university with "integrity, transparency, and a relentless drive for success."

She also showed appreciation for the student-athletes in attendance and assured them that the university would give them opportunities to succeed in school while also preparing them for life after graduation.

"We will listen to the voices of our athletes and recognize the value that you bring to our strong Iowa brand."

Years of experience

Goetz first joined the Iowa athletics staff from Ball State University, where she served as athletic director from 2018-22. Ball State won 10 Mid-American Conference championships under Goetz and achieved the highest Academic Progress Rate in program history in 2020-21.

"I'm happy for Beth, and I think her new position at Iowa reflects her leadership, a great work ethic, and an ability to build and manage relationships," Ball State head football coach Mike Neu, who began his role in January 2016, wrote in an email to the *DI*. "She is extremely intelligent and very committed to the student-athlete experience. I wish her the best."

Before Ball State, Goetz served as the chief operating officer and senior woman administrator at UConn from 2016-18. She acted as Minnesota's deputy athletic director from 2013-15 and interim athletic director during the 2015-16 season. Goetz served as associate athletic director at Butler from 2008-13.

She went on to earn her master's degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2000. Goetz, an accomplished soccer player throughout college, was the Triton women's soccer team's head coach from 1997-08 and was assistant athletic director and senior woman administrator from 2001-08.

Goetz has also taken on several national leadership positions.

In 2018, she was named to the NCAA Competition Oversight Committee in 2018. She was recognized by the Indianapolis Business Journal as one of the 2021 Women of Influence and named by Women Leaders in College Sports as the 2022 NCAA Division I FBS Nike Executive of the Year.

Goetz also served as vice chair of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee in 2021 before stepping into the chair position in 2022-23.

Grace Smith | The Daily Iowan

FRONT PHOTO: University of Iowa's 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, 2023.

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IC Robotics builds accessible vehicles

The team built a modified car for a 16-month-old child who has muscular dystrophy.

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Iowa City Robotics, a team of robot-building high schoolers, gave a 16-month-old boy the chance to explore the world on wheels.

Modified with a push-to-accelerate button, extra Styrofoam padding, and a wider seat, Simon Madsen of Iowa City, who was born with a degenerative muscle disease called LAMA2-related muscular dystrophy, is able to drive the mini car.

The group presented the miniature plastic car on Jan. 12, and the team plans to make more.

"It's exciting," Maddie Madsen, Simon's mother, said. "Just being able to see him move around, we know that he's going to be tearing through our halls really quickly, which is what a 16-month-old should do."

Maddie Madsen said her son's type of muscular dystrophy impacts between 1 in 50,000 and 1 in 400,000 people worldwide. Nearly 250,000 people in the U.S. have some form of muscular dystrophy.

The idea to make the car for Simon started when IC Robotics was approached by Connie Moore, Simon Madsen's physical therapist. Moore works in Iowa City with the Grant Wood Area Education Agency and presented a plan to IC Robotics on how to build the car through an international program called GoBabyGo.

GoBabyGo works in communities as chapters encouraging

miniature vehicle builds and provides resources and instructions on how to build the cars. GoBabyGo was founded in 2012 by James Galloway, a physical therapist involved in infant mobility research. Galloway said kids have received around 15,000 cars from these chapters globally.

Galloway said kids having the opportunity to move at a young age drastically impacted their long-term cognitive development.

"The major things you're learning in the first years of life come out of your physical interactions and your social interactions," Galloway said. "You can't learn all the basic cognitive things without interacting in play."

Traditional power wheelchairs cost thousands of dollars, which Galloway said is a serious problem.

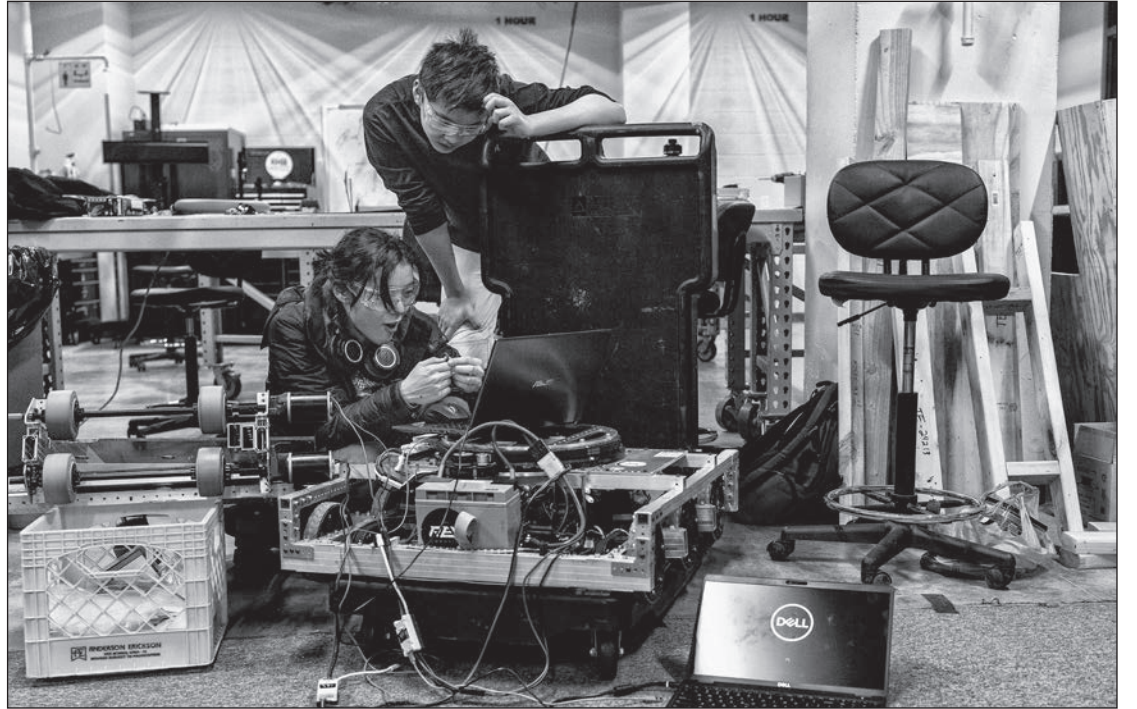
"The dark side of this is that GoBabyGo shouldn't even exist," Galloway said. "Kids should get mobility because it is a human right, as soon as they need it."

Galloway found that building mini cars for kids was not only cheap, with materials totaling a couple of hundred dollars, but also gave children who otherwise were immobile the chance to develop their cognitive skills.

"You don't have to walk through life, you can roll through it," Galloway said. "As long as you can explore it through rolling, you can get some of the same benefits, and there's no other way around it."

Moore said IC Robotics decided to start working on the car for Simon right away.

"I was so impressed with the



Grace Smith | The Daily Iowan

Tada Goto, 15, and Jerry Li, 15, work through a task during an Iowa City Robotics organization meeting at the Kirkwood Regional Center in Coralville, Iowa, on Jan. 18. Physical therapist James Galloway said mobility is a human right.

group," Moore said. "They just jumped right in with it and decided then and there to take it on."

With IC Robotics' decision to build the car, the community pitched in as well.

Michael Livermore, who coaches IC Robotics with his wife, Madison Kriege, said the group received a material donation from Iowa City Parks and Recreation as well as a monetary donation from the company Procter & Gamble.

High school senior and IC

Robotics member Spencer Thomas said the car was easy to build with the team, and he enjoyed seeing Simon use it for the first time.

"It was really cool to see all of our hard work pay off in the end," Thomas said.

Plans to build more cars are currently being developed. Moore said she plans on working with IC Robotics in the future and encourages other robotic groups to build cars.

"There's a lot of children in the Iowa City area that could benefit

from a GoBabyGo car," Moore said. "We are already planning on starting a new one in August."

Galloway said GoBabyGo's impact brings communities together, which is part of the reason for its global success.

"When a parent looks around and sees a community, having stopped their lives and poured their time and effort into their loved one and their sweetheart, it is overwhelming," Galloway said. "It is really supportive and important, and hopefully it's not a flash-in-the-pan thing."

FACULTY from 1A

"They would be concerned about speaking freely as their jobs may be jeopardized if they disagree with [the dean]," Rhodes said.

Former law professor and current member of the AAUP Lois Cox said that it has always been a goal of the AAUP to ensure that the decisions being made within the university are dependent on the faculty members.

Shared governance, Cox said, is a time-honored method of university and collegiate operation that focuses on the content and delivery of education.

"We saw these proposed changes as removing some of that decision-making power for the faculty assembly," Cox said.

Cox said if these proposed changes were implemented,

the collective judgment of the faculty, which is expressed through the faculty assembly, would decrease.

"If individuals are worried about speaking out in fear of retribution, the automatic power of the faculty assembly will be diminished," Cox said.

AAUP policy, Cox said, is based on the belief that faculty who have developed expertise in their specific subject matters and in their delivery of that education are in the best position to determine how to convey that knowledge to students.

"The faculty is going to have less input in the educational process, and we believe that would come back to hurt the students because they are not getting the benefit of the faculty's years of experience," Cox said.

Loren Glass, chair of the English Department and former president of the AAUP, said there are points of concern in the proposed changes he believes faculty should look into

before they vote.

"My own feeling is that the revised details don't directly violate any AAUP recommendations, but they do alter shared governance in ways that faculty should be aware of," Glass said.

He urged faculty members to carefully read the materials the dean's office has provided so they can decide for themselves whether to adopt the proposed changes.

"I think the faculty now has a chance to make an informed decision about whether they think these are the most appropriate revisions to be made," Glass said.

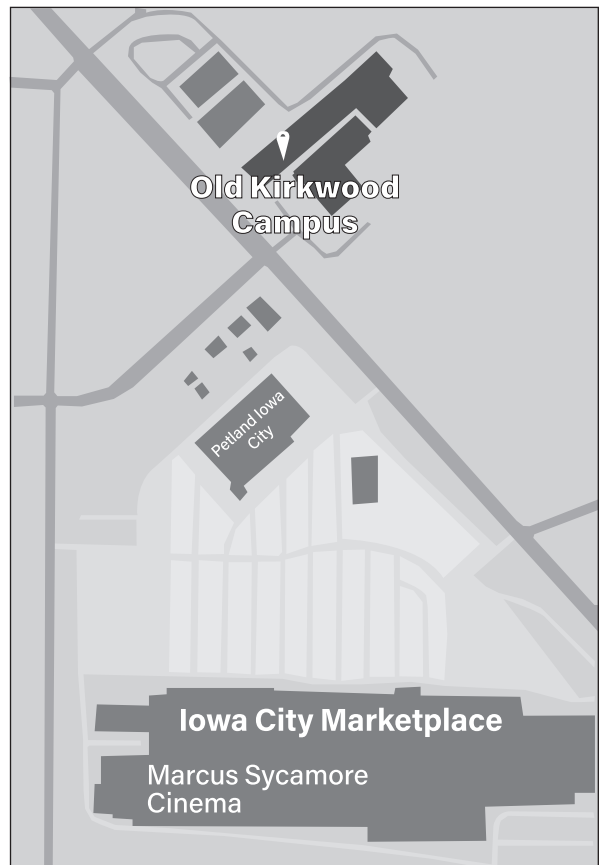
Faculty members will vote on the proposed changes on Jan. 25 through Feb. 15.

"Iowa has a really strong tradition of faculty governance and shared governance that works pretty well here," Rhodes said. "It is alarming to see efforts to reduce that."

REZONING from 1A

Location of potential land for a Procter & Gamble industrial facility in Iowa City

The former Kirkwood Community College Iowa City campus could be rezoned into an industrial area pending approval.



Map by Marandah Mangra-Dutcher | The Daily Iowan

"For generations, we've served consumers from our facilities in Iowa City, supported our employees, and helped the community — fundamental to our company's purpose," Blair wrote. "We look forward to continuing this commitment as good neighbors for years to come."

At the meeting, planning and zoning commissioners said they are sympathetic to the concerns of nearby residents, but the decision for them to vote on was not about air quality but whether it would make sense for the old campus to become an industrial area.

Surrounding the Kirkwood campus on the northwest and southeast are several industrial zones, which is why commissioners said the proposal made sense to them.

One potential compromise brought up by a handful of residents at the Jan. 17 meeting was a conditional rezoning. Anne Russett, the city's senior planner, said conditional rezoning occurs when city staff recognizes there is some sort of public need that should be filled for the rezoning to occur.

Russett said conditional rezonings are not uncommon for the city. An example of a conditional rezoning could be the city telling a developer they need to add a trail to a

park for an area to be rezoned, she said.

City staff did not see a need for any conditions to be added to this rezoning proposal, but the city council could ask for conditions to be tacked on if it sees fit, she said. The city council will first examine this rezoning item at its Feb. 20 meeting.

Russett said if there were ever any nuisance complaints from residents that stemmed from a future Procter & Gamble development on the land, these complaints could be directed to city staff, and they would investigate it.

Chemical manufacturing is a specified allowed use for the newly rezoned campus, but developers are not allowed to construct manufacturers of fertilizers, explosives, oil refining or other similar uses, Russett said.

Tracy Daby, one of the concerned residents, said she may come to the Feb. 20 city council meeting to voice her concerns once again. She said she hopes the city considers the needs of its southside residents, many of whom have had their quality of life impacted by the odors put off by current industrial buildings.

"I'm very disappointed. I'm angry, actually," Daby said. "It's my livelihood. I live right behind it."



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Executive Editor for the 2024-25 year

The board of Student Publications, Inc., which oversees The Daily Iowan, is seeking applicants for the 2024-25 Executive Editor position.

Details and application available at:
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Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2024

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OPINIONS

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COLUMN

Iowa needs a summer food assistance program

State leaders have ripped food off the table of hungry kids and replaced it with flimsy excuses and ignorance.



Jordan Barry | The Daily Iowan

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds addresses attendees during her annual Harvest Festival at the Elwell Family Food Center on the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines on Oct. 14, 2023. Participation in the summer food assistance program would cost about \$2.2 million in administrative costs.

Evan Weidl
Opinions Editor

For Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds, “taking candy from a baby” is not so much a figure of speech as it is a legislative goal.

Last month, Iowa state officials announced the state would not participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s summer EBT programs, which help ensure children have access to food assistance when school is not in session.

Given the low cost of this program and the fact that its purpose is simply to feed the hungry, Reynolds’ and the state’s decision is completely inexcusable and cruel. Whatever benefits we may see cannot compare to the benefits of feeding hungry kids.

Reynolds did offer a justification for her and the state’s decision, however.

She claimed the program was not sustainable, saying “Federal COVID-era cash benefit programs are not sustainable and don’t provide long-term solutions for the issues impacting children and families. An EBT card does nothing to promote nutrition at a time when childhood obesity has become an epidemic.”

If Reynolds has a plan to solve the epidemic of childhood obesity, which is a real and present issue, I’m all ears. Until then, it is hard to see this explanation as anything but gold-medal-worthy mental gymnastics by her public relations team.

As always, Reynolds may pretend that she is very concerned about spending taxpayer dollars wisely and claims that the cost of the program is not sustainable. Participation in the program would cost about \$2.2 million in administrative costs.

Don’t be fooled by the word “million.” This number is not

as nearly as daunting as Reynolds would like you to believe, dividing up to just \$40 per month per child. Anyone who has been grocery shopping recently can deduce that \$40 per month for food is probably not even close to what it costs for anyone to eat for a month.

When it comes to using COVID-era funds to feed hungry children, Reynolds says we just have to face the fact that it is not financially sustainable. But when it comes to using COVID-era funds to send the Iowa National Guard to the U.S.’ southern border for no reason other than conservative brownie points, Reynolds can’t endorse the check fast enough. In case you haven’t noticed — and maybe Reynolds hasn’t — Iowa is not particularly close to the southern border.

Her blatant disregard for sustainability despite claiming it as a concern somehow gets more ironic. The whole point of the program is that it continues to help feed hungry children even when they are not at school.

Cambridge Dictionary defines the word “sustain” as “to cause or allow something for a period of time.” When she claimed that she was concerned about sustainability, that apparently did not include the sustained food security of Iowa’s children. What she is doing is the opposite of sustaining.

Months ago, Reynolds announced the state would be making a sizable donation to four nonprofits to combat food insecurity. While this move was undeniably a step in the right direction, fighting food insecurity will not be solved with one-time donations. Food stamps need to be both consistently and directly distributed to maximize accessibility. Whatever care Reynolds displayed with this donation was severely diminished with her withdrawal from this program.

“Food insecurity doesn’t exist in a vacuum and requires a realistic approach to interrupt the cycle before Iowans become food insecure,” Reynolds said in September.

We could keep the system where we must interrupt this cycle, which will come with the woes and burdens of bureaucracy, or we could keep participating in this program and help end the cycle altogether.

COLUMN

K-12 schools should implement restorative justice

Iowa City schools is in its third year of its restorative justice program.

Natalie Nye
Opinions Columnist

Iowa City schools are making great strides to provide positive reinforcement discipline for students. Other school districts in Iowa should follow the Iowa City’s lead.

The Iowa City Community School District has implemented restorative justice for student discipline since the 2021-22 school year, and it’s working. Restorative justice provides students with mental health-focused help as opposed to outright discipline. This is a start in the right direction for improving student mental health.

This new approach to student discipline promotes the rehabilitation of students rather than making them feel worse. Children’s mental health is fragile and needs to be nurtured, not only by their families, but by their school as well.

The restorative justice program’s core principles focus on reducing disciplinary referrals, suspensions, and expulsions. It also aims to repair the relationships between victims and perpetrators by letting the victims tell them how they were hurt, then the perpetrators can work to put to right the harm they inflicted.

According to the National Institutes of Health, harsh discipline can lead to low performance in school, less memory capacity, and internalization of issues.

Simply suspending or expelling a student from school does nothing to address underlying problems the child may be facing either at home or with their peers. Implementing this new practice of restorative justice can give students an outlet for getting help that they otherwise wouldn’t have.

This has already been proven to be successful in some other schools outside of Iowa City. The Northwest Evaluation Association describes the evidence of restorative justice, reporting that there is less bullying, a more positive school environment, and reductions in suspensions.

Concerns for the new restorative justice program implementation in the Iowa City area include the potential time investment of teachers and the discomfort faced by victims. However, school is a place of learning, and teachers are responsible for nurturing their students’ minds since children spend most of their day at school.

Teachers should start putting in more effort to resolve conflict rather than handing their troubled students a detention slip and sending them out of the classroom.

Restorative justice has a broader objective of fostering lasting change in students’ perspectives and behaviors. It encourages the perpetrator and victims to come to an understanding or at the very least acknowledgment of each other’s feelings. This exchange goes a long way in helping the perpetrator understand the harm they’ve caused and to work towards righting their wrongs.

The transformative potential of restorative justice in shaping students’ lives has so many positive effects that ultimately outweigh the negatives of past disciplinary actions. Students will learn to be more socially aware as they make their way through school, and victims will feel heard by those who inflicted harm on them.

Sure, there are times when a student deserves that punishment if they cause harm to others at school. In most cases, however, kids are just trying to learn how to interact with other people and school is the playground for social unawareness. That’s why teachers are responsible for nurturing not only the minds of their students but the relationships they form.

Iowa schools should embrace implementing restorative justice programs. Therapeutic interventions are a necessity for students to experience so they can learn to behave and think more healthily and make sure not to hurt anyone else moving forward.

COLUMN

Iowa must subsidize travel for doctors

This is the solution to improve mental and physical health care for people living in rural Iowa.

Aaron El-Kerdani
Opinions Columnist

Health care is unjustly scarce across rural Iowa.

In 2021, Statista reported around 6.8 percent of the state is uninsured in health care. The majority of the state, around 54.4 percent, are insured through their employers.

To put that into perspective, Iowa has a population of nearly 3.2 million, which means there are over 217,000 Iowans who do not have consistent health care coverage. Of those people, many live in rural areas where quality care locations are few and far between.

This situation cannot be ignored. Health care should be guaranteed for all citizens, especially in difficult-to-reach rural areas. No one should have to suffer or die because the government deems them unworthy.

By all accounts, one of the best ways to improve health care in rural areas is to subsidize doctors’ travel to rural areas.

University of Iowa marketing professor Tom Gruca highlighted in his recent study that hiring physician specialists from out of the country and paying doctors for their travel to rural areas to provide care can help incentivize them.

Gruca states in the study that because there are under 200 practicing cardiologists in Iowa and around 2,000 cardiologists exiting the practice, but the number of cardiologists in the U.S. is expected to drop by 10 percent in the coming years.

Should that happen, rural areas would be affected the most should that happen.

Using these two policies, if doctors were subsidized to travel to rural areas, then Iowans would be able to have adequate access to health care.

On Sept. 18, 2023, the UI announced its goal to acquire state funding to focus on providing mental, maternal, and primary health care to rural areas.

Although the UI is asking for \$10 million a year to expand access to medical screenings, telehealth for rural areas, and develop incentives in recruiting health care workers, the

researchers from the aforementioned study have determined the price should be cheaper.

In reality, these policies would cost around \$430,000 a year, which amounts to about \$80 for each operating clinic per day. This may still appear expensive, but it has great potential to benefit taxpayers.

“This would be kind of a systemwide solution, and it would restore access and keep access in all the different cities that are currently enjoying that improved access in their hometowns,” Gruca told the Iowa Capital Dispatch in November 2023.

Iowa should subsidize travel for doctors not just for physical medical matters but also for mental health matters.

To put the issue into perspective, the National Alliance of Mental Illness has determined that as of 2021, over 473,000 adults in Iowa have a mental health condition, which is more than three times the population of Cedar Rapids.

Health care for rural areas will remain a persistent issue, however, unless Iowa can find a way to subsidize travel for doctors to people in need. Only then can the state severely tackle the danger of lack of health care in rural areas.

No one should have to suffer from a lack of health care.

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AMPLIFY

Future of UI diversity scholarships unclear

University undergraduate students reflect on how diversity scholarships impacted them.

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In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn affirmative action in June 2023, ending race-based admission, the future of diversity scholarships in institutions nationwide is unsure, including at the University of Iowa.

The UI's merit-based Advantage Iowa Award is just one example. The diversity scholarship was previously reserved for incoming first-year students from historically underrepresented populations, including those with African American, Hispanic, Native American, Pacific Islander, and multiracial backgrounds. Students could be awarded up to \$8,000 per year for up to four years.

Students are automatically considered for the award upon admission to the university, with the chance to receive more aid by applying to the Advantage Iowa Grant after the initial award. The scholarship also provides academic support for students when they arrive on campus, including one-on-one coaching and a first-year experience course taught by academic coaches.

Recipients of the award are required to meet with an academic coach once a semester during their first year, maintain a 2.0 GPA, and be enrolled in over 12 credit hours each semester to continually receive the amount awarded during their four years at the UI.

Now, the award is facing substantial changes. Jeneane Beck, UI assistant vice president for external relations, wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan* that these changes come after the U.S. Supreme Court decision on affirmative action.

"The University of Iowa is changing the selection criteria for the Advantage Iowa Award to a need-based award for students of all backgrounds," Beck wrote.

While the changes will not impact the scholarships already awarded to students at the UI, current students with the award still see the changes as negative.

Award relieved stress for family, Managing Editor of Enterprise and Design Marandah Mangra-Dutcher



Mangra-Dutcher

I was born and raised in a predominantly white suburb of Iowa's capital, Des Moines. As the youngest of three in a multiracial family, I have always been known to break the mold.

Both of my siblings opted to attend community college after high school graduation to pursue their two-year degrees, but I elected to apply anywhere that offered a free application and was a traditional four-year institution.

I completed nine college applications and was accepted to all of them, but knew I could only consider two or three of the options because, in the end, money was the deciding factor.

The UI awarded me the best financial package of the nine institutions with the inclusion of the Advantage Iowa Award. After telling my mom about my options, you could see the relief on her face when I reached Iowa and explained the amount I received. None of the other offers, including the University of Missouri offering me in-state tuition, compared to the amount I would save by attending the UI.

According to the fall 2022 Iowa Board of Regents Enrollment Report, 20 percent of the UI's 2022 first-year students identify as a racial/ethnic minority, including African American, Asian, Latinx, Native American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and being of multiple ethnicities. Additionally, 20.5 percent identify as first-generation students.

For some of the other Advantage Iowa awardees, like UI third-year Grayson Lottes, the Advantage Iowa Scholarship was also the deciding factor for attending the university.

"For me, I don't think I'd be going here if I was not offered the scholarship," Lottes said.

Iowa was one of Lottes' top choices, but the award made attendance even more feasible, he said.

"My mom went here and she said she loved it," Lottes said. "It was the



Jack Gruber | USA Today

Protesters gather outside as the U.S. Supreme Courts hears oral arguments in two affirmative action college admission cases in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 31, 2022. The two lawsuits from Students for Fair Admissions, an anti-affirmative action group founded by conservative legal strategist Edward Blum, accuse the University of North Carolina and Harvard of discriminating against Asian American students and giving unfair preference to Black and Hispanic applicants – challenging decades of legal precedent. In the lawsuit against UNC, the group says the school also discriminated against white applicants.

cheapest for me, so all the stars kind of aligned for me to come here."

However, without the assurance of the Advantage Iowa Scholarship in the capacity Lottes knows, he doesn't know if his younger brother, an aspiring Hawkeye, will be able to attend the UI if he isn't awarded it.

"I have two little brothers. One of them really, really wants to come here," he said. "He's a great student and all, but I'm hoping he'll still get enough money to come here without it being too taxing student loans-wise without the Advantage Iowa scholarship."

Award gives financial relief to out-of-state students, Senior Reporter Kate Perez



Perez

For me, a Cuban student from the Chicago suburbs, moving out of state affordably seemed impossible when I was applying to colleges.

As a result, I ended up applying to schools that only had need-based scholarships, knowing that receiving an award would be the only way I could afford to attend college. I did not realize while applying to the UI that I had a chance at the Advantage Iowa Award for being from a historically underrepresented background, let alone the Advantage Iowa Grant.

Additionally, as an out-of-state student, I knew going in that there was a chance I would receive less scholarship money. The Advantage Iowa Award seemed to celebrate out-of-state and in-state students equally, making it different from other scholarships at competing universities.

Receiving the award made attending college financially feasible. Relief swept over me when I saw the email that I had been awarded aid, because I knew that I would be able to attend a school that sparked my interests while also living without financial insecurity. It was a lifesaver.

For other out-of-state Advantage Iowa Scholars, including third-year Puerto Rican scholar Andrell Rodriguez, the scholarship also made education at the UI accessible.

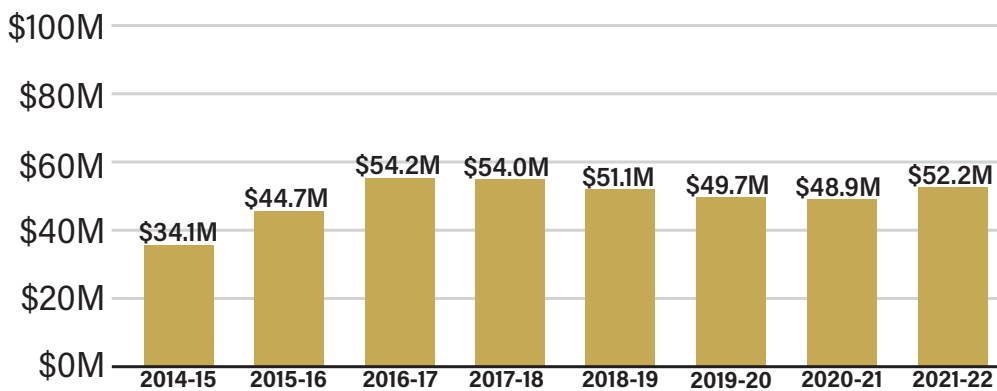
"It's pretty much like the biggest reason that I'm here," Rodriguez said. "Because of all the aid that I've gotten, it's just made it so much easier to be able to actually come here and stay here. So that scholarship, the Advantage Iowa Award, was part of it."

Rodriguez said he found the changes to be "disappointing" and "limiting" for students of diverse backgrounds.

"... I wouldn't be surprised if I had to think about it a little bit more if I was in the shoes of an incoming freshman in the next couple years," he said. "Because not having that, it'll discourage people, or at least make them reconsider where they might end up."

University of Iowa need-based scholarships & grants for undergraduate students by year

Since 2014, UI undergraduates have been awarded over \$334 million in need-based scholarships and grants, according to the Iowa Board of Regents. The amount excludes HEERF dollars.



Infographic by Panfua Thao | The Daily Iowan

Removal of diversity scholarship information from UI websites troubles students

In the last year, all information regarding the Advantage Iowa Award was wiped from UI websites, including the admissions scholarship site, the Center for Inclusive Academic Excellence website, and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion website.

While current Advantage Iowa Scholars can still access information about the program via an ICON class, public information regarding the scholarship has been removed completely.

According to an email to the *DI* from university officials, the criteria for the award was removed from UI websites because students no longer need to apply for the scholarship. Since the scholarship will be awarded based on need following the completion of their FAFSA application, it will be part of the UI's need-based aid package.

Jackie Fuentes, a UI third-year Hispanic Advantage Iowa Scholar, said she first found out about the changes through a post from the UI Cross Cultural Student Coalition Instagram account.

"They're not taking away my scholarship, but I was really surprised that they still didn't email me, inform me, my advisor, nobody really brought this up," Fuentes said. Additionally, the UI admissions website currently has two incoming first-year scholarships listed, the Iowa Scholars Award and the Provost Scholarship, out-

side of collegiate and departmental scholarships. The Advantage Iowa Award is no longer listed on the website.

While Fuentes said she is happy for the students from need-based backgrounds who will now be eligible for the award, she wishes there was still a specific scholarship opportunity for students of diverse and underrepresented backgrounds.

"It's hard because obviously, I want people who need money to have money and be able to have the same privilege that I have of going to school, but I think it is kind of hard to compare when people of color have really experienced more in the U.S. system that has always penalized them," Fuentes said.

UI sees other potential DEI changes

The change to diversity scholarships is not unusual following the end of affirmative action, with schools like the University of Missouri opting to end race-based scholarships.

Historically, the UI has supported scholarships aimed toward students with need-based backgrounds.

During the 2021-22 year, the UI gave \$52.2 million in need-based

scholarships and grants, according to an Iowa Board of Regents 2023 Student Financial Aid Report.

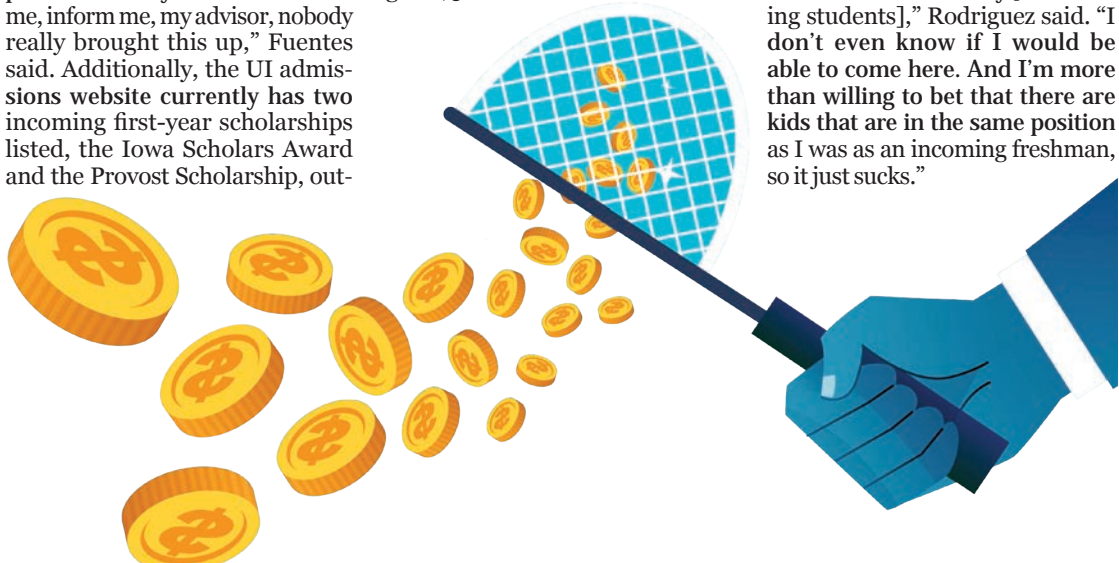
Additionally, during the 2021-22 year, 47.7 percent of resident students demonstrated financial need, with the UI meeting 69 percent of that need. In regards to non-resident students, 43.3 percent demonstrated financial need, with the UI meeting 77 percent of that need.

The scholarship changes come as the UI faces other potential diversity, equity, and inclusion changes. The Iowa Board of Regents recently passed a series of changes that would cut certain offices, initiatives, and positions related to DEI.

A report from a recent study group found that some DEI resources at regent institutions exist only for some student groups. According to the report, "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."

Overall, Rodriguez said he hopes diversity continues to be supported at the UI with scholarships for incoming students, despite the uncertainty surrounding the future of DEI on campuses.

"I was pretty much in the same boat without that money [as incoming students]," Rodriguez said. "I don't even know if I would be able to come here. And I'm more than willing to bet that there are kids that are in the same position as I was as an incoming freshman, so it just sucks."



SHAKING UP THE BIG TEN

No. 18 Ohio State defeated No. 2 Iowa 100-92 on Jan. 21.



TOP SCORERS



IOWA

Caitlin Clark
Points: 45
T.O.P. : 42:33



OHIO STATE

Cotie McMahon
Points: 33
T.O.P. : 41:21



Ayrton Breckenridge | The Daily Iowan

(Top) Ohio State guard Emma Shumate, forward Rebeka Mikulášiková, and forward Taiyier Parks celebrate with fans on the court after a basketball game between No. 2 Iowa and No. 18 Ohio State at Value City Arena in Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 21. The Buckeyes defeated the Hawkeyes, 100-92. (Right) Ohio State guard Jacy Sheldon goes in for a layup during a basketball game between No. 2 Iowa and No. 18 Ohio State at Value City Arena in Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 21. Sheldon scored 24 points. (Below) Iowa guard Caitlin Clark and head coach Lisa Bluder answer questions from the media during a press conference after a basketball game between No. 2 Iowa and No. 18 Ohio State at Value City Arena in Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 21. The Buckeyes defeated the Hawkeyes, 100-92.

Find more online:

View more of *The Daily Iowan's* coverage from the Iowa vs. Ohio State game at dailyiowan.com.



The James



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



Check out dailyiowan.com on Jan. 24 for coverage of Iowa men's basketball's game against Maryland.

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

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Iowa's strength in numbers

Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said her team's bench is especially strong this year.



Grace Smith | The Daily Iowan

Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder yells a play during game two of the Hy-Vee Hawkeye Showcase between No. 4 Iowa women's basketball and Cleveland State at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines, Iowa, on Dec. 16, 2023. The Hawkeyes defeated the Vikings, 104-75. Iowa's bench ranks near the top of the Big Ten in terms of points scored this season.

Cooper Worth
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Lisa Bluder is no rookie in the world of coaching. The nearly 40-year coaching vet has been at the helm of the Hawkeyes for 23 seasons and, during this time, she has seen much success, including winning four Big Ten Tournaments and reaching the NCAA Tournament 17 times. So, it means something when the winningest coach in Big Ten history says that this year's Iowa team has the most depth she's seen in a long time.

"I have so much confidence going to our bench," Bluder said after Iowa's 96-50 win over the Wisconsin Badgers, for which the bench contributed 39 points.

Although much of the fanfare goes to Caitlin Clark and the starting five, Iowa's bench — led by guards Sydney Affolter and Kylie Feuerbach, and center Sharon Goodman — ranks near the top of the Big Ten in terms of points scored this season.

It's a veteran unit that has learned to trust the process, sitting behind an even more

seasoned starting lineup featuring sixth-year Kate Martin and fifth-year Gabbie Marshall. This doesn't stop the backups who are coming in from making the most out of every opportunity.

"On the bench, everyone knows how good they are, and you know you're just as good to go in there and get those minutes," Affolter said.

Backcourt

Fan favorite Affolter, whose tenacity defending and going for rebounds paired with her proven capabilities as a scorer, has

garnered her much praise from Bluder and the rest of the coaching staff.

"She's one of those kids that just do their job. It's just, 'I'm in the trenches, I'm going to do what we do,' [and] that's kind of rare to get kids with that type of motor," associate head coach Jan Jensen said. "She's not going to back down from anybody."

The third-year out of Chicago has steadily seen her minus increase

BLUDER | 3B



Clark



Jensen

WOMEN'S WRESTLING

Finding the right fit

Jaycee Foeller has found a home with the Hawkeyes.



Isabella Tisdale | The Daily Iowan

Iowa 191-pound Jaycee Foeller wrestles King University Alex Garcia during the semifinal round of the NWCA National Duals between No. 2 Iowa and King University on Jan. 6. Iowa defeated King University, 31-8. Foeller previously wrestled at McKendree University and Central Methodist University.

Brad Schultz
Sports Reporter
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Despite success at McKendree University and Central Methodist University, Jaycee Foeller knew that it was time for a change.

After exploring several options, she decided to transfer to the University of Iowa, marking her third school in just three years of college wrestling.

Now, Foeller feels she's where she is meant to be.

From pom-poms to singlets

Hailing from De Soto, Missouri, Foeller was heavily involved with cheerleading in her youth and envisioned herself with a career in cheer someday.



Foeller

"Cheerleading was something that I loved to do, and my goal was to go on and cheer in college," Foeller said.

That all changed when she entered seventh grade.

Foeller was exposed to wrestling from a young age, as both her little brothers did the sport. After several years of watching their tournaments on the sidelines, Foeller

decided she wanted to give wrestling a try. "I was always at all of their events and tournaments, and I finally just decided I might as well do it," Foeller said.

While Foeller continued to cheer in high school, wrestling soon became her number one sport, and she continued to improve her craft.

FOELLER | 3B

TRACK AND FIELD

Maud Zeffou-Poaty's 4,000-mile jump

The long jumper traveled from France to compete as a Hawkeye.

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



Zeffou-Poaty

First-year long jumper Maud Zeffou-Poaty initially tried track and field to occupy her time. As she improved, her dedication to the sport transformed her into a standout long jumper in France.

"At the beginning, it was just to do a sport," Zeffou-Poaty said. "Over the years, it has become [my] passion."

Now, Zeffou-Poaty has brought her passion to Iowa City.

"At the beginning, I didn't want to be here because of the cold," Zeffou-Poaty said. "I think I like it. There's the cold, but it's not that bad."

In the warmth of the Hawkeye Indoor Track Facility, Zeffou-Poaty posted the fourth-best long jump in Iowa history. Her jump of 6.07 meters marked Zeffou-Poaty's personal best as a Hawkeye, and earned her a second-place finish behind her fourth-year teammate Tionna Tobias.

"I was really proud of her for stepping on the runway and giving it all that she [had]," Tobias said. "Small breakthroughs lead to bigger breakthroughs."

Fortunately for Zeffou-Poaty, living in the U.S. has given her the means to have those breakthrough moments. She recognizes the convenience of being a college athlete in the U.S. as opposed to in France.

In her home country, Zeffou-Poaty attended a full day of school and took the train to track practice. After her workouts, she would get back on the train to travel home, complete her homework assignments, go to bed, and prepare to do it all again the next day. Though she didn't mind the routine, she is finding Iowa track and field to be more con-

ZEFFOU-POATY | 3B

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Women's basketball

Saturday, Jan. 27
vs. Nebraska
1 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network

Men's basketball

Wednesday, Jan. 24
vs. Maryland
6 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network

Saturday, Jan. 27
At Michigan
4 p.m., FS1 and Hawkeye Radio Network

Tuesday, Jan. 30
At Indiana
6 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network

Men's wrestling

Friday, Jan. 26
At Illinois
8 p.m., Big Ten Network and Hawkeye Radio Network

Sunday, Jan. 28
At Northwestern
2 p.m., Big Ten Plus and Hawkeye Radio Network

Gymnastics

Friday, Jan. 26
vs. Southern Utah
6:30 p.m., Big Ten Plus

Sunday, Jan. 28
At Michigan State
Noon, Big Ten Plus

Indoor track and field

Jan. 26-27
Black and Gold Invitational

Tennis

Jan. 27-28
ITA Kickoff
Raleigh, North Carolina

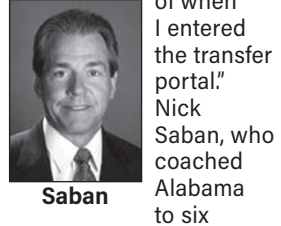
PORTAL PICKUP

Former Alabama offensive tackle



Kady Proctor announced his commitment to the Hawkeyes on Jan. 20. The 6-foot-8, 365-pounder started every game for Alabama in his first season and received Freshman All-American and first-team Freshman All-SEC honors. The former five-star recruit from Des Moines is currently on campus. He attended the men's basketball game against No. 2 Purdue and was swarmed by reporters.

"This is home. I love home. This is ultimately where I wanted to be," Proctor said, according to a post on X, formerly known as Twitter, from Tyler Tachman of *The Des Moines Register*. "This is the first place I thought of when I entered the transfer portal."



Nick Saban, who coached Alabama to six national championships in his 17 years at the helm, announced on Jan. 10 that he is retiring. Alabama players have a special 30-day window to enter the transfer portal because of Saban's retirement. Proctor originally committed to the Hawkeyes in June 2022 but flipped his decision to the Crimson Tide in December of that year — just hours before he was scheduled to sign his letter of intent to Iowa.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I think I was forgetting how great the process is. Looking back on that now, I know the hardships are worth it."

Iowa track and field hurdler
Paige Magee

STAT OF THE WEEK

29

The number of games Iowa women's basketball has helped sell out or break an attendance record at this season.

WRESTLING

New face at 149 pounds

Iowa wrestler Caleb Rathjen finds his place in the Hawkeye lineup.

Isaac Elzinga
Sports Reporter
isaac-elzinga@uiowa.edu

Iowa men's wrestler Caleb Rathjen started the 2023-24 season on the sidelines, but he has since carved out his spot in the lineup after a strong showing in his recent matches.

The 149-pounder overtook Oklahoma State transfer Victor Voinovich III, who struggled at the beginning of the season with a loss against Iowa State's Casey Swiderski and a one-point win against Penn State's Andy Troczynski.

Rathjen got the call in Iowa's final non-conference dual against Columbia and made the most of the opportunity, earning a 15-3 major decision win in his Carver-Hawkeye Arena debut.

He followed up that dominant performance with a great showing during the Soldier Salute, where he beat teammates Cade Siebrecht, 18-3, and Voinovich, 6-3, in the semifinals before beating Anthony Ferrari, 7-2, in the final to claim the 149 title.

After Rathjen placed first in the 149-pound bracket, he was named Most Outstanding Wrestler at the Soldier Salute.

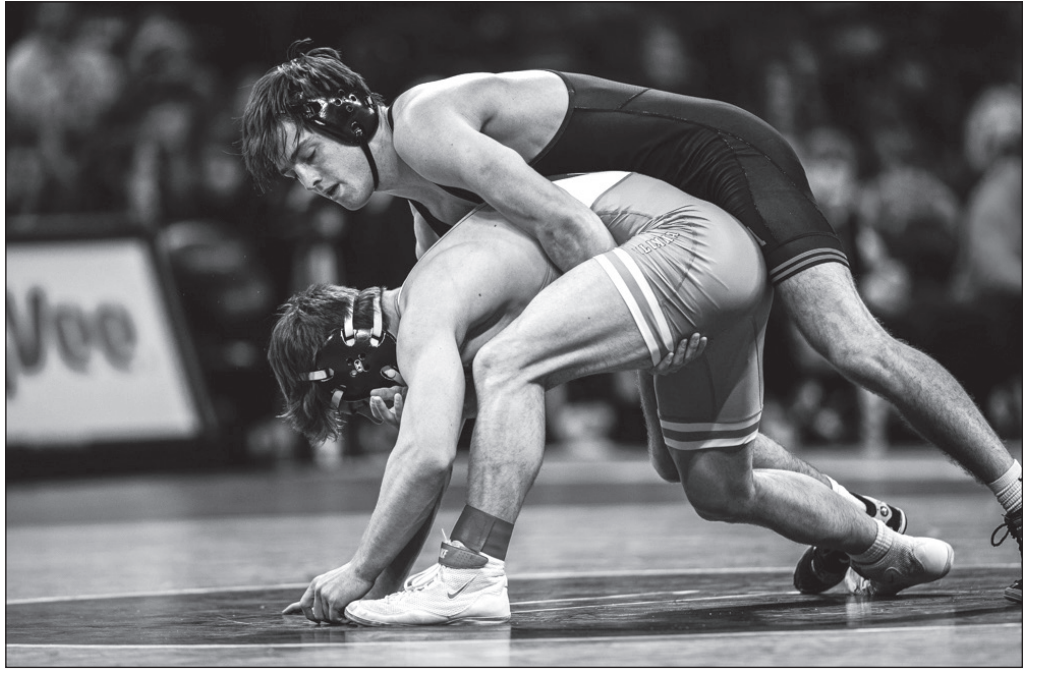
Iowa head coach Tom Brands said Iowa has always encouraged wrestlers to go head-to-head to earn their spots because it helps the staff find the best guy to help the team compete for a national championship.

Brands said he was impressed with Rathjen's determination to "be the guy."

"We will know more every week, every weekend, every competition," Brands said of Rathjen's role in the lineup. "This is a very unique year. There have been a lot of steps that have happened to get through, to get to this point."

Brands added that it wasn't just Rathjen's wins themselves that have been impressive but how he had been winning with emphasis and determination.

"There's no need to be uptight about this opportunity," Brands said of his wrestlers earning spots in the lineup. "There's no need to worry about, 'What does the coaching



Sara Stumpff | The Daily Iowan

Columbia's 149-pound Richard Fedalen takes on Iowa's Caleb Rathjen during a wrestling dual between No. 4 Iowa and Columbia at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Dec. 8, 2023. Victor Voinovich III is the other key Iowa 149-pound wrestler battling for the spot in the lineup.

staff think or what are the fans thinking?' It doesn't matter. Go out and do what you do best. Don't look over your shoulder."

Brands added that Rathjen and his wrestlers should simply go out onto the mat and have fun, get out of their heads, and wrestle freely.

Rathjen opened up the Big Ten schedule with his toughest test in Iowa's dual against Nebraska on Jan. 12. He faced No. 1 Ridge Lovett and lost, 6-0, but avoided giving the Cornhuskers bonus points, holding Lovett to a decision win.

Brands thought Rathjen's match against Lovett was a good experience because "he knows what the number one guy in the country feels like."

Brands stuck with Rathjen after his loss, and Rathjen then took on No. 13 Drew Rob-

erts in Iowa's dual meet against Minnesota on Jan. 15 — and Rathjen responded by notching another ranked win for the Hawkeyes, beating Roberts, 7-3.

After the Minnesota dual, Rathjen was absent from the lineup with Voinovich getting the green light at 149 against Purdue on Jan. 19.

Voinovich impressed, earning a 19-4 tech fall, but Brands said Rathjen would be in the lineup at the next dual and was left out due to an illness that had gone around the wrestling room.

"We're going to continue to do the right thing, the best thing for each individual and what's best for the program," Brands said. "Keep going forward. That's how you do it. There's no deviating from a basic, solid approach."

Q&A | KARINA MUÑOZ

UI gymnast talks Iowa City eats, music



Karina Muñoz
Second-year
All-around
East Brunswick, New Jersey

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

The Daily Iowan: What's your favorite type of music?

Karina Muñoz: That's very hard. There's a lot of music genres that I listen to. I love listening to Spanish music. There's like different genres within Spanish music, but I would say I listen to that most of the time. And you can see during meets I have headphones on before I compete, and that's usually what's going through my headphones.

What's the last concert you went to?

It was July 22, it was The Weeknd concert. I also went to Bad Bunny, and that was so fun. That's what my floor music is going to be this year, Bad Bunny.

Who is someone you look up to and why?

I would say Adeline [Kenlin]. She's a senior and I'm a sophomore, so I feel like I can learn a lot from her experiences here, and I still have a lot to do on the team when she's gone.

What was your favorite thing you did over winter break?

I'm from New Jersey, so I missed Jersey a lot because of the bagels and stuff like that. So [my family and I] went to the city and just walked around. We got hot chocolate. I ate so much Spanish food — my grandma's food, my mom's food. The food was my favorite part.

What are some things you like to do in Iowa City when you're not competing?

Go to The Dandy Lion. I'm there every week and the waitress knows my order. I walk in, and they already know to set down the chocolate milk. And then she looks at me like, 'Breakfast sandwich with extra crispy hashbrowns?' That's my favorite spot.

Have you brought any of your teammates there?

I took Adeline over Thanksgiving break. I was like, 'You're from Iowa City, but you've never been to The Dandy Lion?' So I took her on a little date.

What is your latest guilty pleasure?

Eating Trader Joe's feta cheese, just straight from the container. I love cheese.

Are there any other athletes from different sports who you are close to?

I came in fall 2022, so my class didn't have COVID protocol, and I actually had a normal dorm life. So I was able to mingle with basketball, football, volleyball, and we're still so close and we have group chats. In my apartment building right now, I have two basketball friends I'm really close with that live like a door away, Josh Dix and Dasonte Bowen.

Do you live with any of your teammates or other athletes right now?

I live with Hanna Castillo. She's also a sophomore, and we're so close.

Iowa faced Washington a little while ago, who is joining the Big Ten. How was that matchup and are you excited to see them more in the future?

It was really fun. We were really inclusive, took pictures with them, and welcomed them to the Big Ten. Every time we face a Big Ten team, it's like a rivalry, but everyone is there for each other, and there's no weirdness.

POINT | COUNTERPOINT

Will Iowa women's basketball win out?



Brad Schultz
Sports Reporter

YES

Any casual college basketball fan knows how difficult it is to win games, especially in the Big Ten where there is no easy out.

But if there is one team that can run the table through these final 10 games of the season, it's the 2023-24 Iowa women's basketball squad.

Superstar Caitlin Clark has led the team in just about every statistical category, and she always seems to deliver in the clutch, no matter how big the moment has been. In her most recent outing against No. 14 Indiana, Clark dropped 30 points, and the Hawkeyes came away with an 84-57 victory.

Slowing her down to less than 20 points is like stopping the Earth from rotating. It doesn't happen.

Though Clark is the focal point of this Iowa squad, the main thing that separates this team from other

star-studded groups in the country is how each Hawkeye knows her role on the court.

Each and every Hawkeye, from the stars to the reserves, fills a niche position that makes this team extraordinarily well-rounded. Gabbie Marshall locks in on defense, Molly Davis pushes the offensive pace, and Sydney Affolter is your hustle player. What more could you need?

Sure, LSU, South Carolina, and UConn may have better overall talent at recruiting juggernauts and NCAA Champions, but Iowa has the experience and the chemistry to compete with any team in the nation, let alone the Big Ten — and join those three as a historic program in collegiate women's basketball.

The Big Ten is also experiencing a little bit of a down year as Ohio State, Indiana, and Iowa seem to be the only three teams capable of a deep run in the NCAA Tournament.

Iowa's demolition of Indiana left many fans convinced that the Hawkeyes could win out through the remainder of the regular season, and despite tough trips to Indiana and Minnesota left on the schedule, I expect Lisa Bluder's squad to be 28-2 entering postseason play.



Colin Votzmeyer
Assistant Sports Editor

NO

With the Iowa women's basketball team up to No. 2 in the AP Poll and ripping through every opponent in its way, the Hawkeyes now have a target on their backs that will make it tough to remain perfect over the last 10 games.

It's no question this team has clicked as of late, overcoming the early-season plague that was a struggle to find an offense when Caitlin Clark was not scoring, which kept a handful of games close and even led to that early loss to Kansas State.

With guard Kate Martin and Hannah Stuelke now fulfilling the "big three" role, the Hawkeyes are pretty powerful on both ends of the floor.

So it's not one particular flaw on the team that I think opponents can expose to escape with a win. It's just that perfect, and even

near-perfect, basketball seasons are so tough to attain — especially in the Big Ten climate Iowa has left to endure.

While no one really expects, for example, 7-8 overall Illinois to come into Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 25 and take Iowa down, there are three remaining games in particular this regular season that put the Hawkeyes on serious upset alert.

At Maryland on Feb. 3, at Indiana on Feb. 22, and at Minnesota on Feb. 28 — three remaining battles such opponents certainly have circled in red Sharpie on their calendars, excited to welcome the Black and Gold to their homes for revenge.

No one is safe, and these three teams will be set on not only striking back for what Iowa has done to them this season and in years past but also on capturing a last-minute win to make a push of momentum for the Big Ten and NCAA Tournaments.

Of course, even the greatest teams of all time have bad games. The 72-10 Chicago Bulls were just that — with 10 losses in the regular season. The Hawkeyes are no exemption. Solid teams have given them a battle in away games before, and the toughest road is yet to come.

GYMNASTICS

Beaming with confidence

Fourth-year Adeline Kenlin established herself as the vocal leader of a young team.

Jake Olson Sports Reporter

Fourth-year Adeline Kenlin came into the Iowa gymnastics program as a decorated athlete...

In her first year at West Branch High School, Kenlin represented the nation after qualifying for the 2017 Junior U.S. National team.

Entering her first year with the Hawkeyes, Kenlin wasn't used to the team aspect that came at the collegiate level.

"My role at the beginning was to try to fit in with the team," Kenlin said. "I was just a single athlete at my club gym."

Iowa head coach Larissa Libby has seen Kenlin grow both physically and mentally since she began her Hawkeye career.

"I think the thing she's changed the most is her mentality about gymnastics and her outlook on herself," Libby said.

Not only has Kenlin changed her mentality toward herself, but has also grown to become a smarter athlete when taking on a routine.

NCAA runner-up on beam in 2022. "She knows exactly what she needs and doesn't put herself in those detrimental positions..."

Libby also credits Kenlin's former teammates for helping the athlete reach this position, including Clair Kaji for instilling a mentality of self-confidence...

"She has really adjusted to the culture of the program and really taken it in," Libby said. "She's had great people surrounding her since freshman year."

Kenlin, a two-time All-American, now describes herself as the team's vocal leader, using both energy and experience to motivate other athletes.

"I just use my voice a lot," Kenlin said. "I am a very loud person. I like to get the crowd hyped up, and I want the younger freshmen or any of the other classes to do the same as well."

Even with the recent departure of three-time All-American JerQuavia Henderson, Kenlin hasn't felt any additional pressure as a



Matt Sindt | The Daily Iowan

Iowa's Adeline Kenlin competes on the beam during session two of the Big Ten gymnastics championship at Xtreme Arena in Coralville on March 18, 2023.

team leader. Henderson stepped away from gymnastics to focus on her mental health.

"I don't think there is any more pressure. It sure did help when she was on the team to have two people that had a lot of experience, but I can use what I've learned."

The absence of another vocal upper-classman can be challenging for an

inexperienced Hawkeye team, but Kenlin already sees some of her younger teammates taking on leadership roles...

Muñoz, who is known as another prominent figure on the GymHawks, said she looks up to Kenlin.

"I feel like I can learn a lot from her experiences here," Muñoz said. "I still have a lot to do on the team when she's gone."

BLUDER from 1B

and has the highest plus-minus on the team. She is second and third in steals and rebounds per game with 6.6 and 1.4, respectively...

"Syd Affolter has been playing so well, offensively and defensively, and she is an amazing spark off the bench," Bluder said.

Next to sub in is Feuerbach, whose length and shooting abilities have also led to success for the redshirt third-year in her first season back after suffering an ACL injury.

Second-year guard Taylor McCabe has also seen some playing time this season, mainly during the teams' blowout wins.

Frontcourt

One of the more dynamic things about the Iowa women's basketball team is their depth at the post positions.

There was much speculation about how Bluder would be able to replicate the success the team had last year with

starters Monika Czinano and McKenna Warnock leaving the team. So far, Iowa has done well behind center Hannah Stuelke, who is second in the team in scoring with 13.2 points per game.

However, in lineups where Stuelke is the tallest player for Iowa, it can leave the team at a disadvantage defending against tall post players such as the 6-foot-6 duo Ayoka Lee and Elizabeth Kitley...

Add in third-year forward AJ Ediger, who played a season-high 12 minutes against Wisconsin, recording seven points and four rebounds.

Iowa's bench also stepped up during Iowa's 92-100 overtime loss to No. 18 Ohio State when Martin and Stuelke got in foul trouble early into the game.

"Hannah's a more athletic, speedier post, whereas Sharon is a little bit more physical, back-to-the-basket straightforward post, kind of old school post," Bluder said.

Eyes on March

Another factor that will help this group is their experience come tournament time in March.

All mentioned have gotten playing time during Iowa's last two runs in the NCAA tournament, with O'Grady and Affolter notably seeing action in the 2023 Final Four and Championship.

During her time at ISU, Feuerbach started at guard during the Cyclones' NCAA first and second round tournament games against Michigan State and Texas A&M.

"[The bench] are quality players, right? I mean, they're really good players, but mostly it's that they have that experience, and they have confidence now," Bluder said.

Bluder said the chemistry among her team is part of what's made this season successful so far and said no one is bitter or harbors any ill feelings toward another player for starting over them.

"I think that we've created a culture where everyone matters. So, everybody on this team knows that they're valuable, and everybody on this team knows that you might get an opportunity, and you're going to have to step up," she said.

FOELLER from 1B

During her high school career, Foeller went a perfect 121-0 while capturing the 2018 USMC Cadet title. In the classroom, Foeller was a member of the National Honor Society and won the Trisha Saunders Award of Excellence in 2021.

Early college years

Foeller enrolled at McKendree University for her first collegiate season and planned to stay there for the entirety of her college career.

In her only season in a Bearcat singlet, she captured the MoVal Open Championship and was the runner-up at the 2022 NCWWC National Championship the following spring.

Following her first season, Foeller was dealt a monkey wrench when head coach Sam Schmitz left the program.

"I just didn't feel like I was the right fit in the program anymore," Foeller said.

Schmitz was hired as the head wrestling coach at Central Methodist University, and Foeller decided to follow him there.

"I wanted to join Coach Schmitz at CMU because he is a really good coach and a terrific leader, and I thought that would be the best place to further my career," Foeller said.

Foeller adjusted quickly to Central Methodist and finished as the runner-up in both the Heart of America Conference and the NAIA. Her team finished 11-3 and earned a seventh-place finish at the NAIA National Championships at the end of the season.

ZEFFOU-POATY from 1B

venient and accommodating.

"In America, [there is] a great program for student-athletes," she said. "When I was in France, I was one of the best."

According to jumps coach Hadrien Choukroun, Zeffou-Poaty is adjusting well to Division I athletics as well as the Hawkeyes' team expectations.

"She's fitting in well," Choukroun said. "We have a group of kids that are very committed intrinsically. They do things on their own and want to be great."

Though Zeffou-Poaty might have specific goals for the season, Choukroun's biggest priorities for her first season are based on her longevity as a Hawkeye.

"We want her to come out of this season healthy and with some good performances so she can be confident going into the next

Moving to Iowa

Once again, Foeller was left without a team and began looking into other universities. Her search led her to the inaugural program at the University of Iowa.

She later reached out to head coach Clarissa Chun about a potential opening. Though she hadn't met her before, Foeller highly respected Chun, who is a former Olympian and one of the pioneers of the sport.

"I was aware of her extensive background in the sport, and I really liked her coaching style," Foeller said.

Chun initially turned down Foeller's offer, but she kept persisting, and eventually it led to a second opportunity coming up. Foeller immediately accepted the offer and joined the Hawkeyes for the 2023-24 season.

Championship glory

Just a few weeks ago, Foeller and the Hawkeyes competed at the NWCA National Duals in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

After racing through the bracket, Iowa met defending champion North Central in the finals. With the Hawkeyes holding a slim 20-17 lead heading into the final match, it was up to Foeller to secure the title for her team.

"Before the match started, I looked and saw that I needed one point," Foeller said. "I was stressed out, but I needed to focus."

Foeller was handily defeated by North Central's Traeh Haynes but earned a passivity point that pushed Iowa over the finish line. In freestyle wrestling, an individual can earn a team point if they lose a match by decision or technical superiority but still score.

Over the next four years in the Iowa track and field program, Zeffou-Poaty's role will be to improve individually and build upon the jump squad's prior success.

According to Tobias, Iowa track and field isn't typically known for its women's jump squad. Now, as the Hawkeyes begin to add more assets to their team, they have created off-track bonds that translate to success in meets.

"It's just good to have a new-found sisterhood," Tobias said. "Even though we are different cultures and everything, we are learning from each other."

Choukroun agrees, indicating the diversity on the team makes the women stronger as both athletes and friends.

"She can explain what her part of the world is and communicate that with the rest of the team," Choukroun said. "I think everyone can grow from her experience."

Classifieds section containing ads for Tax Preparation, Apartment for Rent, Real Estate Professionals, and Landscapers Needed.





Barker Apartments advertisement featuring website URL, contact information, and details for three apartment complexes: Scotsdale, Seville, and Park Place.

Lottery numbers grid for Easy and Medium games.

HAWKEYE HOUSE STANDS STRONG

Iowa women's wrestling defeated Missouri Valley College and Life University at Carver-Hawkeye Arena to close out its home schedule and improve to 13-0 on the season. Iowa wrestlers went 19-1 and recorded 157 total match points.



 IOWA 42	HOW IOWA WON	 IOWA 35
VS		VS
 MISSOURI VALLEY 0	PINS 5	 LIFE UNIVERSITY 6
	TECH FALLS 10	
	DECISIONS 4	



Grace Smith and Isabella Tisdale | The Daily Iowan
 (Top) Iowa enters the arena during the Iowa Duals between NCAA-ranked No. 1 Iowa women's wrestling, NAIA-ranked No. 1 Life University, and Missouri Valley College at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Jan. 21. The Hawkeyes defeated the Big Reds, 42-0, and the Running Eagles, 35-6. (Above) Iowa's second-ranked 109-pounder Ava Bayless takes down Valley's Hailey Holland during the Iowa Duals between NCAA-ranked No. 1 Iowa women's wrestling, NAIA-ranked No. 1 Life University, and Missouri Valley College at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Jan. 21. Bayless defeated Holland by tech fall, 11-0. The Hawkeyes defeated the Big Reds, 42-0, and the Running Eagles, 35-6. (Beside) The No. 1 Iowa women's wrestling team dances to introduction music during the Iowa Duals between Iowa, Life University, and Missouri Valley College at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 21. The Hawkeyes defeated Missouri Valley, 42-0, and Life University, 35-6. (Bottom) Iowa's second-ranked 143-pounder Reese Larramendy shows off her tiger hawk during the Iowa Duals between NCAA-ranked No. 1 Iowa women's wrestling, NAIA-ranked No. 1 Life University, and Missouri Valley College at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Jan. 21. The Hawkeyes defeated the Big Reds, 42-0, and the Running Eagles, 35-6.

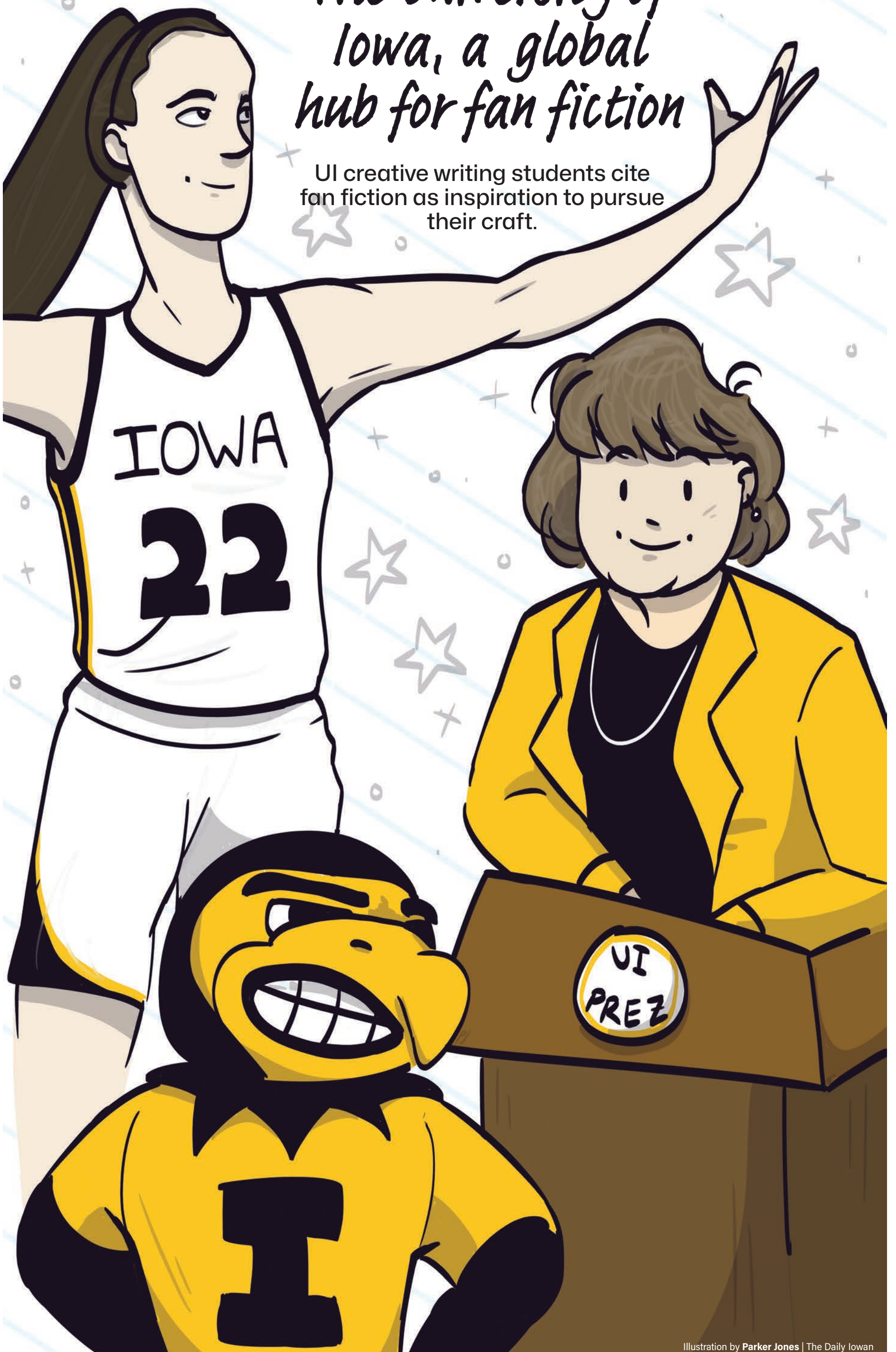
Find more online:
 View more of *The Daily Iowan's* coverage of women's wrestling at dailyiowan.com.



HOBBS

The University of Iowa, a global hub for fan fiction

UI creative writing students cite fan fiction as inspiration to pursue their craft.



Fan fiction inspires student writers

The genre is often excluded from literary discussion, typically seen as a hard-to-define younger cousin of fiction.

Charlie Hickman
Assistant Arts Editor
charles-hickman@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa is renowned for its excellent writing program, churning out countless award-winning novelists, nonfiction authors, and playwrights from the writers' workshop.

But fan fiction writing often goes unrecognized, and even dismissed, for its pivotal role in the development of young writers' voices.

For many people, the genre itself evokes a stereotype: superfans who create written spinoffs of fiction books or movies out of obsession, often containing taboo takes on beloved fictional characters.

Writers are aware of this, but the reality could not be further from this misconception.

"To say the entire category of work is one thing is a little funny to me," Darrin Terpstra, a UI fourth-year creative writing major, said.

Terpstra has been writing fan fiction since he was a preteen. His story is similar to countless fan fiction writers who grew up with internet sites like fanfiction.net, Wattpad, and Archive of Our Own, commonly known as AO3.

For him, fan fiction offers an escape from the restraints that come with career writing.

"I had watched a movie, which I can't remember at this point, and I didn't like how it ended. So I wrote this probably terrible short story and changed the ending," Terpstra said. "I was reading stories like mine for like three weeks until I realized it was fan fiction."

Fan fiction can be an original work featuring characters from preexisting properties, expansions on fictional universes, sequels, prequels, or anything in between.

"I get tired of seeing some storylines play out the same way through so many different works. When I watch or read other works, I end up seeing things I wish could have happened," Terpstra said. "I think I'm an impatient person. I don't feel like waiting for someone else to write further stories with characters I've grown passionate about," he joked.

UI second-year creative writing student Thalia Eliazar shares this sentiment.

"The worlds that were already built that I was reading about—I felt interested in expanding them," Eliazar explained. "[I liked] exploring new characters and the politics and sort of relating it to real stories in our world," she added.

Eliazar had been a reader of fan fiction since she was young, but it wasn't until 2020 during the COVID-19 lockdown that she tried her hand at writing her own. She cited the sense of online community and their promotion of the creative outlet as the reason the genre intrigued her.

"It didn't occur to me that I could write it until I was older," she explained.

Before AO3's time, Terpstra explained that fan fiction could be found scattered across the internet on various forums, websites, and messaging boards such as LiveJournal. However, the history of fan fiction pre-Internet is much richer.

The history of fan fiction

Before the digitization of fan fiction, publications commonly referred to as fanzines — a combination of fan fiction and a magazine — could be found at any magazine stand. Peter Balestrieri, the curator of science fiction and popular culture at UI's Spe-

cial Collections, is an expert in fan fiction.

"Fan fiction as we know it today really started in the 1960s with 'Star Trek' and 'The Man From U.N.C.L.E.,'" Balestrieri said.

Much like today, fan fiction was published by groups of passionate fans and whole communities that have since been coined "fandoms."

"The history of fan fiction is the history of self-publishing," Balestrieri explained. "Self-publishing was how poets like Walt Whitman were able to put their work out when they were just starting."

Balestrieri identified fiction author Ray Bradbury, best known for his book "Fahrenheit 451," as someone who got his start writing in fan magazines.

Further, the author of the infamously R-rated book-turned-movie "50 Shades of Grey", E. L. James, wrote her first drafts as part of a fan fiction series based on the wildly popular 2008 vampire movie "Twilight." James is now regarded as "the most commercially successful fanfiction author of all time," according to a *Forbes* article from 2017.

Without a digital platform for fans to constantly express their shared passion for their favorite shows, fan clubs and fanzines reigned supreme. Since print publications were so readily available to buy at stands, anybody could pick up a fanzine and become inspired to write their own spin-off Star Trek stories starring Captain Kirk and Spock.

"A lot of powerful stories can get brushed aside just because of the form of writing."

Thalia Eliazar

UI creative writing student

Now, with accessibility at the forefront of popular fan fiction sites — and social media sites like Tumblr and X, formerly known as Twitter — creators are much more involved in their fandom communities. In terms of authorship, the much-debated topic among fans led to questions over the legitimacy of fan fiction.

"You have people like George Lucas who resent fans creating their own adaptive works but creators like Gene Roddenberry who embrace it," Balestrieri said. "Star Trek only survived because of the fans."

Passion from fans has always been a driving force behind making fan fiction accessible, whether it be through physical publications or digital archives. As someone who aided in the curation of one of the largest physical collections of fan fiction in the world, Balestrieri is one of those fans.

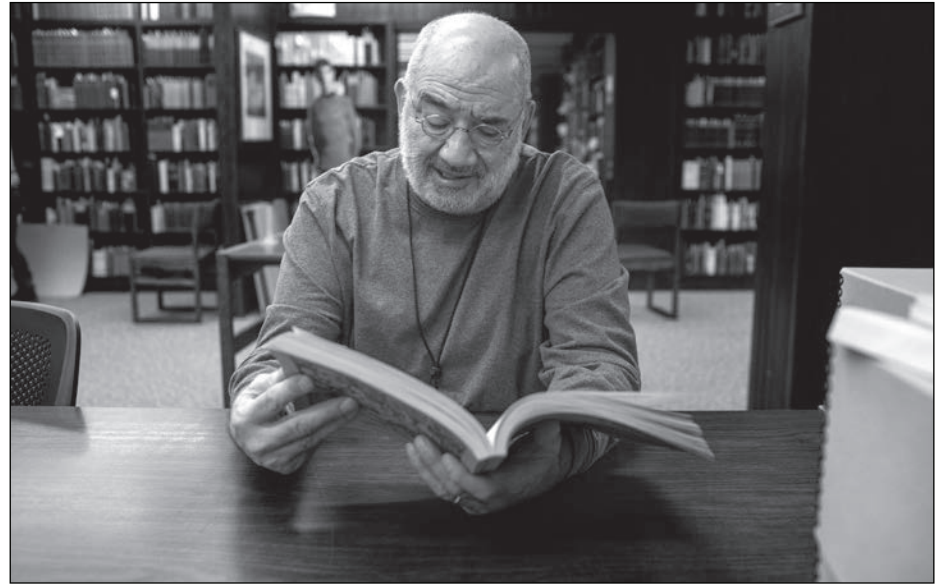
"A lot of students don't know that the University of Iowa is a hub of fan fiction," Balestrieri said.

The Organization for Transformative Works, the parent company of Archive of Our Own, has partnered with the UI since 2009 to form a preservation alliance. The UI provides a physical space for the OTW to house its historic collections of fanzines and fandom content.

"Through our partnership with the [OTW], we've received hundreds of collections of historic fan fiction," he shared.

A large portion of fandom content is novels, stories, and fanzines. However, fan art is an equally important entry in fan content archives.

"I had just started learning how to draw with Mario characters and Overwatch, with properties I was already passionate about," Robert Rysz, a UI second-year student who



Kathy Le | The Daily Iowan
Curator Pete Balestrieri points out notes in a fan fiction book at the Special Collections and Archives of the UI's Main Library in Iowa City on Jan. 19. Fan fiction can be an original work featuring characters from preexisting properties, expansions on fictional universes, sequels, prequels, or anything in between.

has been drawing fan art since the sixth grade, said.

Rysz's artwork is directly influenced by the anime and manga he loves. Just like fan fiction writers, fan artists are directly driven by their passion for the stories they read.

"I kind of make it for myself," Rysz explained. "But I'm very involved with the communities of the fandoms I make fan art of."

In both mediums, however, sharing work with fellow fans can add a layer of pressure, especially when your work lands in the laps of thousands, even millions, of other users.

"The first story I put online reached about two million readers," Eliazar recalled.

Eliazar's fan fiction, based on the popular anime series "My Hero Academia," had reached beyond the website on which she published it. One random reader brought her story to TikTok, and their video went viral.

"I was just sitting at the dinner table and my phone was blowing up like 'Your story

has 100,000 reads, your story has 200,000 reads,'" Eliazar said.

It may be hard to pin down exactly what fan fiction can be, but it has captured the imagination of aspiring writers for decades. However, Eliazar shared that the internet's biggest misconception surrounding fan fiction is that it's all "cringe."

"Sometimes it is, but I think just like any other kind of writing, there's variety ... It's how a lot of young writers get their start," she said. "A lot of powerful stories can get brushed aside just because of the form of writing."

Fan fiction will continue to be a popular outlet for creative people to express their passion. Balestrieri believes young writers will continue to be inspired by fan fiction.

"We bring classes [to Special Collections] every week. I love watching young writers look around a classroom and realize they aren't the only ones involved in fandoms," Balestrieri said.

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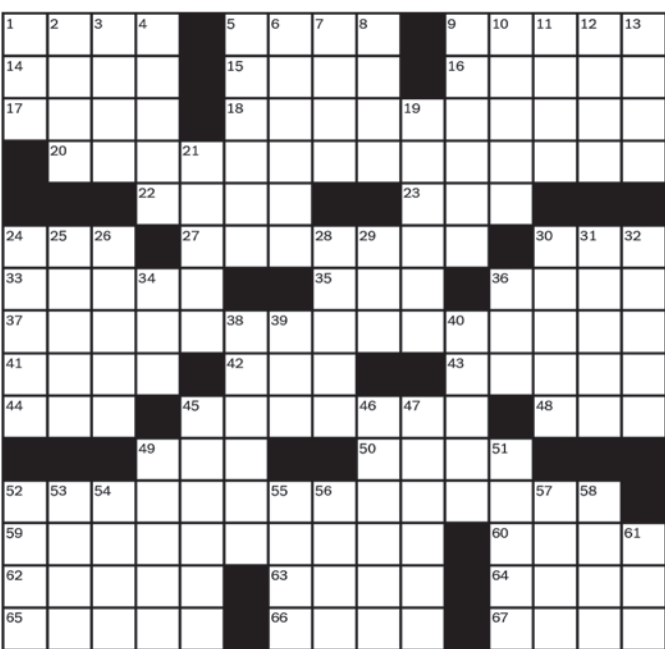
THE BREAK

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON 3B

DAILYIOWAN.COM

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz
No. 1220



- Across**
- 1 Quartet that reunited in 2022 to "perform" as holograms
 - 5 Hell's Half ____ (Wyoming landmark)
 - 9 Chromosomes come in them
 - 14 Croc, for one
 - 15 Big name in bubbly
 - 16 Condition linked with grinding teeth
 - 17 District on the western coast of Hawaii
 - 18 Craisin brand

- Down**
- 20 Female scholars
 - 22 Lead-in to zone
 - 23 Smallish batteries
 - 24 Author Patchett
 - 27 Components of Mars's Viking and Pathfinder
 - 30 Intrinsic makeup
 - 33 Fabric whose name is French for "cloth"
 - 35 Hirsute cousin of old TV
 - 36 Goopy addition to a charcuterie board
 - 37 Where turn signals are found
 - 41 Delicacies for which Aveiro,

- Portugal, is known
- 42 "Surely you don't mean me!"
- 43 Speechless expression
- 44 Showstoppers?
- 45 Bach composition
- 48 Scratch, say
- 49 It might be cocked or bent
- 50 N.B.A.'s Westbrook, to fans
- 52 Grammy winners for "Jump (for My Love)" (1984)
- 59 "Apologies for bothering you ..."
- 60 Massage deeply
- 62 Mosquito, by nature
- 63 Chip in
- 64 Ski lift
- 65 Dutch settlers of South Africa
- 66 & 67 One of two pen names punnily hinted at by 20-, 37- and 52-Across (can you find the other one?)

- Feud" catchphrase)
- 19 Almost adjoining
- 21 Swiss mathematician who introduced functional notation
- 24 Totally confused
- 25 Prominent
- 26 Physicist Bohr
- 28 You can count on it
- 29 Abbreviated abbreviation
- 30 Amateur pediatrician, informally
- 31 Strong, silent type?
- 32 Norse pantheon
- 34 Paul for whom a guitar is named
- 36 Backside
- 38 Turkish inn
- 39 Prefix with apology or denial
- 40 "He is richest who is content with the ____": Socrates
- 45 Supplies, as a soiree
- 46 Stiff bristle, botanically
- 47 Elephant or warhog, e.g.
- 49 Put in
- 51 Company with Counting Sheep commercials
- 52 Last name in soft drinks
- 53 Reds state
- 54 "Not hungry yet, but thanks anyway"
- 55 Word with "Revolutionary" or "Tobacco," in book titles
- 56 In one's right mind
- 57 ____ Stark, Lord Eddard's eldest on "Game of Thrones"
- 58 Unit of meat or marble
- 61 Fish hatchlings

Easy

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CALENDAR WEEKLY EVENTS

THURSDAY

JANUARY 25

- MAKING THE BOOK, PAST AND PRESENT

Learn about the history of bookmaking and the intersectionality of art and literature. The exhibition will be open to the public until June 28.

1 P.M. | MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY
125 W. WASHINGTON ST.

FRIDAY

JANUARY 26

- KATHLEEN RENK IN CONVERSATION WITH MARY HELEN STEFANIAK

Joined in conversation by Mary Helen Stefaniak, author of "Self Storage," Kathleen Renk will read from her novel "The Rossetti Diaries."

7 P.M. | PRAIRIE LIGHTS BOOKSTORE
15 S. DUBUQUE ST.

- FOY VANCE

Irish musician Foy Vance will perform at the Englert alongside special guest Bonnie Bishop. Vance has received praise from artists like Ed Sheeran and Elton John.

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

SATURDAY

JANUARY 27

- AFRICAN-INSPIRED MASK-MAKING WORKSHOP

Based on masks displayed at the Stanley, participants will make African-inspired masks to keep or be auctioned at the Black History Ball.

10:30 A.M. | STANLEY MUSEUM OF ART
160 W. BURLINGTON ST.

SUNDAY

JANUARY 28

- COVER STORY ART EXHIBIT

Local illustrator Candice Broersma will display her art, consisting of both personal projects and commissioned ones, until March.

PAPPAJOHN BIOMEDICAL DISCOVERY BUILDING, 195 NEWTON ROAD

MONDAY

JANUARY 29

- POETRY SLAM

Participants looking to enter the slam competition need to arrive thirty minutes prior and submit up to three poetry pieces.

7 P.M. | COFFEE EMPORIUM
301 E. MARKET ST.

TUESDAY

JANUARY 30

- FACULTY CHAMBER RECITAL

Free and open to the public, come see Doreen Lee on the keys, Katie Wolfe on violin, and Tony Arnone on the cello.

7:30 P.M. | UI VOXMAN MUSIC BUILDING
93 E. BURLINGTON ST.

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 31

- BOOK TO ART CLUB

On the last Wednesday of every month, preschool through second graders are welcome to create art based on a picture book that will be read aloud.

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

PREVIEW

Talented UI student bring plays to life

The Ten-Minute Play Festival will feature eight shows by UI student playwrights.

Riley Dunn
Arts Reporter
riley-dunn@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa's Theater Department's annual Ten-Minute Play Festival is a unique, student-run production that incorporates the talents of UI students interested in play production.

Showcased in Alan MacVey Theater from Feb. 8-11, eight staged plays were selected to be produced for this year's festival.

Following the announcement of the selected plays, the undergrad playwrights have been hard at work perfecting their productions.

"The festival is very undergrad-led unlike many mainstage productions. It's also nice because it attracts a lot of non-majors who want to get involved in the shows, and as playwrights and directors," said Nat Payan, a UI fourth-year student and the festival's stage manager.

Payan, whose plays were selected and produced for previous Ten-Minute festivals, credits some of the interest in the festival to the audition process, which he describes as "low pressure" compared to similar student festivals.

In addition to his responsibilities as a stage manager, Payan is part of the production himself. Every year, the festival includes a stage reading series.

This year, the series will take place at 2 p.m. ahead of the Feb. 10 show. Payan's meta piece, "Places!", will be included as part of this series, telling the story of a stage management team unable to find their lead actors ten minutes before the start of their show.

For UI fourth-year student Olivia George, her play, "Doves and Foxes," chosen for the festival was one she wrote during her first year in college.

"When I first wrote it, it was for an assignment, and I was a little lost on what to do. So, I thought back on different things in life that I wanted to talk about, as well as different people," George said.

George is an English and creative writing major on the publishing track. She



Madison Frette | The Daily Iowan

Students rehearse for the 27th Annual Ten-Minute Play Festival presented by The University of Iowa Department of Theatre Arts in the Theatre Building on Jan. 22. The cast is starring in a play titled "The Worst Supervillain in the World" written by student Darrin Terpstra.

also has a certificate in art entrepreneurship and a minor in theater arts. Her play centers around a group of 1960s women having a luncheon where one of them discusses the possible consequences of being pregnant in a society where women have little agency.

After going through several revisions, George is proud of her product and is excited to see how people interpret her play. As someone who mainly writes prose, practice with developing realistic dialogue has been a helpful experience for her as well.

One of the most unique aspects of the festival is the choice each playwright gets to either direct their play themselves or invite others onto their creative team.

Playwright and UI fourth-year student Darrin Terpstra has decided to take on the role of co-director for his play, "The Worst Supervillain in the World."

Terpstra's story is meant to begin by involving elements of superhero kids' cartoons. As the play goes on, however, the world slowly evolves to fit that of a sitcom/romantic comedy.

"I'm very excited to see people who haven't seen any of these plays yet find out what that common thread is that ties them all together," Terpstra said.



Madison Frette | The Daily Iowan

Students rehearse for the 27th Annual Ten-Minute Play Festival presented by The University of Iowa Department of Theatre Arts in the Theatre Building on Jan. 22. The play runs from Feb. 8-11.



PLAYLIST

PUMP-UP SONGS

"TAKE ME OUT" | Franz Ferdinand

"WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS" | Queen

"UNWRITTEN" | Natasha Bedingfield

"NO SLEEP TILL BROOKLYN" | Beastie Boys

"ALRIGHT" | Supergrass

"DAFT PUNK IS PLAYING AT MY HOUSE" | LCD Soundsystem

ARTS & CULTURE

The Picture Show returns to FilmScene

FilmScene's family-oriented program returned last weekend.

Grant Darnell
Arts Reporter
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The Picture Show, FilmScene's longest-running specialty screening series, made its grand return this past weekend.

Created to provide a place for film enthusiasts of all ages, the nonprofit theater will screen four family-friendly films on the third weekend of every month until April.

The films in this spring's lineup include "Kubo and the Two Strings" in January, "The Princess Diaries" in February,

"Toy Story 2" in March, and "The Iron Giant" in April.

Andrew Sherburne, FilmScene's executive director and co-founder, spoke about what goes into the process of selecting films for the Picture Show's roster.

"We've got a programming team, they usually set a yearlong slate of films and try to make sure that it's diverse, both in the stories and the people behind the films, but also in eras and styles," he said.

Sherburne said he looks for movies that both provide both comfort and more

adventurous fare. Other factors that play into the film selection process are time and place.

"We want kids to understand that there are films from other countries, there are films made for kids 20, 40, 70 years ago," Sherburne said. "We want to expand [the] audience's understanding of film history."

According to him, the audience response to the Picture Show has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I think [the Picture Show] is one of our most beloved series," Sherburne said, emphasizing how the series provides parents and kids an opportunity to get out of the house during the cold front.

Last year, over 2,000 people attended Picture Show screenings — a significant jump up from the previous year during which virtual activities were implemented due to COVID-19 restrictions.

"People have responded very well," Sherburne added. "Last year, attendance grew pretty substantially as people came back to the movies at levels that were really strong again."

Both FilmScene and the Picture Show series have recently hit their 10-year anniversaries, and neither show any sign of slowing down.

"[The Picture Show] is something that we will be committed to as long as we can," said Sherburne, emphasizing how important young audiences are to the future of the film industry. "We want the next generation of storytellers and movie lovers together to be able to experience movies here."

Sherburne also voiced his belief in the importance of giving the younger people an appreciation of cinema.

"It's not just something that you casually throw on your TV at home when you're bored," he said.

CARTOON



Cartoon by Avi Lapchick | The Daily Iowan

"HOUSEPLANTS"

REVIEW

'The Whale' writer's new IC play emotional

"A Case for the Existence of God" written by Samuel D. Hunter runs until Feb. 4.

Caden Gantenbein
Arts Reporter
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Riverside Theatre successfully brought another tremendous and professional play to its venue on Jan. 19.

Despite the threat of negative windchill on the opening night for "A Case for the Existence of God," a play by the award-winning writer of "The Whale" and Iowa Playwrights Workshop alum Samuel D. Hunter, a sizable audience managed to trudge through the snow for the highly anticipated reception at Riverside Theatre in Iowa City. The play will remain at Riverside until Feb. 4.

The Wilson Family Stage was decorated to resemble the drab office cubicle of a mortgage broker's office but used no more than a third of the space taken up by previous Riverside productions.

The set is as minimalist as possible, decorated only with a computer, a file cabinet, a trash can, and two chairs for the lead performers.

While the blank set made it challenging for the audience to immediately get engaged, the decision is intentional. It forces the actors and the overall direction of the show to be orchestrated by subtle yet deliberate body language, said Adam Knight, the producing artistic director of Riverside Theatre.

"There is a stage direction in the script where it says the actors don't get out of their seats unless specified, so that does present a lot of limitations," Knight said. "But it makes me as a director think about what I don't need. We can just let the relationship and the interaction do the work."

Audience members were able to immerse themselves in the gritty realism of the play's two characters, Keith and Ryan, and saw the true emotional payoff by the end of the performance.

Keith, played by local actor Barrington Vaxter, offered an aching look into the mind of a father fighting to keep his adopted daughter out of the hands of her biological family.

Vaxter made his performance extremely believable, allowing viewers to develop a connection to him and his daughter, though she is never physically seen in the play. His delivery of each line and ability to produce real tears truly drove home his performance as a father fearful of losing his child.

Chicago-based actor Scot West, the counterpart to this piece, embodied Ryan, a man fight-



Carly Schrum | The Daily Iowan

Scot West and Barrington Vaxter perform in "The Case for the Existence of God" at Riverside Theater in Iowa City on Jan. 18. Samuel D. Hunter, a UI award-winning alum, wrote the play that premiered on Jan. 19.

ing a similar custody battle for his own daughter. West upheld his half of the play, delivering his lines in a staggeringly beautiful way that felt

"Time and space within the play have an exciting fluidity that is uniquely theatrical."

Adam Knight

Riverside's producing artistic director

truly representative of fatherhood.

These two characters share a "same sadness," to quote the play, contemplating the

questions and worries each generation has felt with their children; something that always exists within the innate parental subconscious.

"Watching [Keith and Ryan] bond over potentially losing their kids was like watching a war. It would certainly feel like a war, having your child taken from you," one audience member said.

The basis of this fear is used to accelerate the plot, acting as another aspect of the play that invests its audience in these ultra-realistic characters' lives.

Sequentially, the play manages to glide through time, almost giving viewers the highlights of the lives of these two men.

"Time and space within the play have an

exciting fluidity that is uniquely theatrical. We jump forward in time very instantaneously and it's almost like Sam [D. Hunter] is stripping away these unneeded moments and is presenting the play as one continuous motion," Knight said about his directorial process.

The structure of this production feels most comparable to a domino effect, meticulously setting up domino after domino until finally knocking them all down; the first hour of the play felt like one massive inhale, with everyone waiting for their cue to release.

Once the exhale was finally offered, it destroyed every predetermined aspect of the play, depicting the most visceral and human reaction one could possibly have in a fight for their child.

Barring this examination of the plot trajectory, the play is clearly meant to illuminate the harsh realities of simply being human and the silver lining that can be found within our hardships.

The title, "A Case for the Existence of God" feels especially peculiar after the viewing, as there is little to no back and forth about religion or faith, yet the whole concept manages to have these ideas fused into them without needing mention or intense contemplation.

"God" is never mentioned in the play, yet acts as the prevalent source of inquisition for the story: Are we our own God, and are these men theirs?

The play leaves viewers contemplating God while never having to explicitly say a word about it. The absence of "God" within a piece where the word is in the title spoke to a lack of confidence in a higher power.

The response from the audience for Hunter's "A Case for the Existence of God" on opening night is a testament to the love of theater that Iowa City has and showcases the success of great minimalist writing by a UI graduate.



Carly Schrum | The Daily Iowan

Scot West and Barrington Vaxter sit on the set of "The Case for the Existence of God" at Riverside Theater in Iowa City on Jan. 18. The play has an almost blank stage except a computer, file cabinet, and furniture.

How to see "A Case for the Existence of God"

Where: Riverside Theatre, 119 E. College St.

When: 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Jan. 19 - Feb. 4

Cast: Keith as Barrington Vaxter and Ryan as Scot West

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