

# The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2006

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50¢

## Sex-abuse cases could bankrupt Regina



BY RYAN YOUNG  
THE DAILY IOWAN

School officials for the Regina Inter-Parish Catholic Education Center announced on Monday that the institution is preparing to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, depending on the outcome of three sexual-abuse cases. Those civil trials, scheduled to

begin Oct. 23 in Davenport, stem from a slew of sexual-misconduct allegations against Bishop Lawrence Soens, who was the Regina principal for nine years. Michael Gould and a collection of 13 other former Regina students have come forward with allegations against Soens. Before passing away, former student Dennis Allen also alleged he was abused by Soens.

Regina School Board Chairman Lee Iben said the action is a cautionary step to protect the school's property, should there be an adverse outcome for the school in the cases. "It takes a while to actually [file for bankruptcy], but we're getting prepared in case we have to," he said. *The Daily Iowan* could not ascertain a dollar amount for the dam-

ages sought by the plaintiffs, but similar suits against other clergy in the Diocese of Davenport, which oversees Catholic institutions in eastern Iowa, have asked for amounts that could be problematic for Regina. The diocese, which has been accused of covering up allegations by numerous groups, including Iowa City's Concerned Catholics of

the Davenport Diocese, has spent millions after jury decisions and out-of-court settlements. Allen's attorney, Craig Levien, said the Allen family is waiting to see what both Regina and the diocese plan to do during the trials before deciding whether to pursue a case.

SEE REGINA, PAGE 8A

## COMING BACK FROM BOSNIA

More than 10 years ago, UI student Shannon McBride lived in Bosnia. She now lives in Iowa City with her daughter but still remembers her time in the war-torn country.

BY ANDREA WATERFIELD  
THE DAILY IOWAN

She became accustomed to using only paved pathways. Perpetually fearing that land mines would detonate, Shannon McBride vigilantly avoided fields and woods during her time in war-torn Bosnia. Even after she returned to the United States, the possibility of hidden explosives still haunted her.

At an outdoor concert in New York, McBride froze as she followed her friends onto a grassy patch. She was reminded of the strict precautions she followed while overseas to protect her life.

"My mind kept telling me to ask if the grass had been checked or marked," the now-UI student recalled. "It was a total mental mind-fuck."

The psychological struggles are remnants of her history in Bosnia more than a decade ago — during which she taught English, cared for children, and listened to the war's survivors. Now, McBride and her 8-year-old daughter, Izabella, are looking to the future when the two can depart to a country where McBride's humanitarian work might be needed.

SEE MCBRIDE, PAGE 8A



Shannon McBride shares a moment with her 8-year-old daughter, Izabella, at their Iowa City home on Sept. 4. The two lived in Bosnia with McBride's mother until 2002. Izabella described her favorite part of living there as being the Bosnians "doing sign language" to communicate with her.

Matt Ryerson/The Daily Iowan

### NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR TEST

## Locals react to test

BY KELSEY BELTRAMEA  
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Mitch Kang couldn't sleep Sunday night.

At 4 a.m. Monday, he stumbled on to the BBC news website and couldn't believe what he read. North Korea, despite a U.N. Security Council warning, had proceeded with a nuclear test.

"I was thinking, 'Man, these guys are crazy,'" Kang said. "I was really pissed at the same time."



Kim  
North Korean leader

As UI students and faculty learned about North Korea's underground atomic detonation, they reacted in anger and fear.

UI junior Jimmy Rhim said that instead of being angry when he learned of the test, he was more "freaked out."

Rhim's Introduction to International Relations teaching assistant Hoon Lee walked in the classroom Monday morning and said, "Everybody knows what happened, right?"

Rhim had not yet heard the news but immediately drew connections between North Korea's test and a July 4 incident in which North Korea had launched seven missiles into the Sea of Japan.

"I started paying more attention after that," said Rhim, who was in Pohang, South Korea, teaching English classes at university at the time. "And I recently heard they had developed [nuclear] test sites, but I thought that was just America being paranoid about it. When I found out today about the test, it was like, wow. They really did it."

Kang said he grew skeptical of how North Korea used money that South Korea has been giving its neighbor for humanitarian efforts.

"If instead of supplying food and things people could use, they decided to build and show off nuclear weapons, man, I'd be ticked," Kang said.

John Lee, the president of the UI Korean Undergraduate Students Association, said that when he spoke with his grandfather, who is a former chairman of South Korea's senators, the retired politician said his whole country felt betrayed.

SEE NORTH KOREA, PAGE 3A

**UNDERAGE DRINKING** is a big issue in Iowa City; **JANET LYNES** and other members of the community, including Iowa football coach **KIRK FERENTZ**, are looking to reduce the harm caused by underage and excessive alcohol consumption. This past Homecoming weekend and other home games illustrate their concerns.

## Group wants moves against risky drinking



Lyness  
asst. county attorney



WATCH OUR VIDEO OR **DITV** — ON CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR ONLINE AT **DAILYIOWAN.COM** — FOR MORE ON EXCESSIVE AND UNDERAGE DRINKING.

BY MARK MAGOON  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Concerned Iowa City residents want to shake perceptions that alcohol is the blood running through the city's veins.

To do so, a panel composed of local officials and other prominent citizens on Monday released a series of recommendations to curb binge and underage drinking that included implementing a 21-ordinance — a proposal that has incited controversy in recent years.

"We need to get people to realize that underage drinking is a huge problem," said Janet Lyness, the assistant Johnson

County attorney. Iowa head football coach Kirk Ferentz, UI Hospitals and Clinics CEO Donna Katen-Bahensky, and Johnson County Supervisor Sally Stutsman are also members of the panel.

The group called for local schools to intensify alcohol education and develop nonalcoholic venues for young adults. Increased enforcement of house parties, possible keg ordinances, and the 21-ordinance are among the other recommendations.

The panel — officially, the Alcohol Awareness Group — was formed two years ago, and its mission is to coordinate community members to reduce the harm caused by underage and excessive alcohol consumption.

Monday's press conference allowed the group to release recommendations for strategies to decrease underage drinking — a problem that Stutsman said affects the entire county.

SEE DRINKING, PAGE 3A

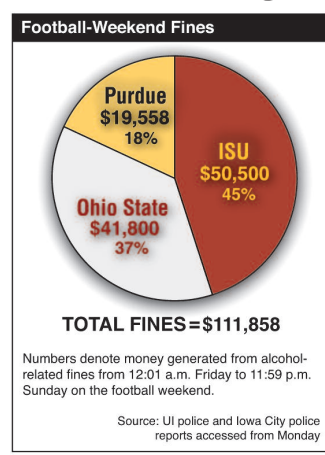
## Business, fines down over Homecoming

BY EMILEIGH BARNES AND KELSEY BELTRAMEA  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa State. Ohio State. Homecoming.

Among the triad of heavily advertised home football games, the last of the three may have generated the least mania downtown, bringing in fewer alcohol tickets and a slump in sales for many local businesses.

"The way it worked out — from the police to downtown business to the bars — everybody was just like, 'This is kind of weird,'" said Joe's Place owner Brian Lynn. "Everybody was surprised how, for lack of a better word, dead the night scene was Saturday night."



Usually, Homecoming follows an away game, and having an important match in town the week before probably put a damper on the Iowa-Purdue game, Lynn said.

SEE TICKETS, PAGE 3A

↑ 59 15c  
↓ 45 7c



Mostly cloudy, 90% chance of rain

### TAKE OFF THAT POLO SHIRT

... because the members of the water-polo club don't wear them in the pool — not even the 55-year-old. **1B**

### EMERGENCY AID

Local groups have banded together in Project Pharmacy to educate women about the emergency contraception pill. **2A**

### COLOMBIAN STORIES

Luis Murillo vividly remembers the day six years ago when he was shoved into the back seat of a Toyota and joined by two men with guns. **4A**

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# Coalition backs emergency pill



WATCH DITV — ON CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR ONLINE AT [DAILYIOWAN.COM](http://DAILYIOWAN.COM) — FOR MORE ON PROJECT PHARMACY.

BY BRITNEY BERGET  
THE DAILY IOWAN

A coalition of women's health organizations across the state have teamed up in a new initiative aimed at making emergency contraceptives more readily accessible for women in Iowa.

Project Pharmacy's goal is to better educate pharmacists, physicians, and females about emergency contraception by debunking myths about the pill and informing users of pharmacies that distribute the drug.

"This is primarily about education," said Kathi DiNicola, the director of marketing and communications for Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa. "We want women to know about this and be able to make good choices."

The right choice could have a big effect, officials said. If used correctly, morning-after pills can prevent 1.7 million pregnancies and 800,000 abortions in the United States per year, according to the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals.

Project Pharmacy began with a survey that asked more than 400 pharmacies statewide about the



Rachel Mummy/The Daily Iowan  
**Karen Kubby, the executive director of the Emma Goldman Clinic, has teamed up with officials at Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa and other health organizations to start Project Pharmacy.**

availability of the emergency contraceptive pill. The group listed on its website at [www.ppgi.org/project-pharmacy.html](http://www.ppgi.org/project-pharmacy.html) which pharmacies do and do not provide the pill in Iowa.

The backers of Project Pharmacy are Planned Parenthood, the Emma Goldman Clinic, UI Law Students for Choice, and the Des Moines and Iowa City chapters of the National Organization for

## ABOUT IOWA'S PROJECT PHARMACY:

- Project Pharmacy is working to educate Iowans about the emergency contraceptive pill by allowing the public to see which pharmacies in Iowa do and do not provide the morning-after pill.
- Forty-two percent of roughly 400 pharmacies surveyed in Iowa did not stock or distribute the pill because of religious or personal views.
- Last year, UI Student Health distributed 225 packs of morning-after pills; approximately 182 packs were distributed in the previous year — a 23.6 percent increase.

### Women.

For instance, UI Law Students for Choice members are volunteering as "mystery shoppers" to ensure that pharmacies are doing what they reported.

"Women really need to be informed," said Shelley Witcher, the group's co-president, "especially since this is something that's so time sensitive."

The Food and Drug Administration has announced that starting in January, emergency contraceptives will be sold over-the-counter, but many feel programs such as Project Pharmacy

will still be needed because of the controversy surrounding the pill. To obtain the pill, people will need to show an ID, and minors will still need a prescription to obtain the pill.

Craig Clark of Clark's Pharmacy in Cedar Rapids is one of the many pharmacists who does not support the use of the morning-after pills.

"I don't believe its something I'd want to carry or promote," he said.

Clark isn't alone — the survey found 42 percent of pharmacies do not distribute the pill.

That is one reason Project Pharmacy hopes to educate pharmacists as well as the general public.

"Even though pharmacists are professionally licensed, they can be confused," said Karen Kubby, the executive director of the Emma Goldman, 227 N. Dubuque St. "Some are under the impression that this pill causes an abortion."

If a woman is already pregnant when she takes the pill, the contraceptive won't harm nor abort the baby, Kubby said.

UI Student Health Service — which is not involved in Project Pharmacy — distributed 225 packs of the emergency contraceptive pill last year, said Lisa James, the facility's nurse manager.

E-mail *D/*reporter [Britney Berget at: britney-berget@uiowa.edu](mailto:Britney.Berget@uiowa.edu)

## IN THE STUDIO



Wesley Cropp/The Daily Iowan

UI Ceramics student Katie Zear builds a basic slab form out of stoneware on Monday at the ceramics building. The form will later have a lid and be fired in a kiln.

## METRO

### Man expected to plead guilty in fatal crash

A Dubuque man charged with vehicular homicide in connection with a 2005 accident that killed a 76-year-old man is expected to plead guilty today, online court records show.

Joshua John Hohmann, 27, is accused of driving in a reckless manner April 3, 2005, resulting in the death of 11 days, Iowa resident Roy Linnell after his SUV was struck by Hohmann's car.

The accident occurred near the Iowa City Municipal Airport, where Hohmann was traveling southbound on Riverside Drive, and Linnell was

turning left from Ruppert Road onto Riverside Drive, documents state. Police said the front of Hohmann's Dodge Neon smashed into the driver's side of Linnell's Ford Explorer, causing Linnell numerous blunt-force traumas.

Court documents allege Hohmann was "peeling out" at the intersection and driving with "an exhibition of speed that put his passengers in fear for their safety and other motorists at risk." A passenger in the back seat of Hohmann's vehicle told police he buckled his seat belt because of Hohmann's reckless and erratic driving, according to authorities' reports.

Police allege Hohmann was traveling at speeds of more than 65 mph where the legal limit is 45 mph.

Authorities report Linnell was traveling at 8 mph.

If Hohmann pleads guilty to vehicular manslaughter, the Class C felony of which he is charged, he may be punished by 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

— by Kelsey Beltramea

### Man charged with giving false identity

Police have charged an Indiana man with malicious prosecution after he allegedly gave officers and Johnson County Jail officials a false identity, authorities reported.

When Preston Spratt, 20, was arrested for public intoxication this weekend, he told officers his name

was Sean Michael Iams, according to police reports.

Spratt, a West Lafayette, Ind., resident, reported the same name at the Johnson County Jail, police said. Authorities discovered the false name on Sunday when his roommate called the jail to see if Spratt was incarcerated, officers said.

Spratt now faces charges of malicious prosecution, a serious misdemeanor. Individuals are charged with the offense when they "cause or attempt to cause another to be indicted or prosecuted for any public offense," the police report notes.

In addition to public intoxication, Spratt was also given a PAULA citation on Sunday.

— by Emileigh Barnes

## POLICE BLOTTER

**Amanda Arens**, 19, Le Mars, Iowa, was charged Sunday with public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

**Tyler Arens**, 22, Le Mars, Iowa, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**Jared Colony**, 25, 3412 S. Jamie Lane, was charged Oct. 7 with possession of an open container of alcohol in public.

**Neil Daniels**, 39, Coralville, was charged Sunday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

**Steven Elvert**, 30, Davenport, was

charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**Stevenson Henke**, 22, 319 E. Court St. Apt. 16, was charged Oct. 7 with possession of an open container of alcohol in public.

**Joshua Farrow**, 19, 527 N. Dubuque St. Apt. 13, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

**Marielle Fisk**, 22, 13 E. Burlington St. Apt. 115, was charged Monday with keeping a disorderly house.

**Samuel Korab**, 25, 932 Stanley, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

**Arron Lembke**, 21, Fort Collins, Colo., was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**Alegria Nunez**, 32, 1212 Highland Court Apt 2, was charged Sunday with keeping a disorderly house.

**Alexa Peters**, 18, 1507 Burge, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**Eric Pope**, 25, Ottumwa, Iowa, was charged Sunday with interference with official acts.

**Mark Russell**, 25, 1136 E.

Burlington St., was charged Sunday with fifth-degree theft.

**Evan Shillingburg**, 22, St. Charles, Ill., was charged Sept. 8 with disorderly conduct.

**Justin Smestad**, 20, 521 N. Linn St. Apt. 6, was charged Sept. 28 with keeping a disorderly house.

**Eric Wagenknecht**, 29, Kalona, was charged Sunday with fourth-degree criminal mischief, interference with official acts, and assault causing injury.

## CORRECTION

In the Oct. 9 article "Fallen IC soldier remembered," *The Daily Iowan* incorrectly reported that Kampha

Sourivong was an Army specialist. Sourivong's rank was upgraded to sergeant following his death. The

story incorrectly reported that he served in the 1st Battalion, 113rd [sic] Infantry out of Waterloo.

Sourivong was a soldier in the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry. The *D/* regrets the errors.

## BREAKING NEWS

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**Policy:** *The Daily Iowan* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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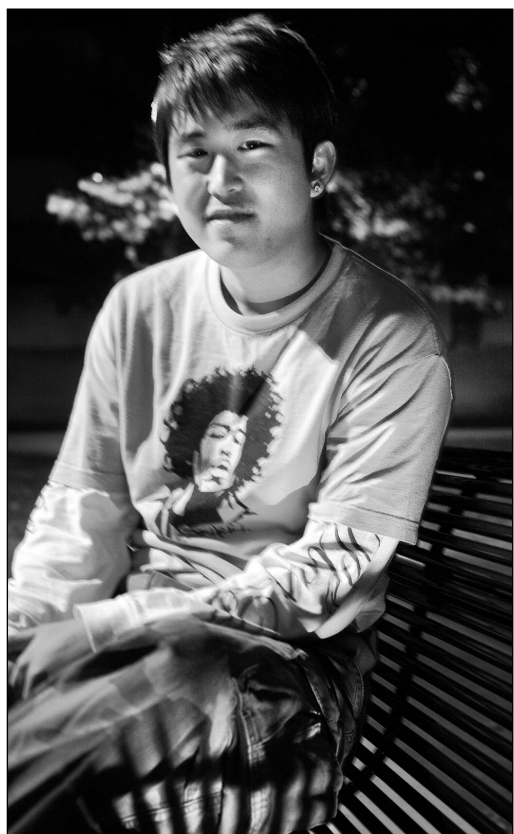


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# N. Korea test worries many

UI junior John Lee, the president of the Korean Undergraduate Students Association, says he has been in contact with family members living in South Korea after North Korea apparently staged a nuclear test on Monday.



Rachel Mummey/The Daily Iowan

## NORTH KOREA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"They feel like they've been helping North Korea with food and everything, and this is what they do," Lee said. But in South Korea, higher tensions have yet to develop over the nuclear testing. "It feels like it's been a bigger deal here than there," Lee said. "They're all pissed off and feel betrayed, but they go on with their daily lives." UI junior Andrew Kang said his father, who is working in South Korea, echoed that message to his family. "He didn't want us to get into panic mode," Kang said. "He

warned us that a lot of spins and a lot of propaganda will come out in the next few days. Hoon Lee said he, too, will wait before drawing conclusions about North Korea's test, especially to see what kind of decision the United Nations will make. "It will be interesting to see the position from China and how it will react," he said. "If China makes an agreement with the U.N., it might imply that China's alliances with North Korea may change, and all the fundamental policies about importing and exporting and trade may be at stake." E-mail *DI* reporter **Kelsey Beltramea** at: [kelsey-beltramea@uiowa.edu](mailto:kelsey-beltramea@uiowa.edu)

# Group pushes alcohol policies

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY PANEL ON EXCESSIVE AND UNDERAGE DRINKING

- Task Force Chairwoman **Susan Mims**
- Iowa State Bank & Trust President **Charlie Funk**
- Assistant Johnson County Attorney **Janet Lyness**
- Iowa City School District Superintendent **Lane Plugge**
- St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Rev. **Mark Martin**
- *Iowa City Press-Citizen* Publisher **Mike Beck**
- Iowa head football coach **Kirk Ferentz**
- West High student **Danielle Malatek**
- UI Hospital and Clinics CEO **Donna Katen-Bahensky**
- Johnson County Supervisor **Sally Stutsman**

## DRINKING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The 21-ordinance has been an oft-debated issue for the Iowa City City Council in recent years. The seven-member council had approved the current 19-ordinance in 2003, after it first mulled a mandatory entrance age of 21. "A friend from Pittsburgh was visiting last weekend, and he was shocked to learn that 19-year-olds were allowed in the bar," Ferentz said. "And he's a bar owner." The coach also said he realizes that a change would take time, but it is necessary. He stressed that the panel needs to work to broaden alcohol awareness, especially among young people. Iowa City statistics support the panel's call for change. The UI's rate of binge drinking among teens and young adults is among the highest in the nation, and nearly one-eighth of the school's freshmen fail to return for their second year, according to the Wechsler Study, which is conducted at 140 universities nationwide. "We have a community that is incredibly intelligent," Rev. Mark Martin of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church said. "We just need to move forward with this issue with common sense." E-mail *DI* reporter **Mark Magoon** at: [mark-magoon@uiowa.edu](mailto:mark-magoon@uiowa.edu)



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye football coach Kirk Ferentz speaks during the Community Task Force on Underage Alcohol Use at the Center for Disabilities and Development on Monday morning. The Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education found that the UI binge drinking rate is 69 percent, and the average rate among college campuses is 46 percent.

# Business dips over weekend

## TICKETS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"People were mostly jazzed up for the Ohio State game," he said. "I mean, from a business standpoint, downtown, as far as bars go, no one expected business to be as big as downtown was for the Ohio State game." This weekend was the slowest Homecoming he'd ever witnessed, he added. For police, alcohol-related fines for the Purdue game were lower than previous weekends, according to online reports. At \$19,558, the weekend traditionally celebrated for bringing alumni back to Iowa City netted less than half the amount of alcohol fines when compared with the two preceding weekends.

The Iowa-Ohio State matchup yielded \$41,800 in fines. The Sept. 15-17 Iowa State game weekend brought in approximately \$50,500. "It's kind of too bad there are two home games in a row," said Jeremy Harrod, the president of the Liquor House. Harrod, who said sales at his establishment dropped significantly after the Ohio State game, said business stayed down until after this Saturday's victory. "The town seemed dead, especially for a Homecoming weekend," he said. Overall, the weekend brought in only about 50 percent of the business the establishment had in prior weekends, Harrod said. At Pita Pit, 113 Iowa Ave., Homecoming raised only about half of the business earned for the Ohio State game, and

two-thirds of the business from the Iowa State game, general manager Tom Heath said. David Coleman, general manager at Milio's Sandwiches, 20 S. Clinton St., also noted slow sales on Oct. 6 — especially considering a concert at the Pentacrest raged across the street and a parade marched in front of the store. At Iowa Book, 8 S. Clinton St., authorities blamed Homecoming's kickoff time (11 a.m.) for low sales. "That's the price we pay for television," store owner Pete Vanderhoef said. He said that during this past weekend, Iowa Book netted only one-third of the business it received during the Ohio State game, which began at 7 p.m. Meanwhile, downtown hotels reported a hearty amount of business for Homecoming weekend,

with room and suite vacancies disappearing as early as May. On Oct. 6 and 7, the hotel-Vetro was within five rooms of being sold out, said Ben Nielsen, a hotel supervisor. With accommodations starting at \$279 and 54 rooms available, Homecoming weekend could have bolstered sales to more than \$14,000 a night. At the Sheraton Hotel, its 234 rooms were sold out in late May and early June, said Jay LeVasseur, the general manager of both the Sheraton and Hotel Vetro. "Homecoming gets a lot of people downtown," he said. A sold-out Oct. 6 and 7 at the Sheraton Hotel, which priced rooms from \$249, could have tallied more than \$116,000 in sales. E-mail *DI* reporters at: [daily-iowan@uiowa.edu](mailto:daily-iowan@uiowa.edu)

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The event opens with a community drumming experience, followed by music, speakers, prizes, food, and opportunities to learn how United Way, Iowa Shares, and Community Health Charities agencies aid our community.

- The United Way and its agencies touch the lives of one in every three Johnson County residents.
- The United Way partnered with the UI on relief and recovery efforts after April's tornado in Iowa City, Hurricane Katrina, and other disasters.
- More than 30 United Way agencies have direct connections to University of Iowa people and programs.

[www.unitedwayjc.org](http://www.unitedwayjc.org)

United Way THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

# Officials avert school shooting

BY MARCUS KABEL  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOPLIN, Mo. — Assistant Superintendent Steve Doerr happened to be visiting Joplin Memorial Middle School Monday when he witnessed a chilling sight: a student wearing a mask and a trenchcoat, armed with an assault rifle.

The boy pointed the weapon at two students and a teacher, then told Doerr, "Please don't make me do this." Doerr responded, "You don't have to do this; there is another way."

The 13-year-old seventh grader fired a shot into a ceiling before the weapon jammed, authorities said. The student then left the building, followed by Principal Steve Gilbreth, who called the boy's location in to the office over a handheld radio.

Police arrested the student, whose name was not released because of his age, as he crouched behind a nearby building. No one was hurt.

School officials said Doerr and Gilbreth helped prevent a potential bloodbath, just weeks after three deadly school shootings in three states.

"I would classify this as a very dangerous situation, a life-threatening situation," said school Superintendent Jim Simpson, who described the exchange between the student and Doerr. "This had all the hallmarks of a school shooting."

"We were lucky." Authorities described the weapon as a Mac-90, a replica of an AK-47 assault rifle, that belonged to his parents.

"We don't believe he was trying to fire at administrators or students," said Joplin police officer Curt Farmer.

A note in the student's backpack indicated he had planted an explosive in the school, which has 750 students, but no bombs were found, police said.

His backpack held military manuals, instructions on assembling an improvised explosive device, and detailed drawings of the school.

"This was quite well thought-out," Farmer said. "He had been planning this for a long time."

Lt. Geoff Jones said the boy's motives were unclear. School officials said the student had no major disciplinary problems.



David Stonner, Joplin Globe/Associated Press

Students leave Memorial Middle School on Monday morning in Joplin, Mo. A 13-year-old student wearing a mask and a long black trench coat fired an assault rifle into the ceiling at the school Monday morning. No one was injured, and the boy, who police said was following a well-thought out plan, was taken into custody.

Simpson said police told him the boy had a fascination with the Columbine High School shooting that left 15 people dead near Littleton, Colo., in 1999.

The student was wearing a trench coat — like the student gunmen at Columbine — and had a mask or hood fashioned out of a white T-shirt with

two holes cut out for his eyes.

Jones said the boy's parents kept the weapon in a safe at home. The parents told police their son apparently knew the combination to the gun safe. Farmer said it is not uncommon for people in the area to own assault weapons.

# Colombian tells of kidnapping

**DITV** TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONFLICT IN COLOMBIA AND LUIS MURILLO, WATCH DITV ON CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR ONLINE AT DAILYIOWAN.COM. CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR A VIDEO INTERVIEW WITH LUIS MURILLO.

BY BEN FORNELL  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Rep. James Leach, R-Iowa, and Luis Murillo were both in Iowa City on Monday. Both are politicians, both are supporters of Colombia, but Murillo's journey began with a kidnapping.

Six years ago on July 16, Murillo was pushed into the back seat of a Toyota SUV with tinted windows in north Bogotá, the capital of the South American country. Two men with guns sat on either side of him and told him to put his head between his knees.

No one knows who kidnapped him, but Murillo suspects that politicians in his former province of Choco, where he was once governor, colluded with a local cocaine cartel to force him to the United States. The kidnapers hoped to silence his dissent by demanding 500 million pesos. Murillo was allowed to leave and given 20 days to come up with the money.

"That's part of the [political] game in Colombia," said Murillo, who on Monday spoke to the Iowa City-area Sal y Luz Community, a group dedicated to partnering with Colombian Peace Sanctuary Churches. "The game is very dirty."

Unfortunately, his kidnapping is only one of millions in the more than 40-year history of Colombia's armed conflict. Approximately 2,000 people per day are held by kidnapers in

Colombia, Murillo said, and hundreds of thousands have been displaced by the conflict.

Leach told a group of the local Colombian activists that he would co-sponsor HR 822, a bill that would provide support and recognition to Peace Sanctuary Churches in Colombia. These churches have declared neutrality in the conflict between the guerrillas and the paramilitaries in Colombia and are dedicated to feeding and housing those who have been forced from their hometowns.

"There's a contrast, in Colombia and in the world, of people who are doing good works and people who are looking for military solutions," the veteran lawmaker said.

These church groups, like any anti-conflict activists, are at risk from attacks from both the armed illegal groups and government-sponsored troops.

"If they have international accompaniment, illegal actors and the government are very careful about touching them," Murillo said. "Visibility on the international level is what protects people."

Pastor Robert Dotzel of the Iowa City Sal y Luz community said he became involved with the group after he heard a presentation on U.S. foreign policy in Colombia, especially the unintended destruction of food crops by coca eradicators.

The Iowa City group is one of six such communities in the Midwest that works to support antiwar resistance in Colombia.

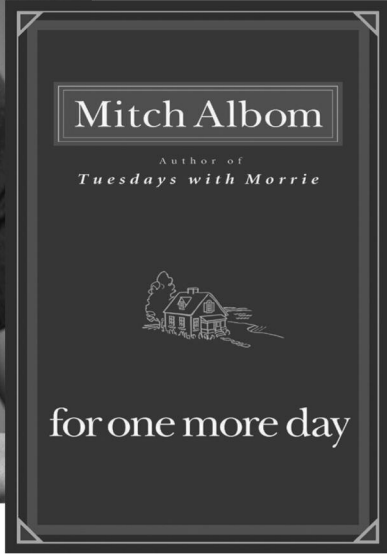
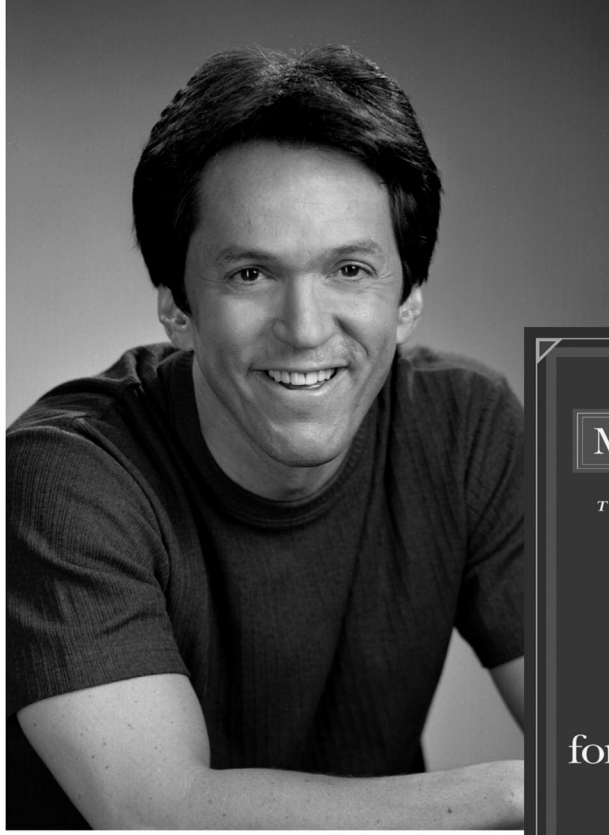
"As a Christian and a concerned citizen of the world, it doesn't have to have any rational basis when you hear a cry for help," Dotzel said. "It tugs at your heart strings, and you do what you can to make it better."

E-mail *DI* reporter Ben Fornell at: benjamin-fornell@uiowa.edu

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CAMPUS VISITS

# 'Visit' key for colleges

BY OLIVIA MORAN  
THE DAILY IOWAN

According to the 2006 State of College Admission Report by the National Association for College Admission Counseling, 74 percent of colleges and universities saw an increase in the number of students participating in campus visits in 2005.

As if to demonstrate that, hundreds of parents and prospective students gathered at the UI on Monday for another Black and Gold Day — one of more than a dozen held by the university during the spring and fall semesters — meant to introduce large numbers of students to the campus.

Program coordinator Michelle Danielson said 755 people arranged a campus visit for the day, and there was only a 5 percent no-show rate. Because of Columbus Day, most students had the school day off, which contributed to the large number of visitors from the Illinois area, Danielson said.

Typically, the prospective students listen to opening speeches from admissions officials and students, walk through the information fair, and take tours of different facilities, residence halls, and greek houses during their visits.

According to the admission report, 46 percent of colleges consider visits to be a positive part of the admission process. Kathryn Bassett, the senior associate director of Admissions, said the UI is one of those schools.

"We know that close to 80 percent [who visit] apply," she said. "[Campus visits] are very important recruitment activities."

This year, the UI is expecting around 17,000 people to arrive for formal visits — 3,600 of

'[Visits] are the best things they can do in order to decide if something feels right. It's something about the people you meet on the street or what the buildings look like — it's the whole package.'

— Kathryn Bassett,  
senior associate director of Admissions

## COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS

- In 2005, 74 percent of colleges and universities said the number of students who participated in a campus visit had increased.
- 14 percent of high-school students use campus visits to inquire about applications.
- 20 percent of students use college fairs to inquire about applications.
- 15 percent of colleges and universities said their campus visits had decreased.

Source: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2005

those will attend a daily general information session, and 1,600 will have scheduled individual student appointments, Bassett said. The numbers include parents, siblings, and other family members.

In 1998 and 1999, approximately 6,600 students made a campus visit to the UI. Last year, that number jumped to more than 8,000, a figure that may have contributed to this year's freshman class being the largest in the university's history. Hopefully, the university will build on the 8,000 for next year, Bassett said.

The increase in visits could stem from "students applying to numerous colleges," which

has recently become an easy task, considering the simple online applications available on nearly every college website, Bassett said. To the UI admissions team, the increase in numbers contributes to one of the school's top priorities.

"[Visits] are the best things they can do in order to decide if something feels right," Bassett said. "It's something about the people you meet on the street or what the buildings look like — it's the whole package."

Luann Maletta, a visiting mother, has a junior daughter at the UI, so she is going through the visit process for the second time.

"What I'm expecting is to have the student decide whether or not they feel comfortable here," she said.

Hundreds of students checked out the UI campus on Monday, and it appeared each was here for a different reason.

Christy Hillman, for example, was visiting for the first time. She said she "fell in love with the campus." Hillman traveled from Grand Junction, Ill., with her mother, who, along with her father, share a love for the Iowa State University Cyclones.

"I wanted to experience something for myself," Hillman said. "My parents have always been Cyclone fans, so I had to go against them, somehow."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Olivia Moran** at: olivia-moran@uiowa.edu

# Pot helps in fighting Alzheimer's, study says

*Scripps Research Institute scientists found that THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, may slow or halt the progression of Alzheimer's*

BY ASHTON SHURSON  
THE DAILY IOWAN

While antidrug advertisements may plaster television screens and magazines, a new medical study may add another check to the list of marijuana's beneficial uses.

A recent study by the Scripps Research Institute in California found that the active ingredient in the illegal plant — tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC — may halt the progression of Alzheimer's disease. THC helps stop the formation of amyloid plaque, which primarily causes the disease, the report stated.

The institute found THC to be "a considerably superior inhibitor of [amyloid plaque] to several currently approved drugs for treating the disease."

"While we are certainly not advocating the use of illegal drugs, these findings offer convincing evidence that THC possesses remarkable inhibitory qualities," especially when compared with other medicines available to patients, said Kim Janda, a chemistry professor at Scripps Research, on the institute's website.

Although many local doctors haven't researched this subject, some are interested in the topic, they said.

"I've never heard of anything like this before," said Daniel Tranel, a UI professor of neurology. "There is a lot of intrigue and promise."

The report, which was published in the journal *Molecular Pharmacology*, a publication of the American Chemical Society, said in addition to slowing down the progression of

Alzheimer's, THC can also treat symptoms of the disease.

Tranel said Alzheimer's is not preventable and that current drugs are "mediocre at best at slowing symptoms in some patients."

"If this is replicated and extended, it could be very helpful," he said.

Roughly 4.5 million Americans have Alzheimer's; in 2050, experts project that the disease will afflict as many as 16 million people, according to the Alzheimer's Association.

The disease — a leading cause of dementia — slowly takes over a person's memory and ability to learn, reason, make judgments, communicate, and carry out daily activities, according to the association.

Currently, recreational marijuana use is illegal in all states, but medicinal marijuana is legal in 11 states (none of which are named Iowa). It can help ease pain and nausea in cancer patients, and Tranel said it can also stimulate appetite.

Locally, many students use marijuana for personal reasons, and many favor legalizing the drug. UI sophomore Adam Filarski, who created the

## STUDY'S FINDINGS ON EFFECTS OF MARIJUANA USE

- Marijuana can help stop the progression of Alzheimer's disease.
- Marijuana's active ingredient — THC — prevents the formation of amyloid plaque, which can cause Alzheimer's disease.
- Researchers say THC would treat "both the symptoms and progression" of the disease.

SOURCE: Scripps Research Institute of California

Facebook group "I Heart Blunts," supports legalizing marijuana, although he is not very active in the fight.

"The government spends so much money promoting illegalization of it, and it could be" spending it on other things, he said. "It has proven no reason people shouldn't be allowed to do that. The government needs to let people make certain decisions."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Ashton Shurson** at: ashton-shurson@uiowa.edu

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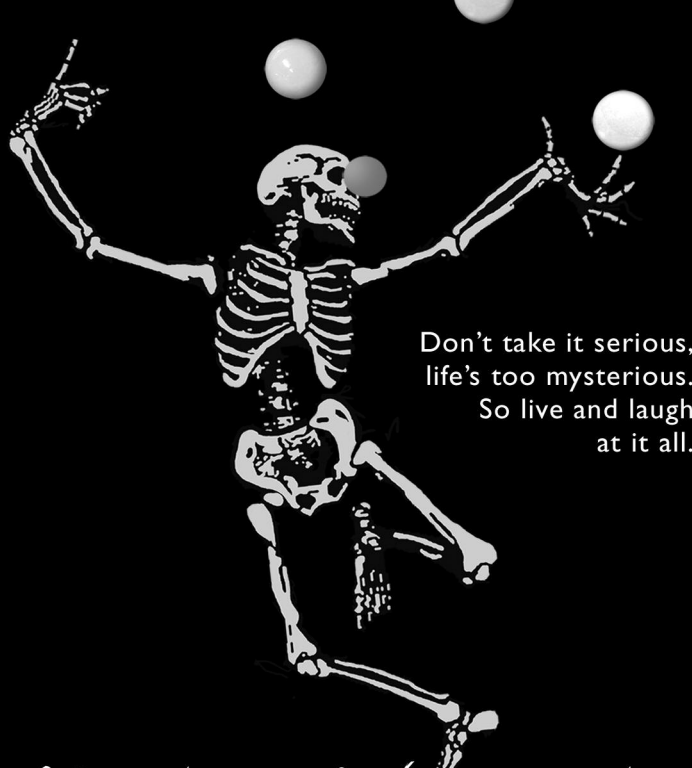
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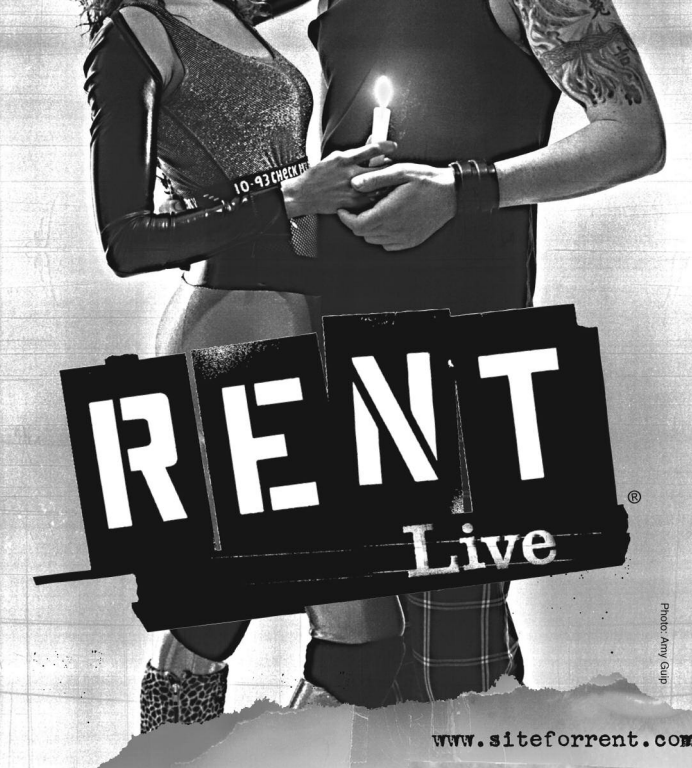
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# RED NOSES

by Peter Barnes

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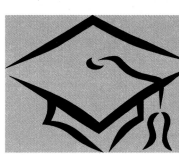
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# OPINIONS

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on topics we should cover, issues to discuss, or  
anything at all. Send letters to:  
daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

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## EDITORIAL

# Talk won't cut it; alcohol issues requires action

Iowa City community leaders are continually harping on the city's drinking culture, but the situation has remained stagnant.

In yet another effort to address the city's apparent obsession with alcohol, a local task force held a press conference Monday to present possible actions to curb drinking. This group was drawn from sundry visible community members and headlined by Iowa football coach Kirk Ferentz. Numerous recommendations were made, including the controversial implementation of a 21-only ordinance, but it is our hope the suggestions won't simply result in more talk.

It is not uncommon for college towns to face drinking problems, but the UI's are of particular concern. Whether this reflects immature students or poor handling of the situation by authorities — or both — it is a black mark on both the university and city.

Alcohol consumption itself is not necessarily the problem. Rather, what happens after excessive amounts of alcohol are consumed forms the bulk of the quandary. However, it is indubitably hard to separate the two, and in this light, police action should be at the forefront to curb those under the influence. As was discussed at the press conference, the enforcement of existing laws should be central, with extra attention paid to house parties, where most underage drinking occurs.

This Editorial Board has also noted that police presence in off-campus neighborhoods is necessary to stop the recent rise in sexual assaults, including three more assaults reported over the weekend, ("Police must patrol residential areas, not just downtown," Sept. 25). We did not argue that police should abandon enforcement downtown entirely — such a

move would be senseless — but greater cooperation between UI and Iowa City police is needed. Divvying up responsibilities would be a good start, with UI police focusing their attention on the downtown and the city police patrolling residential areas.

The development of alternative, alcohol-free activities was also discussed, and while these possibilities are worth exploring, it must be remembered college students are the target audience. Movie nights and alcohol-free tailgates are not going to keep students from drinking. Instead, the university and community should explore bringing more concerts and other entertainment to Iowa City. Thousands of students would have undoubtedly taken a night off from partying had the Red Hot Chili Peppers played in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

Implementing these changes are what alcohol task forces should be discussing — and they should be discussing them with individuals who actually know the extent of the problem: students. Regardless of Ferentz's popularity among students, his warnings on excessive alcohol consumption will go unheeded. For authorities to suggest otherwise would only prove the depths of the city's ignorance. The same is true of any other notable leader — students simply don't care who's telling them how much to drink.

Iowa City's drinking culture will not change overnight. City leaders must realize this and work with students to make the downtown and residential areas safe in the face of current conditions. Serious consideration must be given to suggestions with real potential to make a difference.

## LETTERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu (as text, not as attachment). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

GUEST OPINIONS that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.

### Bikes belong downtown

It is hard to believe any city councilor in any U.S. city would openly discourage residents from bicycling in their downtown. Yet, that is precisely what City Councilor Connie Champion did in the *DI* article addressing cycling downtown, ("Bike complaints garner official attention," Oct. 6).

I agree bicyclists should not ride on sidewalks, and, perhaps, some enforcement is needed. But her view that cyclists don't belong downtown is disturbing. Not only do bicycles belong, they have a right to be there. State law considers bicycles vehicles, and cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as motorists. Moreover, according to transportation engineer John Forester, who has studied bicycle transportation, the safest place for a bicyclist is the road, when he or she is treated as a motorist.

Three troubling issues are raised in Champion's comments as reported by the *DI*. Her comment that "the narrow sidewalks make the area less-than-desirable for biking," illustrates her lack of cycling knowledge. Few cyclists "desire" to ride on sidewalks, and, more importantly, studies show accident rates actually increase when cyclists ride on sidewalks instead of the road.

Her second comment, that bike lanes "would be impossible to build, because the city can't move buildings," is simply mistaken. Bike lanes don't require any buildings to move; they do require a conscious choice by citizens and planners to reduce on-street parking.

Finally, Champion discourages cycling on downtown streets because she's "not sure how safe that is." Perhaps Champion and the city would be better off addressing why the streets might be unsafe.

Bradley Parsons  
UI graduate student & bicycle commuter

### Elect a great leader: Joe Bolkcom

We are fortunate in Johnson County to have a great leader in Iowa state government. For the last several years, Joe Bolkcom has ably represented District 39



as our state senator for two terms. He has relentlessly fought against usurious payday loans, to improve health-care benefits, and to provide parity for mental health, in addition to bills that reduce sprawl and call for "sharing the road" funding for roadway construction that is bike-friendly.

As the co-head of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, he has his finger on the pulse of state funding. As state budget negotiations are always contentious, it is good to have Joe's levelheaded nature fighting for Johnson County.

He's earned my trust. Join me in re-electing Joe Bolkcom.

Garry Klein  
Iowa City resident

### Ban cars, not bikes from downtown

For people who are farsighted enough to care about the environment, the Oct. 6 issue of the *DI* may have made their day, with news on my friend Holly Moriarty's food-compost project and the county's Native Plant Policy. They then would have discovered that after taking on pedestrians, the city is now nailing bicyclists.

### Vote Democratic Party

I'm tired of not knowing who's listening in on my phone calls and of senators pushing my phone through to legalize criminal activity after the deed has been done. I'm ready for a Congress that will reassume its role as an equal part of the government.

I'm tired of "good Republicans" who occasionally vote for We-the-People but vote for corruption and graft when their leaders demand. I'm tired of Tom DeLay and Bob Ney. I'm ready for more ethical representation.

I'm tired of the Republicans borrowing trillions against our future and squandering it in Iraq. I'm tired of ALL our children being left behind and of a stagnant minimum wage. I'm ready for a pay-as-you-go tax policy. I'm ready for wages that keep pace with the cost of living.

I'm tired of a Senate that focuses on pandering to and rubber-stamping the administration's agenda. I'm tired of the president vetoing stem-cell research that offers hope to millions. I'm tired of Republicans claiming they couldn't stop a pedophile representative for fear of being portrayed as anti-gay but who have no problems voting for an anti-gay marriage amendment. I'm ready for a Senate that focuses on health care, lifting Americans out of poverty, securing our ports, and protecting our troops.

I'm tired of feeling as though the government has put a bullwhip in my hand every time I hear that we "must" use torture to fight terrorists. I'm ready for a government that respects the Geneva Convention as written and permits no "outrages on personal dignity."

I'm tired of the cowboy diplomacy of the Republican White House destroying our alliances and emboldening our enemies. I'm tired of the constant drumbeat of war and of being frightened of another attack, when each conveniently timed plot is announced prior to elections. I'm ready for new vision and new leadership.

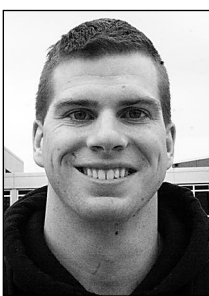
I'm too tired to fill in a bunch of ovals on my ballot. I'm ready to fill in just one oval — the one at the top, under "Straight Party Voting," that says DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

Kai Zhang  
UI student

Paul Osterholt  
North Liberty resident

## ON THE SPOT

Do you think bicycles should be allowed downtown?



"Yes, but I understand the complaints about bicyclists on the sidewalks."

Jack Somers  
UI senior



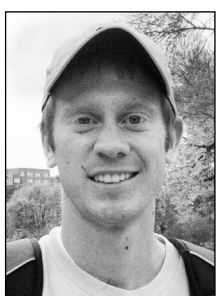
"Not really; they're kind of annoying."

Kyle Fornek  
UI junior



"Yes, bikes are a good mode of transportation."

Paul Throgmorton  
UI senior



"Yes, if they respect pedestrians."

John Haman  
UI senior

# Political goodness

Quick now — what's the difference between an apostrophe and an open single quotation mark? (Pop quiz — that's why you weren't warned.)

Of course you know; you learned it in elementary school: The apostrophe is ['], and the open single quotation mark is [']. The apostrophe generally designates an elided letter (or the possessive), and the single quotation mark designates someone trying too hard to be English (hope you enjoy kidney, too).

I bring this up because of politics (you ever notice that everything, sooner or later, comes down to either politics or toilet training?). It seems the good folks over at Denise O'Brien's campaign for secretary of Agriculture (yeah, I'm on the edge of my seat about this race, too) can't tell the difference between an apostrophe and that pesky single quotation mark: Her yard signs read "Denise O'Brien." In roughly 380-point type.

The one thing about politics is that if you're going to make a mistake (we're all human; we all do), you prefer to make it in approximately 2.5-point type. That way, the people who vote in the highest percentage — senior citizens — won't be able to read it.

But there sit the Denise O'Brien yard signs, with the single quotation marks. Those marks, of course, have no more business wandering around in the name O'Brien than does a warthog. In fact, a warthog would look better in "O'Brien" because at least she could claim she was being very, very postmodern.

I'm not sure that postmodernity will help you get elected to the post of secretary of Agriculture (agriculture, despite the presence of "culture" in its name, doesn't seem to have much), but it's probably better than looking as though you slept through elementary school.

There are, of course, much bigger fish to file in the geography of politics and policy than apostrophes and the Iowa secretary of Agriculture. And thank goodness for that. (Though, as Mae West once famously drawled, Goodness, had nothing to do with it, dearie.)

Take the Mark Foley issue, for instance. (If you don't know who Mark Foley is, just go back to sleep. Elementary school will soon be over.)

Mark Foley is, of course, the Florida Republican representative, who, as it happens, is gay, who resigned in disgrace after ABC News disclosed he had indulged in several "inappropriate" Internet messages with teenage congressional pages, all male. The scandal, or tsunami, that has erupted since has been something to behold. It kind of makes you wish that the biggest thing we had to worry about was apostrophes on yard signs.

Or, as Illinois Republican congressman Ray LaHood told *Newsweek*: "We had this game plan of coming home and talking about our accomplishments on border security and the economy, and nobody wants to hear about it. The only thing I hear from people is Foley."

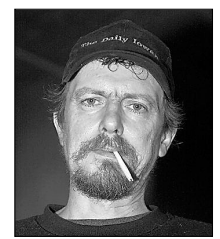
It's a bit funny, in a way; in the 2004 campaigns, one of the pillars of the Republican strategy was gay-bashing (remember the dire threat to our national security that same-sex marriage would pose?), and now the "inappropriate" actions of one gay man threaten to leave their election hopes in ruins. A new *Newsweek* poll shows that 53 percent of Americans want the Democrats to win control of Congress, and, for the first time, more (42 percent) trust Democrats on moral values than they do Republicans (36 percent). This, after decades of the Republicans painting the Democrats as the party of pot-smoking promiscuity.

The right-wing, naturally, has tried to blame the Foley affair as the fault of Democrats, even though only Republicans seem to be involved. For instance, famous intellectual Rush Limbaugh said on his Oct. 3 radio show that the Foley e-mails were "a liberal plant," and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, on the same show, apparently agreed, saying Democrats "put this thing forward to try to block" the Republican agenda.

Sorry, GOP boys; this one's all yours. Much like the Jack Abramoff scandal. You guys hoist the petard; how does it feel now?

Mae West was prescient. Goodness, indeed, has nothing to do with it. ■

Beau Elliot thinks that judging every gay guy by the actions of one gay guy is somewhat akin to judging white guys by the actions of Adolf Hitler and black guys by those of Idi Amin. And those of any reptile by Newt Gingrich's. Poor reptile.



BEAU ELLIOT

**THE D/RECOMMENDS**

Hot chocolate. Weather.com forecasts a high of 59 with showers today, and you're going to need something to kick that chill. Why not make pick the delicious and delectable beverage that was Johnny Depp's character's favorite in *Chocolat* (2000)? Hot chocolate just got that much better; we know.

# ARTS & CULTURE

# Literary heroines and hot sex IN AUSTRIA

BY ERIN HORAK  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Alice from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Dorothy Gale from *The Wizard of Oz*, and Wendy Darling from *Peter Pan*. What do these characters have in common? Hot sex in an expensive mountain resort in Austria, according to graphic novelist Alan Moore and collaborating artist Melinda Gebbie.

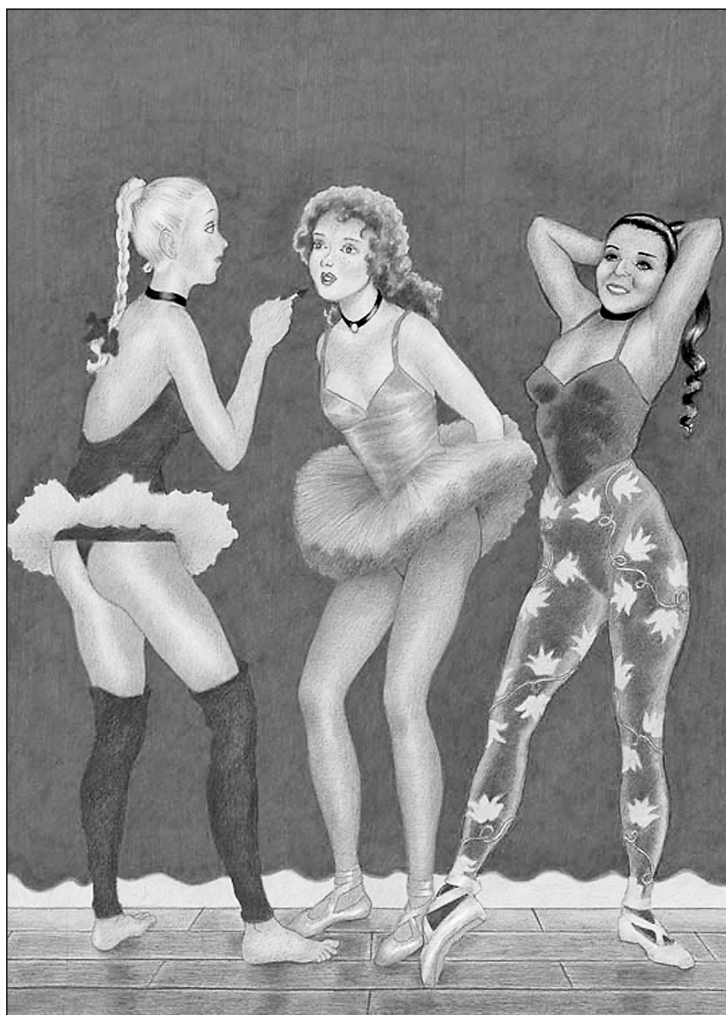
You know Moore, but unless you're unabashedly nerdy, you probably don't know you know him. He's responsible for graphic novels that have inspired the films *From Hell*, *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, and *V for Vendetta*. His comic-book credibility is cemented by such classics as *Watchmen* and such old-school favorites as *Swamp Thing*.

*Lost Girls*, the aforementioned Alice, Wendy, and Dorothy sexcapade anthology, has had publishing problems since before it was even ready to publish. In fact, in Moore's native country, England, the work may never be published. The proprietor of Gosh! (39 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3NZ), a comic-book store across the street from the British Museum, complained bitterly that English obscenity laws were so restrictive that Moore planned to distribute the book through Top Shelf, an American firm.

Closer to home, *Daydreams* has sold 18 copies of the \$75, three-volume work, several of these to college students. Manager Adam Mix acknowledges the Internet buzz regarding some comic-book storeowners' concern about selling the pornographic work, but he didn't bat an eye. "I've never found that the people in this town were upset by sexual material," Mix said. "From the moment that people heard the comic was going to come out and that we were going to carry it, I've not heard a single complaint."

In Paris, the banks of the Seine are lined with green wooden boxes filled with books. France's comic-book culture flourishes there — and within the array of texts, blatant sex makes regular appearances. Mix believes that Moore's work isn't imitative of French trends, however.

"This is relatively fresh," he said. "To the French, sex in a



Press photo

In Alan Moore and Melinda Gebbie's graphic novel *Lost Girls*, well-loved children's-book characters such as Wendy Darling from *Peter Pan* and Dorothy Gale from *The Wizard of Oz* get down and dirty in a mountain resort in Austria. And that's just the beginning.

"From the moment that people heard the comic was going to come out and that we were going to carry it, I've not heard a single complaint."

— Adam Mix, *Daydreams* manager

book is no different than a gun in a book. Both are simply there to move the plot along. For Alan Moore, this is sex as a principle, conjoined with a sense of identity, rather than used as a mechanism."

Moore himself sees the work as a step towards improving the literary and artistic quality of pornography.

"Certainly, it seemed to us [Moore and Gebbie] that sex, as a genre, was woefully under-represented in literature," he said in an interview with *Science Fiction Weekly*. "Every other field of human experience — even rarefied ones, like detective, spaceman, or cowboy — have got whole genres dedicated to them. Whereas, the only genre in which sex can be discussed is a disreputable, seamy, under-the-counter

genre with absolutely no standards: [the pornography industry] — which is a kind of Bollywood for hip, sleazy ugliness."

Mix has no illusions about the mainstream appeal of the work.

"I've had a fair number of people buy it who weren't regular customers," he said. "Maybe a few purchased it for the sexual content, and one actually was disappointed because it's not just about titillation."

"That isn't to say that it's not erotic, but the crux of it is not eroticism. It's highly sexual, extremely graphic, at points. But it's beautifully told, par for the course for Moore. Moore's point is that, though his work is sexual, it can still be viable literature. Through sex, people's identities change, but that identity's always liquid."

E-mail *D/I* reporter Erin Horak at: erin-horak@uiowa.edu

# GETTING THE INFORMATION OUT



ANNA WIEGENSTEIN



**CD REVIEW**

Beck

*The Information*

★★★½ out of ★★★★★

In the opening seconds of *The Information*, an unidentified voice counts off a beginning, presumably talking to Beck himself, saying: "One, two, you know what to do." Throughout the rest of this, Beck's 12th release (counting last year's remix album *Guero*), which is kind of a stretch, to tell the truth, he goes on to prove just that. Yes, he does know what to do, how songwriting works for him, and he's good at it.

In fact, let me go ahead and unequivocally state that there is probably no one in the world better at making Beck songs than Beck. This seems redundant and moronic to point out, I know, but there's something to be said for knowing your niche and filling it well for 12 (11½, whatever) albums.

So let me start by reassuring the loyalists — if you're already a Beck fan, then chances are good that you'll love *The Information*. I consider myself neutral on the topic, but I can appreciate good music when I hear it, or at least I kid myself that that's the case, and a majority of this album is well-worth the listen — even for those wary of music made by a Scientologist. *The Information* starts strong, with "Elevator Music," one of the catchiest tracks on the album, having great single potential. Both it and "Strange Apparition" feature great guitar riffs that steer slightly away from the roots-rock feel of 2005's *Guero*, while remaining relaxed and sunny-sound-

ing. "No Complaints," the first actual single on the record, is along the same lines, and it would sound great through car speakers on a stretch of open highway.

Beck remains committed to blending folk, rock, hip-hop, and electronica (whew) in such tracks as "Dark Star," which features an amazingly kick-ass harmonica solo, and "We Dance Alone," my favorite track. It's also the one song that doesn't fall into the stack that have a tendency to drag on and on, chief among *The Information's* flaws. Many tracks would be better cut short at the three-minute mark, especially "Soldier Jane"

and "Think I'm In Love," which seem to drag on ceaselessly.

However, the album falls apart a bit at the end. "Motorcade" features many cool parts, such as a wind chime blowing in beat, but they never quite gel, and "Movie Theme," which is most akin to The Album Leaf's ambient sounds than anything, creates a sensation my roommate memorably described as being like "floating in cytoplasm."

This comes to a head in the final cut, "The Horrible Fanfare, Landslide, Exoskeleton" (all one song title, for real). While the idea of a concluding the album with a suite of its musical themes may have sounded amazing, the follow-through seems interminable and unnecessary.

And the final touch (this'll get the hipsters riled up), a conversation between Dave Eggers (the author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*) and Spike Jonze (director of *Adaptation*, among other things) discussing "the perfect album" comes off as almost unbearably pretentious.

Though it loses something on the final lap, *The Information* is a solid album, as a whole, and it thoroughly preserves Beck's reputation as that "loser" to steal a phrase, we all know and love.

E-mail *D/I* reporter Anna Wiegenstein at: anna-wiegenstein@uiowa.edu

## The Daily Iowan Needs Your Help

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# UI student recalls years in Bosnia

**MCBRIDE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

**The first experiences**

What McBride knew of war was what she saw on television.

But as a young teenager, she left for Bosnia and Croatia in 1993 to join her mother, who was working for international humanitarian organizations in the nations immersed in battle.

Between 1992 and 1995, an estimated 250,000 people were killed in the Bosnian war — 3,500 of which were thought to be children.

In the former Yugoslavia, the different sectors often incited extreme tension and ethnic-fueled violence. The Orthodox Eastern Serbs, the Roman Catholic Croats, and the Muslims were among the groups that clashed.

In her three years overseas, McBride originally remained close to her mother's side — eventually branching out in the culture once she made new friends and learned the language. As her knowledge of new ideas and cultures expanded, she wanted to continue her education, so she returned to the United States in 1996 to finish high school.

But upon returning to New York, McBride got pregnant. She was 15.

"In Bosnia, I learned about the quality of life," she said. "People would do almost anything just to get the necessities in order to live. To them, life was so precious, and from then on, I just knew that I

**THE JOURNEY OF SHANNON MCBRIDE**

- 1992:** The Bosnian conflict begins
- 1993:** McBride leaves New York for Bosnia
- 1995:** The Bosnian conflict ends
- 1996:** McBride leaves Bosnia for New York
- 1998:** McBride returns to Bosnia with her daughter Izabella
- 1999:** McBride and Izabella leave Bosnia
- 2000:** McBride and Izabella return to Bosnia for a short time
- 2002:** McBride and Izabella return to Bosnia, once again for a short time
- 2002:** McBride and Izabella move to Iowa

McBride worked in safe houses in an underground network to help these women who were tricked into such situations. The women flocked from surrounding countries to learn English and get away from a life of trafficking.

Izabella often accompanied McBride to Bosnian orphanages, where they spent time caring for children who were left behind after witnessing the rape, murder, and incineration of their families.

"Working with the women was kind of like a social hour," she said. "I would speak to them in English, and they would respond in their native language, so we all could learn."

Though the war had ended in 1995, McBride often worried about and prayed for her daughter's safety — talking often to "angels," asking them to watch over her and her 4-year-old child.

"Don't let them see [Izabella] with their tainted eyes," she wrote in a journal. "She knows no different; her world is peaceful. She has not yet learned the extremes that these children have seen. She does not understand the need to be so cautious. She is free in her world."

But some of the scariest moments spent in Bosnia for McBride were traveling in convoys through security checkpoints while delivering supplies — not knowing if the person manning the station was a Croat, a Serb, or a Muslim.

The convoy members

would occasionally lie to security officials about the recipients of their deliveries. Anytime members slept, someone would stay awake to keep guard so their supplies would not get ransacked.

"It was like a really intense camping trip," McBride said. "It was like a week of traveling where people sometimes jumped our convoys."

When Bosnia declared its independence, in 1992, Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic responded by attacking Bosnia's capital of Sarajevo. The attack was considered the beginning of ethnic cleansing in Yugoslavia, and it wasn't until years after the violence ceased that McBride met survivors.

One man told the story of a friend who was forced into watching the murder of his brother. While his father made a desperate attempt to escape through a bathroom window, he, too, was shot.

The friend was spared only to tell other Muslims what he had witnessed.

"We are all made up of the same things," McBride said. "Flesh and blood are delicate. The shell of existence is easily wounded, even destroyed. I am reminded every time I look at [Izabella] of just how important life is."

"Still, it comes with no guarantee."

**Reflections, and a better future**

For her, the past — the painful memories that were

far from her grasp — wouldn't disappear. In her journal, she wrote that the haunting images should stay in the past.

Only they wouldn't. "It doesn't matter how far I've come, how much I've done, or will do, now that I'm back here," she wrote upon returning to Sarajevo, in 2002. "The things that I didn't deal with then are things that I have to deal with now, before I can have any sense of peace or of purpose."

But in her new life in Iowa City, with the now 8-year-old Izabella and boyfriend Bryant Froeschle, McBride uses her past experiences as motivation for her future as a humanitarian worker.

"She's packed so many experiences into her 25 years," said Froeschle, who is also a UI student. "I'm 28, and she's got me beat. It's just amazing for me to be around someone who is this wise and experienced but can yet still keep an amazing sense of self."

McBride, who is now studying international studies and women's studies, knows that the best thing she can do with her experiences is to cherish them and encourage love and happiness in her own environment.

"We all live and die according to change," she wrote. "It's what we do with ourselves that matters more than anything. I would rather strive in life than live in strife."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Andrea Waterfield** at [andrea-waterfield@uiowa.edu](mailto:andrea-waterfield@uiowa.edu)

## Regina may use Chap. 11

**REGINA**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Both the diocese and Regina are named in the lawsuit, but Iben said he believes the school should not be linked to the claims for a number of reasons. When Soens was principal, he said, the School Board was made up of the four parish priests and a bishop, and the diocese was responsible for selecting the principal.

Iben also said the statute of limitations has expired. Additionally, he said, Soens has denied the charges, and no other adult recalls the alleged abuse.

But Levien said the negligence of supervision should not go unpunished.

"This is bad conduct by Soens, but it was negligently supervised by others, and the others are also responsible," he said.

Levien said the announcement of Regina's potential bankruptcy filing represents an inaccurate scare tactic, and the school has resources to "fairly and equitably resolve the claims."

"If they were willing to attempt a fair and negotiable settlement, we could reach a fair and equitable solution to this matter," Levien said. He added Regina "can certainly resolve these [matters] and preserve the ability of the school to continue an uninterrupted operation to serve the student needs."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Ryan Young** at [ryan-c-young@uiowa.edu](mailto:ryan-c-young@uiowa.edu)

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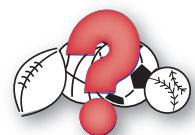
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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2006

ALUMNI: HOMECOMING CHEERLEADERS, 2B

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**Q:** What did Detroit Tiger legend Ty Cobb once do to a black hotel watchman who asked the player for identification?

Answer on page 2B

## NCAA FOOTBALL

### Michigan may be without Manningham

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Michigan may be without its top offensive threat this weekend.

Wide receiver Mario Manningham, who leads the No. 4 Wolverines (6-0, 3-0 Big Ten) and the conference with 527 yards and nine touchdowns, is questionable for Saturday's game at Penn State (4-2, 2-1).

In Michigan's 31-13 win over Michigan State last Saturday, Manningham appeared to injure his knee. On Monday, Michigan head coach Lloyd Carr wouldn't confirm whether Manningham had been injured.

"I don't have any comment on Mario," Carr said. "I'm sure you understand, because I don't know everything there is to know. At some point, I will."

He did, however, say that if Manningham can't be on the field freshmen Greg Mathews will be counted on to make plays.

"I think Greg Mathews has really done a great job up to this part of the season, and we feel confident in his ability from the first game," Carr said. "That's why we played him early. I think we anticipated at some point that his role would increase."

The game will be the 12th meeting between the schools, with Michigan holding an 8-3 series advantage. The last time the Wolverines played at Beaver Stadium was five years ago in a game they won 20-0.

### Back to basics for Northwestern

EVANSTON, Ill. (AP) — A three-game losing streak has the Northwestern Wildcats going back to basics.

A day after giving up 307 rushing yards in their 41-9 loss to Wisconsin, the Wildcats (2-4, 0-2 Big Ten) practiced in pads for the first time on a Sunday this season in an attempt to correct some fundamental mistakes that have plagued the team recently.

"We went out and really focused on some fundamentals and some techniques last night," head coach Pat Fitzgerald said on Monday.

Northwestern has given up an average of 270 rushing yards against Big Ten opponents this season, but it hopes to get back on track against Purdue on Saturday.

The Wildcats will look to stop the Big Ten's highest-ranked offense while playing their first home game since Sept. 16.

Fitzgerald said he was excited at getting a chance to play at home but stressed that the team's success hinged on improving its football basics.

"If we can continue to get better fundamentally and get better each week, we've got six games left, and we've got this opportunity to come back at home and play good football," he said.

Redshirt freshman Andrew Brewer will get his third-straight start at quarterback over redshirt freshman Mike Kafka, who started under center through the first four games of the season before injuring his hamstring.

Although Kafka is improving, Fitzgerald said Brewer would remain the starter.

# His heart still in the water



Ed Bornstein/The Daily Iowan

55 year-old John Downer stands above the Field House pool on Oct. 4. Downer has been a part of the Iowa water-polo club since the 1970s, and he also plays for the Masters Water Polo team.

BY KEVIN MCMULLEN

THE DAILY IOWAN

*John Downer is still part of the water-polo club he founded more than 30 years ago. He said, 'It's not easy to keep up with men who are 35 years younger than me. [...] There aren't many 'genteel' water-polo players.'*

The water churns from the continual thrashing of limbs. Young players propel the ball through the pool. A powerful shooter closes in on the goal, arm cocked back and poised to strike. The ball zips toward the cage, only to be rejected by the quick reaction of a 55-year-old man. His 20-something opponents can only shake their heads.

That "older man" is John Downer, a co-founder of the UI water-polo club and, not surprisingly, the only member of the original club still competing in matches. The native of Washington state, who came to the UI in 1973 as a graduate student, began playing water polo more than 35 years ago and has yet to lose his undying passion and competitive edge for the game he loves.

Downer said water polo at the university was originally an auxiliary activity for the swim team and used primarily as off-season training for the swimmers. However, he sought to give the sport its own identity in the UI community. He co-founded the

water polo club at Iowa in 1975, and with the exception of a few years' hiatus, he has been the team's primary goalie since.

"I'm in it for the fun of the sport," he said. "My heart is really in this game."

Downer, an independent font designer, cites his youthful spirit and excellent physical health as his greatest assets in staying competitive for such a long period. "I've just never gotten out of practice," he said.

The Washington State University graduate has been a member of eight Masters World Championship water-polo teams. As recently as 2004, his California-based squad — which includes old college friends — earned the bronze medal in the 50-and-over age division at a tournament in Italy. This is the first year Downer competed in the 55-and-over age division, at the World Championships held at Stanford in August.

"Right now, that's the oldest age group," he said. "Maybe they'll eventually include a 60-and-over group, because I'm shooting for 60. But that might be it for me."

SEE WATER POLO, PAGE 3B

# A case for water polo

"We'd like to expand the sport, in general. On the Iowa level and national level. That's the goal. The short-term goal is letting high-schoolers know it exists."

— Erik Barnhill, tournament coordinator

BY BOBBY LOESCH

THE DAILY IOWAN

On a quiet Sunday morning inside the aquatics area of Cedar Rapids Washington High School, Iowa's top water-polo clubs gathered to participate in the Iowa "State Champs" tournament.

With competition representing the major clubs across the state — from Des Moines, the UI, Iowa State, and Grinnell, teams battled for victory but also for another purpose — recognition.

"We'd like to expand the sport, in general," said Erik Barnhill, the tournament's coordinator. "On the Iowa level and national level. That's the goal."

Barnhill, 30, is an electrician's apprentice from Cedar Rapids. He worked quadruple duty Sunday, scheduling the tournament matches, simultaneously coaching and playing for the Iowa men's team, and officiating the non-UI matches.

It was all for the cause — which apparently starts from the bottom up. "The short-term goal is letting high-



Matt Ryerson/The Daily Iowan

Erik Barnhill (front) stands with the Iowa water-polo team as they huddle between quarters of their game against Iowa State during the Iowa Water Polo, Collegiate State Championships on Sunday. Iowa dominated the tournament, beating ISU, 15-2, in the last game.

schoolers know it exists," he said. "The long-term is to get high schools with competitive swim teams to get water polo started."

Todd Tharp, an assistant executive director of the Iowa High School Athletics Association, estimates that 4,600 preps play sanctioned sports in Iowa high schools. None, however, play varsity water polo.

Neighboring Illinois — a state that boasts 65 boys' and 58 girls' high-school

water polo programs — is often viewed as a template of what Iowa water polo could be.

"Illinois' [larger] population and facilities are the big factors," said Barnhill, a sentiment Tharp seconded. "Almost every Illinois high school has a pool. Washington High School shares this pool with three other schools."

SEE POLO IN IOWA, PAGE 3B

## COMMENTARY

# A pool of golf talent



CHARLIE KAUTZ

On Oct. 7, less than an hour drive east of Iowa City via Interstate 80, the Bettendorf High School golf team survived the final 18 holes at Crow Valley Country Club to capture its fourth-straight Class 4A state championship.

The dynasty continued its impressive reign on the highest level of Iowa golf, adding yet another first-place trophy to a cluttered mantle and solidifying its dominance on the state's biggest stage.

Under the direction of head coach Tina Johnson, a former Iowa golfer and two-time Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women national championship qualifier, the Bulldogs have gone a perfect 4-for-4 at the state tournament and produced a slew of outstanding recruits who have gone on to play in college — some Division I, others to junior colleges and private schools in lower divisions.

None have ended up at Iowa, which currently has a nine-man roster composed entirely of instate athletes, all sophomore status or older.

The puzzling part is that with so many talented youngsters and a natural Hawkeye connection with Johnson just 45 minutes away, why aren't players with state-championship experience and college-level ability being more heavily recruited?

The question becomes even more confusing when you consider that 12-year Iowa coach Terry Anderson has not had a player from out-of-state in three years. If he's only recruiting high-school golfers within Iowa, wouldn't it make sense to pursue the best ones, especially if they are in his backyard?

One would think. Mike Wuertz, a junior at Bettendorf who last weekend placed fifth at the state tournament for the second year in a row, says he's received recruiting letters from Big Ten teams Minnesota and Wisconsin, among other schools, but nothing from Iowa.

Former Bulldog and 2003 state champion Collin Burich, who set an championship scoring record as a senior by shooting rounds of 66 and 69, played two years of college golf at Nova Southeastern University and says Anderson "never even sent me one letter."

Another former Bulldog and St. Ambrose University freshman, Dustin Drenth, who was among four Bettendorf players to finish in the top 10 at the 2005 state championships, said Anderson contacted him only once in the recruiting process. Drenth, who competed for St. Ambrose at this season's Hawkeye Intercollegiate, finished tied with Iowa sophomore Cole Peevler and ahead of two other Iowa players.

SEE GOLF RECRUITING, PAGE 3B









