

IOWA

MAGAZINE FOR UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

WINTER 2022-23

→ CRADLE OF CHAMPIONS

Spencer Lee and the Hawkeyes gear up for a defining moment in Iowa wrestling history.

EDGE OF SPACE

Students launch a mission to send scientific instruments into the atmosphere.

READY FOR THE BOOM

Hawkeye Marching Band takes fans behind the scenes of the season.





HANCHER AUDITORIUM

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

1972
2022



Photo: Justin Turner



STOMP (created by Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas)
January 21



Photo: Jeff Brinkman

Lake Street Dive
January 24



Photo: Todd Beardsley Photography

Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Riccardo Muti
January 29



Pilobolus Big Five-Oh!
February 4



Photo: Aaron K. Gurnea/University of Iowa Archives

Kronos Quartet
At War With Ourselves – 400 Years of You
February 11



Photo: Michael Collins

Dan + Claudia Zanes
Let Love Be Your Guide
February 18



Photo: © Benjamin Edwards

Academy of St Martin in the Fields
Johannes Moser, Cello
March 2



Photo: Aaron K. Gurnea/University of Iowa Archives

CLUB HANCHER
Alexa Tarantino Band
March 8



Photo: © Patrick Doran

CLUB HANCHER
Isalah J. Thompson Quartet
March 23



Photo: © Patrick Doran

CLUB HANCHER
Vuyo Sotashe Group
March 25



Photo: Mark Mann

Yo-Yo Ma and Kathryn Stott
March 28

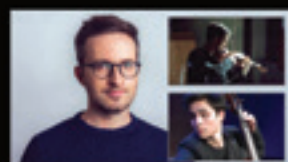


Photo: Liam Donohue, Erin Beatty

Conor Hanick
with Keir GoGwilt and Jay Campbell
April 14



Photo: Jürgen Frank

Emerson String Quartet
April 21



Photo: Aaron K. Gurnea/University of Iowa Archives

American Ballet Theatre
May 6



Photo: Aaron K. Gurnea/University of Iowa Archives

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COVER PHOTO:
BRIAN RAY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM



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BIG PICTURE

Class Photo



In keeping with a recent school tradition, members of the Class of 2026 formed a block “I” this past fall to celebrate their first week as Hawkeyes. The first-year class, pictured here on the Pentacrest, is the third largest in UI history (with 5,178 students) and has the highest average high school GPA (3.82).



JUSTIN TORNER/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION



CAMPUS MAIL

CAMBUS' Central Role

I was a freshman at the University of Iowa in 1972. I used the CAMBUS ["Alumni Share CAMBUS Memories Ahead of Homecoming Reunion," fall 2022, p. 16] to go everywhere on campus. I remember students were a little reluctant at first; the concept was so new. By my senior year, it was an integral part of campus life.

Linda Nicholas Byrne (76BA)
Elk Grove Village, Illinois

I had rhetoric in Macbride Hall my freshman year. Macbride did not have air conditioning, and one day it was incredibly hot both inside and outside. Our rhetoric professor led us out to the CAMBUS stop, and we all got on the bus and had class in the back of the air-conditioned CAMBUS as it drove its loop around campus.

Erica Wehner Ferranti (01BA, 04JD)
Raleigh, North Carolina

Trips That Rock

Markes Johnson's (71BA) essay about his spring break trips ["Bedrock of Discovery," summer 2022, p. 44] with the geology department brought back many memories. I was one of only a few female geology students to go on the Grand Canyon and Florida trips. As a freshman, I had just fallen in love with geology when the Grand Canyon trip came along to cement that relationship. Professors **Brian Glenister** (56PhD), **Holmes Semken Jr.**, and **Keene Swett** were our leaders on these adventures.

Although my family had already taken a few trips across the country, the adventures of the spring break trips probably cemented my continuing wanderlust that has taken me to four additional continents. While my career ended up in analytical chemistry instead of geology, I'm still a rock hound at heart.

Robin Russell Walker (72BA)
Goshen, Indiana

Cognitive Workout

"Give Your Brain a Workout" [fall 2022, p. 7] is fascinating. Thank you for sharing insights on lowering the risk for Alzheimer's. My 80-year-old dad has reduced his physical activity, and I think this study could be very useful to motivate him to become more active.

Mauricio Ruiz
Atizapán, Mexico

Springsteen Set the Stage

I was director of the Hancher Entertainment Committee from 1975 through 1978. The Bruce Springsteen concert ["Springsteen, Hancher, and a Rock Tsunami," summer 2022, p. 30] was the first show we produced during that era and was, to the best of my knowledge, the first rock 'n' roll show in Hancher Auditorium. Kudos to the first director of Hancher, **James Wockenfuss**, for allowing us to book the concert. As a result of the success of the show, we were able to work with him to successfully produce a variety of Hancher concerts, which were widely supported by UI students (most of our shows sold out).

Due to the quality of the acoustics and staff, Hancher gained a reputation with artists that drew them to Iowa City and the university (see Ray Davies of the Kinks in his book *Americana*). It is my hope that the new director, **André Perry** (08MFA), will also allow concerts popular with the UI student body at the new Hancher facility.

John Gallo (78BGS)
Boerne, Texas

I was there at Hancher in 1975 to watch Springsteen & the E Street Band. I had recalled that student tickets were \$3.50; it's good to have confirmation on that since I've told that story ("I saw Springsteen for \$3.50!") many times over the years.

"Amazing" doesn't do the concert justice. I was not on my feet during the concert but was comfortably seated in the cushy Hancher seats. It was something like the old ad for Memorex tapes, where the tie of the guy seated in the easy chair is flying behind him in the sound waves created by the music.

John Olson (77BA)
Ankeny, Iowa

More Music Favorites

You put together a fairly good list of campus concerts, but it was a little biased toward the 1980s to 2010s ["Twenty-Five Legendary Iowa City Concerts," summer 2022, p. 26]. It missed a truly great concert at Hancher when Chick Corea and Return to Forever played their Romantic Warrior tour in 1973. Hancher put on another great concert in 1978 with Pat Metheny, who was the opening act to the

headliner, Flora Purim. Finally, I've got to give honorable mentions to Jethro Tull, Little Feat, and Emmylou Harris.

Craig Keepers (79BS)
Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Good story. However, being at the University of Iowa between 1977 and 1981, I cannot believe you left out Linda Ronstadt at the Field House in 1977, Jackson Browne at the Field House in 1978, and B.B. King at Maxwell's in 1979.

John Drwiega (81BBA)
New Orleans

I attended a concert by The Supremes back in 1968 at the Field House. I had a nearly back-row seat and was so far away that those four sparkly performers off in the distance could have been anything. But when they started singing, there was no doubt. I had the good fortune of meeting Mary Wilson of The Supremes in the early 2000s, and I told her about my experience at the UI 40 years earlier. She got a giggle out of that!

Don Yager (67BA)
Fenton, Iowa

Preserving Paradise

I loved the article, "Paradise Not Yet Lost" [summer 2022, p. 18], about the UI Museum of Natural History's Laysan Island Cyclorama. I remember touring the cyclorama when I lived in Iowa City. What a gem! I am glad to contribute to the refurbishing and restoration of this project.

Joyce Holly (72BA)
Clemson, South Carolina

Having grown up in Hawaii before attending the UI, the Laysan Island exhibit was a frequent reminder of home—especially during those cold Iowa winters.

There was another reintroduction to Laysan some years ago, the Hawaiian monk seal. A nursery was established on the island, including netting to protect the pups from sharks until they became more agile swimmers. The monk seals have since spread to the younger, more populated Hawaiian Islands.

George Leeper (65BA, 66MS)
Durham, North Carolina



Adam, Deb, Ron, and Aaron Parker stand with a family heirloom: Ron's playbill from Iowa's 1972 production of *The Music Man*, signed by Meredith Willson and his wife, Rosemary.

Family Keepsake

Through *Iowa Magazine* [including "The Next Act," fall 2022, p. 40], I learned Hancher is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. I'm sending you this memory of the performing arts center from my dad, **Ronald Parker (73BBA)**.

The Music Man was the first production at the newly built Hancher Auditorium in November 1972. It was a student production, and my father was a member of the cast. Meredith Willson, who wrote *The Music Man*, and his wife, Rosemary, attended the production. Both Willsons signed my dad's playbill. My father kept it as a souvenir and for many years it resided in his attic. It was eventually rescued from the attic, professionally framed, and given to me. It remains in my possession, as we joke, "on permanent loan from the Parker Family Collection."

I look forward to the continued celebration of Hancher and all its history, and I am glad to have this memento from its youth.

Aaron Parker (08BA)
Nashville

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Nature University

What a pleasure to see that the Macbride Nature Recreation Area is still being well-utilized to teach students about wildlife and conservation ["Into the Wild," summer 2022, p. 10]. My sixth grade University Elementary School class had a visit there in 1963. *The Cedar Rapids Gazette* reported that we were the first group to camp overnight in the nature area. The article included nine photos of me and my classmates in various activities.

Your summer issue was a memory road trifecta: on a couple of occasions, my grade school art class hiked over from what is now North Hall to Macbride Hall to sketch animals in Mammal Hall and Bird Hall. The Laysan Island Cyclorama was a highlight. I am glad to hear it will be undergoing a major cleaning.

Lastly, although my time in the geology department began right after Markes Johnson's departure, his article on the field trips reminded me of our later trips. Although access is now restricted, I have memories in the mid-'70s of swarms of geologists descending to the bottom of Meteor Crater and the top of Sunset Crater in Arizona.

Rick Knowing (74BS, 77MS)
Scottsdale, Arizona

A Personal Hero

Thank you for your all-inclusive and detailed article on Dr. **Christine Grant (70BA, 74PhD)** ["How Christine Grant Changed the Game," spring 2022, p. 20]. I took both golf and field hockey classes from Grant.

She would tell me, "C'mon, Ann, we are starting a women's golf team, and you should come; we are meeting at Finkbine." I brought a golf pal, and we formed a ragtag group of golfers and even drove to Ames for a contest with Iowa State at Veenker Memorial Golf Course.

I stayed in touch with Grant through the years, and it is fun for me to reflect back on my minimal contribution to sports at Iowa and on knowing Grant. She was my hero. I am now an LPGA/PGA golf professional, working at Thunderbird Country Club in Rancho Mirage, California.

Grant will be missed by so many, but her contributions live on in those she mentored and through her commitment to women's sports at the UI and beyond.

Ann Loughlin (74BS, 76MA)
Palm Springs, California

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Sonia Sugg, MD

BREAST CANCER SURGEON



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Face mask, Wee (We) style, Mid-20th century.
Collection of Meredith Saunders, 2017.162.
Unrecorded artist; Liberia

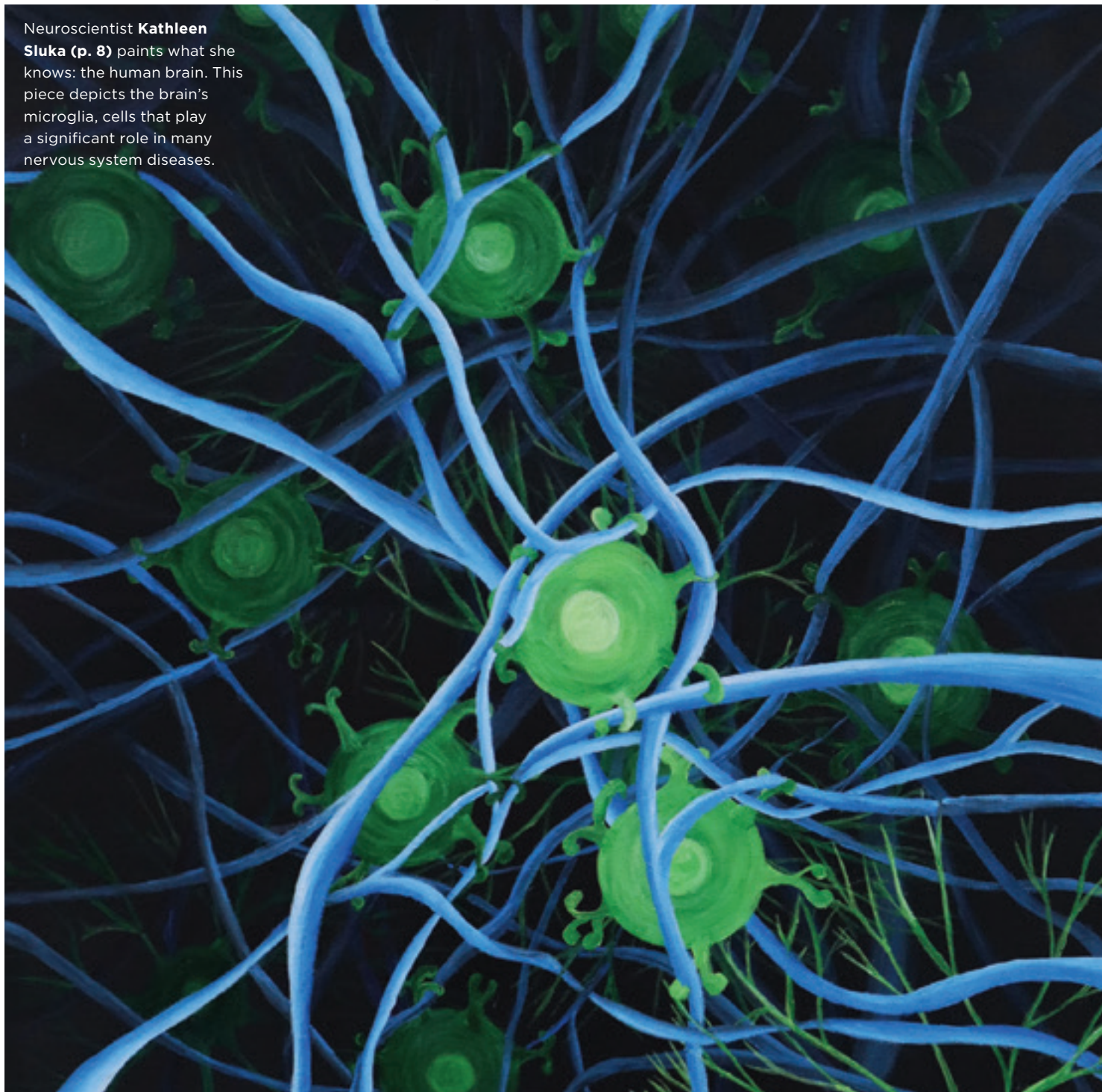
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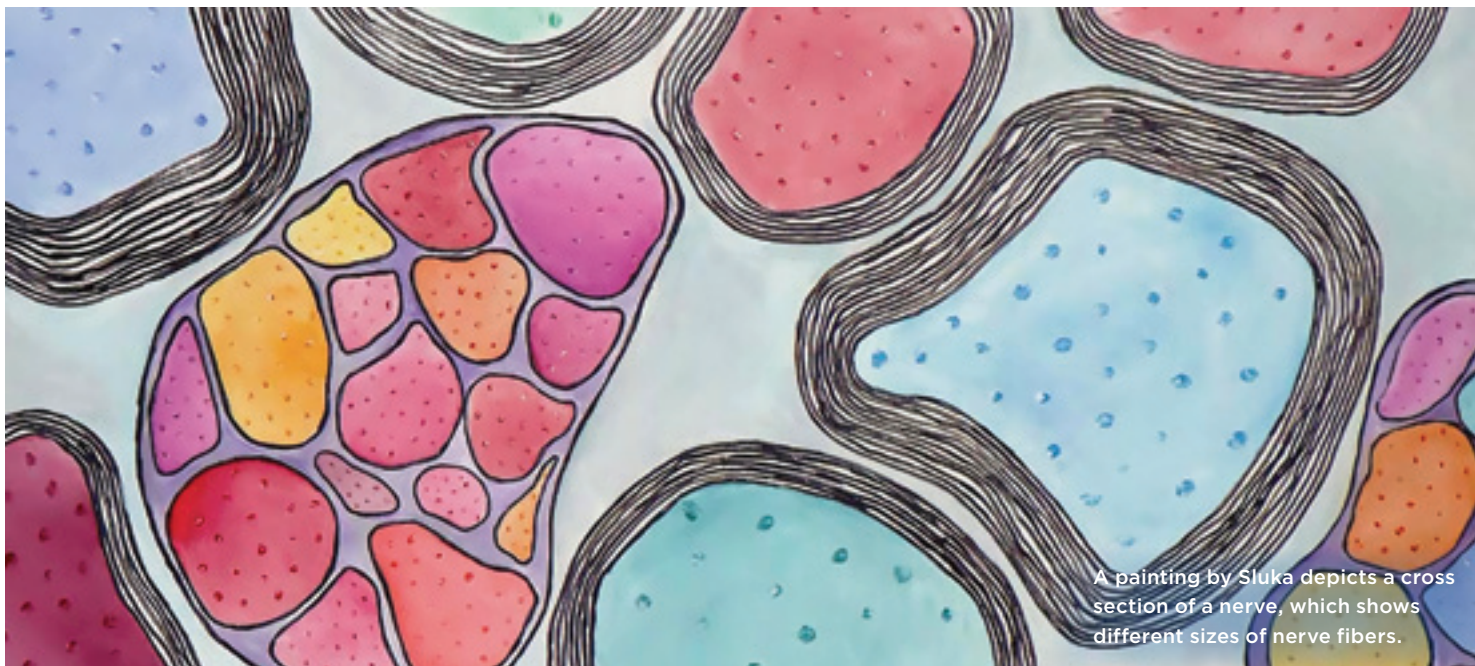
O N I O W A

■ BODY PAINT ■ TV WRITING 101 ■ LIT CITY

Neuroscientist **Kathleen Sluka (p. 8)** paints what she knows: the human brain. This piece depicts the brain's microglia, cells that play a significant role in many nervous system diseases.



PAINTING: KATHLEEN SLUKA



A painting by Sluka depicts a cross section of a nerve, which shows different sizes of nerve fibers.

NEUROSCIENCE

The Beauty of Science

Inspired by her work in the lab, an Iowa researcher creates artwork that graces the cover of scientific journals.



Inside **Kathleen Sluka's** home painting studio, big bay windows overlook a country pond not far from an apple orchard. While it's an idyllic setting for an artist, what really gets Sluka's creative neurons firing isn't the Iowa landscape. It's the aesthetics of neurons themselves.

A University of Iowa neuroscientist and physical therapist, Sluka spends her time outside of work in this rural retreat painting scenes usually only visible through a microscope. Her subjects include treelike neural networks, shimmering brain waves, and other biological marvels inspired by her career as a professor and researcher.

"My goal is to portray cells in a really pleasing manner so people understand the beauty of science—and the importance of science," says Sluka, a professor of physical therapy and rehabilitation science, neuroscience, and pharmacology.

Sluka took art classes as a kid growing up in New York and New Jersey, where her parents encouraged her to explore her artistic abilities alongside her passion for science. When the time came for college, however, she embarked on a career path in medicine. Sluka studied physical therapy at Georgia State University in Atlanta and earned a PhD in anatomy at the University of Texas Medical Branch before ultimately settling in Iowa City as an assistant professor in 1996. Today, she runs the Neurobiology of Pain Laboratory, which researches new treatments for people suffering from chronic pain.

While painting took a backseat to raising a family and her demanding career, Sluka picked up her paintbrush again about a decade

ago. To destress from work, she began taking online art classes, watching YouTube videos, and reading books on technique. "It finally dawned on me that, when everybody says paint what you know, well, I'm a scientist, I should paint science," Sluka says. "A lot of the ideas I have come to me when I'm sitting here reading papers or talking with students or going to talks."

Working with acrylic paints and mixed-media materials—including collaging scientific papers—Sluka often explores the nervous system and pain-related disease. Her paintings have been featured on the cover of more than 15 scientific journals in recent years, including the publication for the International Association for the Study of Pain, where she serves as an editor. Sluka also drew the illustrations for the textbook she authored titled *Pain Mechanisms and Management for the Physical Therapist*, and she's currently painting new artwork for an updated edition. As Sluka has gained more confidence with her brush, she's begun taking commissions, selling prints, and exhibiting her work through UI Hospitals & Clinics' Project Art and at the Society for Neuroscience's annual meeting.

"Art has become as much a part of who I am as being a scientist is part of my identity," says Sluka. "I feel that I'm an artist and a scientist."

So much for left-brained versus right-brained.

—JOSH O'LEARY



Kathleen Sluka



Check out more of Sluka's art and journal covers at kathleenslukaart.com.



LAW

Across the Aisle

Law students learn how to lead civil discussions on divisive issues.



Holden Sinnard is a firm believer in strict gun control. But through Across the Aisle—a new University of Iowa College of Law program designed to help participants communicate through differences—the second-year law student managed to find at least one thing he and a pro-gun rights peer could agree on.

Both students' viewpoints were motivated by concerns for safety.

"Sometimes the discussions when you're on the opposite ends of things are just about trying to convince the other person, 'I'm right; you're wrong,'" says Sinnard, who's originally from Waukege, Iowa. "I like the environment here better, because the first thing we asked each other was, 'Why do you feel this way?'"

Across the Aisle launched last year as a way to broaden the reach of the college's diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Since then,

law students who participate in the voluntary program have discussed hot-button issues such as immigration, capital punishment, and abortion. Law faculty and staff are also invited to join the lunchtime conversations. "In the current political and social climate, it's easy to demonize your opponent," says UI College of Law professor and event organizer **Mihailis Diamantis**. "The goal is not to change anyone's mind. It's an opportunity to learn about how someone else views socially and politically divisive issues."

Third-year law students **Hibah Lateef** and **Serena Qamhieh** (20BA) enjoy discussing controversial topics as housemates and are now extending what they've learned to their peers as the lead student organizers of Across the Aisle. Together with fellow organizing committee members **Sophia Ortiz** (20BA) and **Hanaa Maselmeh**, they create handouts for each event

with potential discussion questions, relevant case law, and anonymous student viewpoints to keep the conversation rolling.

Lateef says the events have exposed her to a wide range of opinions that have helped her form and solidify beliefs. "It's really helpful to hear different perspectives that I hadn't even thought of before, and I think it also makes people understand these topics to be more nuanced than they generally appear to be," says the Dallas native. "Gray areas don't make the headlines, but the discussions were all gray for us."

The value of learning civil discourse became especially apparent to Qamhieh this past summer during a job shadow. "I'd see a lot of times where prosecutors are talking to public defenders. They have some clear disagreements, but they stay civil and calm the entire time, and that's how they keep the process moving," says the Ames, Iowa, native. "Across the Aisle is just another setting where we're asking students to practice what they're going to take with them when they enter the profession."

Diamantis adds that while public dialogue is often driven by loud voices at the extremes, the program creates a space for students to be vulnerable about their positions, even if they're unsure or find themselves somewhere in the middle. "Law students have above-average rates of taking on public-facing roles as judges and politicians," he says. "To be able to model a civil dialogue, which is without a doubt missing for the most part in public discourse, is the only way we can move forward as a society."

—SHELBI THOMAS

Tips for Civil Discourse From Law Professor Mihailis Diamantis

- Avoid coming off as dismissive.
- Acknowledge the other person's perspective before offering your own.
- Frame your view in a conscientious way.
- If you feel tension rising, change the topic or bring in a third party to mediate.



In 2000, Iowa Playwrights Workshop alumnus Rick Cleveland (left) won an Emmy with Aaron Sorkin (right) for outstanding writing on *The West Wing*.

SCREENWRITING

Running the Show

A master of storytelling teaches UI students how to create compelling television.



He's penned a hit monologue play about former president Bill Clinton, walked off stage with a golden Emmy Award, and been one of the brains behind a host of cult-classic television shows. Now **Rick Cleveland** (95MFA) has let University of Iowa students in on the secrets to his success.

The prolific writer, producer, and performer—a six-time Emmy nominee who has worked on plays, films, and small-screen blockbusters that include *The West Wing* and *Six Feet Under*—taught a Television Writers Room course in the UI Department of Theatre Arts this past fall.

“A smart writers room really raises your game, and I always wondered if that experience could be replicated in a classroom,” says Cleveland. “I think we got close.”

In his seminar, a group of students and postgraduate fellows gathered for three hours every Friday afternoon—through a mix of in-person and virtual sessions—to develop television scripts and critique one another's work, just as they would in a professional writers room.

“Rick encouraged us to write from our own perspectives and was incredibly generous in meeting us at our levels,” says **Ann Kreitman**, a graduate student from the class who studies directing.

She and her peers watched TV pilots—the standalone episodes that help sell a new show—of everything from *Breaking Bad* and *The Sopranos* [which Iowa graduates **Mark Johnson** (73MA) and **Robin Green** (77MFA) respectively produced] to *BoJack Horseman* and *Atlanta*. Students pitched story ideas and explored plot devices and characters. They also heard from guest speakers that included Emmy Award-winning TV writer **Lila Byock** (04MFA), known for hits such as *Watchmen*, *Castle Rock*, and *The Leftovers*. At semester's end, class members submitted drafts of their own pilots.

“Television often is the most accessible form of storytelling,” says Kreitman. “Through this class, I learned what it means to tell those stories.”



Rick Cleveland gives a public lecture this past fall at the UI Theatre Building, moderated by theatre arts professor Megan Gogerty.

Cleveland gleaned such lessons at Iowa too. Born in Parma, Ohio, he honed his acting chops at Second City in Chicago—and as a founding member of the American Blues Theater—before graduating from the UI Playwriting Workshop in 1995. Since then, he’s made a name for himself on stage and screen, even winning an Emmy for best writing for a drama series, alongside Aaron Sorkin, for *The West Wing*’s “In Excelsis Deo” episode.

That fruitful collaboration was one of many throughout Cleveland’s career. “A writers room is no place for wallflowers,” he says. “You’re working with very intelligent people, and you’d better be able to play at their level.”

Thanks to his recent master class, Iowa students will have the skills and confidence to do just that.

—LEAH KLEVAR

Must-See TV

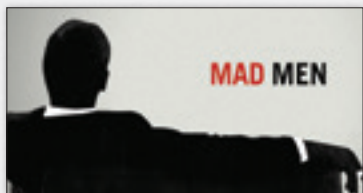
Cleveland has helped write and produce several critically acclaimed television shows, including:



The West Wing



Six Feet Under



Mad Men



Nurse Jackie



House of Cards



The Man in the High Castle

BRIEFS

Write to the Top

The University of Iowa is the No. 2 university in the country for writing, according to the latest *U.S. News & World Report* ranking. Iowa is also the only public institution in the top 10, tying for its spot with Yale and surpassing schools such as Harvard and Princeton.

Autism Genes Discovery

UI Carver College of Medicine researchers contributed to a new study published in *Nature Genetics*, which identifies 60 autism spectrum-associated genes, including five not previously implicated in neurodevelopmental disorders. The finding may lead to a better understanding of the care needs for different subtypes of autism.

Translation Station

The UI will establish a new National Resource Center for Translation and Global Literacy with a grant of over \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Education. The program, which aims to train students in intercultural communication, includes support for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ new Bachelor of Arts in Translation.



Through the Raptor Ambassador Program, UI WILD Director David Conrads and his team—including Hercules 2 the red-tailed hawk—teach Hawkeye fans about nature conservation.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Home of the Hawks

A Hawkeye program to promote wildlife conservation takes flight.



This past fall, Iowa football fans had an up-close look at native birds of prey as they soared over Kinnick Stadium at home games. To prepare these majestic creatures to fly in front of nearly 70,000 fans takes a lot of effort and coordination.

David Conrads, director of University of Iowa WILD (Wildlife Instruction and Leadership Development) within the UI College of Education, explains that his team uses well-established falconry techniques to ensure both fans and fowl are safe.

“We keep a really close tab on their hunting weight,” says Conrads, who partners with the UI Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on these efforts through the Raptor Ambassador Program. “If our birds are not at hunting weight, they’re not going to respond to the lures we use to help them fly from person to person.”

Preparation for fall football games starts after the birds of prey—which live at the Macbride Nature Recreation Area near Solon, Iowa—complete their yearly molt, which

is the shedding of old feathers to make way for new ones. In July, work began with four birds of prey—red-tailed hawks Hercules 2 and Hercules 3, and Harris’ hawks Superior and Walter—two times a week to ensure they are comfortable with their surroundings at Kinnick.

“It’s really incredible to see how much care they put into the practice runs—making sure the birds are kept in a safe and controlled environment and keeping in mind how much and what they are fed,” says **Nicholas Alex**, a graduate student who helped with the training this past summer. “They’re very calculated with the birds.”

For Conrads, the effort is all worth it to advance conservation efforts in the Hawkeye State.

“Everything we do is to awaken awareness, nurture appreciation, and inspire action for all things wild in Iowa, and birds of prey are an amazing way to tell that story,” says Conrads. “This is a great way to bring conservation to Iowans.” —**BEN FROTSCHER**

DID YOU KNOW?

The Iowa Raptor Project has been in existence since 1985. Out of 131 Division I FBS football programs, Iowa is one of only four that flies birds of prey at football games. The other three are Air Force, Auburn, and Georgia Southern.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Life After Student Government

Former Undergraduate Student Government members are making an impact in politics and public service.



For decades, the University of Iowa Honors Program has maintained a strong tradition of its students being involved in Undergraduate Student Government (USG). While at Iowa, they come to understand the complex issues that face their communities and learn the importance of teamwork to address challenges and develop solutions.

Here are three UI Honors Program alumni who leveraged their USG experience into fulfilling careers. —**TYLER STRAND**



Meredith DeBoom (09BA)

Assistant professor of geography, University of South Carolina

Why I joined USG: USG is an excellent platform to make a difference on campus and in Iowa City. It also afforded me the opportunity to meet students interested in public service and learn more about campus, local, and state politics.

Career impact: USG strengthened my leadership skills and boosted my confidence. The sense of vision I gained enables me to think big picture in my work.

Best lesson: USG taught me how to be comfortable with contention and to build relationships with others not only despite our disagreements, but through those disagreements.

Lauren Freeman (17BA, 17BS)

Management analyst, City of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

Why I joined USG: I was excited to represent student interests with university administrators, work on initiatives that could improve the student experience, and leave the university a little better than how I found it.

Career impact: I loved that I could see the tangible impact of my work on campus and wanted to translate that into a lifelong career.

Best lesson: Keep trying, even when you hear “no” or “we’ve tried that before.” It’s OK to try the same thing a few times if you believe it is the right thing to do.

Nic Pottebaum (13BS)

Health policy adviser, Office of U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley

Why I joined USG: I was interested in politics and policymaking and wanted to serve.

Career impact: USG was an invaluable opportunity to serve the UI community and test every aspect of public service.

Best lesson: Assume a “yes” is a “maybe” and a “maybe” is a “no.” It will serve you well in politics and avoid misaligned expectations.



For more profiles of former student government alumni, visit foriowa.info/uigs-after.



ASK AN EXPERT

Do I Qualify for Student Loan Forgiveness?

Earlier this year, the Biden-Harris administration announced a student debt relief plan that could potentially qualify borrowers with a Federal Direct Loan for loan forgiveness.

Kelsey Ryder (14MA), associate director of advising, financial literacy and outreach at the University of Iowa Office of Student Financial Aid, offers these tips to determine eligibility.

- **Review the eligibility criteria** at foriowa.info/debt-relief22 to see if you are eligible for the one-time loan cancellation.
- **Look up your total loans** and whether you received a Pell grant at studentaid.gov with your FSA ID and password. If you don't have an FSA ID and password, you can create one.
- **Complete the online form** at studentaid.gov to request loan cancellation. Most borrowers who apply can expect relief within six weeks.
- **Refer to your loan servicer** for the most up-to-date information about loan cancellation. Find your loan servicer's contact information at studentaid.gov.
- **The repayment pause expires** on Dec. 31. Be prepared for payments to resume in early 2023 on remaining loan balances.
- **Beware of scams.** This is a free program through the U.S. Department of Education, so you should never have to pay a fee to cancel your loans.



VETERAN AWARDS

A Salute to Their Service

The UI honors seven Hawkeyes for their contributions to community and country.

At a dedication for the newly opened Iowa Memorial Union in February 1926—seven years after the end of World War I—prominent Iowa attorney **James Weaver** (1882LLB) spoke of the IMU's lasting symbolism. "If this magnificent structure is to fulfill the dreams out of which it has arisen, it can only do so by stirring the impulses of the young men and women of Iowa to lives of service to mankind," he said.

That call to service, which was later inscribed in marble inside the student hub, is no better embodied than by this year's Hawkeye Distinguished Veterans Award recipients. Since 2015, the UI has honored members of the armed forces who have demonstrated exceptional service to their communities and nation with the awards. On the eve of Veterans Day last month, seven Hawkeyes received the honor in a ceremony at the IMU, including one posthumous honoree. —**JOSH O'LEARY**



PATRICK CHESTERMAN (72BBA)

A four-year ROTC cadet at Iowa before his 22-year active-duty career in the Air Force, retired Lt. Col. Chesterman was a leading expert in petroleum logistics and served as director of Air Force fuels to oversee refueling operations around the world.



JAMES DICKERSON (83BGS)

The longtime PGA professional at the UI's Finkbine Golf Course and retired sergeant major in the U.S. Army helps lead the Golf for Injured Veterans Everywhere program, which provides support and teaches the sport to former service members.



HOLLY WILSON GREENE (80PHD)

A retired senior chief hospital corpsman for the U.S. Navy and former UI athletic trainer, Greene received the Military Outstanding Volunteer

Service Award for her work with the Special Olympics, Red Cross, and Oakland Zoo.



JOHN HELLSTEIN (91MS)

A retired member of the U.S. Army Dental Corps who was a colonel at the Army Dental Education Programs, Hellstein now serves as an invaluable resource for veteran patients as a professor at the UI College of Dentistry.



WILLIAM LEE PETERS (66BA)

A former Hawkeye varsity swimmer, the late Lt. Peters earned a Silver Star, the Navy Cross, and the Air Medal for acts of heroism in the Vietnam War. According to the Iowa Veterans Remembrance Project, Peters was piloting a helicopter in June 1969 that came under attack and crashed, killing Peters and seven others.



JO ANNE RUMMELHART (75BS, 81DDS)

The U.S. Navy's first female periodontist who served 10 years of active duty, Rummelhart donated to the UI to provide financial assistance for veterans who receive care at the College of Dentistry.



STEWART WALLACE (68BBA)

Retired Maj. Gen. Wallace had a decorated 33-year career in the U.S. Army that included posts overseas and at the Pentagon. He now serves as executive adviser for the UI College of Engineering-based Iowa Technology Institute and leads many university initiatives to support, mentor, and recognize veterans.



IOWA CITY SCENE

Book Your Next Visit

Here are seven spots in Iowa City to find a book to cozy up to this winter.



In 2008, Iowa City was designated as a UNESCO City of Literature—only the third one named in the world at the time and the first in the U.S. Celebrated for its nationally acclaimed writing programs and active libraries, the literary town is also home to a number of lively bookstores. Here are some of the best spots to find your next great read in Iowa City.

Prairie Lights

15 S. Dubuque St.

Established in 1978, Prairie Lights is known as one of the nation's top independent bookstores. Prairie Lights' stellar reputation is built on its

famous reading series that brings in up-and-coming and well-known authors and poets. Signed books are available at the store, and the upstairs features a café.

The Haunted Bookshop

219 N. Gilbert St.

Iowa City's oldest secondhand bookshop, The Haunted Bookshop is located in a house built in 1847 with rooms named after patrons, cats, and even one of the "ghosts" of the shop. Each room houses a different genre of books, and there are many places to sit, read, and play games.

Cats, coffee, and comics are among the attractions at Iowa City's bookstores.

Iowa Hawk Shop and University Bookstore

125 N. Madison St.

Located in the Iowa Memorial Union, the Hawk Shop is the official bookstore of the University of Iowa. In addition to bestsellers, it offers many necessities for UI students such as textbooks, school supplies, electronics, dorm essentials, and Hawkeye merchandise.

Iowa Book

8 S. Clinton St.

Now overseen by Barnes & Noble, Iowa Book caters to both students and the community. The store has many popular books and textbooks, as well as UI apparel and decor, school supplies, and gifts.

Sidekick Coffee & Books

1310 ½ Melrose Ave.

A more recent addition to the literary scene in Iowa City, Sidekick Coffee & Books has quickly become a favorite. The store originally focused on children's books, but its selection of titles for adults has expanded with demand. It features a full-service coffee bar and events such as author readings and kids' story times.

Daydreams Comics

229 E. Washington St.

Moving in January 2021 from Dubuque Street to East Washington Street, Daydreams Comics has been a staple of downtown since 1986. The shop includes a new comics wall and a section dedicated to all ages. Daydreams Comics also showcases work from local comic book creators alongside well-known artists.

Captain's Book Shoppe

1570 S. First Ave.

Captain's Book Shoppe is a rare, used, and new book buyer and seller. The store sells all genres of fiction and nonfiction and professional journals, with new material continuously added to the showroom shelves. In addition, the store offers consulting, book appraisals, book donations, and online sales. —ELLEN FOX

IOWA

Eight over
80

**AS HAWKEYES,
WE GIVE BACK
THROUGHOUT
OUR LIVES.**

Some of us make an impact well beyond retirement. In 2023, we are honoring Iowa alumni—age 80 and over—**who carry the Hawkeye spirit of achievement and continue to help others.**

LEARN MORE AND NOMINATE A HAWKEYE: [FORIOWA.ORG/EIGHT-OVER-80](https://foriowa.org/eight-over-80)



WRITE NOW

The UI Alumni and Friends Writing Contests

Jan. 13–15, 2023

Spark your imagination during our free, online 48-hour flash writing contest.

For contest details, visit foriowa.org/write-now.

GO, HAWKS!

■ ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE ■ CZINANO SPEAKS ■ GATENS RETURNS



Delay of Game

Three separate lightning delays dragged out the Sept. 17 football game against the University of Nevada until past 1:30 a.m. but didn't keep Iowa from victory. Led off by a touchdown from running back **Kaleb Johnson**, the Hawkeyes stayed strong all night, winning the nearly seven-hour game 27-0.



PLAYMAKER: MONIKA CZINANO

One Last Hurrah

Iowa's senior post returns with high hopes for her fifth and final season at Iowa.

➔ In eighth grade, **Monika Czinano** broke multiple bones in her leg and arm during an ATV accident. It's an experience she has not forgotten.

"I was in the hospital for a full week and bed rest for an entire month," says Czinano, a fifth-year senior on the Iowa women's basketball team from Watertown, Minnesota. "But I loved the hospital atmosphere—the structure, the knowledge, and just everything going on. I've known since then I wanted to go into health care."

Czinano, a biology major and three-time All-Big Ten selection, put her medical school plans on hold for one year so that she could return to an experienced starting lineup. Last year, the Hawkeyes won the Big Ten regular season and postseason tournament titles but lost in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Iowa Magazine talked to Czinano about her goals for the season, experience as a Hawkeye, and thoughts on gender equity in sports.

Last season didn't end the way you wanted. How did its abrupt end fuel your preparation for this year?

How last season ended really stung, but I like to think it was one of the better things that happened to us. It's been the best motivator any team could want—especially with everyone back and being at full force again. Coming into

this season, I wanted to get better on the defensive end of the court. We're pretty solid offensively, but we can always get better on defense. If we all get a little bit better, we will be a better team.

Your starting lineup is unchanged from last season. How does that experience help your team accomplish your goals?

It's phenomenal. All of us are so comfortable with each other on and off the court. We're able to give each other constructive criticism and know that it's from a place of love—and that we're not attacking each other. We've been growing together for a long time. There's a lot of trust.

Who are some individuals who have helped you advance your game?

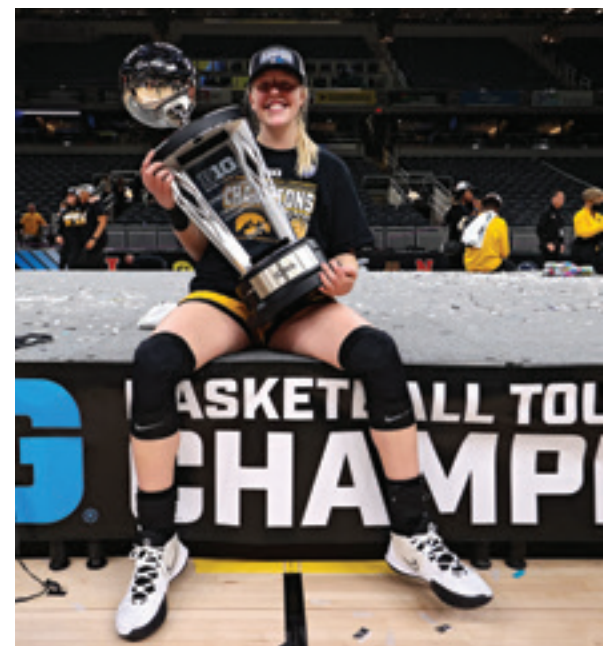
Megan Gustafson (19BBA) was the catalyst and spark for getting me to where I am today. Every post player I've gotten the opportunity to compete against has given me something, taught me a lesson, and has helped improve my game. [Associate head] coach **Jan Jensen** is a guru. She's just so smart with the post position and knows how to motivate. We have the best support system. From our managers to my teammates, they've all pushed me in a way that I didn't know I could be pushed and helped me improve in so many ways.

What has been your favorite memory at Iowa?

There have been so many great memories and moments, but if I had to pick one, it would be winning the Big Ten Tournament last season. Afterward we were eating pizza together, and all of us were just a little stunned that we went to Indianapolis and made Iowa history—winning both the regular season and conference titles for the first time. Just having that moment with my fellow seniors—**Kate Martin** (22BS), **Logan Cook** (22BA), and **Tomi Taiwo** (22BA)—that was really great. I hope there are a few more great moments to come.



Czinano scored a team-high 30 points in the Hawkeyes' victory over the Hoosiers for the 2022 Big Ten tournament title.



Czinano holds the Big Ten tournament championship trophy last season after Iowa defeated Indiana in Indianapolis 74-67.

As a Division I student-athlete, you have the ability to inspire other young women in sports. What do you hope they learn from you?

As a teenager, I was taller and stronger than all of the boys, and I didn't have anyone that I could look up to or relate to. I would tell other young girls that it's beautiful to be big and strong—it's something you don't have to hide. I also wear my heart on my sleeve when I play basketball, and it's OK to do that. If I can inspire even one young person, that's enough for me.

Iowa is celebrating 50 years of women's athletics this year. What does Title IX mean to you, and what work is still yet to be done for gender equity in sports?

Playing basketball is something that I love, and I can't imagine it not being an option. Head coach **Lisa Bluder** has told us a lot about Dr. **Christine Grant** (70BA, 74PhD), and I know she's such a huge role model for many of us. I'm so lucky to be where I'm at today. Being a woman who can be strong and put that to use on the court—I'm indebted to everybody who has come before me to pave that path. Fifty years isn't that long ago and learning more about Title IX has been very eye-opening. There's still a lot of work to do in terms of getting women in sports and getting women in leadership roles as coaches and athletic directors. We're making steps forward, and that's what matters.

—**BEN FROTSCHER**



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Back in Black

A hometown Hawk has returned to build the nest.



Iowa City native and former Hawkeye basketball guard **Matt Gatens** (12BBA) became an assistant Iowa basketball coach this past June, replacing **Kirk Speraw** (80BBA), who retired after 43 years coaching college basketball.

Gatens comes to Iowa after playing professional basketball in Europe and serving as an assistant coach for the Drake teams that won the 2019 Missouri Valley regular season championship and advanced to the 2021 NCAA tournament. “It’s a privilege to now work for my former coach [**Fran McCaffery**] and someone who I have looked up to since he started here,” Gatens, the son of former Hawkeye **Mike Gatens** (76BBA), said shortly after being hired. “I’m looking forward to representing Hawkeye nation and competing for championships in a place that I call home.”

Gatens is the latest in a line of former Iowa student-athletes—including head coaches **Tom Brands** (92BS) of wrestling, **Lisa Cellucci** (98BA) of field hockey, **Sasha Schmid** (96BA, 99JD) of tennis, and **Tyler Stith** (02BBA) of men’s golf—who are leading the next generation of Hawkeyes. Here’s a snapshot of four alumni who have returned to coach in the past two seasons.



Jess Barnett (13BA)

Field hockey, 2009-2012

→ **Then:** All-American and team MVP who led Iowa to two-straight NCAA Sweet 16 appearances in 2011 and 2012

→ **Now:** Second-year assistant coach who helped guide the Hawkeyes to the 2021 Big Ten regular season title



Ladell Betts (01BS)

Football, 1998-2001

→ **Then:** Two-time, second-team All-Big Ten and second-leading rusher in school history

→ **Now:** Retired NFL player and second-year running backs coach who helped guide the Hawkeyes to the 2021 Big Ten West division title



Matt Gatens (12BBA)

Basketball, 2009-2012

→ **Then:** Two-time All-Big Ten selection and four-year starter who led the Hawkeyes to postseason play for the first time in six seasons during his senior year

→ **Now:** First-year assistant coach who helps with recruiting, opponent scouting, practices, player development, and game preparation



Abdul Hodge (05BA)

Football, 2002-2005

→ **Then:** Three-time All-Big Ten linebacker who led Iowa to two co-Big Ten titles in 2002 and 2004

→ **Now:** Retired NFL player and first-year tight ends coach for Hawkeyes like **Sam LaPorta** and **Luke Lachey**



Dan Schleisman is pictured with Herky at the HERkys Hawk Walk, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Title IX and Iowa women's athletics.

SUPERFAN

Steady in the Stands

An Iowa grad achieves his goal of attending every home Hawkeye sporting event in a year.

Dan Schleisman (72BS) is the ultimate Hawkeye sports fan. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of his University of Iowa graduation last spring and honor his late father who was a big Hawkeye supporter, Schleisman attended every home UI sporting event in 2021–22. He braved a snowstorm at the Midwest regional cross-country meet, witnessed a record-setting 30–16 victory for the baseball team, and completed a rowing–swimming–volleyball trifecta in one day—totaling nearly 175 competitions for the year.

Schleisman, who grew up listening to Hawkeye basketball on his transistor radio and purchased football season tickets as an Iowa student, also avidly enjoys the less-publicized sports. “I wish more people would attend those because they’re missing some really good teams,” says Schleisman, who taught physical education, health, and math and coached several sports for 47 years in western Iowa.

Schleisman relocated to Iowa City in 2020 for retirement and to be closer to family and Hawkeye events. While he isn’t attempting his 2021–22 feat again, Schleisman has season tickets for football, volleyball, wrestling, and men’s and women’s basketball and will attend more than 100 Hawkeye athletics events this academic year.

Although he no longer coaches, Schleisman can still be found with a scorebook at baseball and softball games, a stopwatch at track and cross-country meets, and an attentive interest in strategy. Says the former physical education major, “I always watch like I’m a coach.” —**TYLER STRAND**

Do you know a Hawkeye superfan? Email your stories to uimagine@foriowa.org.

BRIEFS



Doc on Dr. Grant

Unshakeable Belief, a documentary about former Iowa women’s athletic director

Christine Grant (70BA, 74PhD) and her work to gain equity for women in sports, is now available to stream. Watch it at foriowa.info/unshakeable-belief.

Reaching 100

Field hockey head coach **Lisa Cellucci** (98BA) marked her 100th career victory early this past season in a 2–1 win against Wake Forest. Cellucci is the fourth Hawkeye head coach in the sport to achieve the milestone.

Stars on Screen

The Hawkeye women’s basketball team will be the most televised out of any Big Ten school this season, according to a schedule released by the UI and Big Ten. This includes the Iowa games against Michigan and Nebraska, which will be nationally televised on FOX—a first in league history. For the complete schedule, visit foriowa.info/wbball-schedule22.

CRADLE OF CHAMPIONS

THE WRESTLING CAPITAL OF THE U.S. BUILDS
ON ITS STORIED MAT HISTORY.

By Josh O'Leary

There are a few places in the world where city and sport are inseparable: Augusta, Georgia; Cooperstown, New York; and London's Wimbledon district, to name a few.

For fans of college wrestling, there's no place like Iowa City.

It's here where **Simon Roberts** (59BA) became the sport's first Black NCAA champion in 1957, coach **Dan Gable** forged an indomitable dynasty, and USA Wrestling has staged some of its most prestigious national and international meets. "Iowa Style" has even become part of the sport's lexicon, describing the attacking, relentless philosophy made famous by Gable and spread by his disciples, including current Hawkeye coach **Tom Brands** (92BS).

Now, Iowa City is poised to add to its renown as the nation's epicenter of wrestling.

This season's Hawkeyes are led by the NCAA's most dynamic wrestler, **Spencer**

Lee (21BS), a generational superstar who could become the program's first four-time national champion. He headlines a talented returning cast of All-Americans seeking Iowa's 25th national team crown.

Meanwhile, a history-making group of women has arrived on campus to train under new coach **Clarissa Chun**. The former Olympian is tasked with assembling the nation's first women's Power Five conference wrestling program—ensuring major college wrestling will no longer just be a boys' club.

And next door to Carver-Hawkeye Arena, a new practice home for the men's and women's teams takes shape. Iowa recently broke ground on a world-class wrestling training facility designed to keep the Hawkeyes in the top position on the mat for decades to come.

With a promising season underway, *Iowa Magazine* recently pinned down Hawkeyes leaders to talk about this pivotal moment in the city of champions.



Simon Roberts

WRESTLING TOWN, USA - IOWA CITY, IA

Terry Brands

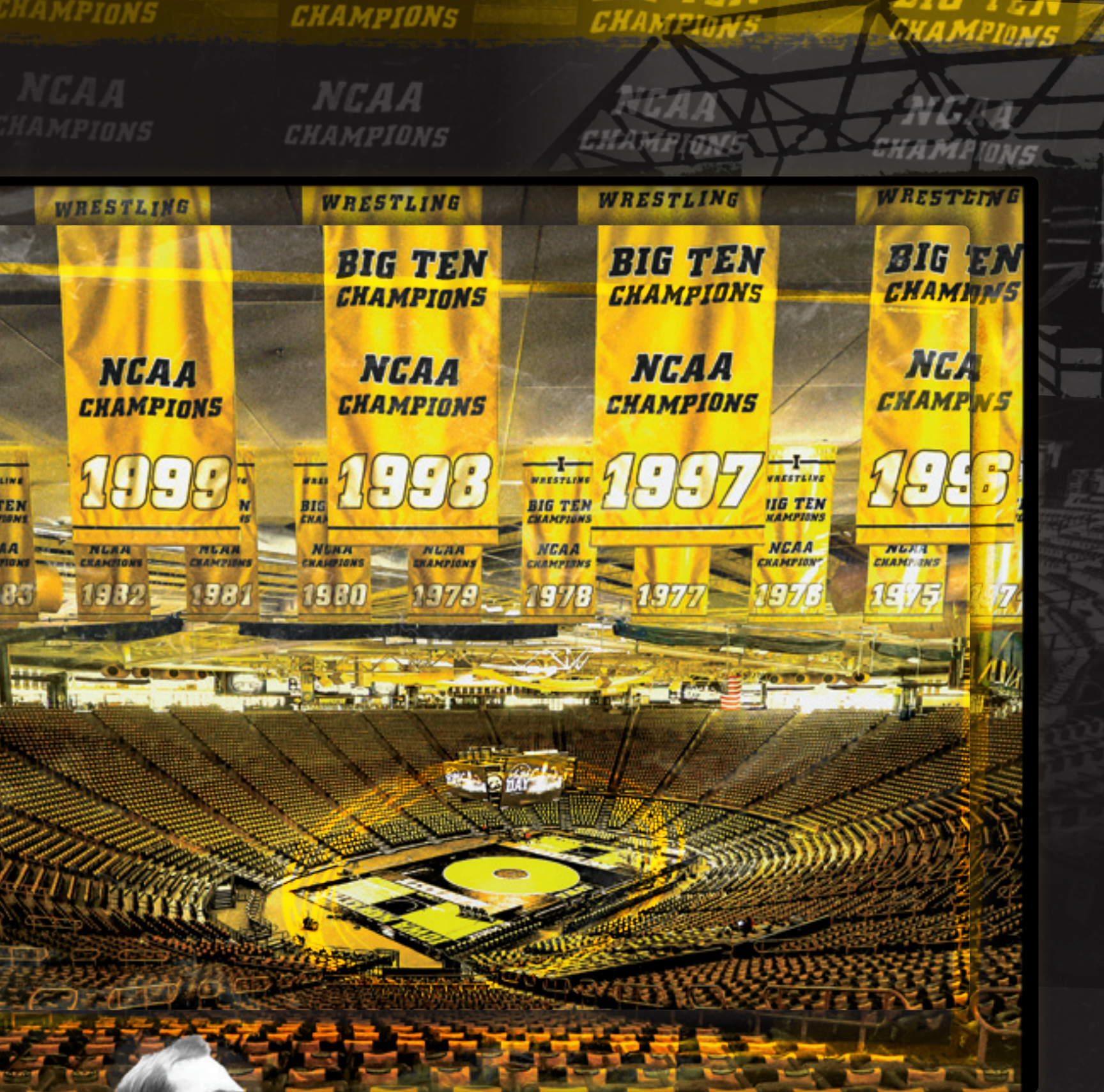


PHOTO: BRIAN RAY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM



TITLE TOWN

No team has been as dominant as the Hawkeyes the past half century. Iowa captured nine straight NCAA titles from 1978 to 1986—equaling **the longest stretch of Division I titles in any sport**—and has won **24 of the last 48 national championships**. During that five-decade span, Iowa has crowned 66 individual champions.



SPENCER LEE'S

'FANATICALLY FEROCIOUS' PURSUIT

OF GREATNESS

WRESTLING TOWN, USA - IOWA CITY, IA

After surgery to replace both ACLs and an excruciating season on the sidelines, the superstar senior aims to become the first Hawkeye to win four NCAA titles. But his drive to be the best in the world won't let him stop there.

Spencer Lee (21BS) isn't interested in talking about past accomplishments. Ahead of his final season at Iowa—and a run at Hawkeye and NCAA immortality—the nation's most dominant wrestler is fixated on what he hasn't done since arriving in Iowa City in 2017.

It's a short list, given all his accolades. But it's one that consumes the two-time winner of the Hodge Trophy, wrestling's equivalent to the Heisman Trophy. Derailed by injuries and a pandemic, Lee hasn't been able to compete for a spot on a national team, much less a world championship, since high school. He was forced to withdraw from the 2021 Olympic trials after blowing out his second ACL in two years. Even more agonizing was watching last season matside when he took a medical redshirt.

Questions about the titles and trophies that have brought him to the cusp of joining the sport's most elite club—wrestlers who have won four individual NCAA championships—seem irrelevant to a guy aching to simply compete. “My career could have been a lot better than it is,” says Lee, who turned 24 this past October and is in his sixth year at Iowa. “I didn't come here to be just a national champ. That's the lowest of the totem pole for me.”

He adds a disclaimer: “Not that it isn't important.”

What is most important to Lee is becoming the best wrestler in the world, collegiate or otherwise. A career sweep of national championships—something accomplished by only four others in NCAA history—would just be the next step on the list of lofty goals he once scrawled out as a grade-school phenom in Pennsylvania.

“I came here to win Olympic, World, *and* national titles,” says the 125-pounder. “I haven't even gotten the opportunity to compete for those, and that's been the most frustrating thing about my career.”

Iowa's storied program has produced 23 wrestlers who captured two or more national championships, including seven three-time winners (see p. 26). But no Hawkeye until Lee has entered his senior season with a shot at a four-peat. Even the sport's most revered figure, former Iowa coach **Dan Gable**, fell one match short of it at Iowa State.

“It's a feat to even crack the starting lineup for four years at the University of Iowa, let alone be a four-time national champion,” says **Mark Ironside** (98BS), a radio analyst for the Hawkeyes and a two-time NCAA title winner. “Spencer Lee is something special, no doubt. ... A lot of times college athletes can get complacent once they've won a title or two and hit a plateau. Spencer has never hit that plateau.”

The only question now, in Lee's return, is whether his knees are healthy enough to support the weight of his ambitions.

The chase for No. 4 was supposed to happen last season.

In March 2021, after leading Iowa to its first NCAA team championship in a decade and winning his third individual national title, Lee revealed in a post-match interview with ESPN that he had torn his left ACL just days before NCAAs. That was on top of a previous tear in his right ACL, meaning he won the title with, as he described it on national TV, no ACLs. “I didn't want to tell anybody, because excuses are for wusses,” he famously said—and later trademarked on T-shirts.

Opting for rehab and forgoing surgery, Lee thought his knees were healthy enough to compete last season. But as he was warming up for his debut last December at the National Collegiate Duals in Niceville, Florida, something was off. His legs were sluggish and unstable, and pain shot through his knees. Lee still won his three matches in commanding fashion, outscoring his opponents a combined 31-1. Back in Iowa City, however, he struggled to get through practices and had to pull out of drills. “I was like, is this how I really want the rest of my career to be like?” Lee says. “I've toughed things out since I came into college but thought I should try to get healthy.”

So, on New Year's Day, Lee shut it down. He had reconstructive surgery on both knees at UI Hospitals & Clinics and dedicated himself to preparing for 2022-23. Lee had grappled with injuries before but nothing that kept him off the mat this long. In 2014, he won the first of three cadet and junior world titles with two cracked ribs. He claimed his second world title the following year with a torn labrum in his right shoulder. And his senior year of high school, he tore his ACL midway through the season but held off on surgery to pursue a fourth state title. He made it to the state finals where he lost 6-5 to eventual Hawkeye teammate **Austin DeSanto** (21BLS), whom he'd beaten 15-0 in the title match the year prior. Lee finished his prep career 144-1.

SPENCER LEE SO FAR



Two-time winner of the Dan Hodge Trophy, awarded to the nation's top college wrestler

Three-time NCAA champion and Iowa's 21st four-time All-American

Two-time Big Ten champion and two-time Big Ten Wrestler of the Year

Career record heading into the 2022-23 season of 78-5

29 of those 78 career victories have ended in the first period, including 21 first-period falls

Entered this season on a 38-match winning streak, in which he outscored his opponents 463-41

Parents were national judo athletes, and he has a twin sister, Gaby

HAWKEYE GREATS



CHUCK
YAGLA

Twenty-three Hawkeyes have won at least two NCAA titles, including seven three-time champs.

Royce Alger (88BS)
1987, 1988

Ed Banach (83BGS)
1980, 1981, 1983

Lou Banach (83BGS)
1981, 1983

Terry Brands (92BGS)
1990, 1992

Tom Brands (92BS)
1990, 1991, 1992

Chris Campbell (79BS)
1976, 1977

Barry Davis (87BGS)
1982, 1983, 1985

Mark Ironside (98BS)
1997, 1998

Eric Juergens (01BA)
2000, 2001

Marty Kistler (87BS)
1985, 1986

Spencer Lee (21BS)
2018, 2019, 2021

Randy Lewis (88BGS)
1979, 1980

Terry McCann (57BSC)
1955, 1956

Matt McDonough (13BA)
2010, 2012

Jeff McGinness (98BA, 01JD)
1995, 1998

Lincoln McIlravy (98BS)
1993, 1994, 1997

Brent Metcalf (10BA)
2008, 2010

Mark Perry (08BA)
2007, 2008

Joe Scarpello
1947, 1950

Joe Williams (98BA)
1996, 1997, 1998

T.J. Williams
1999, 2001

Chuck Yagla (77BBA)
1975, 1976

Jim Zalesky (85BGS)
1982, 1983, 1984

Last winter, Lee assumed the role of a coach and mentor as he rehabbed, offering guidance to teammates even if he couldn't tangle with them in the wrestling room. Unable to run, he instead spent hours on a stationary air bike and began weightlifting more—something that wasn't a big part of his previous regimen. By September, he was ready to test his knees on the mat.

"People always ask if I get tired of rehabbing," says Lee. "For me, it's part of my life, so you just do it. I've learned how to train in a smarter manner. I was always hurt, so we've had to figure out creative ways to get in shape and train as hard as the other guys on my team while not being able to do what they do."

Coach **Tom Brands** (92BS) calls it "The Spencer Lee Factor." With Lee's influence, Iowa has already sold out every home meet of the coming season for the second straight year. When Lee comes to the mat, even when Iowa is on the road, the concession lines and bathrooms are a ghost town. Everyone is in their seat.

"There's a certain gear in him that's fanatically ferocious," says Brands. "He doesn't get the notoriety or credit for being a dominant wrestler, but he scores points in bushelfuls. And that trophy"—Brands points to one of Lee's Hodge trophies on a shelf in his office—"is for the most dominant wrestler, and he's won two of them. And he wants to win three."

The son of two accomplished judo athletes—his father, Larry, was the U.S. national coach and his mother, Cathy, was an alternate for the Olympic team—Lee seemed destined for greatness from a young age. He tells the story of how, when he was in eighth grade, he was invited to a national team camp at the Olympic Training Center, where he worked out with senior-level athletes. "People thought I was there as a camper, because there was a developmental camp there for kids at the time," he laughs.

At Franklin Regional High School in Murrysville, Pennsylvania, Lee became something of a folk hero as the best pound-for-pound wrestler in the nation and a multi-time world champion.

A documentary crew chronicled his prep and international career for a film simply titled *Spencer Lee*. In 2016, he shook the wrestling world when he announced he was attending Iowa over in-state power Penn State.

"I've always been that guy who's been successful, and I've never let it get to my head because I've never been satisfied with my career," Lee says. "I want to do better, compete harder, and win more. ... I'm going to go out there and do the best I can to put on a show and try to create more fans for our sport and university."

Talk to Lee outside of Carver-Hawkeye Arena, and you'll find him to be easygoing and studious. He's a multi-time National Wrestling Coaches Association Scholar Athlete who graduated last year with a bachelor's in sports and recreation management. He's now pursuing a master's in the same field. He loves video games and is a self-described "Pokémon nerd," twice using the anime series' theme song for his walkout music before the NCAA finals.

Wrestling can be a solitary sport, but Lee is beloved by his teammates. After Lee won his second NCAA title in 2019, former heavyweight **Sam Stoll** (19BA) led a pack of

"I've always been that guy who's been successful, and I've never let it get to my head because I've never been satisfied with my career. I want to do better, compete harder, and win more."

— Spencer Lee



Spencer Lee, front center, leads a talented Hawkeye lineup this year, including, from left, Tony Cassioppi, Real Woods, Jacob Warner, Max Murin, and Abe Assad.

Hawkeyes into the media room to interrupt the press conference. Stoll grabbed a microphone to ask Lee, "Why are you the baddest man on the planet?" before hoisting the national champ on his shoulders to carry him away. It's a memory Lee says he'll never forget.

Lee also relishes his role as an ambassador for Iowa, and he cheers on other Hawkeye teams every chance he gets. When Brands asks his wrestlers who won the UI soccer game the night before, it's Lee who knows the final score. "I pay attention because I bleed black and gold," Lee says. "If you're a Hawkeye athlete, male or female, if you're good at what you do, I'm going to know who you are."

Beneath Lee's humble nature, though, lies one of the most competitive and driven wrestlers to ever come through Iowa. "I don't know if there's anybody tougher, and 'tough' embodies a lot of characteristics," Brands says. "It's a good word to describe who Spencer Lee is, what he's been through, and what he's overcome."

Ironside calls Lee a student of the sport who is constantly watching videos of international matches and old college matches. Possessing a sixth sense on the mat that keeps him a step ahead of his adversaries, Lee knows exactly the right moment to strike, says Ironside.

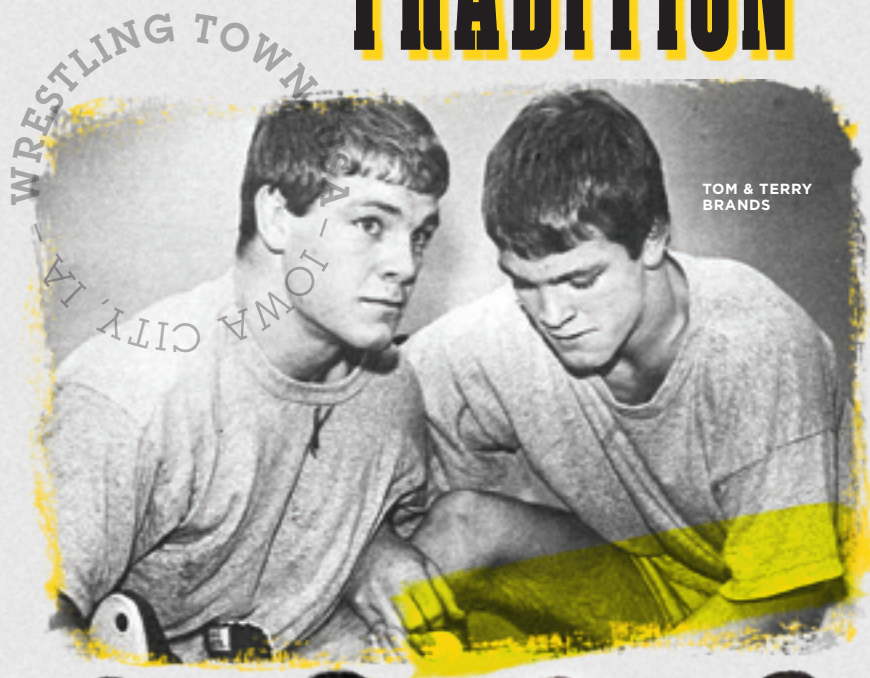
"The thing about Spencer is that he has a lot of different styles," Ironside says. "He's not just a slick, finesse-type wrestler, but he is very slick and very finesse. He's not just a hammer who wants to physically beat you up with his hands, but he can do that well too. The kid is extremely strong, and he knows positioning really well. What really sets him apart, though, more than anyone I've seen in my life in collegiate wrestling, is how he can work his opponents over on both sides from the top position."

The only thing more excruciating for Lee than being sidelined with an injury is losing. Not that he has a lot of experience with that. He entered this season riding a 38-match win streak dating back to the 2019 Big Ten Championships. "I always say that I hate losing more than I like winning," he says. "Losing feels like dying. It's a combat sport. It's tough, it's gritty, it's one man versus another man. You always want to be the better man, and I always strive to be the best I can be."

That philosophy has fueled Lee in the months after his surgery. He's awake at 6 a.m. and at Carver before the sun is up for rehab work, lifting, cardio, and a cold splash. After classes he returns for afternoon practices, which for many months, he could only watch from the bike. Then he's back after dinner for one last workout to try to tire himself out before bed.

As Lee punishes the air bike during these long days in the windowless wrestling room, where Olympic rings and names of past champions adorn the walls, his knees only get stronger. He's another mile closer to being back.

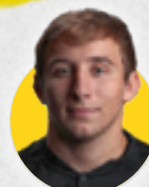
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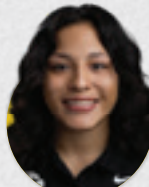
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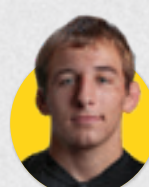
TERRY
STEINER



LOU
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EMILIE
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CARTER
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TROY
STEINER

The Iowa men's and women's wrestling teams doubled down

on their recruiting efforts this past year. The programs each landed a set of freshman twins: Carson and Carter Martinson of Altoona, Iowa, and Brianna and Emilie Gonzalez of El Monte, California.

The Martinsons and Gonzalezes are the latest in a long tradition of twin terrors on the mat for the Hawkeyes. Brothers Ed (83BGS) and Lou (83BGS) Banach combined for five NCAA titles for the Hawkeyes between 1980 to 1983 and two gold medals at the 1984 Olympics. A decade later, Terry (92BGS) and Tom (92BS) Brands combined for five national titles and later won an Olympic bronze and gold medal, respectively. Wrestling alongside the Brands brothers in the early 1990s were the Steiner twins, Terry (93BA) and Troy (93BA), who were multi-time All-Americans and each captured a national title.

"They help each other cut their teeth in the sport," says Iowa men's coach Tom Brands about the advantages of being a twin. "The one thing about twins, that I'll say on experience, and I'm laughing as I say this, is you have to have two alpha twins. Terry and I were on the same team but were fighting for the same real estate. That competitiveness just fans those flames even redder and hotter. Not one time did Terry or I take a backseat to the other in anything we did."



Former world champion Clarissa Chun assembles her pioneering Hawkeye women's team. And she knows the wrestling world is watching.

Two decades before she landed at Iowa as its inaugural women's wrestling coach, **Clarissa Chun** considered becoming a Hawkeye. The Hawaii native applied to and was accepted by the University of Iowa as a senior in 1999 after a decorated prep wrestling career. She knew Iowa didn't have a women's program. Few colleges did in those days. But the gifted student-athlete hoped to train in the best wrestling room in the country or, at the very least, work as a team manager. "I just wanted a place on the mat," Chun recalls today.

That summer, however, Chun received a letter from Missouri Valley College, an NAIA school that was one of the nation's first to offer scholarships for women's wrestling. It was an offer she couldn't refuse. Chun went on to become a three-time All-American at Missouri Valley, an Olympic medalist, and one of the sport's most prominent international wrestlers.

Eventually, Chun found her way to Iowa—and Iowa found its way to women's wrestling. Last year, the UI announced it would become the nation's first Power Five conference school to launch a women's wrestling program, with Tippie Director of Athletics Chair **Gary Barta** introducing Chun as the first coach at a university where wrestling is part of its DNA. Chun left her job of four years as USA Wrestling's assistant national women's coach for the chance to break new ground at the collegiate level.

Now she's able to offer the nation's best wrestlers an opportunity that wasn't available when she was a student: a place on the mat at Iowa. "There are hundreds of girls who want to come here to wrestle and get a high-level education," Chun says. "To be at a Big Ten school is a dream of so many."

Chun has assembled a veritable super team of the nation's top wrestling talent. Fifteen student-athletes are grappling in the wrestling room this fall, including 12 freshmen and three transfers. **Kylie Welker** of Franksville, Wisconsin, considered the best pound-for-pound prep wrestler in the country last season, headlines Chun's first class of blue-chip recruits.

The team's first official season won't begin until fall 2023, but Chun's wrestlers can practice and compete unattached at tournaments this winter, wearing unmarked black singlets and paying their own way. While they won't have the block Iowa logo on their uniforms, all eyes will be on the wrestlers in black. "Other programs know who's at Iowa," Chun says. "They're watching."

Felicity Taylor, a transfer from Division II power McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois, is one of two native Iowans on the roster. Taylor grew up in the northeast Iowa town of Spillville, where she was raised by a family of rabid Hawkeye fans. When her coach left McKendree after last season and Iowa made its historic announcement, it opened the door for Taylor—a four-time national finalist and 2021 NCWWC champion at 116 pounds—to return to her home state for her final year of eligibility.

Taylor says Chun's international credentials were a big part of what brought her to Iowa City. "We all have that goal of becoming Olympians and world champions," says Taylor, "so it's great to be able to pick her brain about her experiences, because wrestling is not only physical but it's mental."

Taylor traveled to Europe earlier this fall with Chun and two Hawkeye teammates to train with the senior World team, then competed for USA Wrestling's U23 team at the World Championships this past October in Spain. During

Hawkeye Women Set to Wrestle in Coralville Tourney

While the Iowa women must wait until the 2023-24 season to begin team competition, Hawkeye wrestlers are scheduled to compete unattached at the inaugural Soldier Salute open Dec. 29-30 at Xstream Arena in Coralville. Hosted by the Iowa City Area Sports Commission, Think Iowa City, and City of Coralville, the collegiate event will benefit the United Service Organization and a development fund promoting girls and women's wrestling.

the collegiate season, she hopes to wrestle independently at a couple of open tournaments per month. “This year we have a gap year to develop our team and relationships, so we need to take advantage of that,” Taylor says. “I’m glad I’m able to provide insight for the girls, if they need it, because I’ve been through the college season four times. We’re so excited to be the first at the start of this program.”

Chun has been charting new territory in wrestling since she was a teenager. She was a judo prodigy growing up in Honolulu, winning five national championships in the sport while also finding success as a swimmer. During her junior year of high school, the wrestling coach at Chun’s school coaxed her away from the pool and onto the mat, which was a better fit for her 4-foot-11 frame and martial arts background. Hawaii became the first state to sanction high school girls wrestling in 1998, and Chun went on to win back-to-back state wrestling championships. At Missouri Valley College, she helped guide her team to a 2001 national title while also bursting onto the international scene. A U.S. Olympic Training Center resident, Chun became a five-time U.S. Open champion, four-time Pan American gold medalist, a 2008 World champion, and a two-time Olympian. Her crowning Olympic achievement came at the 2012 London Games, where she captured a bronze medal in the 48-kilogram class (106 pounds).

Chun’s road to the Olympic podium passed through Iowa City. Carver-Hawkeye Arena played host to the 2012 USA Wrestling Team Trials, drawing record-breaking crowds. “It was electric—that’s what I remember,” Chun says of securing that London berth at Carver, where she also wrestled at the 2016 trials. “It was a lot of great energy there, and it stunned me a little. Nowhere else in the country appreciates wrestling as much as they do in Iowa.”

While competing internationally, Chun also worked as a member of the men’s coaching staff at West Virginia University before joining USA Wrestling as an assistant for the women’s team in Colorado Springs, Colorado. There she coached under national team head coach **Terry Steiner** (93BA), a former NCAA champion at Iowa. After landing the Iowa job, Chun says she has regularly called Steiner for support and guidance. She’s also been a frequent visitor to the UI Athletics compliance office as she learns the ropes of the NCAA system and has benefited from the wisdom of UI deputy athletic director **Barbara Burke**.

“Barbara reminds me that I’m zero-and-zero, that I’m undefeated and should enjoy it,” Chun says. “But it’s sport—I want to be undefeated forever. I want to see how far I can take our program.”

Earlier this year, Chun hired two highly respected veteran coaches to round out her staff. USA Wrestling’s Greco-Roman programs manager **Gary Mayabb** is Iowa’s new associate head coach, and former Canadian National Team coach **Tonya Verbeek** is assistant coach. Chun says it’s their goal to develop “bold, courageous female leaders,” which is why they take a character-first approach to recruiting. “If they’re good people with high integrity, that can go a long way,” she says.

Iowa will soon be a flagship program for one of the fastest-growing women’s sports in the U.S. According to the National Wrestling Coaches Association, the number of American girls wrestling in high schools has grown from 804 in 1994 to 31,654 in 2022. In Iowa, more than 1,000 girls now compete in wrestling, and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union earlier this year joined 33 other states by officially sanctioning the sport. More than 100 colleges now sponsor wrestling programs, including 51 NCAA programs in Divisions I, II, or III. Women’s wrestling has been an Olympic sport since 2004, and the UI-based Hawkeye Wrestling Club has been sponsoring female wrestlers in U.S. and world competition the past five years.

Following in the footsteps of Iowa legends like **Dan Gable** who inspired a generation of new wrestlers, and the late women’s athletics director **Christine Grant** (70BA, 74PhD), who helped lead a national movement for gender equity in sports, Chun embraces the big-picture significance of what she’s building at Iowa. One of her greatest challenges, however, has been managing the flood of interest by talented recruits with only a limited number of scholarships.

“I challenge other Big Ten programs, Power Five programs, and Ivies to add women’s wrestling,” Chun says. “As much I get excited for all the young girls who want to come to Iowa, I can’t take 500 girls.”

Bettendorf, Iowa, native **Ella Schmit**, a three-time girls state champion and the fourth female wrestler to ever qualify for the Iowa boys state wrestling tournament, is another star recruit for Chun. After growing up attending meets with her family at Carver, she’s now a Hawkeye. “It’s definitely the most stacked room in the country, even in the world,” the freshman says of her team. “I’m just honored to be a part of it.”

Schmit and her teammates have embraced their roles as trailblazers. At the end of each practice, the women put their hands together and break out of their huddle with a cheer. “For her!” they cry.

Says Schmit: “It stands for all the girls we’re representing, and all the girls we’re leaving a path for.”

Members of the first class of Iowa women’s wrestlers pose with a banner celebrating 50 years of Hawkeye women’s athletics.



WRESTLING TOWN, USA
— IOWA CITY, IA —

HOME MAT ADVANTAGE

‘A labor of love’ for Tom Brands, the new Goschke Family Wrestling Training Center will bolster Iowa’s renown as a destination for champions.

Tom Brands’ tenure at Iowa has been defined by winning. In his first 16 seasons as coach, the Hawkeyes captured four national championships, six Big Ten tournament crowns, and 250 dual victories. But even as Iowa added banners to Carver-Hawkeye Arena, it became increasingly clear to Brands that his program was losing in one crucial area: the facilities race.

While decades of legendary Hawkeyes have shed blood, sweat, and pounds in the Dan Gable Wrestling Complex, Carver’s hallowed wrestling room was showing its age. The subterranean training facility—considered the nation’s best when Carver opened 40 years ago this winter—was

becoming more crowded and dated by the year. That facilities gap only grew in recent seasons as rival programs like Ohio State, Minnesota, and Penn State opened gleaming new wrestling centers or renovated existing facilities.

“We were getting the pants beat off of us,” says Brands of Iowa’s facilities. “We had to do something.”

So Brands attacked the problem the only way he knew how: head-on. He hit the fundraising trail alongside athletics development representatives to meet with donors, fans, and alumni—anyone willing to listen to his pitch for investing in the future of Hawkeye wrestling. He shared his

PASSIONATE FAN BASE

Iowa has led the nation in attendance each year since 2007, including last season when the Hawkeyes sold out the entire season at Carver-Hawkeye Arena and set an NCAA record by averaging 14,905 fans per meet. In 2015, Iowa set the national collegiate dual meet attendance record of 42,287 when Iowa defeated Oklahoma State at the Grapple on the Gridiron at Kinnick Stadium. “Our fans are the craziest fans I’ve ever met,” says Spencer Lee. “They’re loud, and they always travel well. It’s awesome knowing that many people care for you.”

dreams for a world-class facility in Iowa City on par with the training centers he'd visited in international wrestling hot spots like Iran and Russia.

"Wrestling is king in these places, and wrestling is king in Iowa City," says Brands. "Being the mecca of wrestling, it's important that 'good enough' gets replaced with being the best on the planet."

Hundreds of donors have bought into that vision since the Carver Circle campaign launched three years ago. The campaign culminated this past summer when Iowa broke ground on the Goschke Family Wrestling Training Center just south of Carver-Hawkeye Arena at the corner of Hawkins and Elliott drives. The 38,500-square-foot building, scheduled to open in spring 2024, will double the training space for Iowa's wrestlers. It will also house the nationally renowned Hawkeye Wrestling Club, which prepares World and Olympic team members, and enhance Iowa City's status as a USA Wrestling regional training hub.

Funded entirely by donations through the Carver Circle campaign, the \$31 million training center will connect to Carver-Hawkeye Arena via an underground tunnel. Visitors will enter at street level into a Hall of Champions designed to showcase the program's proud lineage. Beyond the 13,000-square-foot wrestling room, the two-level building will also include expanded strength and conditioning areas, locker rooms, a student-athlete lounge, training and therapy rooms, and operations offices.

The building is named in honor of Hawkeye wrestling supporters **Doug** and **Ann Goschke** of Iowa City, who made a \$7 million gift commitment to the campaign. The new wrestling room, meanwhile, will be named for **Bob** (80BBA) and **Kathy Nicolls** of Franktown, Colorado, longtime backers of the program who have also donated \$7 million.

Just as Carver-Hawkeye Arena was hailed as an equal-opportunity project when it opened in the 1980s to host men's and women's sports alike, the new wrestling center is being built in a spirit of equity. Iowa's

women's wrestling team, which debuts in the 2023-24 season, will also call the building home.

Iowa women's coach **Clarissa Chun** says that female wrestlers often have to make do with limited resources. But Iowa's commitment to offering top-notch facilities for all student-athletes only added to her desire to sign on as the program's inaugural coach. "I feel like I walked into a gold mine," she says.

For the time being, Chun's team is using Carver's visitor locker room but will have its own dedicated space in the new building. "I've seen the women's basketball and volleyball locker rooms, and they're really nice," Chun says. "We're looking forward to the new facility so our student-athletes have that too—a place where they can relax and hang out in the locker rooms."

Brands says having the men and women practicing in the new facility will benefit both programs. "The women will make the men better, and the men will make the women better," he says. "They work just as hard as the men in the sport, and it's just as important to them. It will make our sport stronger by empowering them."

Calling it "a labor of love," Brands says his involvement in the center's design is probably more than what the architects and university facilities leaders are accustomed to. But this project is about more than just bricks and mortar for Brands. It's about upholding a commitment he's made to fans of the program to ensure Iowa City remains the best wrestling town in the nation. "This will honor our past, present, and future," he says.

You can bet when the Hall of Champions opens, it will have room for more NCAA trophies. **I**



Any comments? Email uimagazine@foriowa.org.



Pictured is the architect's rendering of the planned facility, which is set to open in 2024. To learn more about the Carver Circle campaign and how to support the project, visit hawkeyesports.com/carvercircle.

Edge of



Student-built instruments aboard a drone collect data for a mission launched during the two-week Edge of Space Academy.

Aspiring scientists touch down in Iowa for an immersive course fueled by a legacy of astrophysics research.

BY RICHARD
LEWIS

PHOTOS JUSTIN
TORNER

For two weeks earlier this year, the University of Iowa was Mission Control.

Undergraduate students from across the United States came to campus, enticed by the prospect of stewarding a mission to explore Earth or space. The students were the first group to enroll in a new class, called the Edge of Space Academy, offered by Iowa as another marker of its living, breathing legacy in space-based research.

In an intense, compressed time frame, the students would seek to plan and complete their own mission, just like full-time scientists involved in real-life NASA exploratory journeys. Along the way, they would learn how to build instruments, assemble electronics, create computer code, operate a payload, guide a drone operator or a jet pilot, collect and analyze data, and report results to decorated scientists and stalwarts in their fields.

Perhaps most importantly, they would learn what it's like to succeed—or fail.

During the isolating days of the COVID-19 pandemic, a faculty group devoted to space research dreamed up ideas to advance Iowa's reputation in Earth and space instrumentation. The winner: a class to bring undergraduates to Iowa, introduce them to the university, and give them the full flavor of a science mission.

"We have a lot of great faculty and researchers here involved in Earth and space flight observations, but we want to engage the next generation, because they are the future when it comes to a program in space flight," says **Allison Jaynes**, an associate professor and experimental space physicist. "Specifically, we want to spread the word nationally and internationally that Iowa is one of the destination universities for this kind of research."

For Jaynes, the class had an important, second purpose: Open the science to everyone.

As a female scientist, Jaynes knows firsthand it can be difficult to be included in high-profile space research. Jaynes was part of a 14-member national committee that, in a report published last May, concluded only 28% of NASA's "completed missions" had female principal investigators. Moreover, Jaynes and her committee found less than 1% of non-white scientists applied to lead high-profile NASA missions with budgets of \$100,000 or more.

With these imbalances in mind, the Edge of Space Academy specifically sought a diverse pool of applicants. The academy selected 12 undergraduates from a pool of three dozen candidates. Those selected came from eight states, hailing from community colleges and

four-year universities, spanning ethnicities and socioeconomic circumstances, and encompassing a range of academic interests, including data theory, engineering, environmental science, geography, global geodesign, and physics.

It's the third day of the Edge of Space Academy in Iowa City, and the students are well organized. The undergraduates are divided into three groups: One team will lead an instrument mission to analyze cosmic rays from space, while the other teams will oversee instruments placed on drones to conduct terrestrial observations such as 3D mapping and observing plant health. Each person has been assigned a distinct role—project manager, science lead, systems engineer, and launch coordinator—just like one would find on a multimillion-dollar agency mission.

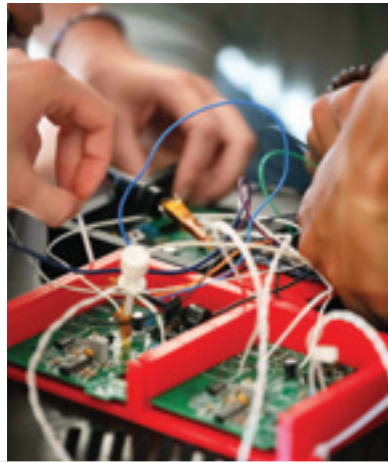
The room on the third floor of Van Allen Hall is abuzz with excited, muted chatter and knuckle-down industriousness. Jaynes and fellow faculty members **Susan Meerdink** (Department of Geographical and Sustainability Sciences; an expert in Earth observation techniques) and **David Miles** (Department of Physics and Astronomy; space instrumentation expert) circulate the room, ready to answer questions. The students are situated at stations paralleling their roles—computer coding, soldering, flight route planning, instrument visualization, among others.

At one station, Raemalin Hancock peers intently at a screen. Her project involves instruments that will measure cosmic rays from space; she's looking at a 3D model of the housing that will protect the instruments' electronics. The student from El Paso Community College in Texas twists and turns the housing, examining it from different angles. This is the computerized blueprint from which the actual housing will be 3D printed, and Hancock wants to make sure everything is nice and tight.

"We need it to be stable, because it's going up in a propeller plane, and it's going to be a bumpy ride," she says.

Hancock, who plans to transfer to a four-year institution to obtain a degree in mechanical engineering, learned about the Edge of Space Academy through a co-worker at Makerspace, a specialized lab at her college where students can learn technologies such as laser cutting, woodworking, and robotics. She applied to the Edge of Space Academy because she wanted to expand her skills, and she was enchanted by the idea of being part of a mission. Already, Hancock says the class has broadened her abilities.

"I've learned so many skills that I wouldn't have had the guts to try on my own," Hancock



says. “They taught us how to solder to NASA specifications. They went deeper than most instructors would have.”

At another station, Alexa Houck is arched over a black bench, needle in hand. Thin, ribbony wisps of smoke curl upward as the rising senior from James Madison University bonds wires to an electronics circuit board. This is her first time soldering. It’s a brave choice, considering it is essential she properly connect the wires and electronics for the cosmic-ray instrument to successfully collect data.

“I really like doing hands-on things—that’s one of the reasons I’m in STEM,” Houck says. “Plus, I’ve never done soldering before, and I like trying new things,” she adds.

Houck envisioned the summer course as a way to help her reach her goal of working in aerospace engineering.

“I don’t have the traditional aerospace engineering background,” says Houck, an integrated science and technology student from Burke, Virginia. “The more skills I can rack up in that department, it will serve me better.”

The day after working in the lab, the students hear physicists, engineers, and other research scientists at Iowa talk about their experiences on space missions. For nearly seven decades, Iowa has been at the center of space research, from the discovery in 1958 by **James Van Allen** (36MS, 39PhD) of radiation belts surrounding our planet, to the astonishing revelation in 2012 by **Donald Gurnett** (62BSEE, 63MS, 65PhD) that Voyager 1, a human-built spacecraft bearing his radio- and plasma-wave instrument, had exited our solar system and was sailing among the stars.

In all, Iowa researchers have designed or built instruments for 70 low-Earth or space missions. It’s a prolific output that includes trips to nearly every planet in the solar system (and more than once to some planets), detailed studies of the moon, sub-orbital rocket launches to study auroras on Earth, and instruments aboard CubeSats, the new generation of spacecraft the size of a loaf of bread.

From that long span of involvement has sprung a gusher of discoveries, including auroras on Jupiter (and other planets), new insights into Saturn’s rings, and eerie sounds in Earth’s upper atmosphere called “whistlers.” Iowa researchers have learned how Mars transformed from a wet to a dry environment, how the sun packs its blustery punch through the solar wind, and other meaningful findings that have advanced humanity’s understanding of our planet and the universe.

Currently, there are Iowa-produced instruments on 14 craft jetting somewhere around space. Soon, that number will be 15, when **Craig Kletzing**, the Donald A. and Marie B. Gurnett chair and professor of physics and astronomy, deploys a fleet of satellites to study the dynamic magnetic environment between the sun and Earth through NASA’s \$115 million TRACERS mission, the single-largest external research award in university history.

The Edge of Space Academy students, all but one of whom came from out of state, knew little, if anything, about Iowa’s space legacy.

Amber Birdwell was one of them. That is, until the rising junior at the University of Southern California heard a parade of Iowa researchers discuss their projects, many of them NASA funded.

“It’s awesome because these professors are such accomplished professionals in their fields. Our conversations have given me a lot of valuable insight and direction into how I might enter the space industry myself.”

— Edge of Space Academy participant Amber Birdwell

“It’s awesome because these professors are such accomplished professionals in their fields,” says Birdwell, who studies geographic information systems (GIS), urban planning, and architecture as part of her major in global geodesign. “Our conversations have given me a lot of valuable insight and direction into how I might enter the space industry myself.”

It’s the end of the first week, and flight day is here. The three groups have pushed themselves hard to get everything ready. Payload assembled? Check. Coding completed? Check. Computer reading signals from the instrument? Check. Flight path determined? Check.

As can happen in a real mission, problems arise. At the Iowa City Municipal Airport, the space crew’s first flight has been scrubbed. The pilot, **Thomas Schnell**, director of the Operator Performance Laboratory at Iowa, has determined there will be too much turbulence at the altitude necessary to fulfill the experiment. Then, another setback: Schnell informs the space group that its placement of high-voltage boards on the cosmic-ray instrument could cause a fire. So, the team must regroup quickly and redesign the part.

Meanwhile, the Earth-observing teams are confronting their own challenges. One is using a 3D digital mapping technology called LiDAR, while the other is employing cameras to take pictures in near-infrared and visible wavelengths. The two groups gather under low-hanging clouds at Ashton Prairie, the cross-country course where the university has reintroduced several acres of native tallgrass prairie. **Mary De La Garza**, a digital archaeologist with the Office of the State Archaeologist, stands ready to pilot the drone. The student groups lay out a grid using alphabetized placards and will instruct De La Garza where to fly.

The groups quickly learn that conditions in the field do not match conditions in the lab. The LiDAR group fastens its



WATCH students design, build, and fly instruments into the atmosphere at foriowa.info/edge-space.



“If you’re looking for knowledge or to get experience in space or be part of a mini-mission, this is the place to do it.”

— Edge of Space Academy student Jose Castelblanco

instrument to the drone but loses the signal between the instrument and the computer on the ground. The four group members, huddled together, now must troubleshoot on the fly. Is it an error in the code? The placement of the zip ties? The issue turns out to be a simple one: Meerdink notices the students hadn’t plugged the instrument into an electrical outlet.

Birdwell, who just moments ago had thrust her hands in her hair in anguish, is relieved.

“Oh, I was really panicking,” she admits sheepishly.

A short distance away, the camera group was battling away its own frustrations. The team’s first flight attempt was grounded due to too many ground markers and sudden wind gusts. On the second attempt, an alert that a medical helicopter was inbound to UI Hospitals & Clinics aborted the drone flight.

The morning waltzes on. The students sustain themselves with chips, water, and Powerade brought by the class instructors, along with multiple helpings of moral support. By the afternoon, their perseverance has been rewarded. Both groups have managed successful flights. Now, it’s back to campus to analyze their data.

It’s the penultimate day of the Edge of Space Academy, and the students have gathered in a classroom with Jaynes and Meerdink to talk about their experiences in the class. The conversation is light and animated, with frequent bursts of laughter. Each group succeeded in sending a payload airborne, obtaining data, and making sense of the science. The groups displayed their results at an undergraduate research conference sponsored by the Graduate College. Missions accomplished. Now, they can relax.

Jaynes asks the class whether the academy has changed their career plans. Several respond yes, including Sebastian Oropeza, who studies mechanical engineering at the University of Texas–El Paso.

“It’s opened my mind,” says Oropeza, a member of the LiDAR group. “I was thinking about graduating, then going to a company. Now, I see I can do a research project and travel the world. This class was so cool, I want to do more of that.”

“You don’t have to take a straight, prescribed path to get where you want to go,” Jaynes replies.

Meerdink broaches the idea of furthering their studies in a graduate program. She tells the class about her own experience, a farm girl from rural, northwest Iowa who was the first in her family to pursue a graduate degree. Meerdink’s tuition and expenses at the University of California–Santa Barbara were all paid, she says, and she worked at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory as she earned a doctorate in geography.

Jose Castelblanco says he was satisfied with his two weeks in Iowa City. He plans to tell his peers at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University about the class, and he’s considering Iowa for graduate school.

“If you’re looking for knowledge or to get experience in space or be part of a mini-mission, this is the place to do it,” says Castelblanco, an Army veteran from Wesley Chapel, Florida.

Hancock, meanwhile, admits she’s still trying to take stock of the two-week whirlwind.

“It’s still sinking in, what I’ve accomplished,” she says. “Very few people can say they’ve launched a project of theirs on a plane. I still have flight data downloaded on my computer to mark the path they took.”

Yes, planning and executing a mission in 10 days is arduous. Yes, the students at times seemed overwhelmed. But that was by design.

As Jaynes says, “That’s how all real-life [NASA] missions are conducted.” ■



Any comments? Email uimagazine@foriowa.org.

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READY
FOR
THE

BIG

From preseason camp to game time, the Hawkeye Marching Band gives fans a glimpse behind the scenes of the season. By Megan Walsh



IT'S

6:30 p.m. on a fall game day, and the tunnel beneath Kinnick Stadium is a sea of black and gold uniforms. The drumline maneuvers its way to the mouth of the tunnel, carefully avoiding a collision with the sousaphones, while the clarinet players cover their instruments with plastic bags. It's been raining for hours; it will rain all night.

With instruments set in place, the band members crowd together at the elbow of the tunnel. Drum major **Christian Frankl** stands on a platform above the band.

Though noise in the tunnel travels, the volume lowers to nearly a hush. The band members wrap their arms around each other and begin to sway and sing. A harmony rises, and the tunnel amplifies the collection of voices, raises them up to the rafters until everyone is enveloped by the sound of "Alma Mater Iowa."

Although the weather leaves much to be desired, Hawkeye Marching Band members have been preparing year-round for these moments—and they'll perform rain or shine. Being a part of the band means more than playing at several games a year; it means belonging to a 142-year-old tradition dating back to the university's first military band.

When the song ends, the band members jostle each other and cheer. They return to their instruments. The sousaphone section steadies brass on their shoulders, the piccolos fasten the music holders on their forearms.

The anticipation rises. The band quiets.

It's time to get ready for the boom.

THE BOOM: The exhilarating moment when the drum line hits its first beat from the end zone and the band enters the field, signaling the start of the pregame show.

PHOTOS FROM UPPER RIGHT TO LOWER LEFT: BRIAN RAY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; TIM SCHOON/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION; PHOTO: STEPHEN MALLY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; JUSTIN TURNER/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION; MAXWELL THOMASON/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; MAXWELL THOMASON/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; BRIAN RAY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM



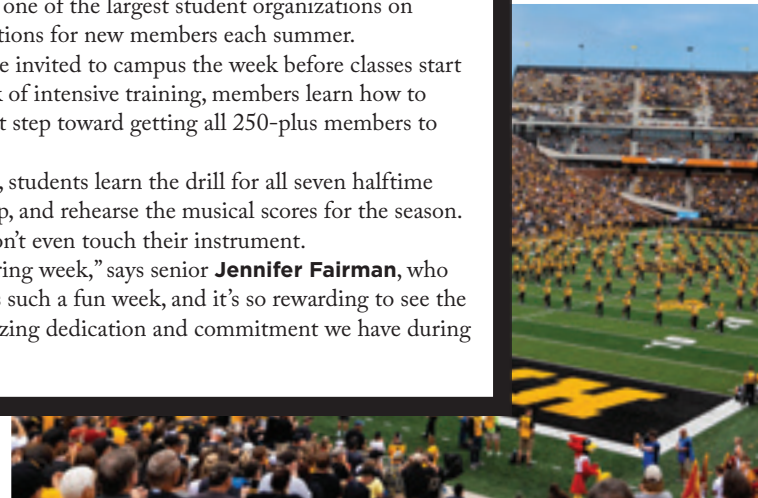
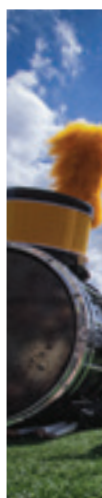
Band Camp

The Hawkeye Marching Band is one of the largest student organizations on campus, holding nearly 200 auditions for new members each summer.

First-year band members are invited to campus the week before classes start for band camp. During this week of intensive training, members learn how to high-step and low-step—the first step toward getting all 250-plus members to march uniformly.

Once their steps are in sync, students learn the drill for all seven halftime shows, master the pregame lineup, and rehearse the musical scores for the season. For the first 10-hour day, they don't even touch their instrument.

"It's definitely a long and tiring week," says senior **Jennifer Fairman**, who leads the piccolo section, "but it's such a fun week, and it's so rewarding to see the hard work translate into the amazing dedication and commitment we have during the entire season."





Preseason Plans

Preparation for the fall begins at the end of each season. When the uniforms are hung, instruments are packed, and classes are out of session, Director **Eric Bush** (15DMA) and five graduate assistants convene to brainstorm halftime shows for the following season. “We want to push the envelope,” says Bush. “Big Ten marching bands are leaders in that area, so we want to do things that haven’t been done before.”

This year, the team created and arranged the music for several shows, including a celebration of the Iowa-based musical *The Music Man*, magical moments from Disney’s *Hercules*, a workout movie montage, the 50th anniversary tribute to CAMBUS, and the drill for *From Sea to Shining Sea*. Grad student **Kara Metzger** also prepared a show in honor of pop divas (the band now refers to her as “Queen”).





A New Band Era

Gone are the days of flipping through drill books. The Hawkeye Marching Band now uses an app called FlipFolder, which connects to Bluetooth and syncs all members of the band to the same drill. Not only does the app display the score for the show, but it also loads the drill formation so band members can check their position on their phones during rehearsal. This is all possible with the invention of Pyware, a software that creates marching band drills. Pyware transforms the field into a grid, and once the formations are uploaded, the software can determine how many steps are needed to get from one position to the next for every member of the band.



A Place To Practice

For years, the melody of the “Victory Polka” and “Iowa Fight Song” echoed through City Park from an open field in the Manville Heights neighborhood, where the band held practice for two hours a day, five days a week. That all changed in 2014 when the band relocated to the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center. The move gave the band a reliable place to practice and store its gear, as well as a level practice field and lookout tower for the director to see the band’s entire formation. The band is currently fundraising to further improve its practice space.

Before their two-hour practice sessions, band members throw footballs on the field, hand out Sour Patch Kids to anyone who walks by, and bond over their shared love of music.

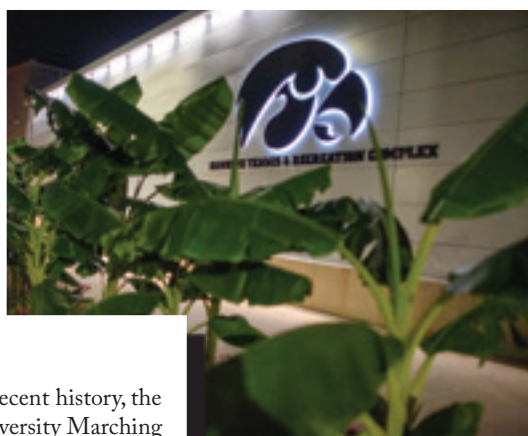
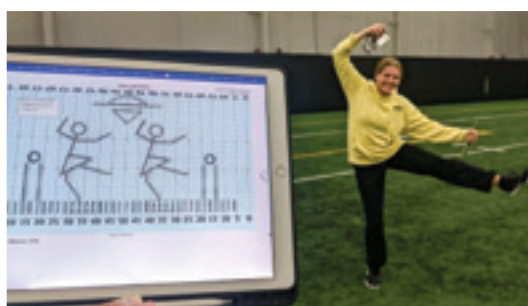


Band Mom

With more than 250 members, the band relies on U-Hauls on game days just to transport instruments from the practice field to Kinnick. When the band travels farther distances for exhibitions or special performances (like its mash-up with Ohio State this past October), it rolls out in seven charter buses and a tricked-out semitruck.

Nearly everyone associated with the band says none of this would be possible without **Kathy Ford (92BA)**. Ford is the Hawkeye Marching Band operations manager and administrator, though she’s affectionately referred to as “Band Mom.”

Considering the snacks she provides after halftime, the dry-cleaning she organizes, and the props she secures for performances (think 76 trombones for *The Music Man*), her nickname seems fitting. She embraces the title and says, “I have 264 kids.”



Saturday Night's Alright

In the first Big Ten marching band collaboration in recent history, the Hawkeye Marching Band joined the Ohio State University Marching Band this season to co-produce an Elton John halftime show at Ohio State. Once the show went live on Twitter, Elton John commended the bands for “the incredible dedication with so much creativity.”



PHOTOS FROM UPPER RIGHT TO LOWER LEFT: JUSTIN TORNER/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION; TIM SCHOON/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION; COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; ALYSSA SKALA/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; ALYSSA SKALA/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; JOHN EMIGH; COURTESY UI RECREATIONAL SERVICES; COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; STEPHEN MALLY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; TIM SCHOON/UI OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION; JOHN EMIGH; STEPHEN MALLY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM



Voice of the Band

For 42 years and counting, **Lou Crist** (60BA, 81MA) has served as the golden voice of the Hawkeye Marching Band. The former band member previously performed in the 1959 Rose Bowl.

When the Hawkeyes traveled last New Year's Day to the Citrus Bowl, Crist was unable to make the trip due to COVID-19 concerns. Being in Iowa while the Hawks were in Florida didn't stop him from leading the band onto the field, though. As the band readied to enter the stadium, Crist broadcasted from a Cedar Rapids radio station, "It's time to get ready for the BOOM!"



What are your favorite Hawkeye Marching Band memories? Email uimagazine@foriowa.org.



Watch exclusive Hawkeye Marching Band footage from the season at magazine.foriowa.org.

PHOTOS FROM UPPER RIGHT TO LOWER LEFT: COURTESY HAWKEYE MARCHING BAND; ALYSSA SKALA/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; JOHN EMIGH; BRIAN RAY/HAWKEYESPORTS.COM; JOHN EMIGH



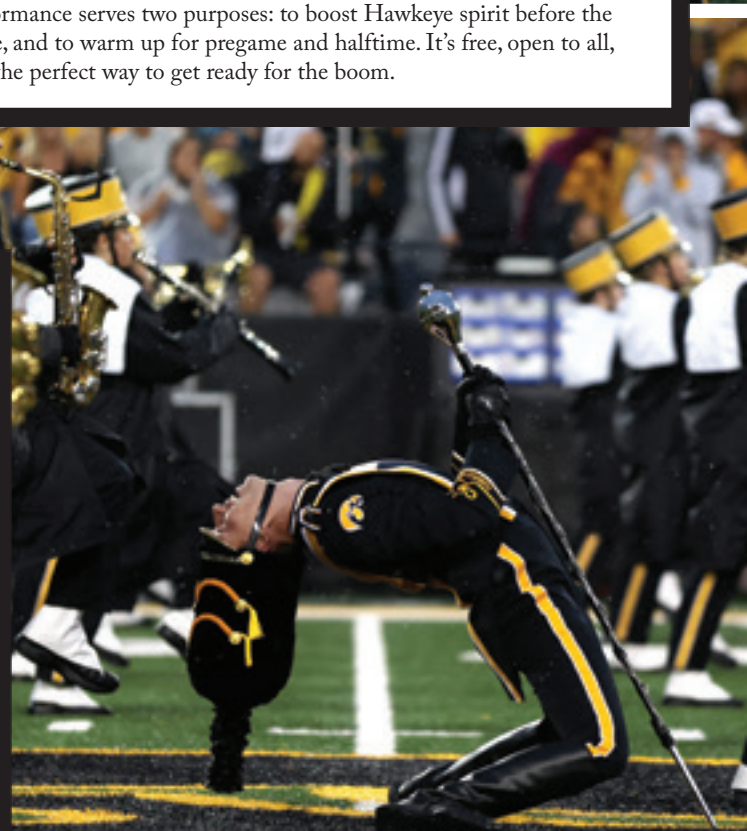
A Longstanding Tradition

Game days start with tradition. Two hours before kickoff, the Hawkeye drum line performs in the parking lot northwest of Kinnick Stadium, then joins the band in the Recreation Building for a pregame pep rally. "The Iowa Fight Song," "On Iowa," and other familiar tunes fill the entire building, up to the high ceilings and out across the stands. This performance serves two purposes: to boost Hawkeye spirit before the game, and to warm up for pregame and halftime. It's free, open to all, and the perfect way to get ready for the boom.

Drum Major

Band members call **Christian Frankl** a natural-born leader. The political science and music student has been involved in the marching band since his freshman year and booked a flight back to Iowa during his study abroad in Scotland to audition for his role. Frankl conducts the band in an a cappella version of "Alma Mater Iowa" in the tunnel below Kinnick and can be seen with his mace forward, leading the band onto the field before each game.

Frankl has been "obsessed" with Big Ten bands since he was a kid and felt inspired by the leadership he saw during his first year in the band. "The drum major is a special position," says Frankl, "because it blends leadership with performance, and I absolutely love doing both." As the primary instructor of traditions and marching fundamentals, he says it's "especially rewarding to see new members become part of such a storied tradition at Iowa."

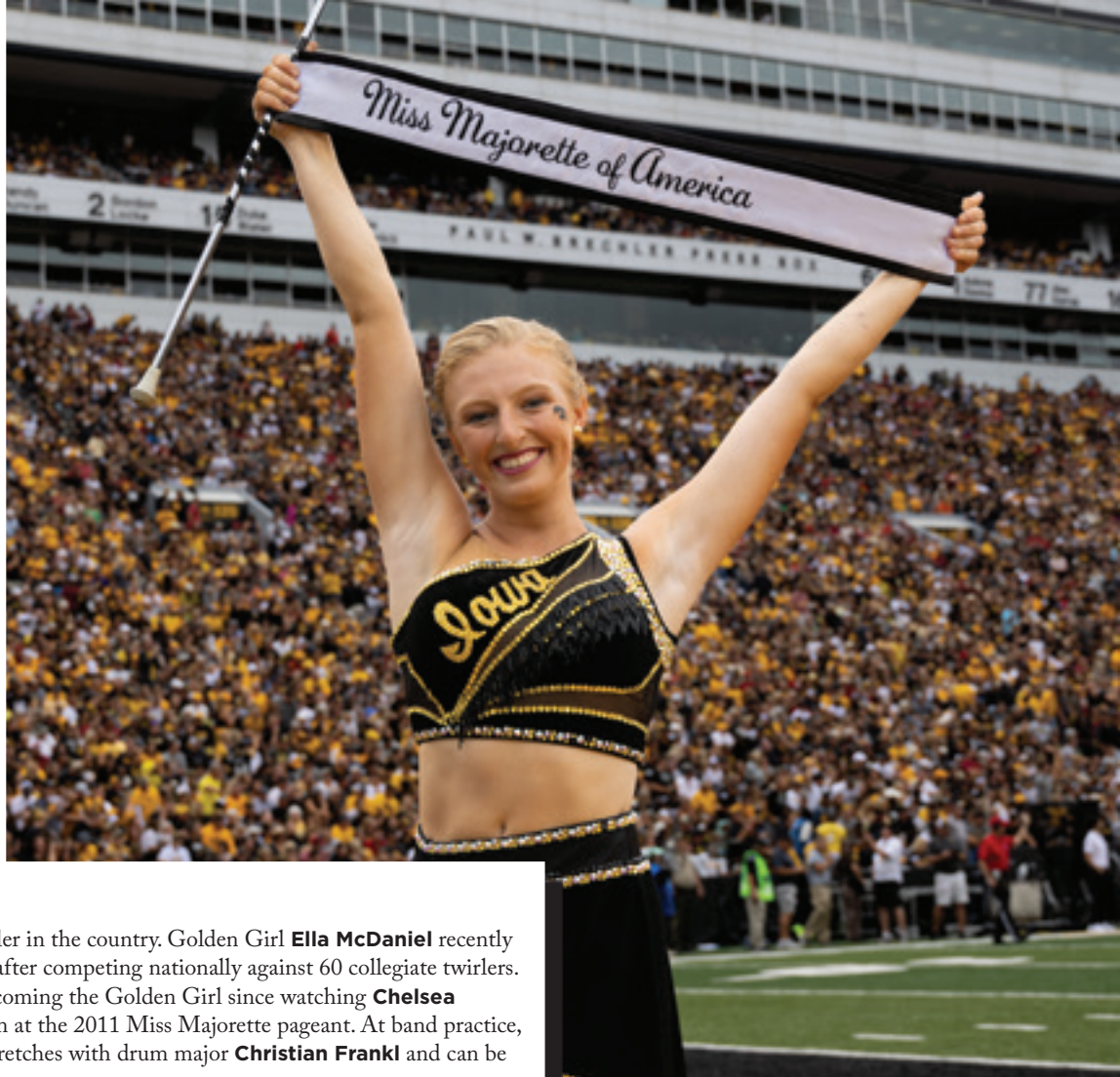




Golden Girl

Iowa currently has the No. 1 twirler in the country. Golden Girl **Ella McDaniel** recently won Miss Majorette of America after competing nationally against 60 collegiate twirlers. McDaniel has dreamed about becoming the Golden Girl since watching **Chelsea Russell** (11BA, 13MAT) perform at the 2011 Miss Majorette pageant. At band practice, she helps lead the warmup and stretches with drum major **Christian Frankl** and can be spotted twirling mid-formation.

“Being the Golden Girl is honestly such a privilege,” says McDaniel. “It’s my second year twirling with the Hawkeye Marching Band, and it’s still such a surreal title to hold. Twirling on the field with such pride for my school is the best part of my week.”



Season Finale

The Hawkeye Marching Band performed in its first bowl game, the Rose Bowl, in 1957—and it was also the band’s first appearance on national television.

When band members perform at a bowl game, it quickly becomes a highlight of their time at Iowa that they’ll remember for the rest of their lives. The culmination of months of rehearsing, bowl game performances offer a larger platform for the band to share its talent with the world.

Yet band members don’t just join for the performances; they join for the camaraderie. And once a member, you’re forever part of the Hawkeye Marching Band family. 📺

IOWA



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2022 By the Numbers

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#35

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*2023 U.S. News & World Report

IOWA WRITERS

■ SET IN IOWA ■ BOOKSHELF PICKS ■ MEMORIES OF THE MILL

Bestselling author Heather Gudenkauf writes mystery novels that take place in her home state of Iowa.



PHOTO: ERIN KIRCHOFF

AUTHOR Q&A

The Overnight Guest

by **Heather Gudenkauf (92BA)**
Park Row, 352 pp.



New York Times bestselling author **Heather Gudenkauf** (92BA) finds beauty in the prairies, cornfields, and rolling hills of her home state—so much so that Iowa has become the primary setting for her mystery novels.

In Gudenkauf's latest thriller, *The Overnight Guest*, a true-crime writer travels to rural Iowa to research two murders and a disappearance that took place 20 years earlier. Stranded during a snowstorm in the farmhouse where the crimes occurred, she receives an unexpected visitor.

Author Catherine McKenzie describes *The Overnight Guest* as “a tightly woven braid of a novel guaranteed to raise the hairs on the back of your neck and keep you turning the pages deep into the night.”

This past fall, Gudenkauf joined the University of Iowa's virtual talk show, Chat From the Old Cap, to share her journey from K-12 educator to critically acclaimed mystery writer. In this excerpt from the interview, the Cedar Rapids-based author recalls some inspirational moments in her home state.



What's your favorite memory from your time as a UI student?

» One day I was at a wrestling meet with friends, and I said, “Oh my goodness, that's **John Irving** [67MFA] over there!” My friends said, “Which Hawkeye is he?” But of course, I was talking about the novelist. I walked down the bleachers to him, confessed I was this big fan, and said, “One day I want to be a writer.” He said, “You should do that.” He signed my ticket stub, and I still have it. That's a prized possession of mine. That was huge, because we know Iowa is such an important place for the arts. While my path was as an educator, I always loved that about the University of Iowa.

How did you become a writer?

» I had been teaching for several years, and I did a lot of hiking with my dog at the time in Swiss Valley and Mines of Spain in Dubuque. They are beautiful, wooded areas. My husband always teases me because I have a horrible sense of direction, and he's afraid when I go on these jaunts that I'm not going to come home, that I'll get lost. I thought how scary that would be for a child, and that's where the idea for my first book, *The Weight of Silence*, came from. Two little girls go into the woods, one comes out—and she doesn't speak.

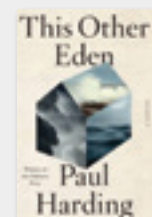
The day after school got out, I picked up a journal and started writing *The Weight of Silence* in longhand, and before I got my classroom ready that fall, I had a messy first draft completed. I shoved it in a drawer because I didn't know what to do with it, but a few months later, I pulled it out, dusted it off, and asked myself, “What would you tell your students?” I'd tell them to go for it, dream big, and never give up. That's what I tried to do, so I sent it off to a literary agent.

What makes a great thriller?

» You want to keep people interested, so you have to have characters that readers care about. They may not necessarily like them, but they have to care about them and want to know what's going to happen next. I also think it's important to have a compressed time frame that keeps the pace moving. For me, the setting is huge in a book, to where it's almost a character in itself. And as a reader what I love is to have a chance of figuring out whodunit, so I try to leave those breadcrumbs but throw in twists and turns you don't see coming.

—SHELBI THOMAS

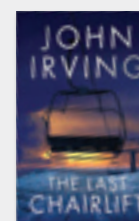
BOOKSHELF PICKS



This Other Eden

by Paul Harding (OOMFA)
W.W. Norton, available Jan. 4

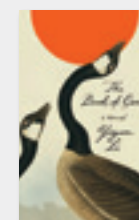
Based on a true story, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author's latest novel follows the inhabitants of an island off the coast of Maine as they fight against racial intolerance and injustice.



The Last Chairlift

by John Irving (67MFA)
Simon & Schuster

Irving's first novel in seven years centers around a young man who encounters ghosts and revelations while on a trip to Aspen, Colorado, to find answers about his unconventional family.



The Book of Goose

by Yiyun Li (OOMS, O5MFA)
Macmillan

In this tale of obsession, exploitation, and willpower, a woman reflects on her childhood in war-torn rural France—and a friendship that transformed her life.



Watch the full video interview at magazine.foriowa.org.

For a schedule of upcoming Chat From the Old Cap events, visit foriowa.org/events.



Diana and Tall Paul, the manager of The Mill, in the restaurant's heyday.



Editor's Note: A favorite gathering place for Iowa students and alumni over the years, The Mill closed in June 2020 after nearly 60 years of business. In tribute to the Iowa City institution and its place as a cultural hub for many area writers and performers, Iowa Writers' Workshop alumnus and former Mill bartender **Pete Nelson** (79MFA) shares his memories in this essay, modeled after Wallace Stevens' famous poem, "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird."

PERSONAL ESSAY

Thirteen Ways of Looking at The Mill

BY PETE NELSON



An email tells me the sad news. The Mill is gone. One of Iowa City's most famous literary watering holes is no more.

I think of how The Mill got me through my first breakup and heartache.

Caused it too.

You should have been there, back in the day...

1

My first day as a new Mill bartender, one of the local bikers tells me he'll have a glass of "snoo."

"What's 'snoo?'" I ask.

"Oh, nothing much—what's new with you?" he says.

Aesthetically, my new workplace ... isn't much. Drop ceiling. Brick-red tiled floor. German beer signs and books and musical instruments and stained-glass and mirrored fixtures and an old brass spittoon for decoration. Wooden chairs and vinyl-upholstered booths, beadboard wainscoting, napkins, and yellow and red squeeze-bottles of mustard and ketchup. The front room has windows. The back room does not, like those casinos where they don't want you to notice the passage of time.

Down the bar, two construction workers with dust in their hair nurse pints of beer after a hard week.

"There's only one reason why I could never be a foreman," one says. "I'm not stupid enough."

"Aw, you're stupid enough," his friend says.

This, I think, is going to be fun.

2

It's Monday, late afternoon. The painters are covered with paint and smell like turpentine; you know where the theatre students are sitting because when they talk, they wave their arms above their heads. Mostly, the bar is full of Iowa Writers' Workshop students, here to continue, under more lubricated circumstances, conversations begun earlier in class. This is where the truth comes out. Famous writers have been here, **Raymond Carver** and **Kurt Vonnegut** and **Frank Conroy** and **James Alan McPherson** (71MFA).

The customers sit according to discipline. The poets are loud and intense, while the fiction writers are mellow and laugh amicably. Older students drop the names of obscure third-world poets and novelists, and then the new students sneak off to the bathrooms, where they write down the names so they can look them up and sound knowledgeable the next time they hear them.

One night, some workshop students write their order on a napkin and hand it to me. I share it with my fellow bartender, Chuck, who, like me, is a recent graduate of the writing program. We take a red pen and send the napkin back with a helpful critique.

"Would he really order this?"

"This pizza is unearned, and the pineapple raises plausibility issues."

"You don't need the ranch dressing—less is more!"

3 I'm at the end of the bar, chatting with the local health inspector and with Keith Dempster, the legendary owner of The Mill (and president of the BMW Motorcycle Operators of America, hence all the bikers) who is filling his face with handfuls of popcorn kept warm in a glass case beneath a yellow lightbulb. Keith is explaining to me how the safest speed you can travel on the highway is five miles per hour faster than everybody else.

"But, if everybody..." I begin, but I give up because I can't win.

Keith is brilliant and oppositional and opinionated (but his opinions are all annoyingly well-informed) and ultimately goodhearted, and nobody who meets him ever forgets him. He keeps Vikki Carr's song "It Must Be Him" on the jukebox to play when he wants to piss off a feminist he's arguing with, and classical music to drive people away at closing time if turning on the bright fluorescent overhead lights doesn't do the trick.

Then it's just me and the health inspector.

Just as I'm about to serve his drink, a cockroach the size of a chihuahua walks down the bar between us. We both see it.

"That's on the house," I want to tell the health inspector, but we have strict rules about giving away drinks.

4 It's Friday night. The Mill hosts all kinds of music but favors bluegrass and singer-songwriters. There's a young man with a guitar on stage. His name is Greg Brown. He will go on to sell out theaters and tour nationally and star on *Prairie Home Companion*, but now he's just that local kid who sings every Friday night. People eat and talk loudly and don't know what they're missing. I sit up front because this guy is KILLING IT, doing, with language and imagery and storytelling, only better, what the poets and fiction writers in the MFA program are trying to do in their verse and prose.

Some nights, after the bar closes, we meet up at Greg's house, where we play music in the kitchen until the sun comes up, and I feel like I'm living my best possible life.

"I think I first played The Mill in 1968. Keith used to pay me \$40 a night," recalls Brown, who'd tried the Greenwich Village folk scene but preferred Iowa. "Once I got a little better known, he could sell tickets, and then we both did pretty good. I saw him a lot, right before he died. I actually sang at his funeral. I think it was 'I Come to the Garden Alone.'"

Ordinarily, a musician is more likely to dance on a club owner's grave than sing at his funeral. Keith was special.

5 It's Feb. 22, 1980. On the television in the corner of the bar, they are broadcasting the hockey game played earlier in the day between the U.S. men's Olympic hockey team and the Soviets.

None of the men and women in this packed room knows the final score. We hang on every play.

Then, a few minutes into the third period, there's a station break. A sportscaster who shall remain nameless says: "Great news from Lake Placid—the U.S. wins, 4-3—more news at ten!" "AAARRRRRHH!"

The room erupts in a roar of anguish and dismay.

6 I'm washing glasses in the sink under the bar when I'm interrupted by an awkward, bespectacled young man who asks where the Mensa meeting is. There is an easy-to-follow map, taped to the front door, that says **THE MENSA MEETING IS IN THE BACK ROOM**, with arrows indicating where to find the back room, but I patiently show him the way.

He returns 15 minutes later and sheepishly orders 11 White Russians.

They are new at this.

7 It's Sunday night. The front room is hushed. Everyone is watching the final episode of a BBC production of *Anna Karenina* on the TV. When Anna finally throws herself in front of the train, I see bikers and ironworkers, painters and poets, doctors and accountants, ballerinas and librarians, all with tears in their eyes.

We will cry together like this again the night John Lennon is shot.

We share our humanity here. We allow that.

8 One night, a waitress, "Danielle," is late for work. When she finally shows up, she's wearing sunglasses and tells us she "walked into a door." We know better. We know she lives with her boyfriend, and we know he's a jerk, and that this is not the first time she "walked into a door."

"Danielle's Moving Company" forms, comprising bikers and poets and folk singers. We go out to her house. When her boyfriend comes home from work that night, he sees all his things on the curb. He asks, "Why don't you mind your own business?" He claims he and Danielle are in love, but it doesn't matter. We tell him he is leaving town. As he surrenders his house keys, there's a brief misunderstanding.

Then he walks into a door.

Three times.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

9 If you work at The Mill long enough, you see romantic relationships forming, then dissolving, couples who once held hands under the table later glowering at each other from across the room.

But some are meant to be, as my friend **Jane Smiley** (75MA, 76MFA, 78PhD) told me.

"I walked into The Mill with friends for maybe the third time—I'm not a drinker," recalls the novelist, who won the Pulitzer Prize for her novel *1000 Acres*. "We find a table and I go to the ladies' room. The ID card checker, a young man with thick, curly hair and a full dark beard, as I pass, says, 'I think you are incredibly beautiful.' I smile. In the bathroom, I nearly pass out with amazement. No one has ever said that to me.

"When my friends leave, I say I am going to stay for a while to listen to the music. Closing time, I'm still there. The young man asks me if I would like him to walk me home. I nod. On the way to where I am staying, we chat. He's flirtatious but kind. He says he would like to date me.

"The next day, because it is the '70s and we are hippy-ish, when my husband comes to pick me up, I say, 'I'd like to have an affair.' He says, 'I'll think about it.' The day after that, he said, 'I don't think so.' I say, 'Then I am leaving you.' Two days later I move in with the ID checker (and bartender, waiter, and musician). Eventually, we move to a two-room cabin on a hillside near the highway. Woodstove, meals at The Mill. Eventual result—beautiful son and a long-term friendship."

10 Ninety percent of all the lust expended in Iowa City on any given night is directed toward The Mill waitresses, who are beautiful and brilliant and self-actualized and unlikely to take crap from anybody.

My favorite is Little Deb, called that because she's smaller than Big Deb. She is extremely cheerful and friendly and easily distracted, so much so that customers occasionally, waiting for her to bring the bill,

get frustrated and walk out without paying, and then she has to make up the difference from her tips. One night, she runs out the door, chasing after a customer who has skipped on his tab, but she can't catch him. She returns in tears.

Little Deb's had walk-aways before, but this man was in a wheelchair. He's a roll-away.

She might have caught him if he hadn't turned downhill.

11 Eight years after I moved away, I return to The Mill with a friend. Before we enter, I predict who is going to be sitting on which barstool. I get the people right, but the order wrong.

Here is Pappy, who once told me he lost all his teeth because he smiled too much when he was in the Navy, "with all that salt in the ocean air."

Here is Margret, the pink-haired 80-year-old crossing guard, who makes the bartenders recite the entire beer list before she orders (every single time) Special Export, not because she doesn't know what she wants, but because she's lonely and seeks conversation.

Here is Rich, the doctor who plays pinball in the lobby.

Here is Brother John, the long-haired, bearded, head-banded biker, and here is Whale, his larger, long-haired, bearded, head-banded biker brother.

Here is Teri Jean and Diana and Sandy and Ron and Dave and Tall Paul and Chuck and the other Chuck and the other other Chuck. Here is Michelle (oh Michelle), and the Debs.

Here is my family, my sisters and brothers from other mothers.

12 One of the harsher ironies of growing old is the forlorn bewilderment you feel when you outlive an institution. They are brick and mortar. You are flesh and blood. You're supposed to go first. Iowa City still has The Hamburg Inn No. 2 and George's and Dave's Foxhead and John's Grocery, but even those won't last forever.

Maybe institutions die the way people do, bit by bit, a system crash that starts at the cellular level. First the faucet, then the sprinklers, then the plumbing, the furnace, while taxes go up and the rent goes up, and it all cascades to failure. People tried to save The Mill, to have it declared a historic site, but it was too little, too late. It took a plague to kill it.

"The pandemic was just the last straw," says Marty Christensen, the man who bought The Mill from Dempster and ran it for its last 17 years. "We were tarring the roof every three years, just to keep the leaks to a minimum. After we closed, I couldn't even drive down Burlington to look at the place. It was an amazing



Historic photos show live musical performances at The Mill, a restaurant and bar once located in downtown Iowa City.



playground for so many people, but it was over."

Whatever they build on the site is guaranteed to be haunted by the spirits of all of us who grew up there, met our greatest challenges there, sheltered there to weather the storms, found joy there, and sorrow too, and sang there, and danced there.

I'm just one person, with all these memories. Multiply that by the hundreds of thousands of people who passed through those doors since The Mill opened in 1962. Before the TV show *Cheers*, there was The Mill, an intellectual and a spiritual nexus, a citadel of culture and conversation, of thought and art and political discourse, standing strong in a small quiet corner of a world increasingly populated by unread, unwashed barbarians.

13 It's the December before the pandemic, the annual Christmas show. I don't know it, but it's the last year The Mill will be open.

I have driven here with my son Jack. He is 18. We are stopping in Iowa City, on our way to Minneapolis to visit my family for the holidays, but it's important to me. As a parent, you want your kids to know where you came from.

The band is blowing the roof off. They play the blues, but they also play Christmas music, and when they do, we all sing. We are all united in song. We are all happy. This is pagan, and this is sacred.

I don't drink anymore and my son is too young, but apart from that, we are having a quintessential Mill experience: music, libation, food, community, sharing.

Love.

"I'm so glad I could show you this," I tell Jack. "This is the best place I've ever been."

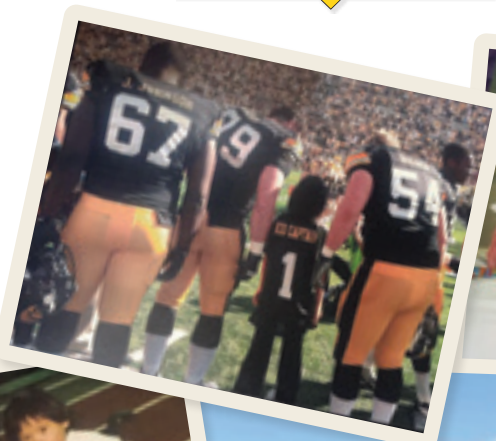


Pete Nelson
(79MFA) earned an MFA in poetry from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Since graduating, he has published

one poem, 30 books of fiction and nonfiction, and about 200 short stories or articles in national magazines. He lives in Northampton, Massachusetts.

FOR IOWA

■ LIFE AFTER KID CAPTAIN ■ CY-HAWKS AGAINST CANCER ■ A FAMILY WITH VISION



IOWA CLUBS

From Patient to Fan



Ten years after being named Kid Captain for the 2012 Iowa homecoming game, Ally Mauck rejoined the Hawkeye faithful for her first football game watch with the Boise Iowa Club.

In 2005, Mauck received the nonsurgical treatment for clubfeet known as the Ponseti Method from its developer, University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics doctor **Ignacio Ponseti** (44R, 07DSC), and his protégé, UI pediatric orthopedic surgeon **Jose Morcuende** (01R). Mauck became their patient at age 3 after being adopted from China with the condition, which was corrected at Iowa. “Every time [Ponseti] took her casts off, it was like unwrapping a package, because

you’d get to see how much Ally’s feet moved closer to the positioning they needed to be in,” says Ally’s mom, Joyce. “It was so amazing, and they were so patient and loving and kind with her.”

Mauck is now a college sophomore who studies special education and remains active in sports. Although she attends Boise State and loves the Broncos, she and her mother cheered on the Hawks this past October from their home state of Idaho. “We just love Iowa,” says Joyce. “We gained a clubfoot family and an Iowa family because of her beautiful feet. I feel like we’re so blessed.” —**SHELBI THOMAS**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Ally Mauck serves as Kid Captain for the 2012 Iowa homecoming game; UI orthopedic surgeon Ignacio Ponseti treats Mauck for clubfeet in 2005; Mauck stands in front of her Kid Captain banner in 2012; Joyce and Ally Mauck pose with Boise Iowa Club President Jake Kemp during a football game watch in 2022; the former Kid Captain and her mom join the Boise Iowa Club for a 2022 game watch; Mauck participates in the Ponseti Races to raise awareness of clubfoot.



DANCE MARATHON

United Against Cancer

A Cy-Hawk couple with children affected by cancer helps launch a nonprofit to combat the disease.



Aaron Horn helped turn a rivalry into a rally cry. In 2009, the Iowa State graduate joined several other families whose children were diagnosed with pediatric cancer in selling Beat Cancer T-shirts to raise awareness and fund childhood cancer research and support programs. Inspired by the Beat State and Beat Iowa apparel, the shirts unified Hawkeyes and Cyclones against a common opponent and led to the launch of Beat Cancer Today in 2012. Throughout the past decade, the nonprofit organization has raised more than \$505,000—including \$155,000 for University of Iowa Dance Marathon—to give back for all the support Horn and other families facing pediatric cancer have received.

FRIENDS TO FAMILY

In 2007, Horn's son Eli was experiencing stomach pain and having trouble walking. A biopsy at UI Stead Family Children's Hospital revealed he had neuroblastoma, a cancer often found in the adrenal glands. Aaron and Eli made frequent trips from Ames to Iowa City, as well as to New York's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where Eli underwent multiple surgeries, antibody treatments, chemotherapy, and radiation. They stayed at a nearby Ronald McDonald House in New York where they met fellow Iowan **Stephanie Cotton Horn** (07BSN) and her daughter Dakota, who was also diagnosed with neuroblastoma.

The four quickly bonded. Along the way, they received ongoing support from UI Dance Marathon, including hospital visits, gifts, and events to connect them with other families going through the same challenges. "Because Dakota was diagnosed at such a young age, she didn't really understand

LEFT: Isaiah Horn, Dakota Cotton, Brylee Cotton, Stephanie Cotton, and Eli Horn attend the Iowa vs. Iowa State football game in 2011 at Jack Trice Stadium in Ames.

BELOW: In 2009, Aaron Horn and his son Eli make memories at a New York Yankees game, thanks to the Ronald McDonald House.

until she was much older that cancer was a bad thing," says Stephanie. "The Dance Marathon kids were a huge part of that. She felt their love and support at every step along her journey."

NEVER FORGOTTEN

A few weeks short of his eighth birthday in 2012, Eli died of leukemia. Dance Marathon helps keep his memory alive by reading his name and lighting a candle in his honor every year at the Big Event. Dakota, now 17, completed her treatment in 2014—the same year Aaron and Stephanie wed—and is an active volunteer for Beat Cancer Today.

Thirteen years after the Beat Cancer shirts were created, they continue to raise awareness of an opponent that thousands of children battle each year. "Before Eli was diagnosed, it didn't really hit home for me that kids get cancer," says Aaron. "Awareness is such a big thing for us, and these shirts are a great way to open a conversation." —**TYLER STRAND**



To learn more about Beat Cancer Today, visit beatcancertoday.org.

The Next Big Event

UI Dance Marathon is a student organization that provides year-round support for pediatric cancer patients and their families. Its next 24-hour fundraiser will be Feb. 3–4, 2023. For more information and to support Dance Marathon, visit dancemarathon.uiowa.edu.

Hometown Hawkeyes: Clinton

Students and faculty collaborate on projects to help an Iowa river town thrive.



University of Iowa students and faculty celebrate their partnership with Clinton community leaders in front of a mural created by UI art graduate student Sean Tyler.



A University of Iowa artist recently added a splash of color to a historic community along the Mississippi River.

Sean Tyler (22MFA), a graduate student in the UI School of Art and Art History, designed and installed a mural on the exterior wall of Keeping You Sewing in Clinton that featured a large sewing machine stitching vibrant patterns into the grass and sky. The public art display is part of a larger partnership between the City of Clinton and the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities at the UI.

More than 100 UI faculty and students are teaming with Clinton city officials this academic year to complete around 20 community projects. These collaborations include a housing needs assessment and policy recommendations, a development plan for a vacant area, a regional marketing strategy, engineering and design to expand Clinton's trail network, an exploration of the city's Underground Railroad history, and local strategies to address the opioid epidemic.

Each project offers teachable moments for students in a variety of disciplines, ranging from business and law to civil and environmental engineering. "Clinton proposed challenging, substantive projects that provide University of Iowa faculty and students with opportunities for hands-on teaching, learning, and collaboration," says IISC director **Travis Kraus** (99BA, 13MS), an associate professor in the UI School of Planning and Public Affairs. "Through the partnership with Clinton, students will gain valuable

experiences that enhance their learning while also helping to create lasting, meaningful change to benefit the lives of Iowans."

Since 2009, IISC has worked with more than 20 Iowa communities, including previous collaborations with Clinton on an area economic development plan, downtown mural, and site redesign for the former YMCA building. Clinton City Administrator Matt Brooke says, "The shared energy and enthusiasm for the City of Clinton by the University of Iowa team will assuredly result in projects that help grow and shape Clinton for years to come." —**SHELBI THOMAS**



UI School of Planning and Public Affairs grad students are helping the city of Clinton, Iowa, create a master plan for the use and development of its Liberty Square District.

BRIEFS

Global Giving

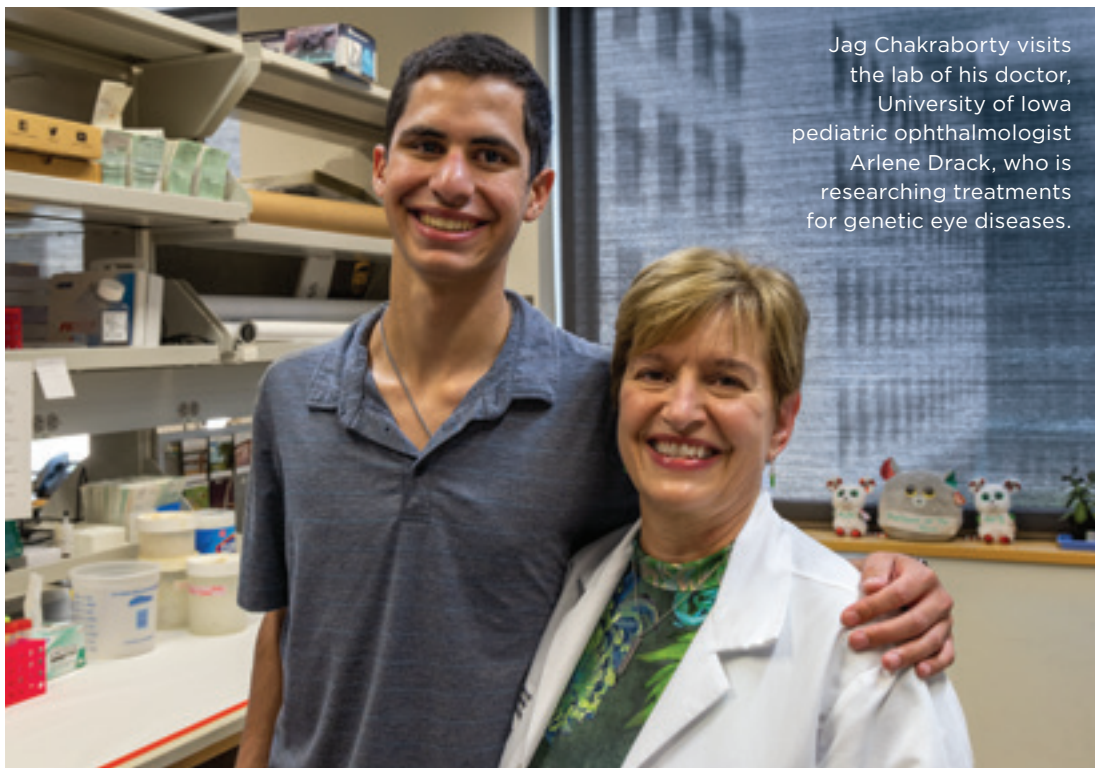
Andy Code (80BBA, 81MBA), a business leader and the current University of Iowa Center for Advancement board chair, received the university's International Impact Award last month for his philanthropic work through the Code Family Foundation to support education and health care within marginalized communities around the world. He also serves as a mentor to aspiring entrepreneurs from Haiti through the Tippie College of Business's Institute for International Business.

Brave Wave

Eli Belser, Kid Captain for the first Iowa football game of the season, chose the song "Brave" by Sara Bareilles to play during the Hawkeye Wave to UI Stead Family Children's Hospital. Bareilles saw the UI's tweet about the song choice and responded, "I love this! Thank you, Eli!"

Holiday Fun

This year's Holidays With the Hawkeyes program delivers warm season's greetings from campus, featuring performances by the UI School of Music and the UI Chinese Dance Club and reflections on the season by UI Stanley Museum of Art Director **Lauren Lessing** and Hawkeye Haiku contest winners. Watch the video at foriowa.info/holiday-hawkeyes22.



Jag Chakraborty visits the lab of his doctor, University of Iowa pediatric ophthalmologist Arlene Drack, who is researching treatments for genetic eye diseases.



Support the Chakraborty Family Fund, which benefits juvenile X-linked retinoschisis research at Iowa.

OPHTHALMOLOGY

Hope in Sight

A Colorado family's gift to the UI helps speed the race toward a treatment for a genetic eye disorder.



University of Iowa pediatric ophthalmologist **Arlene Drack** faithfully wears a necklace she once received from the family of a 1-year-old patient with vision loss.

The silver necklace, featuring the word “love” embossed in Braille, reminds her of Jag Chakraborty—one of the patients motivating her search for a treatment for juvenile X-linked retinoschisis, which is among the most common genetic eye disorders in males.

Seventeen years since their first meeting at Children's Hospital Colorado, Drack greeted the Chakraborty family with hugs this past summer at her UI lab. Drack (91F, 92F) returned to Iowa from Colorado 14 years ago and became the UI's inaugural Ronald V. Keech Professor of Pediatric Genetic Eye Disease Research, while Jag is now a first-year honors student at the University of Denver.

Despite the distance, the Chakrabortys maintain a close relationship with Drack, visiting her annually to supplement Jag's care and learn about the latest advances she and other researchers at Iowa have made toward a treatment for his disease. Earlier this year in honor of their son, Sayan Chakraborty and Julia Franklin pledged a substantial gift to the Chakraborty Family Fund, which supports juvenile X-linked retinoschisis research at Iowa. A few of Sayan's colleagues at the system software company Workday—including co-founder and CEO Aneel Bhusri and co-founder and CEO emeritus David Duffield—contributed to the family's pledge.

Sayan first gave to the UI in 2015 when he sold his startup company to Workday. “It really felt like the work being done [at Iowa] was focused on what I care about,” he says. “It wasn't focused on commercialization of a cure where you can go and make a lot of money, nor on publishing a bunch of prestigious academic papers; it was focused on materially helping people.”

Sayan was driven to give to the UI again after learning that the support could significantly reduce the time it takes to find a treatment for the genetic eye disorder. A split in the retinal layers of the eyes leads to visual

impairment in retinoschisis, but physicians believe—as with other inherited retinal conditions—that it can be treated with gene therapy. Research is underway to determine how best to deliver a healthy copy of the gene to replace the mutated gene causing the disorder.

In addition to supporting the necessary research, staffing, and equipment, the Chakraborty gift established the endowed Chakraborty Family Professorship in Pediatric Genetic Retinal Diseases, which is held by **Alina Dumitrescu** (11F), a UI clinical associate professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences who can now devote more time to this research. “[The gift] really changed everything, because it opens up tremendously the avenues of research we can pursue,” says Drack. “You have to spend a lot of time trying to figure out which experiments to do next. And the more smart, interested people you have working on that, the better, which is why an endowed professorship is so important.”

As for the young patient who inspired the gift, Jag plans to either go into clinical therapy or cognitive neuroscience, so he can positively influence those who face similar challenges with disabilities. “I've never wanted to be too much different than anyone else, so I worked quite hard to push myself,” says Jag. “That's why I like what we're doing here, because it's giving a lot of people in the future a chance to hopefully be better than what they'd otherwise have been because they'll have the support that I had.”

—SHELBI THOMAS

ALWAYS A

HAWKEYE

■ MOVING MEMORIAL ■ HEALTH CARE HUMOR ■ MOVIEMAKERS



PROFILE ABEL ORTIZ-ACOSTA (01MA, 02MFA)

Artist Abel Ortiz-Acosta stands in front of a mural dedicated to Eliahna "Ellie" Garcia, who was killed in a shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

Healing Uvalde



While news spread of a mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, **Abel Ortiz-Acosta** (01MA, 02MFA) received texts from his children hiding under their desks at the town's junior high and high school, which were on lockdown.

As the true scope of the May 2022 tragedy became clear, the University of Iowa School of Art and Art History alumnus knew he had to do something.

"I thought, 'What can I do? What's in my power?'" says Ortiz-Acosta, an associate professor of art at South Texas Junior College and owner of ART LAB Contemporary Art Space. "And the answer was art."

Ortiz-Acosta organized the Healing Uvalde project, which involved community members painting 21 murals to honor the children and teachers whose lives were lost in the shooting. He reached out to each of the families, some of whom helped with the painting. "We need to protect children at any cost. And if our murals have this result in the future, so be it," he says. "But the most important thing is to tell their stories, to remember them forever, and, of course, continue the healing." —EMILY NELSON



PROFILE WILL FLANARY (17R)

A Doc for TikTok

Known to his millions of social media followers as Dr. Glaucomflecken, an Iowa-trained ophthalmologist roasts the medical world with humor and humanity.

Will Flanary (17R) began making satirical videos about the health care system on TikTok just as the COVID-19 pandemic started. The videos feature caricatures of health care workers, all played by him: There's the emergency medicine physician, always wearing a bike helmet and sunglasses; the devoted medical scribe; the overeager medical student; the psychiatrist in a tweed jacket; and frequently, his alter ego, Dr. Glaucomflecken, the underworked ophthalmologist.

Flanary's videos quickly gained traction, and he now has 2 million followers and nearly

70 million likes on TikTok. Part of what makes his humor so popular is that it is relatable for people navigating the complex and sometimes frustrating health care system. Flanary says this stems from his experience as a patient with two separate testicular cancer diagnoses.

"My sense of humor had always been there, but [my illnesses] changed the content of my humor," he says. "I'm much more critical of the health care system and the strain it puts on patients, and that's the part of my comedy that resonates with people a lot."

In addition to his viral videos, Flanary speaks at medical campuses throughout the



Follow Dr. Glaucomflecken

Check out Flanary's viral videos on TikTok (@drglaucomflecken), Twitter (@dglaucomflecken), and YouTube (search for Dr. Glaucomflecken).

country promoting humanity in medicine—based, in part, on the compassion he experienced at the University of Iowa from fellow resident physicians and faculty during his cancer diagnosis and treatment.

While initially attracted to Iowa for its reputation and proximity to his wife's family, Flanary decided to come to the Carver College of Medicine for residency training because of the people he met in the ophthalmology program—including professor **Thomas Oetting** (95F). Those colleagues ultimately helped Flanary when he received his second cancer diagnosis while on call—and just a minute before a patient arrived with a traumatic eye injury. "I broke down," he says. "It was too much all at once."

Another resident saw Flanary and told him that he would take care of the patient so he could be with his family. "It was exactly what I needed to hear in that moment," Flanary says. "My cancer diagnosis showed me how important it is to rely on others for help because we can overcome a lot as doctors, but some things you just can't do alone."

With his colleagues' continued support, Flanary graduated from the residency program on time and now practices ophthalmology in the Pacific Northwest. Iowa—and the training and kindness he received during his training—is never far from his thoughts.

"I honestly think there's no better place to train to be an eye doctor," he says. "Iowa made me nicer. You can't spend time in the Midwest without having that rub off on you."

—MOLLY MONK

CLASS NOTES

2020s

Jon Lensing (20MD), CEO and co-founder of the OpenLoop health care company, recently received the UI John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's Young Alumni Entrepreneur of the Year award.

2010s

Colleen Campbell (10PhD), a clinical associate professor in the UI Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, has been elected the 2024 president of the National Society of Genetic Counselors. **Hillary Chappo** (13BA, 16MHA), associate director of education and accreditation at UI Hospitals & Clinics, received a 2022 Forty Under 40 award from *Corridor Business Journal*. **Kristi DiClemente** (15PhD) is the chair for history, political science, and geography at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi. **Daniel Elchert** (17MA, 18PhD) is CEO of the National Register of Health Service Psychologists based in Washington, D.C. **Kaleb Fincher** (16PharmD) is a clinical

pharmacist and division trainer at PipelineRx in Denver. **John Heinemann** (12MHA, 12MPH), executive service line administrator of children's and women's services at UI Hospitals & Clinics, received a 2022 Forty Under 40 award from *Corridor Business Journal*.

Hannah Infelt (16BSE) has been named one of the Top 25 Women in Technology by *Mission Critical Magazine* for her work in Chicago as a mechanical engineer with Syska Hennessy Group, a global consulting and engineering firm.

Maddy Osman (13BBA), founder of The Blogsmith, an SEO content strategy agency based in Denver, recently published her first book, *Writing for Humans and Robots: The New Rules of Content Style*.

Yvonne Seale (16PhD) has received tenure and a promotion to associate professor of history at the State University of New York at Geneseo. **Angela Kappeler Speers** (11BA, 21MHA), TelePREP coordinator for UI Health Care, received a Governor's Volunteer Award for her work helping Iowans with HIV navigate the Medicare system. **Joseph Upchurch** (16BA) is an attorney at Lavelle Law in Schaumburg,

Illinois. **Kaylee Williams** (11BA), a shareholder and strategic adviser for VolunteerLocal in Des Moines, recently received the UI John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's Young Alumni Entrepreneurial Leadership award.

2000s

Jim Atty (05BBA, 09MBA, 09MHA), executive director of cardiology at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids, received a 2022 Forty Under 40 award from *Corridor Business Journal*.

Michelle O'Connor Fravel (06PHR), a clinical associate professor of pharmacy, was named a 2022 fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

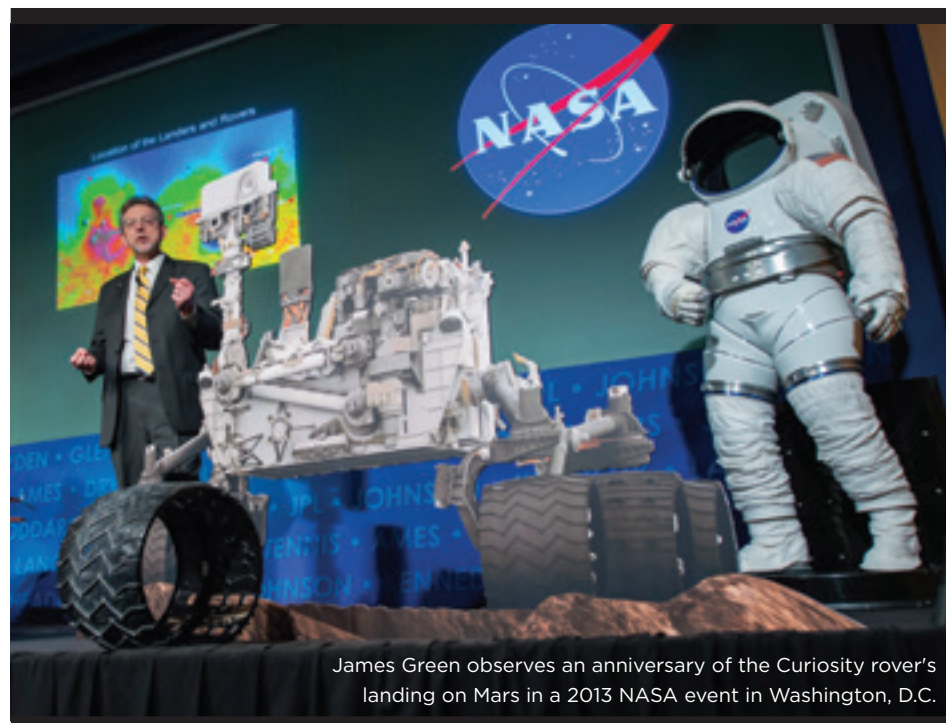
Lisa Schreihart (07MBA) is an associate attorney at the Polsinelli law firm in Washington, D.C.

Bruce Teague (01BA), Iowa City mayor and owner and CEO of Caring Hands & More home health care company, received *dsm Magazine's* 2022 LGBTQ Legacy Leader Award, which recognizes LGBTQ community members and allies who have made significant contributions to equality based on gender and sexual orientation in the state

of Iowa. **Ben Travers** (09BA) received the Los Angeles Press Club Entertainment Commentary Prize for his work on the online entertainment site Indiewire.com. **Jen Tryon** (04PharmD), chief pharmacy officer for Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, has been elected to the board of directors for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. **Antoine Wilson** (00MFA), a novelist and short story writer, had his book *Mouth to Mouth* featured on former president Barack Obama's 2022 Summer Reading List. **Duane C. Wilson** (08BA), a strategic executive and media consultant in San Francisco, recently received the UI John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's Alumni Entrepreneurial Leadership Award.

1990s

Thomas Cardella (95MBA), founder and CEO of the TLC Associates contact center in Cedar Rapids, recently received the UI John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's Alumni Entrepreneur of the Year award. **Bryan Carmody** (90BA), a professional voice-over actor and audio producer in Chicago, recently narrated his first



James Green observes an anniversary of the Curiosity rover's landing on Mars in a 2013 NASA event in Washington, D.C.

Stellar Career

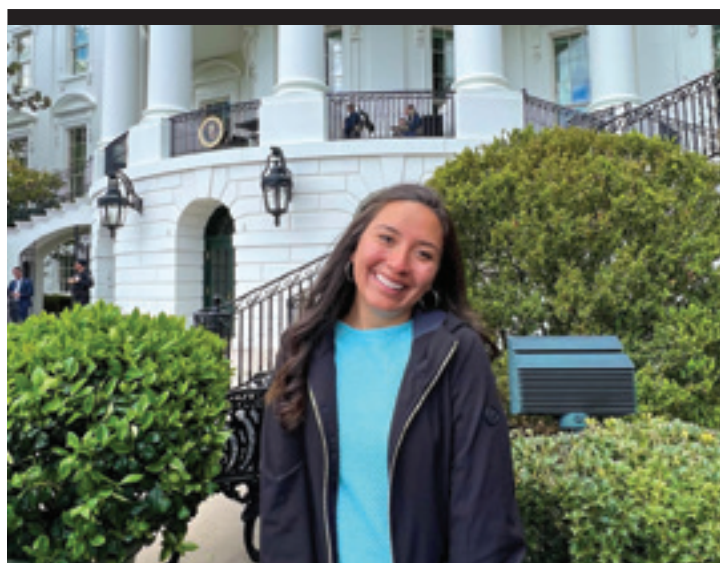
NASA chief scientist and Burlington, Iowa, native **James Green** (73BA, 76MS, 79PhD) retired this year after more than 40 years with the space agency. Over the course of his career, Green oversaw missions such as the landing of the Curiosity rover on Mars, the Juno spacecraft's investigation of Jupiter, and the New Horizons visit to Pluto. He has also worked to create public excitement about NASA's efforts and hopes to continue doing so in his retirement.

"I feel tremendously proud about the activities I've done at NASA," says Green. "We're always looking for ways to do the impossible."

Green credits his enthusiasm for space exploration to his days at the University of Iowa, where he studied under both **James Van Allen** (36MS, 39PhD) and **Don Gurnett** (62BSEE, 63MS, 65PhD), and worked as Gurnett's assistant on space missions such as Voyager 1.

—ELLEN YANDEL

audiobook, *On Distant Service: The Life of the First U.S. Foreign Service Officer to Be Assassinated* by Susan M. Stein. **Steven Cermak** (98PhD), research leader of the Bio-Oil Research Unit with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Peoria, Illinois, recently received the agency's 2022 Technology Transfer Award for the advancement of pennycress as a commercial crop in the U.S. **John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas** (98MSW, 22PhD) is the first permanent vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion for Connecticut State Colleges and Universities. **Lan Samantha Chang** (93MFA), director of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, had her book *The Family Chao* featured on former president Barack Obama's 2022 Summer Reading List. **Anthony Dean** (94BS, 04MA), a former Hawkeye wide receiver who now serves as a special education teacher and football coach in Indianapolis, received the 2022 Black Excellence in Education Award from the Klipsch Educators College at Marian University in Indianapolis and was named the Indiana State Teachers Association Minority Educator of the Year. **Pramod Dwivedi** (94MSW, 98MS) is health director of Linn County Public Health in Cedar Rapids and president-elect of the National Association of County and City Health Officials board of directors for the 2022-2023 term. **Chris Hauptert** (94MD), a vitreoretinal surgeon at Iowa Retinal Consultants in West Des Moines, recently organized An Evening with the Indianapolis Quartet in Des Moines to honor David Wolnerman, Iowa's only living Holocaust survivor. **Robert Kerns** (96PhD), a professor of medicinal and natural products chemistry for the UI Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Experimental Therapeutics, received the 2022 College of Pharmacy Award for Teaching Excellence. **Jody Kurtt** (90MA), director of nursing and patient care services for UI Health Care,



A Voice for Voters

Alexia Sanchez (20BA) was inducted into the Iowa Latino Hall of Fame as the 2022 Iowa Latinx Youth Leadership Award recipient this past fall, recognizing her work to help women and Latinx voters have a voice in politics. Sanchez, who currently is a staff assistant for the White House Gender Policy Council, has also been a congressional fellow through the Running Start nonprofit, a public policy fellow at the National Immigration Law Center, and a legislative intern for U.S. Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto.

A first-generation college graduate, Sanchez has always been committed to giving back to her communities. During her time at the University of Iowa, she served in Undergraduate Student Government, organized a summit for first-generation college students, and was the founder of the Latinx Living Learning Community on campus. In turn, she attributes her accomplishments to those who have supported her: "It's all thanks to communities that believe in me and invest in me like Iowa did." —ELLEN YANDEL

received the 2022 DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award, which honors nurses who have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to compassionate care. **Jon Lauck** (95MA, 97PhD), founding president of the Midwest History Association and adjunct professor of history and political science at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, received the 2021 Frederick Jackson Turner Award for Lifetime Achievement in Midwestern History. **Julie Luft** (94PhD) is a professor in the Mary Frances Early College of Education at the University of Georgia in Athens, president-elect of the National Science Teaching

Association, and co-editor of the *Handbook of Research on Science Teacher Education*. **Chris Pawelski** (90MA), an onion farmer in Hudson Valley, New York, was a central advocate for the Inflation Reduction Act, passed by Congress in August 2022.

1980s

Deb Zott Carr (80MA), a human resources professional at Discover Financial Services in Riverwoods, Illinois, has self-published six novels since 2021 under the pen name Toni Cabell, including two B.R.A.G. Medallion-winning works: *Lady Apprentice* and *Lady Mage*. **Minerva Cordero** (86MS,

89PhD), professor of mathematics and senior associate dean for research and graduate affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. **Al Greener** (87BM), who retired as director of the University of Louisville pep band and Jim Patterson Stadium organist in 2021, now serves as a member of the Louisville Bats' grounds crew at Slugger Field in Kentucky. **Steve Grubbs** (89BBA, 94JD) is the CEO of VictoryXR, a company headquartered in Davenport, Iowa, that creates virtual reality classrooms for universities across the U.S. **Nick Hentges** (81BBA) and his wife, Mary, made a \$1 million gift to the UI Henry B. Tippie College of Business to endow the Hentges Family Faculty RMI Fellowship, which will support the college's risk management and insurance education program. **Peggy Carlson Nopoulos** (85BS, 89MD, 93R, 94F), a professor in the UI departments of psychology, neurology, and pediatrics, received the Daryl and Nancy Granner Distinguished Mentor Award for her commitment to preparing students for successful medical careers. **J. Paul Oetken** (88BA), a judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, was named a 2022 LGBT Icon for LGBT History Month as the first openly gay male federal judge. **Kevin W. Smith** (83BA) is a public affairs officer and spokesperson for the FBI field office in Phoenix.

1970s

Patricia Bryan (76JD) published *The Plea: The True Story of Young Wesley Elkins and His Struggle for Redemption*, along with her husband and co-author, Thomas Wolf. **Francis Hamit** (72BGS, 76MFA), an author, playwright, and screenwriter, received honorable mentions for his historical film script, *The All American*, from Hollywood Script Awards and The Finish

Iowa On Screen

BY ELLEN YANDEL

Hawkeyes are behind some of the most acclaimed films in theaters today. From romance and horror to drama and documentary, these recent releases demonstrate the talent of the University of Iowa's accomplished alumni writers, directors, and producers:

Bones and All

Written and produced by Iowa Writers' Workshop grad **David Kajganich** (94MFA), *Bones and All* tells a story of first love and cannibalism on a cross-country road trip, with Timothée Chalamet in the starring role. Kajganich visited Iowa City's FilmScene during the Refocus Film Festival in October for a special screening of the film, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival.



David Kajganich at the Englert

The Whale

Iowa Playwrights Workshop grad **Samuel D. Hunter** (07MFA) adapted his 2012 play for the screen in this drama starring Brendan Fraser and Sadie Sink, in which a teacher suffering from severe obesity struggles to reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter. *The Whale* also premiered at the Venice Film Festival in September, leaving Fraser in tears during a six-minute standing ovation.



Actor Brendan Fraser with writer Samuel D. Hunter

Hockeyland

Writer and director **Tommy Haines** (05BA) collaborated with director of photography **Ben Handler** (13BA) on a feature documentary that follows two rival high-school hockey teams in Minnesota's North Country. Recently screened at the DOC NYC and Big Sky film festivals, the coming-of-age story centers around the players' dreams of a state championship—and a future in the NHL.



Tommy Haines and Benjamin Handler film in Eveleth, Minnesota

Line Script Competition. **Miekeleen Turnmire Hart** (79BSPH), founder and CEO of MDK Consulting in the Greater Cleveland area, received the UI College of Pharmacy Osterhaus Medal for Lifetime Achievement Award. **Arnold Katz** (76MS), a professor of surgery at Stony Brook University in New York, published his first book of poetry, *On the Edge: Poems by a Surgeon*. **Terry Lowman** (70BA), a retired restaurant owner in Ames, Iowa, received *dsm Magazine's* 2022 LGBTQ Legacy Leader Award, which recognizes LGBTQ community members and allies who have made significant contributions to equality based on gender and sexual orientation in the state of Iowa. **Charles Lynch** (79MS, 79MD, 84PhD, 86R) retired in July after more than 40 years with UI Health Care, including as the director of

the Iowa Cancer Registry. **Susan Neely** (78BA), president and CEO of the American Council of Life Insurers, received the American Society of Association Executives' Individual Honors for Exceptional Leadership Key Award. **Mary Swander** (73BA, 76MFA), an author and former Iowa poet laureate, was inducted into the 2022 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame for her work promoting healthy agricultural practices through the arts. **Dianne H.B. Welsh** (78BA), Hayes Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship and founding director of the entrepreneurship programs at the University of North Carolina Greensboro, released her book, *Entrepreneurial Family Business: From Survival to Success*, which tells the story of the Boyt Company, one of the earliest small manufacturers in Iowa.

1960s

Clark Blaise (64MFA), a former director of the UI International Writing Program and professor emeritus, published *This Time, That Place*, a collection of 24 short stories from his writing career. **Dianne Moritz** (68BA), a writer based in Southampton, New York, published her new children's book *Going on a Ghost Hunt*. **Marcia Moore Noe** (69MA, 76PhD), professor of English and director of women's studies at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, published her new book, *Three Midwestern Playwrights: How Floyd Dell, George Cram Cook, and Susan Glaspell Transformed American Theatre*.

faculty & friends

Barbara Burke, UI deputy athletic director, announced that she will retire in June 2023, after six years at Iowa and more than

40 years in college athletics. **Gregory Carmichael**, the Karl Kammermeyer Professor of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at the UI, has been named a fellow of the American Meteorological Society. **Greg Howes**, professor of physics and astronomy, received an award from the American Physical Society for his contributions to plasma physics. **Donald Letendre**, dean and professor of the UI College of Pharmacy, received a Robert G. Gibbs Distinguished Pharmacist Award from the Iowa Pharmacy Association. **Lina-Maria Murillo**, a UI assistant professor of gender, women, and sexuality studies, received a postdoctoral research fellowship for the 2022-2023 academic year from the Ford Foundation Fellowship Program.

IN MEMORY

1940s

Helen Bowlsby Arnold (44BA) of Kingman, Arizona, on June 30, 2022. **Louise Box-Hutchinson** (42BA, 43MD) of San Antonio on May 11, 2022. **Edith Mitten Burns** (48BA) of Glencoe, Illinois, on Feb. 21, 2022. **Elaine Gehring** (49BSPE) of Munster, Indiana, on May 31, 2022. **Bette Lee Johnson Hanson** (48BM) of Bumpass, Virginia, on May 2, 2022. **Margaret Daughton Horn** (45BSC) of Sun Lakes, Arizona, on May 25, 2022. **Ruth Collister Jones** (48BA) of Lakewood, Colorado, on Feb. 27, 2022. **Gloria Harney Morgan** (44BA) of Marana, Arizona, on July 14, 2022. **Mary Longfellow Nilsson** (49BA) of Green Valley, Arizona, on Aug. 12, 2022. **Marjorie Miller Nordstrom** (48BA) of Menahga, Minnesota, on Dec. 21, 2021. **Mary Beth Timm Sanborn** (44BSPE) of St. Joseph, Michigan, on July 28, 2022. **Charles Schlesselman** (46BA) of Bellevue, Washington, on July 26, 2022.

1950s

John T. Bauer (56DDS) of Iowa City on Aug. 26, 2022. **Allan Beaudoin** (54PhD) of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on June 10, 2022. **James Bellamy** (56MD) of Woodway, Washington, on July 12, 2022. **Reynold Berkey** (55PhD) of Concord Township, Ohio, on June 15, 2022. **James Blazek** (56BA, 56MD) of Columbus, Ohio, on June 17, 2022. **John Burrows** (54BA, 59JD) of La Cañada Flintridge, California, on July 18, 2022. **Robert Christensen** (55BA, 58MD, 62R) of Carroll, Iowa, on July 18, 2022. **James Cooney** (55BA, 57MA) of Charlotte, North Carolina, on July 2, 2022. **James Divelbiss** (59MS, 61PhD) of Coralville on June 17, 2022. **Ted Enabnit** (50BA, 52JD) of Stillwater, Minnesota, on Feb. 17, 2022. **Jo Fran Kouba Falcon** (52BA) of Cedar Rapids on July 5, 2022. **Donna Bittle Farrell** (53BA) of Shelby, Iowa,

on Dec. 25, 2021. **Clyde Feltes** (59BA) of Bettendorf, Iowa, on July 8, 2022. **Laurence Gatzke** (51BSME, 55MD) of Muscatine, Iowa, on July 22, 2022. **Lloyd Grant** (53DDS) of Saratoga, California, on April 21, 2022. **John R. Hanson** (52MA, 53MFA, 58PhD) of Northfield, Minnesota, on June 2, 2022. **Franklin Hardy** (56DDS) of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on March 25, 2021. **Albert Hass** (57BA) of Cedar Rapids on July 12, 2022. **Margaret Fuller Hathaway** (50BA) of Bettendorf, Iowa, on Aug. 20, 2022. **Howard Hogshead** (54BA, 58MD, 63MS, 63R) of Jacksonville, Florida, on July 10, 2022. **Dick Jensen** (54LLB) of Leawood, Kansas, on June 30, 2022. **Philip Jewel** (55MD, 62R) of Sarasota, Florida, on Feb. 25, 2022. **Lester Johnson** (56BSC, 63JD) of Greene, Iowa, on May 30, 2022. **Richard Kristensen** (57DDS) of Rohnert Park, California, on Feb. 4, 2022. **Donald Levy** (50BSC) of Palm Desert, California, on July 16, 2022. **William Matthews** (59JD) of Wapello, Iowa, on Sept. 28, 2021. **Edward McLachlan** (57BA) of Lake Ozark, Missouri, on April 7, 2022. **Alex Meyer** (56BSC) of Jacksonville, Florida, on July 17, 2022. **Carmen Miller** (55BA, 55DDS) of Cortez, Colorado, on May 7, 2022. **Evalyn Geraldine Wygle Mollman** (50GN) of Cedar Rapids on July 24, 2022. **Eldon Nuss** (54BSC) of Houston on July 1, 2022. **Joyce Postel Roberson** (55GN, 58BSN, 75MA, 83PhD) of Oostburg, Wisconsin, on July 6, 2022. **James Sandrock** (51BA, 58MA, 61PhD) of Iowa City on June 6, 2022. **Leland Sprague** (52BA, 56MD) of Ojai, California, on June 17, 2022. **D. Mickey Thomas** (52BA) of Osceola, Iowa, on July 13, 2022. **Sandra Shelton Thompson** (59BA) of Bonita Springs, Florida, on Sept. 13, 2022. **William Vibert** (56MA) of Granby, Connecticut, on June 10, 2022. **Margaret Liljedahl Wagner** (58BA) of Charlottesville, Virginia, on Sept. 14, 2022. **Richard G. Wagner** (51DDS, 52MS, 52OrthS) of Dakota Dunes,

South Dakota, on Aug. 30, 2022. **Robert Wayland** (50BSC) of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, on July 20, 2022.

1960s

Charles W. Anderson (61BA, 61BSME) of North Liberty, Iowa, on Aug. 4, 2022. **Tracy Anderson** (61MA, 72JD) of Kalona, Iowa, on Aug. 7, 2022. **Vincent Aoki** (65R, 66MS) of Honolulu on Jan. 6, 2022. **Jules Arginteanu** (60MA, 61PhD) of State College, Pennsylvania, on Aug. 5, 2022. **George D. Ashton** (61BSCE, 71PhD) of Bradford, Vermont, on June 8, 2022. **Thomas Aspel** (60OrthS) of Oceanside, California, on June 14, 2022. **Theron Bailey** (64BA, 67JD) of Spotsylvania, Virginia, on May 8, 2022. **Carl Baker** (68BA, 71JD) of Iowa City on June 10, 2022. **Jerry Case** (60MD) of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, on May 24, 2022. **Steven P. Combs** (66BS, 70MD) of Mentor, Ohio, on July 26, 2022. **Robert Connoles** (68PhD) of Missoula, Montana, on Jan. 2, 2022. **John Coover** (65MS, 65R) of Omaha, Nebraska, on July 4, 2022. **Jean Valentine Davis** (67BA) of Lynchburg, Virginia, on March 11, 2022. **Judith Lattner Dows** (65MA) of Cedar Rapids in June 2022. **Michael Finn** (69BA) of Dallas on May 25, 2022. **John Gosma** (65BA, 68JD) of Davenport, Iowa, on July 8, 2022. **Joseph Greer** (68BA) of Round Rock, Texas, on June 8, 2022. **James Hileman** (61DDS) of Riverside, Iowa, on Jan. 1, 2021. **David Hoak** (68BBA) of Des Moines on July 6, 2022. **H. Howard Hof** (67MA) of Mason City, Iowa, on Sept. 11, 2022. **Sun-Tak Hwang** (62MS, 65PhD) of Cincinnati on March 6, 2022. **Roy A. Johnson** (62MS, 64PhD) of Pullman, Washington, on July 24, 2022. **Duane Krob** (67BSME) of Swisher, Iowa, on Aug. 7, 2022. **Mary Lick** (69MA) of Muscatine, Iowa, on Aug. 27, 2022. **Eugene Martin** (60BA) of Charles City, Iowa, on June 29, 2022. **Robert Gene McNamee** (62DDS, 67BA) of Williamsburg, Virginia,

on June 30, 2022. **J. Donald McPike** (66MD, 74R) of Albany, California, on May 10, 2022. **Larry C. Meyer** (65BBA, 70MBA) of Muscatine, Iowa, on Aug. 8, 2022. **Thomas Purcell II** (63BA, 68MD) of Bayfield, Wisconsin, on March 16, 2021. **Harold Rankin** (60MD) of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on Aug. 4, 2022. **Don T. Ross** (60BBA) of Coralville on June 14, 2022. **Leroy Schmidt** (63BBA) of Brookfield, Wisconsin, on June 29, 2022. **Karen Liechty Schreiner** (63MA) of Wayzata, Minnesota, on Aug. 5, 2022. **Thomas Sharples** (67DDS, 69MS, 89EndoS) of Falmouth, Maine, on April 7, 2022. **Sharon Dolan Stang** (62BM, 64MA) of Buena Park, California, on July 10, 2022. **Jerry Swaney** (63BA, 65MD) of Lombard, Illinois, on July 1, 2022. **Henry Utley** (61BA) of Athens, Georgia, on May 29, 2022. **Robert Wahlert** (61BBA) of Fort Myers, Florida, on Aug. 6, 2022. **Dale Weber** (64MD) of Fulton, Illinois, on July 23, 2022. **Theodore Werch** (68BSME) of Menominee, Michigan, on Aug. 18, 2022. **John Wheeler** (66BA, 68MA) of Roy, Utah, on July 20, 2022. **Gary Yarrington** (63BSPh, 69DDS) of Chattanooga, Tennessee, on June 17, 2022. **H. Warren Youngquist** (66BS, 70DDS, 74MS, 74OrthS) of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on July 6, 2022.

1970s

Warren Bush (70BBA) of Wall Lake, Iowa, on June 9, 2022. **Jeffrey Conklin** (73BS, 78MD, 81R, 84F) of Los Angeles on Aug. 8, 2022. **Rafael Falcón** (77MA, 81PhD) of Goshen, Indiana, on Aug. 17, 2022. **Keith Feuerbach** (73BBA) of Wilton, Iowa, on June 7, 2022. **Charlie Frederick** (74PhD) of Hagerstown, Maryland, on Aug. 17, 2022. **Alice Ann Bolton Gallagher** (71BA) of Tipton, Iowa, on Aug. 14, 2022. **Benny Hawkins** (72MS, 72PeriS) of Coralville on Aug. 31, 2022. **G. Linore Hebrank** (72BS) of Port Angeles, Washington, on May 28, 2022. **Terry Hinman** (73JD) of Coralville on June 4,

2022. **Elliott Johnson** (75PhD) of North Liberty, Iowa, on July 29, 2022. **John Locher** (72JD) of Cedar Rapids on June 16, 2022. **William McCarthy** (71MA) of Cambridge, Wisconsin, on July 28, 2022. **Ernest Primmer** (70DDS) of Cedar Rapids on Aug. 3, 2022. **Michael Riedesel** (79BA) of Harvey, Louisiana, on June 4, 2022. **Kathy Lienau Robbins** (70BA, 74MA) of Englewood, Colorado, on July 5, 2022. **Jim Skog** (78BBA) of Fort Collins, Colorado, on July 15, 2022. **Larry Smiley** (71PhD) of Banning, California, on May 6, 2022. **Tom Steen** (76BBA) of Indianola, Iowa, on July 24, 2022. **Richard Van Amerongen** (73BS, 77DDS) of Burlington, Iowa, on Aug. 17, 2022. **Ron Vernon** (70BA) of Urbandale, Iowa, on May 28, 2022. **Harvey Weaver** (72BA) of Fort Collins, Colorado, on June 22, 2022. **Marjorie Gleckler Wilhite** (71MA) of Iowa City on July 1, 2022.

1980s

David Ashton (88BSE) of Solon, Iowa, on July 21, 2022. **Steve Bell** (85CER) of Ottumwa, Iowa, on July 17, 2022. **James Calhoun** (82MS) of Macomb, Illinois, on July 28, 2022. **Judith Choice** (83BLS, 85MA) of Kansas City, Missouri, on July 4, 2022. **William Cobb** (81R, 83F) of St. George, Utah, on Aug. 2, 2022. **Alan Cremers** (80BBA) of Emerald Hills, California, on July 5, 2022. **James Deal** (87BA) of Des Moines on July 1, 2022. **Jeff De Haan** (81MD) of Texarkana, Texas, on June 21, 2022. **Shirley Williams Franklin** (87MS) of Tama, Iowa, on Aug. 10, 2022. **Randall Jones** (81DMA) of Jefferson, Iowa, on Feb. 8, 2022. **James Little** (84BS) of Urbandale, Iowa, on July 29, 2022. **John D. McBride** (82MSW) of Oak Park, Illinois, on June 20, 2022. **Janis Novak** (82MBA) of Davenport, Iowa, on June 14, 2022. **Gary Prodanovich** (81R) of El Cajon, California, on July 31, 2022. **Traci Shook Silverman** (88BS) of Scottsdale, Arizona, on July 13, 2022.

1990s

Steven Campen (93BS) of Rosemount, Minnesota, on July 22, 2022. **Carolyn Rowan Hansen** (90MPT) of Omaha, Nebraska, on July 25, 2022. **John Kafer** (91BA) of Tiffin, Iowa, on June 14, 2022. **Frances Kenney** (93BA) of Cedar Rapids on July 30, 2022. **Thomas Mouglin** (90RadT) of Davenport, Iowa, on June 3, 2022. **Linda Murphy Ott** (97BSN) of Nora Springs, Iowa, on July 20, 2022. **Thomas Shakeshaft** (93JD) of Oak Park, Illinois, on July 19, 2022. **Stanley Ziewacz** (97BA, 13MCS) of Iowa City on May 18, 2022.

2000s

Jacob Copper (04BA) of Iowa City on July 9, 2022. **Matthew Daniels** (04BFA) of Iowa City on

March 28, 2022. **Michael Leidel** (04MBA) of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on May 26, 2022. **Alexe Mericle** (07BA) of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, on Aug. 3, 2022. **Joseph A. Peters** (05BA) of Kansas City, Missouri, on Aug. 15, 2022. **Mark Shellmyer** (01MBA, 01MHA) of Winter Park, Florida, on May 26, 2022. **Jesse C. Smith** (02BA) of Iowa City on July 2, 2022.

2010s

Taylor Peterson Bouska (12BSN) of Tripoli, Iowa, on Aug. 20, 2022. **Coco Bryant** (16BA) of Cedar Rapids on June 24, 2022. **Chad Michael** (14PharmD) of Walker, Iowa, on July 1, 2022. **Amy Ganoe Pretorius** (14BSN) of Iowa City on June 15, 2022. **Kathy Marie Slach** (12BAS) of

Williamsburg, Iowa, on June 10, 2022.

2020s

Molly Corlett (20BSE, 21MS) of Alameda, California, on Feb. 17, 2022. **Arthur Wold** (22BA) of Iowa City on April 10, 2022.

faculty & friends

Erling B. "Jack" Holtmark of Coralville on July 17, 2022. **Tom Petroff** of Greeley, Colorado, on Aug. 22, 2022.



Yvonne 'Bonnie' Slatton (70PhD)

Slatton was a lifelong champion for equality in sports.

After graduating from the University of North Carolina in 1964 with a master's in physical education, Slatton began her decades-long tenure at the University of Iowa as a faculty member and a tennis and badminton coach in the women's physical education department. Slatton earned a PhD in physical education at Iowa in 1970, and she was also a faculty representative to the Big Ten and the NCAA for 21 years.

Slatton, along with UI women's athletic director **Christine Grant** (70BA, 74PhD) and fellow professor **Peggy Burke**, was a national leader in the push for equal opportunities for women in sports, and her efforts helped bring about the revolutionary Title IX ruling. "Leadership for Title IX had its locus in Iowa," **Lark Birdsong**, Iowa's first women's basketball coach, wrote in January after Grant's death, adding that "these brave women did the impossible against insurmountable odds."

Slatton's leadership included serving as president of the National Association for Girls and Women in Sports and as acting executive director of the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. She also participated on various NCAA and Olympic committees. In 1987, she received a National Honor Award from the National Association of Girls and Women in Sport for her contributions to the field.

Slatton died on Sept. 8 in Iowa City. She was 84.

To give to the UI's Three Women for Equality: Christine Grant, Peggy Burke, and Bonnie Slatton Fund, which supports the Iowa Women's Archives' efforts to archive, curate, and exhibit content related to women in sports, visit foriowa.info/three-women.



REFLECT

Snow Day

Even long before the 1972 passage of Title IX, women at the University of Iowa were determined to pursue their love for sports, embracing intramurals, sport clubs, and women's physical education classes on campus. Here, a women's skiing class from 1925 poses on the Pentacrest with their gear.

PHOTO: FREDERICK W. KENT COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS, UI SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



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"We have traveled all over the world and lived in nine different cities. Iowa City became home to us in the '80s and '90s when we worked at the University of Iowa – Wally, as Director of Hancher Auditorium, and Karen, as Associate Director of the Center for International and Comparative Studies. Even though we spent eight years in New York City in the 2000s, we chose to return to Iowa City to retire. We moved into Oaknoll East last year where we have found good friends, easy access to the artistic, athletic and intellectual communities of Iowa City, and where we have few concerns about home repairs, snow removal, IT services or other worries. We continue to live an active and engaged life."

~Wally and Karen Chappell



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