

# Noon News



**Today**  
High: 66 Low: 50  
Showers



**Tomorrow**  
High: 68 Low: 46  
Showers

**Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

More faculty and staff news:  
[thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu](http://thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu)

## Today in history

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**On this day in 1935, Babe Ruth ended his Major League Baseball career after 22 seasons, 10 World Series, and 714 home runs.**

### State board rejects medical marijuana

The Iowa Board of Pharmacy yesterday again rejected the arguments of those who want to allow the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Advocates asked the board to recommend that marijuana be removed from what is known as a “schedule 1” classification. They argued that marijuana no longer met that classification’s criteria of having no accepted use in medical treatments in the United States.

### Disaster aid from feds expected to top \$1 billion

Federal financial help authorized to rebuild public infrastructure damaged by last year’s weather-related disasters in Iowa likely will top \$1 billion by the end of June. Currently, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved or obligated \$650 million for different projects in Iowa, and the figure is projected to climb above \$1.1 billion before the state’s 2009 fiscal year ends June 30.

### Sotomayor makes Capital Hill debut

Judge Sonia Sotomayor is set to begin making the rounds today on Capitol Hill, meeting key U.S. senators who will help decide whether or not she becomes the first Hispanic Supreme Court justice. Sotomayor is set to meet with 10 senators during her first day on Capitol Hill.

### Pending home sales rise in April

Pending U.S. home sales in April made the biggest monthly jump in nearly eight years. The National Association of Realtors said its seasonally adjusted index of contracts signed in April rose 6.7 percent to 90.3. The index was 3.2 percent above last year’s levels and has risen for three straight months.

### GM sells Hummer to mystery buyer

General Motors Corp. said today that it has signed a deal to sell its Hummer truck unit. GM would not identify the buyer or name a price, saying only that the deal would close by the end of September.

### No signs of life in Atlantic debris

An airplane seat cushion, a life jacket, metallic debris, and signs of fuel were found in the Atlantic Ocean today by Brazilian airplanes searching for a missing Air France airliner. Debris was spotted north of the island of Fernando de Noronha, along the path the jet was taking before it disappeared yesterday with 228 people on board, said a spokesman. There were no signs of life in the areas.

### Death toll at South African mine rises

The death toll rose to at least 61 today from an underground fire that killed illegal miners over the weekend at a gold mine in South Africa, Harmony Gold Mining Co. said. According to a spokesperson, the 25 people found dead today likely suffered gas or smoke inhalation.

### North Korean leader picks future successor

North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il has picked his youngest son to succeed him as ruler, South Korean media and legislators reported today. If the succession reports are true, Jong Woon, 26, beat out his older brother Jong Chul, 27, and his half-brother Kim Jong Nam, 38, for control of the nation.

### U.S. military using Facebook, Twitter

The U.S. military in Afghanistan is launching a Facebook page, a YouTube site, and feeds on Twitter, officials said yesterday. The communications effort, that officials said is a way to counter Taliban propaganda, represents a change in how the military communicates to foreign and U.S. audiences.

### Disney signs Cyrus again

Disney Channel closed a deal for a fourth season of “Hannah Montana” starring Miley Cyrus, answering been questions about whether Cyrus would return to the series. Production will begin next year after a long hiatus during which Cyrus will work on the feature “The Last Song.”

### Thome hits 550<sup>th</sup> homer

Jim Thome hit his 550<sup>th</sup> home run to put the Chicago White Sox ahead, who went on to beat the Oakland Athletics 6-2 last night. Thome is 13th on the career homers list and has nine this season.

**MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- Stop by a Books Are Fun sale until 6 p.m. today, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow, and from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday in the Pappajohn Pavilion Lobby, Elevator I, Level 1. Proceeds benefit UI Children's Hospital.
- Everyone working, volunteering, or learning with UI Health Care is invited to the fiscal year 2010 budget forums at noon today in the East Room (Elevator I, Level 8) or at 5:15 p.m. tomorrow in Prem Sahai Auditorium (1110 MERF). Today's forum can also be viewed through a link on [The Point](#).
- The UI Obesity Surgery Support Group will meet from 6 to 7 tonight in the Clinical Cancer Center Conference Room, 4639 JCP, Elevator H, Level 4. The support group is free and open to anyone who has had bariatric surgery or is considering it. Registration is recommended. Contact Chris Melichar at 356-1887 or [obesitysurgery@uiowa.edu](mailto:obesitysurgery@uiowa.edu).
- Patients and visitors are invited to children's story hour at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, Patients' Library, Elevator F, Level 8.
- "Lactation Chat" is a breastfeeding support group facilitated by a University of Iowa lactation consultant from 4 to 5 p.m. every Wednesday in the Dr. Bell Conference Room, Elevator I, Level 6. Participants can discuss common challenges to breastfeeding and receive inspiration and tips. Babies are welcome.
- UI Children's Hospital has 500 invitations for Dreamnight at Blank Park, a free event for children who have a chronic or critical illness and their families to be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines. The event will include exotic animals and plants, train rides, jugglers, storybook characters, face painting, and dinner. Families can pick up invitations at the Main Entrance information desk. For more information, call Pam Hoogerwerf at 353-7972.
- Join in the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure 2009 on Saturday, June 20, at Lakeview Elementary School in Solon. Ride solo, for a team, or join the UI Health Care team. Routes range from 5 to 100 miles. To register, visit [www.diabetes.org/tour](http://www.diabetes.org/tour). Volunteers are also needed. To register or volunteer, contact UI Health Care team coordinator Steve Hamilton at [stephen-hamilton@uiowa.edu](mailto:stephen-hamilton@uiowa.edu) or Tour de Cure coordinator Jennifer Petsche, 247-5124 or [jpetsche@diabetes.org](mailto:jpetsche@diabetes.org).

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- The 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Keota vanpool has openings. Contact Judy Hemmen at 353-5770.
- The 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Davenport vanpool has openings. Contact Pam Arp at 356-8842.
- The 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kalona vanpool has an opening. Contact Kylie at 384-7038.
- The 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tipton vanpool has an opening. Contact Teresa at 353-5595.
- The 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wilton vanpool has an opening. Contact Dave Myers at 335-3709 or the vanpool office at 335-5770.
- UI Health Care staff and health science program students are reminded to wear photo ID badges above the waist with the photo facing out. Badges are not to be punctured in any way; holes in the badge will render the card dead for door access.
- The UI Cord Blood Bank continually accepts pregnant women who want to participate in cord blood donation. Donation is painless, non-invasive, and will be used exclusively for research. If interested, e-mail [cord-blood@uiowa.edu](mailto:cord-blood@uiowa.edu) or call 356-7875. For more information, visit [www.medicine.uiowa.edu/Programs/CordBlood](http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/Programs/CordBlood).

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

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- Volunteers between the ages of 50 and 70 with a high school education and no history of neurological disease are invited to participate in a research study of cognitive function. Participants will be asked to undergo neuropsychological testing which will include two hours of involvement. Compensation. For details, call 356-8759 or e-mail [natasha-feuerback@uiowa.edu](mailto:natasha-feuerback@uiowa.edu).
- Children 6 years, 6 months through 12 years, six months are invited to participate in a study examining word learning and executive function abilities, such as attention, inhibition, and planning. Participation will consist of one 60 minute visit. Contact Lea Greiner at 353-6582 or [lea-greiner@uiowa.edu](mailto:lea-greiner@uiowa.edu).
- English speaking children between the ages of 4 and 6 are invited to participate in a research study examining grammar acquisition. Two visits of one hour each. Compensation. For more information, call the Grammar Acquisition Lab at 335-8113 or e-mail [amanda-owen@uiowa.edu](mailto:amanda-owen@uiowa.edu).
- Volunteers age 60 and older are invited to participate in a study evaluating the effectiveness of a walking program in reducing pain and activity limitations in people with knee osteoarthritis. To learn more, call 335-8196 or 335-7554.

View the most recent study announcements at [www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html](http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html).

Contact *Noon News* at [noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu](mailto:noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu). Persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate in programs at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics may discuss their needs with Concierge Services in advance at 356-1900.