

# Noon News



**Today**  
High: 75 Low: 64  
Scattered storms



**Tomorrow**  
High: 90 Low: 64  
Mostly sunny

**Wednesday, July 8, 2009**

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

## **Researchers net \$3.6 million for glaucoma research**

UI researchers, led by John Fingert, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, have been awarded a five-year, nearly \$3.6 million grant to study the genes and disease processes involved in glaucoma, the second leading cause of irreversible blindness in the U.S.

## **Forum to focus on Hancher, Art Building relocation**

The UI will hold a public forum on relocating the Hancher, Voxman, and Clapp complex and the original Art Building complex—facilities damaged during the 2008 flood—from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Macbride Hall Lecture Room. Joe Hibbard of Sasaki and Associates will facilitate the forum and present information on various site options. Public comment will be welcomed.

## **School district shapes policy on religion**

Students in the northwest Iowa town of Spencer will get to study the Bible and pray at graduation if school district leaders approve a proposed “religious liberties” policy, the first of its kind in the state. The *Des Moines Register* reports that school officials say they want to set clear rules for religious expression and study. Critics worry the move could lead to school-sponsored evangelizing to students.

## **Shriners mull fate of six hospitals**

For generations, children with clubfoot, severe burns, and other debilitating injuries have been treated for free at Shriners hospitals. That care could be in jeopardy, however, as Shriners International, facing a shrinking endowment, meets this week in San Antonio to decide whether to close six of its hospitals.

## **Struggling economy relieves traffic congestion**

Drivers are spending less time stuck in rush-hour traffic for a second straight year, the first-ever two-year decline in congestion as high gas prices and the economic downturn force many Americans to change how they commute, according to a study released today by the Texas Transportation Institute.

## **Militants destroy oil pipelines in Nigeria**

Nigerian militants said today they blew up two key oil pipelines as they stepped up attacks in response to a government amnesty offer. The militants say they are on a campaign to cripple the oil industry until their complaints of injustices and inequitable distribution of the oil wealth are answered.

## **Blanca weakens to tropical depression in Pacific**

Tropical storm Blanca has been downgraded to a tropical depression off Mexico’s Pacific coast. U.S. National Hurricane Center forecasters said the system is expected to weaken further in the next day or two. Blanca was located about 600 miles west-southwest of the tip of the Baja California Peninsula.

## **Drunk badger blocks German road**

German police called to clear a road near Goslar of a dead badger found the animal had in fact gorged itself on overripe, fermented cherries and staggered onto the highway. The badger was “drunk as a skunk,” according to a police statement released today. Officers persuaded the badger to move along.

## **Nielsen: More kids online**

A new study from Nielsen Online found that nearly 16 million U.S. children ages 2 to 11 were online in May, which was about 9.5 percent of Internet users. In the past five years, Nielsen said, the number of kids online has increased 18 percent, compared to 10 percent growth among all Internet users.

## **Online teasers precede next Dan Brown novel**

Publisher Doubleday announced yesterday that Dan Brown’s *The Lost Symbol*, his first novel since *The Da Vinci Code*, will be preceded by a summer-long procession of “codes, cryptic trivia, puzzles, secret history, maps, aphorisms,” and other daily teasers on Facebook and Twitter.

## **Kernels stay hot**

The Cedar Rapids Kernels notched their eighth straight win last night, defeating the Quad City River Bandits 8-3. The Kernels will face the Fort Wayne Tincaps tonight at 6:35 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

## *Today in history*

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**On this day in 1951, Paris, the capital city of France, celebrated turning 2,000 years old.**

**MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- The Infertility Support Group meets at 6 p.m. tonight at the Women's Resource Action Center, 130 N. Madison Street. The group will discuss fertility-related issues and coping skills. For details, call 335-1486 or e-mail [wrac@uiowa.edu](mailto:wrac@uiowa.edu).
- Children's Miracle Network will have a UI Children's Hospital Merchandise Sale from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. today in the Pappajohn Pavilion Atrium Lobby, Elevator I, Level 1. Cash, checks, credit cards, and staff charges will be accepted. A portion of the proceeds benefit UI Children's Hospital. Are you an online shopper? Check out [www.shoppingformiracles.org](http://www.shoppingformiracles.org).
- Join Project Art and Volunteer Services for Shinbone Alley, part of the Summer Concert Series, from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow at the Rooftop Café, Elevator F, Level 8. Enjoy country, bluegrass, and swing music, along with promotional food specials. Rain location: 7th Floor Atrium Dining Room. To join Project Art's mailing list, send an e-mail with the word "subscribe" in the subject line to [uihc-projectart@uiowa.edu](mailto:uihc-projectart@uiowa.edu).
- Join the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for the Light The Night Walk 2009 kickoff event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, at Quality Inn & Suites in Iowa City. The event will include food, prizes, fundraising tips, and information about signing up a team to participate in the Light the Night Walk in September. Please RSVP to Jessica by July 13 at 1-877-339-0072.
- Wild Rose Gifts is offering UI Hospitals and Clinics t-shirts for \$5 with a \$25 purchase through July 17 (no limit, while supplies last). Stop by for this great bargain from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. Profits support programs that benefit patients and their families.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Beginning at 8 a.m. on Aug. 4, all UI Health Care employees and students will need two IDs—a HealthCareID for workstation login and health care applications (Epic, Outlook, etc.) and a HawkID for University applications (Employee Self Service, ICON, etc.). The two-ID system will be more secure and cost effective. Your current HawkID/password will become your HealthCareID/password. Usernames for both will be the same, but each ID will have its own password. For more information or to set a new HawkID password, go to: <http://hawkid.uiowa.edu/project>.
- Domestic hot and cold water service to the east half of the Emergency Treatment Center area on the first floor of Carver Pavilion, including all bathrooms and sinks, will be interrupted from approximately 7 to 8 a.m. tomorrow in order to connect the new decontamination shower piping. Questions? Call Walter Robalino, Capital Management, at 356-1866.
- Hospital Parking Ramp 1 will close at 6 p.m. Friday, and reopen at 6 a.m. Monday, July 13. If you park in this ramp, please use another ramp during this time. Questions? Contact Martin Shafer, Environmental and Guest Services, at 356-2277.
- Taking care of your health can be easier with support from a UI Wellness health coach as part of the liveWELL program. Health coach visits can take place in person, by telephone, or via e-mail. The health coach service is free to UI staff who work in a 50 percent or greater, regular position. To get started, complete the Personal Health Assessment on the Employee Self-Service Web site. For more information, visit [www.uiowa.edu/livewell](http://www.uiowa.edu/livewell) or call 353-2973.
- Blood and platelet donors needed. Visit DeGowin Blood Center, Elevator B, Level 2, or call 356-2058. Weekday and evening appointments available. All donations used at UI Hospitals and Clinics.
- Questions? Concerns? The Office of the Ombudsperson is a confidential resource available to faculty, staff, and students. Ombudspersons Cynthia Joyce and Lois Cox are available to help find answers to your questions, address your concerns, or direct you to other sources of help. Call 335-3608 or e-mail [ombudsperson@uiowa.edu](mailto:ombudsperson@uiowa.edu).

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

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- Healthy volunteers ages 18 to 70 who have no gastrointestinal symptoms are invited to participate in a research study examining the ability of the body to absorb fructan, a carbohydrate present in a typical diet. For more information, call 384-9756 or e-mail [jessica-paulson@uiowa.edu](mailto:jessica-paulson@uiowa.edu).
- Healthy males ages 18 to 60 are invited to participate in a research study examining the effects of transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) on pain. TENS is a commonly used treatment for pain that uses an application of low intensity (non-painful) electrical stimulation to the skin. Subjects cannot currently have pain or be on pain medication. Subjects will be compensated for five consecutive daily visits. For details, e-mail [slukalab@uiowa.edu](mailto:slukalab@uiowa.edu) or call Shannon Lehman at 384-3052.
- Adults with breast cancer ages 20 to 75 and their caregivers are invited to participate in a Department of Rehabilitation Therapies research study investigating the effects of participation in music therapy cancer support groups on mood, coping, social support, and quality of life. Groups meet twice a week for six weeks. Compensation. For more information, call Abbey Dvorak at 356-4718 or e-mail [abbey-dvorak@uiowa.edu](mailto:abbey-dvorak@uiowa.edu).

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.