

# Noon News



**Today**  
High: 79 Low: 54  
Mostly sunny



**Tomorrow**  
High: 80 Low: 55  
Partly cloudy

**Monday, September 14, 2009**

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

## **Cancer biology researchers receive federal grants**

Researchers in the Free Radical and Radiation Biology Program in the University of Iowa Department of Radiation Oncology have received more than \$3.7 million in federal funding through five different grants to conduct cancer biology research. Douglas Spitz, PhD; Apollina Goel, PhD; Frederick Domann, PhD; and Andrean Simons-Burnett, PhD, each received grants for their research projects.

## **Norman Borlaug dies at 95**

Norman Borlaug, the Cresco, Iowa, native who became known as the father of the “Green Revolution,” died Saturday in Texas. He was 95. Borlaug is widely credited with saving millions of lives by breeding wheat, rice, and other crops that brought agricultural self-sufficiency to Mexico, India, Pakistan, and other developing countries around the world. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970.

## **Big bridge keeps trains rolling**

Freight trains have begun moving across a new \$43 million bridge over the Des Moines River that reportedly is the tallest double-track railroad structure in North America, the *Des Moines Register* reports. The Boone High Bridge, 2,550 feet long and 190 feet high, serves 60 freight trains each day.

## **AP poll: Worries about economy linger**

One year after Wall Street teetered on the brink of collapse, seven out of 10 Americans say they lack confidence in the federal government to prevent another financial industry meltdown, according to a new Associated Press (AP) poll. Eighty percent of Americans polled rated the economy as poor.

## **Tangled parachutes leads to skydivers’ deaths**

Two members of an elite skydiving team were killed yesterday when their parachutes got entangled at 6,000 feet during a group jump in Northern California, the AP reports. The men were part of a team practicing for the U.S. Parachute Association national skydiving championships next month.

## **New Hampshire woman becomes oldest American**

A 114-year-old New Hampshire woman is now believed to be the oldest American. Mary Josephine Ray secured the title of the oldest person in the U.S. after the death of Gertrude Baines on Friday in Los Angeles. The oldest person in the world, Kama Chinen of Japan, was born seven days before Ray.

## **Bin Laden: Obama ‘powerless’ in Afghan war**

In a new audiotape posted to Islamic militant Web sites two days after the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, Osama bin Laden said President Barack Obama is “powerless” in the war in Afghanistan, the AP reports. The Al-Qaida leader said Obama is following the policies of the Bush Administration.

## **Airline bomb plot conspirators sentenced**

A British judge today sentenced the ringleader of a plot to bring down trans-Atlantic planes with liquid explosives to at least 40 years in jail and three fellow British Muslims to long prison sentences, the AP reports. The men, arrested in August 2006, had planned to smuggle explosives on board as soft drinks.

## **Sweden urges U.S. action in climate control**

Sweden’s environment minister urged the U.S. Senate today to pass legislation to control greenhouse gases, the AP reports. Minister Andreas Carlgren said American leadership on climate change is needed to persuade nations like India and China to commit to lowering their greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Kanye West disrupts Video Music Awards**

Rapper Kanye West grabbed the microphone from country music singer Taylor Swift during her acceptance speech for best female video at last night’s MTV Video Music Awards and publicly protested her selection. The crowd booed West’s behavior, and officials ejected him from the show.

## **Wegher shines in Hawkeye win**

A new star may have emerged from the Iowa Hawkeyes’ 35-3 win over Iowa State Saturday in Ames: running back Brandon Wegher. The true freshman from Sioux City gained 101 yards on 15 carries and scored a touchdown. Wegher also caught two passes for 17 yards, including a nifty one-handed grab.

### *Today in history*

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**On this day in 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote “The Star-Spangled Banner” after witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry in Maryland during the War of 1812.**

**MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wild Rose Books will be hosting a Technology Event from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Pappajohn Pavilion Lobby. Stop by for Snow Leopard demos and to test-drive popular Apple and Dell computers, and check out the store's new line of consumer audio and computer accessories. Receive a free Apple tote bag with a purchase of \$20 or more! Educational discount prices apply for UI students, faculty, and staff on selected technology. For more information, call 384-5151.
- Staff, guests, and patients are invited to a closed AA meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays in 5027 BT, Elevator A, Level 5.
- Project Art presents the Red Cedar Chamber Music group, which will be performing from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow in the Colloton Atrium, Elevator E/F, Level 7.
- UI Women's Health invites mothers of infants and toddlers to attend "Moms Supporting Moms." The group meets from noon to 1 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in Melrose Conference Room 3, Elevator L, Level 5. For more information, call 356-1278 or e-mail [UIHC-moms@uiowa.edu](mailto:UIHC-moms@uiowa.edu).
- A Healing Jewelry Sale to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday in the Pappajohn Atrium Lobby, Elevator I, Level 1. The sale will feature jewelry by Linda Olsen ([lindaolsenjewelry.com](http://lindaolsenjewelry.com).) and will support the 2009 Light the night Walk. For details, contact Emily Mozena at 335-3822 or [emily-mozena@uiowa.edu](mailto:emily-mozena@uiowa.edu).

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- UI Health Care employees, please take the Internal Communications Survey! Find the online survey on [The Point](#) or pick up a paper copy wherever you get *Noon News*. Drop boxes for paper copies are located in Melrose Dining Room, Fountain Dining Room, EMRB Café, MERF Information Desk, Center for Disabilities and Development, and Bowen Science Building main level. Don't forget to wait five seconds after you submit the survey for an optional quick question. Deadline: Wednesday, Sept. 16. Your opinion counts!
- UI Health Care is going green! Beginning Tuesday, UI Health Care will power down computers to reduce expenses and conserve resources. Most computers will power off at 6:30 p.m. and power on at 6:15 a.m. While most desktop computers are included in this program, certain machines have been excluded, including those requiring special accommodations and those in inpatient areas. Check your e-mail for complete details, including FAQs, or contact the HCIS Help Desk at 356-0001.
- Visit the Emergency Medical Services Learning Resources Center (EMSLRC) Web site for CPR and all other course listings. EMSLRC course registration is now available online. For more information, visit [The Point](#) or [www.uihealthcare.com/emslrc](http://www.uihealthcare.com/emslrc).

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

- The University of Iowa Hearing Aid Lab is conducting a study looking at the relationship between hearing, memory, and word learning in children. If your child is six years of age, he or she may be eligible to participate. Compensation. For more information, contact [uiowa-hal@uiowa.edu](mailto:uiowa-hal@uiowa.edu).
- Non-smoking volunteers between the ages of 18 and 50 are invited to have a blood draw as part of a research study. A commitment of approximately 30 minutes on a weekday is required. Volunteers must be free of medical problems and on no medications other than birth control pills. Compensation. For more information, contact Emily Avgenackis at 384-6381.
- Healthy, right-handed individuals ages 18 to 45 are invited to participate in a functional brain study. Participants will have one MRI scan; total time commitment is less than two hours. Compensation. For more information, contact Ai Leo at 384-5570 or [leo-ai@uiowa.edu](mailto:leo-ai@uiowa.edu).
- Volunteers are invited to participate in a study looking at whether low-level laser therapy can improve hearing in persons with hearing loss. Participation requires four visits to the laboratory for a total of five hours. Compensation. Contact Shawn Goodman at 335-8700 or Ruth Bentler at 335-8723 for more information.
- Smoking volunteers between the ages of 18 and 65 with a smoking history of greater than one pack/day (or equivalent) are invited to participate in a study examining vitamin D levels and the ability of the lung to resist infections. Volunteers must be free of medical problems and on no medications other than birth control pills, certain medications for depression, heartburn, or allergies, and topical medications used to treat mild conditions such as acne. A commitment of two visits over three months is required. Compensation. Contact Lori Stout at 384-5376.
- Breast-fed babies less than 28 days of age are invited to participate in a one-year nutrition study. Compensation is available. For more information call 467-4525 or 778-5118 (UI Health Care pediatric nutrition staff).

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.