

Hawkeye reality check

Harty says it is way too early to even think about firing Coach Ferentz **Sports**

A BIG COMMITMENT

Valley recruit Peter Jok commits to UI **Sports**



IOWA CITY Press-Citizen

Monday, September 24, 2012

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Hancher rebuilding still on track

Groundbreaking remains unknown for \$176M project

By Tara Bannow
Iowa City Press-Citizen

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new Hancher Auditorium has been postponed, but University of Iowa officials say the project to replace University of Iowa's main performing arts center destroyed in the 2008 flood still is on track.

The ceremony was

scheduled for Oct. 19 and would have coincided with a week-long series of events aimed at raising awareness about bullying of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth. A new groundbreaking date on the estimated \$176 million fine arts facility has yet to be set.

Chuck Swanson, Hancher's executive director, said a few more things need to be in order before the groundbreaking can happen.

The postponement will have no impact on the con-

struction timeline, he said.

Design development, the third phase of the project, is 100 percent complete, Swanson said.

"It's an amazing design," he said. "It's going to be one of the world's finest."

The auditorium originally opened in 1972, but has sat empty after sustaining severe damage in the 2008 flood, as has the adjoining Voxman Music Building and Clapp Recital Hall. The new Hancher will

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A new groundbreaking date on the estimated \$176 million Hancher Auditorim has yet to be set. SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-CITIZEN

Campaign 2012

The 2012 challenge: Lure the undecideds

With 6 weeks left, 7% of likely voters have not made a choice

By Nancy Benac
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Loretta Mitchell is 100 percent sure she's going to vote in the presidential race come November. She doesn't have a clue who'll get that vote.

That makes her a rare and highly sought after commodity: an undecided likely voter.

The challenge for President Obama and Republican Mitt Romney is how to lay claim to this small but mightily important swath of the electorate. These people are truly up for grabs, claim they're intent on voting and yet aren't paying that much attention.

With six hard-fought weeks left in the campaign, just 7 percent of likely voters have yet to pick a candidate, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll. When combined with those who are leaning toward one candidate or the other but far from firm in their choice, about 17 percent of likely voters are what pollsters consider "persuadable."

That includes 6 percent who give soft support to Obama and 4 percent for Romney.

See VOTERS, Page 4A

'Homeland' and 'Modern Family' win big

The terrorism thriller "Homeland" and "Modern Family" were the top winners at Sunday's Emmy Awards in a ceremony that veered between daring and predictability in honors, **6A**.



City grad founds nonprofit ReSpectacle



Orthoptist Tara Bragg examines a discarded pair of prescription glasses at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Eye Clinic for bifocals as part of ReSpectacle on Wednesday. BENJAMIN ROBERTS / IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

Charity collects used glasses for online database

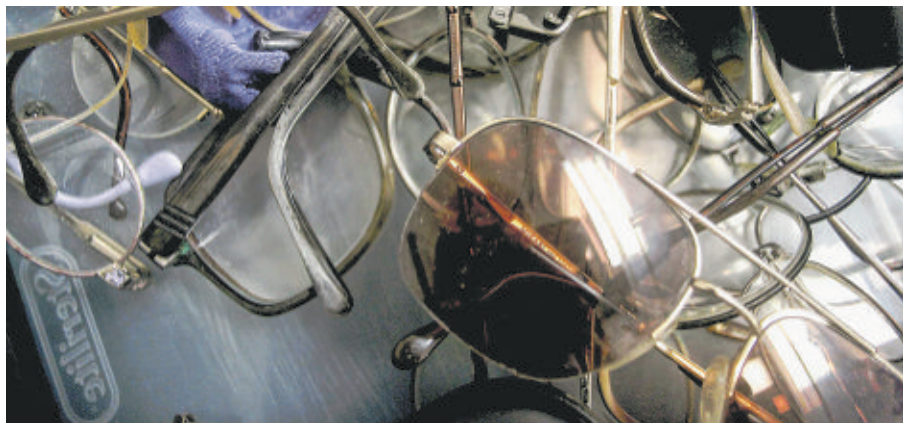
By Josh O'Leary
Iowa City Press-Citizen

Dr. Jeff Lynch was on a mission trip to Peru in 2006, part of a team of medical volunteers performing cataract surgeries for the poor, when the reality of the situation struck him.

Of the locals with vision problems who turned out in droves to be seen by the doctors and students, the vast majority didn't need surgery, Lynch recalls.

Instead, they just needed a good pair of eyeglasses.

Today, the Iowa City native and City High graduate heads a unique nonprofit called ReSpectacle that collects used



A tub full of donated prescription glasses for a nonprofit called ReSpectacle is pictured Wednesday. BENJAMIN ROBERTS / IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

glasses, catalogues them by prescription and style in an ever-growing online database and ships them to people in the U.S. and abroad.

"Unlike the U.S., only really the affluent had access to glasses in the area we

were in," said Lynch, who was a medical student at the University of Iowa when he visited Peru. "We had a box of donated, used eyeglasses, and they would essen-

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WEATHER

Sunny today.
High near 75.
Low near 35.

Details, **8B**

MORE THAN NEWS EACH WEEK

» **Business** on Monday » **Food** on Wednesday
» **Go** on Thursday » **Channels, Life** and **USA Weekend** on Saturday

Glasses

Continued from Page 1A

tially sift through the boxes of used glasses and just look at their family member and look for a nod of approval. “Most of these individuals never got an appropriate correction prescription. So that was kind of frustrating for me, to have nothing to do for these people. Some of them walked a day to come see us.”

While larger charities collect and distribute used eyeglasses, what sets ReSpectacle apart is its web database of donated glasses. Rather than shipping a boxful of glasses somewhere and hoping for a match, people who know their prescription can enter the numbers on the website, view photos of the glasses to find a frame that suits them, then order a specific pair that is then shipped for free.

Lynch, 33, who completed a fellowship at UI this summer and now works in pediatric ophthalmology in Sillwater, Minn., launched the charity in 2011 and since has established chapters in Little Rock, Ark., St. Louis, the Twin Cities and Iowa

City.

A network of about 40 volunteers at the various chapters collects the glasses through churches, private optical practices and universities, cleans them, determines their prescriptions and adds the useable ones to the database. Since it was founded, the charity has collected and procured nearly 1,500 sets of glasses, and has shipped 150 pairs as far as Kenya, the Congo, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Grants from the Mildred Brady and Rena Martin Charitable Eye Foundation and the Saint Louis University Hospital Auxiliary, as well as private donations collected through the charity’s website, cover the shipping costs. The charity has partnered with contacts abroad who help connect people in need with the glasses they have available.

Tyler Risma, 24, a third-year medical student at UI, is a board member of a student group called UISight and has helped connect volunteers from his organization with ReSpectacle.

Unlike the traditional system used by similar charities of shipping hundreds of pairs of eyeglasses to a given location with the

RESPECTACLE

» **What is it?** A nonprofit that collects used glasses, catalogues them by prescription and style in an online database and ships them to people in the U.S. and abroad.

» **How to donate:** Drop off used pairs of glasses at the eye clinic at the reception desk in the Primary Eye Care Clinic at UIHC in the Pomerantz Family Pavilion (Elevator L, Level 1). ReSpectacle chapters around the country receive about 150 eyeglasses each month, but not all donated pairs can be reused. ReSpectacle does accept eyeglasses in poor condition but cannot redistribute donated eyeglasses with extremely scratched lenses or bent, broken and unwearable frames. Glasses and money can also be donated through the website.

» **On the web:** www.respectacle.org.

hopes of finding a few good matches, Risma said ReSpectacle’s use of the online catalogue is simple, but innovative.

“It’s great to be able to give something that makes such a big difference in a person’s day-to-day life and their ability to work and read and live a fulfilling life,” said Risma, who helps run ReSpectacle’s Iowa City chapter. “If you have really bad vision, it can prevent you from doing a lot of other things.”

Jeff Lynch’s younger sister, Katie, 26, a fourth-year medical student at UI, helps organize a group of about 20 local volunteers that gathers periodically to sort through donated glasses. Used glasses can be dropped off in UIHC’s Primary Eye Clinic, but Katie Lynch said they would like to partner with more organizations to establish collection spots.

“We’re working on gathering some additional donation sites in Iowa City, because we’re running through the glasses we’re collecting,” she said. “I’ve been sending them out whenever the requests

come in. We just met last weekend and we kind of exhausted the current ones we have here.”

Jeff Lynch has presented his nonprofit model at several professional conferences in the past year, including the Unite for Sight Global Health and Innovation Conference at Yale University, and said the idea has been well received. While it won’t replace the larger established eyeglasses redistribution organizations anytime soon, Lynch said his charity has the potential to grow as the Internet becomes more accessible globally.

Lynch said that for millions of people who don’t have the means to buy them, the right pair of glasses can make a dramatic difference.

“It does have a significant impact on education, employment opportunities, productivity and just general quality of life,” he said. “Eyeglasses are among the most cost-effective interventions we have in health care.”

Reach Josh O’Leary at 887-5415 or joleary@press-citizen.com.

2012 Emmys



Claire Danes, right, presents the award for outstanding supporting actor in a drama series to Aaron Paul for “Breaking Bad” at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards.

JOHN SHEARER/INVISION/AP

‘Homeland’ earns best drama Emmy

By Lynn Elber

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — “Homeland,” which puts the battle against terrorism on American soil, was honored as best drama series at Sunday’s Emmys and earned trophies for stars Claire Danes and Damian Lewis. “Modern Family” was named best comedy.

The drama “Homeland” stopped “Mad Men” in its tracks, denying the show a record-setting fifth trophy and kept Bryan Cranston from his fourth consecutive best drama award for “Breaking Bad” and “Mad Men” star Jon Hamm an also-ran once more.

The Emmys refused to play it predictably Sunday, with Jon Cryer of “Two and a Half Men” earning a best actor award and Jimmy Kimmel proving a game but uneven host.

“I’m one of those pesky Brits, I apologize,” said Lewis, who plays an American in the espionage thriller.

“I don’t really believe in judging art, but I thought I’d show up just in case.”

Danes, eye-catching in a bright yellow dress that gracefully draped the pregnant actress, was effusive.

“My husband, my love, my life, my baby daddy, this doesn’t mean anything without you,” she said to her spouse, actor Hugh Dancy.

Aaron Paul won best supporting drama actor for “Breaking Bad” and “Homeland” won the best writing award.

“Thank you so much for not killing me off,” Paul said of his drug-dealing character’s lucky survival.



Aaron Paul accepts the award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for “Breaking Bad.” JOHN SHEARER/INVISION/AP

THE WINNERS

Winners at Sunday’s 64th annual Primetime Emmy Awards presented by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences include:

Supporting Actor, Comedy Series: Eric Stonestreet, “Modern Family,” ABC.

Writing, Comedy Series: Louis C.K., “Louie.”

Supporting Actress, Comedy Series: Julie Bowen, “Modern Family,” ABC.

Directing, Comedy Series: Steven Levitan, “Modern Family,” ABC.

Actor, Comedy Series: Jon Cryer, “Two and a Half Men,” CBS.

Actress, Comedy Series: Julia Louis-Dreyfus, “Veep,” HBO.

Reality-Competition Program: “The Amazing Race,” CBS.

Host, Reality-Competition Program: Tom Bergeron, “Dancing With the Stars,” ABC.

Supporting Actor, Drama Series: Aaron Paul, “Breaking Bad,” AMC.

Supporting Actress, Drama Series: Maggie Smith, “Downton Abbey,” PBS.



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Housing

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ing members, households must make a nonrefundable capital investment of \$1,000.

Six people have already done so, but another 12 people regularly attend the group’s meetings and have shown interest in joining, Iowa City Cohousing member Del Holland said.

The room Sunday primarily was filled with middle-aged and older adults, and Bailey said one of the challenges will be to attract a younger generation, which potentially could be done through down-pay-

ment assistance from the city.

“We want kids around,” she said.

Holland countered that he’s confident young people will come once things are up and running.

“I think it’s definitely a Field of Dreams thing,” he said.

“We build it and they’ll come.”

Fellow member Ann Tompkins said that the gray hair is what makes Cohousing members able to invest in such a project.

“We’re in a position to take a bigger risk,” she said.

Reach Tara Bannow at tbannow@press-citizen.com or 887-5418.

Kalona Fall Festival is Friday, Saturday

The Kalona Fall Festival will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Kalona Historical Village.

Included in the weekend’s festivities are Spinning Through Time, a spinning wheel demonstration by Emily Roberts; blacksmithing, antique sales, chain saw artistry, music, wine-tasting and a talent contest. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 7-12. Children younger than 6 are free.



Club Hancher RETURNS TO The Mill WITH 2 can't-miss BANDS!

Stew & The Negro Problem
Thursday, September 27, 7:30 and 10 pm
Iowa City will be in the spotlight as the band performs songs Stew and Heidi Rodewald have written about the community.

Ti-Coca & Wanga-Nègès
Friday, October 5, 7:30 and 10 pm
Masters of Haiti's acoustic troubadour tradition, this band is "a loose-limbed, rootsy treat" (BBC Music).

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