

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2008

NEWSPAPER • **DI** DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

SPORTS



Maddux to retire

The player with more victories than any living pitcher announced on Monday that he's retiring after more than two decades and more than 350 wins. **1B**

Hawks ready to face UNI

Iowa plays the first of two straight at Carver-Hawkeye Arena against in-state foes when it battles Northern Iowa tonight. **1B**

NEWS

Fresh coat

Three years of work are finally unveiled in Wetherby Park. **2A**

Civics education

Officials express jubilation, and a little frustration, when - after some anticipation - the tabulation returned on Iowa's new same-day voter registration. **2A**

The long keys of the law

Police prepare for home checks with many locals traveling over the holidays and snowbirds leaving for warmer climes. **4A**

ARTS & CULTURE

Potter prints come to Iowa

Mary GrandPré, who illustrated all seven of the *Harry Potter* books, shares her work at an exclusive Iowa exhibit. **7A**

OPINIONS

Paying students for good grades

The Chicago public-school system has instituted a program that gives students cash for good grades. Much as students like it, it's simply the wrong approach. **6A**

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For photos, videos, audio, blogs, and more, check us out online.

Daily updates

Now check back at dailyiowan.com during the day for the latest news on the UI and Iowa City.

DAILY IOWAN TV

To watch Daily Iowan TV, go online at dailyiowan.com or tune into *UIV*. The 15-minute newscast is on Sunday through Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., with reruns at 12:30 and 1:30 a.m. and 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. the following day.

Today's webcast

Learn where salt for local streets is coming from and hear what Shonn Greene thinks about being a Doak Walker finalist.

WEATHER

32 °C 12 °F
 Cloudy, blustery winds, almost 100% chance of rain/snow; then wind chills near 0 at night.

INDEX

Arts **7A** Opinions **6A**
 Classifieds **4B** Sports **1B**
 Crossword **6B**

MARRIAGE case opens



Amy (left) and Cynthia Woodhouse chat while fixing dinner in their Iowa City home on Monday. The couple's marriage is recognized by their church but not by the state government.

Oral arguments are expected today in the state's Supreme Court gay-marriage case.

By **LAUREN SIEBEN**
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Amy and Cyndy Woodhouse held their wedding ceremony in May, but the two are already planning a second marriage — one that would be legally recognized by the state of Iowa.

May 29, and Cyndy, 28, held their wedding ceremony at the Coralville Marriott with roughly 35 close family and friends. A friend of Amy and Cyndy's was ordained online and officiated the wedding, which featured numerous "flower kids" rather than a single conventional flower girl and a break for dinner at Old Chicago before returning to the Marriott for an evening reception.

The Woodhouses had the wedding they wanted, but they still lack the legal benefits of marriage that only come with a state-issued marriage license — a license that has been denied



Cynthia Woodhouse carries one of her cats out of the den, in which a rainbow flag is prominently displayed, on Monday. Woodhouse and her partner are open about their relationship and consider themselves very much a part of mainstream culture.

to same-sex couples in Iowa.

Gay couples across Iowa are closely following *Varnum v. Brien*, the Iowa Supreme Court case that challenges the state's ban on same-sex marriage. The two sides will present their arguments today.

Tax benefits, insurance benefits, and financial security are points of anxiety and concern for Amy, who worries what will hap-

pen if she or Cyndy suddenly died. "Let's say [Cyndy] died tomorrow — I'm not on the deed of the house, so I would lose my home," Amy said. "That's pretty scary to me."

Aside from financial benefits, the Woodhouses also believe legalized same-sex marriage would substantiate their marriage on a social level.

SEE MARRIAGE, 3A

Same-sex marriage by the years

A time line of gay-marriage legislation in the U.S. and in Iowa.

November 2003 — Massachusetts legalizes same-sex marriage.

December 2006 — Lambda Legal files lawsuit in 5th District Court in Polk County on the behalf of six same-sex couples (*Varnum v. Brien*).

August 2007 — 5th District Judge Robert Hanson legalizes same-sex marriage for several hours before issuing a stay to delay granting marriage licenses until the Iowa Supreme Court decides whether to hear an appeal.

August 2007 — One couple, Tim and Sean McQuillan, become first and only legally married gay couple in Iowa.

May 2008 — California legalizes same-sex marriage.

October 2008 — Connecticut legalizes same-sex marriage.

November 2008 — Prop 8 in California reverses legalization of gay marriage in California.

Today — The Iowa Supreme Court hears oral arguments in *Varnum v. Brien*.

ON THE WEB

To see a photo slide show with audio of Cyndy and Amy Woodhouse, visit dailyiowan.com.

SEE MARRIAGE, 3A

UISG wants east bus

The UI Student Government hopes to extend the Cambus route into some residential areas by the spring semester.

By **Melanie Kucera**
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The familiar rumble of a yellow campus fixture may venture into the relatively new territory in Iowa City.

The UI Student Government wants to create a Cambus route that would run through the area east of the campus — an area heavily dominated with sorority houses and students living off-campus.

"Our main issue is safety and that students are being provided with a safe alternative to walking in the dark by themselves home," said UISG President Maison Bleam, noting that the initiative was on his campaign platform.

UISG members chose the area because it has been the location of many sexual assaults and has poor lighting, he said. The initiative would come out of Bleam's presidential budget and would cost \$15,000 for its first year of operation.

Though all the details are still being worked on, he said, officials would like to have the bus run Friday and Saturday from approximately



Bleam
 UISG President

SEE BUS, 4A

ON DAILY IOWAN TV
 Hear more from Campus officials on UISG President Maison Bleam's proposal on dailyiowan.com.

ON THE WEB
 To see extra footage of Cambus and the possibility of extending its routes, visit dailyiowan.com.

Researcher remembered for passion

By **KELLI SHAFFNER**
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James Graf remembers that when his mother would come home from proofreading research papers, she often told him a story or fact she had learned about the brain.

He loved hearing those stories, he said, and he would be impressed later when he saw them in newspaper headlines.

This interest in education was something James Graf's mother,

UI researcher Nancy Graf, was passionate about.

Nancy Graf was driving back from a weekend spent working on her master's degree in La Crosse, Wis., when she crashed Sunday near Decorah, Iowa, and died. She was 60.

"She was a good example for lifelong education," James Graf said about the "industrious, hard-working woman."

Nancy Graf was born in St. Paul, Minn. She grew up with a single mother and three sisters.

"She always looked up to her mother," James Graf said, and that may have been where she got her strong, independent, and compassionate characteristics.

Miriam Landsman, a friend and the executive director of the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practices at the UI, said Nancy Graf was a "very maternal, caring person."

Nancy Graf worked at the center for about seven years after she finished her bachelor's at the University of St. Thomas

in 1998.

She attended but didn't graduate from the College of St. Catherine in Minnesota from 1966-1969. She met her husband, William Graf, at the nearby University of St. Thomas.

They married and moved to Iowa City in the 1970s, when he was hired by the UI.

"Everyone who knew her was very touched" by her,

SEE GRAF, 3A

Nancy Graf

Age: 60
Family: Married to William Graf, with four children and two grandchildren
Hometown: St. Paul, Minn.
Work: Researcher for UI National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practices
Education: Bachelor's degree in applied sociology from the College of St. Catherine and the University of St. Thomas

Iowa site of gay-marriage fight

Researcher recalled

MARRIAGE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"Nobody chooses to be a member of a marginalized social class," said Cyndy, who teaches English and coaches the debate team at West High. "Just having the social recognition aside from the legal benefits would be tremendous."

Varnum v. Brien stems from a lawsuit filed in 2005 by Lambda Legal — a national group that defends members of the gay community in select cases — against Polk County recorder Timothy Brien on behalf of six same-sex couples.

Fifth District Judge Robert Hanson ruled a ban on gay marriage unconstitutional Aug. 31, 2007, legalizing same-sex marriage in the state for several hours before issuing a stay to delay granting marriage licenses until the Iowa Supreme Court decided whether to hear an appeal.

One couple from Ames, Tim and Sean McQuillan, married within a few hours of the judge's decision. The two are the only legally married same-sex couple in the state.

Iowa currently operates under the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which says states are not required to acknowledge same-sex relationships as marriage, even if the couple is legally married in another state.

Iowans won't get a court decision for several weeks at an "absolute minimum" said Ann Estlin, a UI professor of family law.

Supreme Court decisions determining the legality of same-sex marriage in other states have been sharply divided and are a point of concern for proponents of Iowa's Defense of Marriage Act. Massachusetts, California, and Connecticut Supreme Courts all legalized gay marriage by a 4-3 majority.

"If you're changing the definition of an institution like marriage by a vote of 4-3, what does that do to society?" said Michael Manno, a West Des Moines attorney who wrote a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the appellants. "What does that tell a democratic society?"

Camilla Taylor, Lambda Legal senior staff attorney for the six same-sex couples, said she is confident the Iowa Supreme Court will affirm Hanson's 2007 decision.

"I think Iowa has a very broad, unique definition of equality and liberty under its state constitution," she said. "Iowa has a broader protection under its state Constitution than the federal Constitution."

State attorney Michael O'Meara declined to comment on the pending case.

Connecticut in October became most recent U.S. state to legalize same-sex marriage. Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same-sex marriage after a 2004 Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts ruling said limiting marriage to a union solely between heterosexual couples was unconstitutional. Cal-



Cyndy (right) and Amy Woodhouse hold hands at their wedding ceremony in May. A friend of the couple got ordained online to officiate at the wedding.



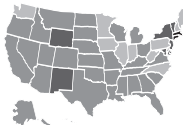
Cyndy (left) and Amy Woodhouse walk arm-in-arm at their wedding ceremony. The couple is currently denied a state-issued marriage license. Arguments will be presented today in the Iowa Supreme Court in *Varnum v. Brien*, which challenges the state's ban on same-sex marriage.

Up to the states

While 30 states have adopted marriage amendments, only five remain without a statute or constitutional amendment prohibiting same-sex marriage.

Breakdown by state

- States with legislative ban
- States with constitutional ban
- States without explicit ban
- States allowing same-sex marriage



Source: domawatch.org
Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

ifornia followed briefly in May 2008 after the state's Supreme Court overturned a ban on gay marriage, but the passage of Proposition 8 on Nov. 4 effectively reversed the decision.

Gay-rights activists have since protested the decision, and supporters held a rally on Nov. 15 in cities across the United States.

Even if the Iowa Supreme Court legalizes same-sex marriage, Taylor said, the possibility of a ballot initiative similar to Proposition 8 remains a concern.

"If Iowans vote discrimination into their Constitution, then that would obviously roll back the position that we're speaking," she said. "I'm confident Iowans will not do that ... I think (they) are uniquely sympathetic to the struggles of Iowa families and have a very strong sense that government needs to treat everybody fairly."

Sen. Joe Balkcom, D-Iowa City said he supports same-sex marriage in Iowa and would be surprised if legislators attempt to bring a proposition banning gay marriage to the ballots if the Supreme Court legalizes it.

"I think that with progressive majorities in the House and Senate, it's going to be very difficult to get that to a vote," he said.

But some senators against legalizing same-sex marriage, including Jeff Angelo, R-Creston, argue that defining marriage should be "left with legislators acting according to the will of the people."

"Many of the Democrats in the Legislature voted for the original marriage law in the first place," he said. "I believe that the votes would be there to put a constitutional amendment (banning same-sex marriage) on the ballot."

Proposition 8 also instigated some grass-roots political groups to take action, including One Iowa, a statewide organization working for full equality for gays and lesbians.

"We're really focused on winning the hearts and minds of Iowans across the state," said Justin Uebelhoer, the One Iowa director of communications. "If we win the case, we want to make sure gay and lesbian couples keep that right to marry."

There has been no shortage of local support for the plaintiffs — 15 history and law professors from Iowa colleges and universities, including 12 from the UI, signed a friend-of-the-court brief on the behalf of the plaintiffs that "chronicles the state's devotion to the principles of equality and individual liberty." The authors cite Iowa's admission of the first woman to law school and early abolitionist stance on slavery as two of many instances when Iowans have supported inclusion of all people.

"Are Iowans inherently progressive? No," said Linda Kerber, a UI history professor who signed the brief. "We have had the great good fortune of having some of our predecessors who fought carefully and progressively about the practice of equality, and they left for us precedents that other states don't necessarily have."

Despite Iowa's history of accepting a marginalized group, Center spokesman Bryan English said legalizing same-sex marriage would result in both financial and social consequences for Iowa residents.

"If we're going to start giving (financial) benefits to whoever, there are real costs to the state," he said, declining to provide examples of potential social consequences.

English, like Sen. Angelo, believes a state decision on same-sex marriage belongs in the hands of legislators, not the Iowa Supreme Court.

"We have a Defense of Marriage Act. It's gone through the legislative process," English said. "The legislative body in Iowa has spoken, the governor has signed it, it is law. That's the process."

Given the amount of buzz over the case, the Iowa Supreme Court is anticipating a packed courtroom for the arguments, which are scheduled for 10 a.m. today. The American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa said it is looking at how to best accommodate spectators despite limited seating, and One Iowa is hosting Oral Argument Watch Parties in Des Moines, Ames, and Iowa City, where the group hopes to provide live feeds of the arguments.

The Woodhouses, who said they are considering attending the Iowa City watch party, have already filled out their marriage documents in case the court rules in their favor. Cyndy said, "If (gay marriage) is legalized in Iowa, within hours we're probably going to be in Des Moines."

GRAF

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Landsman said, "She was someone who worked very well with people in the community and on staff."

Landsman said Nancy Graf did everything from analyzing data to teaching people how to collect information. She also worked on several different research topics, such as adolescent pregnancy prevention.

James Graf said his mother worked on and off while he was growing up, but when neighbor Sally Dierks met her, she was a pregnant stay-at-home mother across the street — the same as Dierks.

"When you live across the street from people for 20 years, they're such a part of your life," Dierks said. "She always had a smile, was interested in what people were doing, and always had time to listen."

A visitation is scheduled for Thursday from 3-8 p.m., and a funeral will be held on Friday at 10 a.m. St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 405 N. Riverside Drive, will host the services.

Nancy Graf made several prayer shawls for St. Thomas More, with which she was known to be strongly involved.

"Nancy touched a lot of areas in the community," Dierks said. "A lot of people at the university, in her neighborhood, and in her church."

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