UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

IOWA MATH MONTHLY

Issue No. 2 – November 2026

CAMPUS VISITORS







October brought thousands of visitors from around the country to Iowa City, Iowa and the University of Iowa Campus!

University of Iowa alumna and current WNBA Indiana Fever player Caitlin Clark released her signature shoe with Nike, the Caitlin 1, in a four-day launch event taking place on the streets of downtown Iowa City.

ESPN's College Gameday and the Pat McAfee show visited during the same week to cover the Hawkeye football team's matchup with the Ohio State Buckeyes.

These events alone brought over 200,000 visitors from 38 different states to the streets of downtown Iowa City (source). ESPN reported that the Iowa City College GameDay episode also broke records: the most-watched October episode of game day ever, the most-watched episode of this college football season, the third-most-watched regular season episode of College GameDay ever, and over 3.7 million viewers in the last hour of the show, which exceeds the number of viewers of other pre-game shows that day by over 215% (source).

The program also featured the first Big Ten school in the College GameDay series, giving universities like Iowa a chance to showcase the unique experiences, traditions, and sense of community that make attending a Midwestern university so special.

Together, these events put Iowa City and the University of Iowa in the national spotlight, showcasing the energy, pride, and community that make our campus such a special place to live, learn, and work. From athletics and national recognition to the traditions that bring people together, October was a powerful reminder of the impact the University of Iowa has both on campus and far beyond it.

WANT TO BE FEATURED?

Do you have something to say? Does someone in the department deserve a 'kudos'? Do you have a cute pet? Submissions are always welcome and encouraged! Please complete the form linked below to be featured:

https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9srqrJtf2ng7AtE



Photo source: Samantha DeFily

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CELEBRATING HOMECOMING & HALLOWEEN



The Department of Mathematics entered the University's homecoming office decorating competition! This year's theme was Herky's Haunted Homecoming. The Academic Advising Center was this year's winning office!

The Department also ended homecoming week with a ~~bang~~ BOOm: a Halloween costume contest! The photo speaks for itself 👻



Photo source: Lauren Collins

KUDOS CORNER

Awards

Recent AMCS grad **Ziqing Lu** received the Best Thesis Award from the UI Applied Mathematics and Computational Sciences program for her dissertation titled *Adversarial Robustness of Reinforcement Learning Systems*. To read more about her research, check out this news item!

Current Math graduate student **Ian Ramsey** received a prestigious U.S. Department of Energy Research award. Ian will be conducting research on his project titled *Generative AI-Based Data Assimilation for Predicting Non-Gaussian and Nonlinear Dynamical Systems* at Oak Ridge National Laboratory early next year as part of the award.

NEW FACES

Two new undergraduate office assistants joined the department. Be sure to say 'hi' to Avery and Reese on your next trip to the mail room!





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