Leland Smith's peripheral vision isn't affected by Stargardt disease, which is why he runs close to the wall.

Watch him stand at the opening of the track, listening to determine how busy it is.

Then, watch him gently place his white cane on the floor, seconds before taking his first step onto the track.

Smith is blind.

Smith, junior in bioinformatics and computational biology, has Stargardt disease, which is why he describes it, “an old person eye condition at a young age.”

Stargardt disease is a juvenile form of macular degeneration caused by a reduction of photoreceptor cells in the middle of the retina. It’s estimated that one in 8,000 to 10,000 people have the condition.

Smith was born sighted, but began losing his vision one in 8,000 to 10,000 people have the condition.

Stargardt disease does not slow Leland Smith

He’s shaggy, dirty blonde hair bounces with each long stride. His fists swing consistently between his hips and chest.

His breathing is controlled, inhaling and exhaling every few steps.

He is displaying proper track etiquette, running along the inside of the track, right up next to the wall. He’s looking straight ahead at the track in front of him, eyes wide open.

But look a little closer, before he steps onto the track.

Watch how he climbs the stairs up to the second level of State Gym with ease.

With Wigginton’s return, the sophomore-to-be will be expected to shoulder a good chunk of the offensive scoring load. Wigginton averaged a team-high 16.9 points per game and has been the team’s leading scorer over 92 times in his freshman season. Wigginton turned the ball over 92 times in his freshman season (to compare, Nick Weiler-Babb was second on the team with 55 turnovers).

He’s strong from the charity stripe, Wigginton hit 66 percent of his free throws.

Weaknesses in Wigginton’s game can be found in turnovers and at the free throw line. Wigginton has piqued the interest of some draft experts, finding himself at No. 28 in NBADraft.net’s 2019 mock draft, and No. 32 in ESPN’s first 2019 mock draft. It’s safe to say the Cyclone guard has a lot to gain in the upcoming season.

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Subscriptions are $62

Some of the attractions included food trucks, live music, face painting, a petting zoo and a beer garden.
Primary elections for the 2018 midterms will be held on Tuesday. Elections will determine the candidates for governor, the US House of Representatives, the Iowa Secretary of State and the Iowa Secretary of Agriculture.

How to Vote
Tuesday’s election will be the first one in which Secretary of State Paul Pate’s “voter integrity” bill will be in effect. The bill, House File 516, was officially signed into law by Gov. Branstad shortly before he left his position in 2017.

Voters will now be required to present either their Iowa driver’s license, their Iowa non-operator identification or their voter identification card at the polls. If a person’s current address does not match the address on their driver’s license, they will be required to present a residential lease, property tax statement, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document dated within forty-five days prior to election day.

If any person sees or suspects illegal activity at the polls, they are encouraged to fill out the Voter Hotline Form online or call 1-888-SOS-VOTE.

Where to Vote
Voting locations are assigned by precinct. There are 20 precincts in Ames and an additional 23 throughout Story County.

A voter’s assigned precinct will be displayed on their voter identification card. The Secretary of State’s website also has a tool to help voters find their precinct and polling locations.

Who’s on the Ballot
For Governor
On the Republican primary ballot, Gov. Kim Reynolds is unopposed.

There are six contenders on the democratic ballot. Sen. Nate Boulton’s name does appear on the ballot, however. Boulton withdrew from the race on May 24, following allegations of sexual misconduct.

The five remaining contenders on the ballot are Fred Hubbell, Cathy Glasson, John Norris, Andy McGuire and Ross Wilburn.

The candidates participated in a series of three debates on May 13, May 16 and May 30. Fred Hubbell is a longtime business man and advocate in the Des Moines community. In the past, he has served as chairman of the Iowa Power Fund, interim director of the Iowa Department of Economic Development, chairman of Younkers, president of the insurance company Equitable of Iowa and is on the board of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. Hubbell’s platform focuses on education, healthcare, the environment and workers’ rights.

Cathy Glasson is a union leader and former intensive care nurse. Throughout the race, she has described herself as the “bold progressive” and a political outsider. Glasson’s campaign centers around implementing a universal healthcare system, raising Iowa’s minimum wage to $15 per hour and increasing Iowa workers’ access to unions.

John Norris has served as the state director of the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition, the Iowa Democratic Party chair, Gov. Vilsack’s Chief of Staff, Chair of the Iowa Utilities Board and Chief of Staff at the United States Department of Agriculture.

Andy McGuire is politically most well known as former chair of the Iowa Democratic Party, but she often speaks to her experience as a medical doctor in her qualifications for governor. Throughout her campaign, McGuire has highlighted the need for reform in Iowa’s mental health care system. Her platform focuses on healthcare reform, strengthening schools and creating well-paying jobs.

Former Iowa City Mayor Ross Wilburn has served the Director of Equity for the Iowa City Community School District and the Executive Director of the Crisis Center of Johnson County. He currently works at Iowa State University as the Diversity Officer and Assistant Program Director for Community and Economic Development for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Wilburn’s “Let’s be Iowa” campaign emphasizes the need for healthcare and education reform as well as a governor who keeps inclusivity in mind.

There are also two libertarians, Marco Battaglia of Des Moines and Jake Porter of Council Bluffs, running for governor. They held one debate in November of 2017.

Porter, former Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Iowa, runs a campaign focused on three key issues: mass incarceration, corporate welfare and fiscal irresponsibility. Within his first 100 days, Porter promises to restore felons’ voting rights, form a committee to examine and eventually commute sentences for “any and all prisoners held only for victimless crimes such as marijuana possession,” begin forming a plan to phase out Iowa sales tax and work with the legislature on an updated, comprehensive, medical cannabis bill.

Battaglia, a radio journalist and active member of the state and national libertarian parties, runs a campaign focused on medical, agricultural and economic freedom. He sees these freedoms manifesting through the legalization of medical cannabis and hemp farming and a complete phase out of the state income tax. Battaglia’s campaign also puts a strong emphasis on the importance of mental health.

For U.S. House of Representatives Fourth District
Incumbent Rep. Steve King will face Dr. Cyndi Hanson of Sioux City on the republican side of the primary.

King, a Storm Lake native, has represented Iowa in Congress since 2002. He currently serves in the judiciary, agriculture and small business committees. King has made waves in recent years as a proponent of immigration reform and as a pro-life advocate.

Hanson has run a campaign focused on what being an Iowan means. She has

Norris has served as the State Director of the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition, the Iowa Democratic Party chair, Gov. Vilsack’s Chief of Staff, Chair of the Iowa Utilities Board and Chief of Staff at the United States Department of Agriculture.
emphasized the importance of agriculture and fiscal responsibility as being necessary to Iowa's success. She also believes it is "time to bring an end to career politicians."

Hanson states on her website, "Our current representative has forgotten who he represents."

There are three contenders on the democratic ballot: J.D. Scholten of Sioux City, Paul Pate, R-Des Moines, and Deidre Jacobson of Spencer. All three candidates participated in a public forum held at Iowa State earlier this year.

Scholten, a former professional baseball player, lists three goals on his campaign website: create new opportunities for Iowa's middle class, ensure access to healthcare for all Iowans and put Iowa values back at the center of public service.

John Paschen has served as president of the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention and Education Council and is currently the chairman of the Story County Board of Health. Paschen's campaign focuses on setting partisan politics aside to unite Iowans, as well as improving healthcare.

Jacobson founded both Capitol Gains, a financial firm focused on business, economic development, arts and culture, and child welfare and Iowa Women in Public Policy, an organization that encourages women to engage in public office. Jacobson's campaign emphasizes improving education, as well as improving healthcare.

Craig Lang of Brooklyn and Sen. Dan Zumbach of Ryan.

For Iowa Secretary of Agriculture
Incumbent Mike Naig of Des Moines faces four challengers on the republican primary ballot for Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture. Naig was appointed to the position in March when his predecessor, Bill Northey, was selected to serve as USDA Undersecretary. Prior to his appointment, Naig served as Northey's deputy secretary.

Gaesser, originally from Indiana, has served as President of the Iowa Soybean Association and Chairman and President of the American Soybean Association. He runs a four point platform of maintaining stewardship while increasing profitability, open doors of trade, "long term policies and innovative practices," and ensuring food safety without infringing on farmers' rights.

Ingels is a fourth generation hog farmer from Fayette County who has also worked with ISU Extension and Outreach to improve water quality around the state. He has also served on the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission, the American Farm Bureau Water Advisory Committee, the West Central School Board, as the District Director for the Iowa Association of School Boards, and on the parent advisory committee for the National Commission for Social, Emotional and Academic Development. The focus of Ingels's goals as Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture would be working with Iowa farmers to ensure water quality.

Lang, a fifth generation farmer, has served as president of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation and of the Iowa Board of Regents. On his campaign website, alongside aspirations to bring together the public and private sector, rural and urban Iowans and business and farm interests, Lang lists three clear goals: cleaner water, healthier soils and a stronger rural economy.

Sen. Zumbach currently represents Iowa's 48th district at the statehouse. He chairs the agriculture committee and serves on appropriations, commerce, legislative council and transportation committees.

Democrat Tim Gannon of Des Moines is unopposed in his party's primary.  

Uncontested Primaries  

Primaries are also being held for the Iowa Senate and the Iowa House of Representatives and several additional state offices. However, none of the races in Ames districts will depend on primary outcomes.

Incumbent Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell, D-Ames, who represents House District 45, is also unopposed in the primary. In the general election, she will face Ben Brown, R-Ames.

Rep. Lisa Evans, D-Ames, is the incumbent for House District 46 and will run unopposed in both the primary and general elections.

State Auditor Mary Mosiman, R-Ames, is the unopposed incumbent in her primary. She will face Rob Sand, D-Des Moines, in the general election.

Both incumbents, State Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald, D-Waukee, and Attorney General Tom Miller, D-Des Moines, are running unopposed in both the primary and the general election.
The “Big Four” in sports refers to the four largest American sports leagues. These are the MLB, the NBA, the NFL, and the NHL. A Big Four sports team is an incredibly coveted prize for any city. Unfortunately, Iowa will never get its own Big Four sports team.

Iowa is no stranger to success in sports. Take football for example: the University of Iowa has had sustained success and Iowa State’s incredible 2017 season, which ended in a Liberty Bowl win over the University of Memphis, won coach Matt Campbell the Big 12 Coach of the Year award.

Unfortunately, hostings a dominant sports franchise your allegiance? Teams in the Big Four are all quite well-established, after all. Fans have settled for a team and support is stable.

As much as I’d get a kick out of hearing Iowa State football players celebrate their 21-20 win over Memphis by ringing the Liberty Bell trophy after the 59th Annual AutoZone Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tennessee on Dec. 30, 2017.

No ‘Big Four’ team for Iowa
BY ASHWIN YEDAVALLI
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Des Moines is the largest city in Iowa, boasting a population of just over 200,000. The only city hosting a Big Four team with a population less than Des Moines is Green Bay, Wis., home of the NFL’s Green Bay Packers. The Packers, though, are one of the NFL’s original teams and have had the same name and location since it was founded. History is on its side, and it can also count on both financial and fan support from nearby Milwaukee.

However, while fan support is certainly present in Des Moines, the finances, TV and corporate ticket incentives are not. If Green Bay never had the Packers and tried to lobby for a Big Four team, they would have no chance. A corporate sponsorship base is also vital. Des Moines can claim Wells Fargo and Principal as significant presences, but the level of support needed is simply not present. While it could be argued that a Des Moines area team would also draw in support from the large Omaha, Neb.-Council Bluffs, Iowa area, it is too far for their businesses to support as a regional entity.

Thus, Des Moines’s market is too small to sustain a large franchise.

It is also important to note that there are a plethora of other cities that franchises may look into first before thinking about Des Moines. Austin, Texas, Louisville, Ky., Birmingham, Ala., or Omaha itself are all more attractive destinations than Des Moines.

The relative size of those cities, as well as the surrounding teams in Minneapolis, Chicago, Kansas City, Mo., and St. Louis, further lower the chances of Iowa getting a big team.

We do not have a shortage of sports talent — quite the contrary, in fact. Former Cyclone basketball coach Fred Hoiberg proudly represents Iowa in the NBA as the head coach of the Chicago Bulls. Iowa also brings a lot of talent for our competitive college sports teams as well as the state’s minor league and independent league teams.

Some of these minor league and independent league players have gone on to be stars for their respective major league franchises. A prime example is former Iowa Barnstormers quarterback Kurt Warner, who went on to win a Super Bowl with the St. Louis Rams.

Ask yourself, though, if Iowa were to host a Big Four team, would you give the fledging franchise your allegiance? Teams in the Big Four are all quite well-established, after all. Fans have settled for a team and support is stable.

As much as I’d get a kick out of hearing Iowa State is home to many high-caliber athletes who always showcase their passion and talent in every game, match, race and bout. While we may not be able to share our love of a Big Four team in Iowa, we can take part of our school pride. We shout “Go Cyclones!” from the stands and sidelines.

Handle artificial intelligence with care
BY ZACHARYM ASS
@Iowastatedaily.com

Artificial intelligence will revolutionize the world. Many have heard of terms related to it like machine learning, neural networks and data mining. Besides the computer scientists and engineers that are developing these technologies, though, very few completely understand what they mean.

This new technology will have a tremendous impact on the lives of all people in the future. It is, therefore, vital for people to understand how they will be affected.

Google recently held its annual Google I/O developer conference near its headquarters in sunny Mountain View, Calif.

While the company showed off innovations on its already existing products like the new Android P version of its popular smartphone operating system and improved walking directions for Google Maps, the showstopper was something we had never seen before: a new service called Google Duplex.

Duplex is an artificial intelligence system which calls restaurants, hair salons, mechanics and other businesses to book reservations for you without interacting with anyone at the business.

When calling on your behalf, Duplex is able to respond quickly and ask new questions based on the information given to it.

While we have yet to see Duplex in the real world, a beta version is coming this summer. A demo reveals how close artificial intelligence systems are to becoming indistinguishable from interactions with humans.

As for the consumers that support the companies who are developing these technologies, we have a chance to influence this exciting new advancement. We can only do that, though, if we are fully informed.
Women’s soccer releases fall 2018 schedule

BY NOAH.ROHLFING
@iowastatedaily.com

The Iowa State women’s soccer team released its 2018 schedule on Wednesday, and head coach Tony Minniti’s squad will once again face a tough schedule.

Iowa State finished last season with a 1-12-3 record, but the season was tainted by countless injuries to key contributors.

The Cyclones have many key contributors returning, including junior attacking midfielder Hannah Cade and senior winger Brooke Tasker.

Opening the season with home games against South Dakota State and Missouri (on Aug. 17 and Aug. 19, respectively), the Cyclones then go on the road to play four straight road games against Northwestern, Purdue, Denver and Colorado (the latter two teams were NCAC Tournament qualifiers in 2017).

The Iowa Corn Cy-Hawk game against Iowa will take place on Sept. 7 at Ames.

The Cyclones’ first conference game is on Sept. 21, when Iowa State will play at TCU.

Iowa State faces four home games and five road games in conference play, ending the season with a home game against Kansas State on Oct. 25.

Minniti said in a press release that the Cyclones “gained valuable experience from last year and will be able to draw from that this season.”

“We are looking forward to another challenging non-conference schedule,” Minniti said.

Former Cyclone Arozamena misses cut at U.S. Women’s Open

BY NOAH.ROHLFING
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Former Cyclone women’s golfer Celia Barquin Arozamena finished the second round of the U.S. Women’s Open on Saturday morning and improved on her first-round score in the process.

However, it was not enough for the Spaniard to make the weekend.

Play had been suspended Friday afternoon due to inclement weather, and golf resumed at 6:45 a.m. Saturday. Arozamena had finished 11 holes on Friday, leaving her seven holes to make the 4-over-par cut.

Arozamena started play Saturday on the third hole, and she bogeyed the par-5 to fall back to 9-over-par.

After a par on the fourth hole, Arozamena birdied the par-3 fifth to get back to +8.

Following pars on the next two holes, Arozamena birdied the eighth hole to move up to +7, but she wasn’t able to make up the ground she need-
ed. Arozamena finished the second round with a 3-over-par 75.

Arozamena finished her two rounds three strokes over the +4 cut line.

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“Smith pg1”

Stone at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Smith said Stone saw a yellowing of the retina, and then recognized it as being a sign of Stargardt’s.

Smith isn’t totally blind, though. He said his peripheral vision isn’t affected, which allows him to see things to either side but not straight on, which is why he runs so close to the wall.

“You just have to be aware of your surroundings,” Smith said.

He doesn’t usually run outdoors, because the environment is variable. Potholes, cracks, branches and curbs are a lot to memorize, he said.

Additionally, Smith longboards, kayaks, rollerblades and plays video games.

“I honestly do a lot of things,” he said. “One of the things that drives me crazy is when people say that they couldn’t handle being blind.

“What would you do if you went blind right now? Sit around your house and do nothing? It’s human nature to adapt.”

When running, Smith focuses on using his sense of hearing.

“People always make sounds,” he said. “You can hear the openings in the gym.”

And while Smith doesn’t run with his cane — because he’s “not about that life” — he uses it for just about everything else that requires navigation.

Smith chose to use a cane four years ago — the summer after graduating high school. He signed himself up what he called “blind training” at the Iowa Department of the Blind, knowing that it would save him stress in the long run.

He decided that he would spend the sum-

“Each collage has a story to tell,” said Brown. “My intent is to create bright spots of color and humor.”

Brown placed his work in his wife’s yoga studio and caught the public’s interest. Events like the ArtWalk help Brown’s art grow and reach new audiences.

The City of Ames Public Arts Commission is focused on providing art sculptures around Ames neighborhoods for no cost to the public. Artists submit their work to the commission, and then neighborhoods can apply to own the sculptures.

The commission is committed to “the creation of a visual and aesthetic environment that integrates art into the lives of Ames citizens,” said commission representative Claire Knoesel.

Thousands of people walked up and down Main Street, socializing with artists, store owners and other community members. Food trucks like “Kona Ice” and “Smiles and Gyros,” as well as the sculptures by the Ames Public Art Commission. All artists from the ArtWalk can be found on their website.

“ArtWalk pg1”

“It is summertime in Ames and [the Arts Council] wants to represent bikers in the city of Ames,” said Jennifer Beckenhafer, a representative for the Arts Council.

Throughout the night, community members could decorate four bikes that would be showcased around Main Street. These bikes were also to represent Ames as it is a stop for RAGBRAI for 2018.

In Emeling Footwear, David Brown showed his new hobby. Brown has been involved with digital illustration for over 30 years, but picked up digital collages a few months ago.

Before Leland Smith began using his white cane, he would slide his feet when approaching stairs, tentatively getting to the first step. Now, his cane finds the stairs first, so he doesn’t have to slow down and shuffle his feet anymore.

I know how to make situations fun,” Smith said. “I realized a long time ago, [being shy] is a hindrance on me. How else am I going to share my experience? It doesn’t pay to be shy.”

Sometimes though, Smith experiences the stigmas attached with being blind, like when he’s standing at a crosswalk, listening for traffic.

“They’ll automatically go for the extreme and think I’m totally blind. They’ll try to be over-helpful and will drag me across the street,” Smith said.

Or people will talk loudly when trying to get his attention.

“They see the cane and think I can’t hear either,” Smith said.

Smith said that one of the hardest things about being blind is not the blindness itself, but other people’s perceptions of what it is like to be blind.

He said people will often see the disability, but not the person.

“I’m blind, but I’m still a student, a gamer, a gym rat… all of those other identities on top of being blind,” Smith said.

And he doesn’t consider being blind to be a disability, but rather a trait.

Eventually you stop seeing [it] as a disability. It just becomes part of your life. So to go up and say, ‘I’m so sorry you’re blind or ‘I’m so sorry you have a disability, that’s really insulting,” Smith said. “That’s like saying ‘I’m sorry that you’re tall.’”

But he wouldn’t have it any other way.

“Being Leland involves being blind,” he said. “They kind of go hand in hand. You take away the blindness, and you take away a lot of what makes me pretty awesome.”

“EMILY BLOBAUM/IOWA STATE DAILY”

Leland Smith has Stargardt disease, which is a juvenile form of macular degeneration. Smith’s peripheral vision isn’t affected, but he can’t see things straight ahead.

“EMILY BLOBAUM/IOWA STATE DAILY”

“KHOI 98.1 FM radio station was at the event promoting local musicians. Inside the radio station, community members could add to the mural wall, a yearly tradition for KHOI.

“We encourage people to come in and add to [the mural],” said Gale Seiler, a volunteer for KHOI. “It is interesting to see how the mural will take shape every year.”

You can find the mural at the Fourth of July parade downtown, as well as the sculptures by the Ames Public Art Commission. All artists from the ArtWalk can be found on their website.

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There’s ‘moore’ to north Ames than the mall and several neighborhoods— that is, if you’re willing to look for it.

Tucked away in a neighborhood off of Northridge Parkway, Moore Memorial Park is home to 1.5 miles of paved trails, 16 acres of prairie grass and a 1.3 acre pond.

The park was named for Fern and Bertha Moore, who owned and operated a dairy farm northwest of Ames, according to the Ames Historical Society. Bertha Moore came to the U.S. from the Netherlands in 1914 and became a nurse. Fern Moore graduated from Iowa State in 1925, and was part of a national champion dairy judging team.

The Moore’s donated a 90 acre tract of land to the city for the park in 1987, and plans for the park were drawn up in 1988.

BY JILL O’BRIEN
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Moore Memorial Park offers large shelters with electrical outlets, grills and a paved bike path.

Want to visit Moore Memorial Park?
Here’s what’s available and what you need to know before you go:

• Basketball courts
• Covered shelters
• Nature area
• Paved bike path
• Walking path
• Playground
• Handicap accessible

Courtesy of cityofames.org.

Jethro’s BBQ

MONDAY
KIDS EAT FREE
One free kids meal with one adult purchase of $9.95 or more
$4 Lite 24 OZ TALL BOYS

TUESDAY
$3 QUARTER POUNDER STEAK BURGERS
$4 MARGARITAS AND LONG ISLANDS

WEDNESDAY
WING WEDNESDAY
SLOW SMOKED WINGS $4 A POUND

THURSDAY
1/2 PRICE BUBBA’S BONELESS WINGS
$3 Lite PINTS

SATURDAY
$9.50 32 OZ BLOODY MARY’S

SUNDAY
ALL YOU CAN EAT BRUNCH BUFFET
9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
$3 BOTTLES OF Lite

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