Local police launch respect campaign

The slogan is simple: Be a fan in the stands, not a pain in the grass.

As part of a fall campaign launched Wednesday by the Iowa State and Ames Police Departments, the two departments are hoping to extend a message of respect as fans flood Jack Trice this football season.

“This particular campaign is focused on football and game day behavior,” said Anthony Greiter, community outreach officer for the Iowa State Police Department. “We want to encourage people to not be a pain in the grass.”

“A pain in the grass” as defined by Greiter, could be someone causing problems both in and outside the stadium. That could also be through traffic or alcohol violations or general disrespectful behavior.

The campaign, with support from the Iowa State Athletics Department, also encourages fans to buy tickets to the games compared to just tailgating outside.

“We don’t want them to cause problems in the stadium, and we want them to go in the stadium to support the Cyclones and the game day experience,” Greiter said.

The main message of the campaign, Greiter said, is to be respectful. This is branching off the police department’s campaign this past spring "Donut Disrespect."

Donut Disrespect promotes being respectful to one another and of each other in an effort to better community relations and unite the city.

The Ames and Iowa State Police Departments’ event went viral after a video of Greiter and Ames community outreach officer Eric Snyder stuffing their faces with donuts.

“If we can continue that theme, and people will continue to unite, that’s our ultimate goal,” Greiter said. “The police will be releasing promotional videos about once a week and also handing out t-shirts with the slogan. In a video released Wednesday, Greiter and Snyder--decorated in Cyclone football gear--eat donuts while discussing Iowa State football coach Matt Campbell’s philosophy to raise the standard. The two hope to release the videos around big events such as the Iowa vs. Iowa State game. They’ll be quick, punch you with the facts, and then move along,” Greiter said.

Iowa State and Ames Police are hoping to also extend the message of respect to fans outside of the Cyclone realm, Greiter said, who will be visiting both the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa to raise awareness of the campaign.

“We just want people to have fun, but do it in a respectful way,” Greiter said. “That’s kind of always been our mission. We recognize that not everyone is going to be alcohol-free, drug-free and ride the straight and narrow path all the way through college, but we want to encourage people to make intelligent decisions and those intelligent decisions often reflect in a way that is respectful.”
The Center for LGBTQIA+ Student Success is rebranding themselves to better reflect their services and who they serve.

"The Center" for short, students are given a new name that better recognizes their identities while also being easier to roll off the tongue.

Formally known as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Student Services (LGBTSS), The Center made the official name change over the summer.

Clare Lemke, assistant director of The Center, said that the change has been an ongoing conversation for some time. The Center has gone through many changes throughout its history, slowly making it more inclusive to various members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

"This has really been a conversation that’s been going on for really years, longer than I’ve been here, really probably about the last 10 years," Lemke said.

The office was created in 1992, under the name Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Services. Transgender was added to the name years later, to address a wider array of LGBTQIA+ individuals who used the center.

Now with their longer acronym, The Center hopes to increase their inclusiveness even further. Lemke said that the previous name did not completely reflect the identities of the students they were serving.

"We knew we needed a name that spoke to a broader range of identities rather than LGBT," she said. "So we’re seeing students who identify in many different ways that don’t fall under that abbreviation."

LGBTQIA+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual/Agender, with the plus sign signifying any identity not represented by a letter.

LGBTQIA+ students have been giving positive feedback to the name change. She hopes that as others get used to the change, they begin to use the name comfortably so those in the community know who they are and what they stand for.

"Some of the things I’ve heard that have been positive are people like the longer abbreviation, I think people like the simplicity of calling it The Center," Lemke said. "When I tell people our new name they’re like, ‘Oh, nice!’"

The Center wants to also continue to serve students in ways they feel comfortable, whether that be in or out of their space in the Dean of Students Office. They also are working on more community building, and are looking for volunteers. To learn more about The Center, students can go to their website or stop in the Student Services building from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
One little girl taught an entire community sign language, and today she teaches on a campus of over 36,000 students.

Sandra Buchholz, lecturer of world languages and cultures, has been teaching college level American Sign Language (ASL) for 18 years, and is looking to further the opportunities for her students by proposing a minor program in ASL at Iowa State University.

“I was born deaf. I didn’t know why,” said Buchholz. “I have two hearing sisters, hearing parents, but my brother and I are deaf. My parents didn’t know that I was deaf until I was about 16 months old. Both of them are hearing so they didn’t sign. I didn’t learn until I was five years old.”

According to research done by the U.S. National Institute of Medicine, the critical language learning window is from 18 months to five years old, so learning a language so late was a challenge for Buchholz.

“I lived in Laurens, Iowa, which has a population of about 1,200,” Buchholz said. “Pretty small. So I started teaching people how to sign. Not long after, everyone in my town could sign. Everyone.”

She is a resource to the 30 to 35 hard-of-hearing or deaf students on campus, as well as sign language interpreter, Megan Johnson. But these resources are too limited, said Kody Olson, director of governmental affairs for Student Government, who is also partially deaf.

“The State of Iowa — and the U.S. in general — has a shortage of interpreters,” Olson said. “Mostly because there is no four year programs [for ASL] at the major universities. This leads to inexperienced interpreters and fewer interpreters — it really puts a chokehold on the community.”

Iowa State University offers nine classes in deaf culture and American Sign Language, however there is no major or minor program in place. According to President of the ASL Club, Jordyn Farver, this is causing people with an interest in ASL to choose not to sign up for classes, and even go so far as to transfer schools.

“Many students have come to us stating that they want to learn more and they are interested in the culture and language but they can’t spend the time on the classes because there is not a major or minor offered for ASL,” Farver said.

Farver said many students come to the club who want to learn more about ASL and are interested in the language and culture. These students either don’t take ASL courses since they do not have time, or transfer to schools that offer an ASL minor.

“My own personal goal is to take as many classes here as I can before I graduate, then transfer to a school that offers a four year program because we do not offer one,” Farver said. “We are losing many students to reasons like that, I personally know of one student who will most likely be transferring because of our lack of a program.”

Buchholz is proposing an ASL minor here at Iowa State, but for the past five years she has been unsuccessful due to low enrollment numbers for advanced level ASL courses, which as stated by Farver, is due to no major or minor program being offered.

“Ultimately we hope that the World Languages and Cultures Department, The Liberal Arts and Sciences Department and the university in general determine that ASL offerings are a significant contribution to not only our community but to our body of students,” said Buchholz.

If you are interested in ASL and getting involved, contact Jordyn Farver at jfarver@iastate.edu.
Minnesota senator Amy Klobuchar speaks to students and community members about women and their roles in leadership at the Great Hall on Aug. 31. Klobuchar came to campus as part of the Lectures Program through Iowa State. Her talk was titled “Women: Building Bridges to Get the Job Done.” She became the first woman elected to represent Minnesota in the U.S. Senate in 2006 and is currently serving her second term in office.

The Iowa State Daily welcomes comments and suggestions or complaints about errors that warrant correction. To submit a correction, send address corrections to editor@iowastatedaily.com.

The Daily is published by the Iowa State Daily Publication Board at 1:38 p.m.)

Summer sessions: The Iowa State Daily is published digitally on a daily basis.

Opinions expressed in editorials belong to the Iowa State Daily Editorial Board.

Playback: 55 Decorative isled work 56 Watchful Japanese cannnes 57 Comet Hale-__ 59 Hectic pre-dead-line period 61 Thought from lo Wolfe 62 Hayes or Hunt 63 Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame 64 Call the— as territory 65 Grade 66 Emailed 1 Musical set at the Kit Kat Club

SUDOKU BY THE MEPHAM GROUP

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold border) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Parking lot fillers 5 “Me too!”
10 Cutlass automaker 14 Nike competitor
15 Valuable violin, for short 16 Gemini or EscuA0, e.g.
17 Like the 1920s-30s, economically 18 Wild-rayed
19 Prior to, in poems 21 Enjoyed a sail, say 22 Versus melodists
24 Excellent work 25 Greek messenger of the gods
28 Japanese sash 30 Member of a flipped coin
31 2,000 pounds 32 Uncorked 34 Descendant of the gods
35 Dramatic weight-loss program 36 Greek Squad member
38 Geek Squad 40 Fireworks reaction 42 EPA-banned pesticide
45 Roger who broke Babe Ruth’s record 46 Refusals 49 Prior to in poems
50 Shadwy with a 53 “A Doll’s House” playwright
55 Emailed 60 Pince-__ glasses
56 Clearasil target 61 Eyelike openings
57 Comet Hale-__ 62 Hayes or Hunt
58 Poem that extols Japanese canines 63 Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame
59 Hectic pre-dead-line period 64 Surrender,
60 Pince-__ glasses 65 Elk
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62 Hayes or Hunt 63 Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame
63 Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame 64 Surrender,
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DOWN
1 Guacamole fruit 2 2,000 pounds
3 Tear gas weapon 4 Margaret Mead
4 Margaret Mead 5 Georgia and Latvia,
once: Abbr.
6 Horseplayer’s haunt, for short 7 19 Wild revelry
covers them 11 Conrad classic
12 Guard that barks 13 Gold____ 14 Nike competitor
13 Gold____ 15 Horse__
15 Horse__ 16 Horse__
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17 1 Musical set at the Kit Kat Club
18 Approximately 22 One-to-one student
24 Prejudec 25 Comical cry
26 Undergraduate degrees in bold, e.g. 29 Scottish hallide
33 Detective’s question 34 Sunshine cracker
35 Massachusetts city crossed by Interstates 36 Insurance covers them
37 “Please stop that” 39 Ain’t a Pang, 40 Gold____
41 Fireworks reaction 42 EPA-banned pesticide
43 “It’ll never happen!” 44 Most uptight
45 Roger who broke Babe Ruth’s record 46 Refusals
47 Many a Punjabi
48 Refusals 49 Prior to in poems
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51 Horse__ 52 Eyelike openings
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66 Emailed
If last year’s 25-20 loss to Northern Iowa gave any insight on what the season was going to be like for the Iowa State football team, then a win this Saturday could give a glimpse of hope to Cyclone fans that has been nonexistent in recent years.

Coach Matt Campbell described that loss as a learning process that revealed what the true problems were, and they had nothing to do with football.

“It was part of the lesson in growth process that our football team had,” Campbell said. “I say this a lot, guys were saying ‘how do you clean your locker at night and make sure your locker looks the right way and how do you do these things?’

Iowa State comes back a year later with experience under its belt and a quarterback poised to wreak havoc on a defense that held the Cyclones to 307 total yards, only 51 of which were rushing.

“Everything was new, so we had to get all that gathered in,” said defensive back Brian Peavy.

However, while the Cyclones might be slim on defense, the Panthers return nine starters that shut down the offense last season.

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**A ROUND THE BIG 12**

**TULSA @ No. 10 OKLAHOMA STATE**
WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Thursday
WHERE: Boone Pickens Stadium | Stillwater, Oklahoma
WATCH: Fox Sports 1

**MARYLAND VS. No. 23 TEXAS**
WHEN: 11 a.m. Saturday
WHERE: Royal Texas Memorial Stadium | Austin, Texas
WATCH: Fox Sports 1

**UTEP @ No. 7 OKLAHOMA**
WHEN: 2:30 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Memorial Stadium | Norman, Oklahoma
WATCH: FOX

**EASTERN WASHINGTON @ TEXAS TECH**
WHEN: 3 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Jones AT&T Stadium | Lubbock, Texas
Not on television

**LIBERTY @ BAYLOR**
WHEN: 6:00 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: McLane Stadium | Lubbock, Texas
WATCH: Fox Sports 2

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE @ KANSAS**
WHEN: 6:15 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Memorial Stadium | Lawrence, Kansas
WATCH: ESPN3

**CENTRAL ARKANSAS @ No. 20 KANSAS STATE**
WHEN: 6:10 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Bill Snyder Family Stadium | Manhattan, Kansas
WATCH: ESPN3

**JACKSON STATE @ TCU**
WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Sunday
WHERE: Amon G. Carter Stadium | Fort Worth, Texas
WATCH: Fox

**No. 22 WEST VIRGINIA VS. No. 21 VIRGINIA TECH**
WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Landover, Maryland
WATCH: ABC

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

**TEAM RUSHING YARDS LAST SEASON**

<table>
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<th>Team</th>
<th>Rushing Yards</th>
<th>Games</th>
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<tr>
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**QB PASSING YARDS LAST SEASON**

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<td>1,175</td>
<td>UNI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Park</td>
<td>1,791</td>
<td>ISU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**JACOB PARK IN ACTION**
Iowa State quarterback Jacob Park throws to a receiver late in the game against West Virginia.
Iowa State 38, Northern Iowa 24

Final

IU 38 | UNI 24

Thursday, September 1, 2017

THE PICK

Iowa State vs. Northern Iowa

Iowa State 24, Northern Iowa 17

This game will come down to the quarterback battle between Iowa State’s Jacob Park and Northern Iowa’s Eli Dunne. The two have a similar style of play and it’ll depend on how efficient they can be in the pocket.

It’ll be a tie game going into halftime and Iowa State will take a 24-17 lead in the middle of the fourth quarter with an Allen Lazard touchdown from Park. The Cyclones will start the season 1-0.

Iowa State 45, Northern Iowa 17

Last year’s game against Northern Iowa was an anomaly. Iowa State had four turnovers to Northern Iowa’s one.

With Jacob Park running the show at quarterback this year, Iowa State’s offense has the firepower to score on anybody.

Even with those mistakes, it was still a one-possession game in the end. Iowa State will play a much cleaner game this season and, thanks to a potent offense, the Cyclones should be able to put up points left and right.

Iowa State 27, Northern Iowa 17

Iowa State comes back a year later with more experience and the memory of that gut-wrenching loss to the Panthers a year ago, giving them an added determination to beat its in-state rival.

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Brian Peavy
focused on Houston

BY BRIAN MOZEY
@Iowastatedaily.com

The phone rang Aug. 26 and Brian Peavy’s mother picked it up.

On the other end was the voice of coach Matt Campbell.

Her first reaction was that Peavy got in trouble, so she began to be a little nervous until she realized the meaning behind the phone call. Instead of nervousness, it became a sense of happiness and joy.

Campbell was telling her that Peavy was selected as a co-captain for the 2017 football season for Iowa State.

“It was nice to have that kind of news come to her,” Peavy said. “Especially with what’s been going on the past few days.”

Peavy’s hometown is Houston and his parents were right in the middle of Hurricane Harvey’s path of destruction on the evening of Aug. 23.

Fortunately, Peavy’s friends and family are all safe and accounted for, which is the main focus for him. His family is stuck in their house with flooding around their neighborhood.

The good news is that the flooding has subsided and they are hoping to get out of their house soon to help others in the city.

The only thing he wishes is that he could be there to help his family.

“That’s one of the hardest things,” Peavy said. “Just knowing you can’t physically help, it’s pretty tough.”

Since he can’t be in Houston at this time, Peavy is trying to do his part through donations. The idea was approved by the university and the athletic department.

Iowa State University is partnering with Hy-Vee and providing a truck on Saturday for fans to donate non-perishable items, school supplies, clothes and toiletries. The truck will be located on South Fourth Street from 2 to 6:30 p.m.

“We have a handful of players with parents in Texas currently,” Campbell said. “We’ve been keeping in touch and making sure they’re safe and healthy.”

Peavy isn’t the only Texas native on the Cyclones roster, as there are 10 players from the state of Texas. All of them, along with the Iowa State football team in general have been tweeting out their prayers and best wishes to the victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Peavy, from Houston, along with redshirt juniors defensive back Darius Lee-Campbell, from Spring, and tight end Cole Anderson, from League City, are around the Houston area and were hit the hardest by the storm.

The hardest part for Peavy is getting through this week. His focus is on school, practice, preparing for the game and, most importantly, keeping in contact with his family.

These four things to juggle is a hard task, but if anyone can do it, Campbell knows Peavy is the man for the job.

“Family is always first,” said defensive coordinator Jon Heacock.

“Brian [Peavy] knows that’s the first thing in life is checking on family, but he and I both know he’ll be ready to play on Saturday.”

Now, the goal is to get Peavy’s parents to Ames for the Saturday night kickoff at Jack Trice Stadium. That was the goal before the storm hit and Peavy is hoping that it can happen still.

“Hopefully the airport can clear up from the storm,” Peavy said. “I’d love to see my family in the stands for the first game of the season.”

Whether or not Peavy’s parents are in the stands on Saturday, his mindset is still the same. He’s going to be out there to win a football game for his school, his family and his city of Houston.

“We still got a game this week,” Peavy said. “I take the task at hand. It’s not just about myself, I’m playing for my teammates as well and my family and friends back home in Houston.”

Brian Peavy breaks up a pass from Iowa’s Jerminic Smith at Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City last year.

Iowa State Daily  Friday, September 1, 2017

PREVIEW

Peavy.

This year the Cyclones have Jacob Park at the helm, not newly-named starting quarterback Joel Lanning.

“I think [Park’s] done a really good job of studying in the details and trying to stay in the game plan and really understand what we want to do,” defensive coordinator Tom Manning said. “He’s been good for a while here. His study habits have dramatically improved from last season, as the time has gone on, his experience has grown; he’s been fun to have around.”

Lanning switched to a defensive core that has been one of the few units that still has a big question mark looming over them, specifically the front seven that has yet to prove themselves in any way.

Most of that front seven has limited starting experience, which could pose a problem for a defense that allowed 367 yards of total offense in last season’s game.

“In reality we’ve got some new faces up there and they haven’t been in Jack Trice before,” defensive coordinator Jon Heacock said. “That’s why you always try to focus really on what we’re doing and give them some of the looks we’ve seen and that kind of deal and hope you’re right.”

The Cyclones will need the few veterans they have on the front seven to step up and help the inexperienced guys get acclimated to college football quickly. If not, Heacock could be dealing with another defense that could allow 367 total yards to an FCS school again.

“I think the big challenge for guys like J.D. [Waggoner] who’ve been in the fire and Vernel Trent, those two seniors got to help those guys get through the first part of this game,” Heacock said. “Once they get in there it’s football.”

RYAN YOUNG/ IOWA STATE DAILY

Iowa State Football Players From Texas

- Kene Nwangwu, sophomore running back
  Frisco, Texas.
- De’Monte Ruth, redshirt junior defensive back
  Dallas, Texas.
- Brian Peavy, redshirt junior defensive back
  Houston, Texas.
- Darius Lee-Campbell, redshirt junior defensive back
  Spring, Texas.
- Vic Holmes, redshirt junior defensive back
  La Porte, Texas.
- Marchie Murdock, redshirt senior wide receiver
  Arlington, Texas.
- Arnold Azuna, redshirt freshman defensive back
  Grand Prairie, Texas.
- J.D. Waggoner, redshirt senior defensive end
  Dallas, Texas.
- Will Windham, redshirt junior offensive lineman
  Schertz, Texas.
- Cole Anderson, redshirt junior tight end
  League City, Texas.
Students need say in Memorial Union fee

BY MEGAN SALO
@iowastatedaily.com

Last year, students voted against a referendum that proposed to increase student fees by $72 over the course of two years to total $99.55 per semester.

Despite the fact that students voted not to increase fees, Student Government voted at Wednesday night’s meeting that they would support a $15 increase per semester in order to pay for infrastructural issues in the Memorial Union. The fee will not be applied until Fall 2018 and would only be implemented if President Ben Allen and the Board of Regents approve.

After listening in on the debate that ultimately led to the decision, I have a split opinion: the fee increase is a change as having up to one drink per day for women and up to four or more drinks on a single occasion for men, according to the American Medical Association (AMA).

Let’s get something straight, drinking isn’t just for you to drink responsibly, hopefully some other facts will.

In 2016, more people were charged by Iowa State Police for alcohol-related crimes in September than any other month that year. With students back on campus, football and nice weather, it doesn’t seem to be a surprise. Moderate alcohol consumption is defined as having up to one drink per day for women and up to two drinks per day for men,” according to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, while binge drinking usually means “five or more drinks on a single occasion for men or four or more drinks on a single occasion for women, generally within about two hours.”

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention lists the following health issues related to excessive alcohol use:

- Chronic diseases such as liver cirrhosis (damage to liver cells), pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas), various cancers, including breast, mouth, throat, larynx (the voice box) and esophagus; high blood pressure and psychological disorders.
- Let’s get something straight, drinking isn’t great for you and you by no means have to do it. We aren’t saying not to drink, we’re just saying do so responsibly.

Most people know the drunk fan who ruined your game day experience or maybe the time that you didn’t make it into the game because you were too inebriated to do so. If your safety and the safety of others isn’t enough to convince you to drink responsibly, hopefully other facts will.

With Iowa State taking on the Northern Iowa Panthers to kickoff the 2017 football season comes tailgating, boom cup and the return of “win or lose, we still boo.”

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Editorial Board
Emily Barske, editor-in-chief
Megan Salo, opinion editor
Adam Williams, community member

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The hit HBO show and fan favorite “Game of Thrones” will be coming to a close in 2019.

BY THOMAS.SHREVE
@iowastatedaily.com

Note: Spoilers will be found throughout.

Over 12 million viewers tuned in to the “Game of Thrones” season 7 finale. The finale of the penultimate season broke the record not only for being the most watched episode ever, but also for being the longest episode in the series to date.

Recently, some disappointing news broke saying we may have to wait until 2019 for the final season. So, with maybe two years before we get new episodes, let’s take a look back at the 7th season.

Less episodes

The most notable, and frustrating thing about season 7 is that the episode count has been condensed from ten to seven. When I first heard they were going this route, I was actually intrigued. There have been countless shows that have overstayed their welcome and, in turn, have run out of compelling material. So, to hear that the creators of the “Game of Thrones” television series, D.B. Weiss and David Benioff, were choosing to end the show themselves and were giving the last two seasons shortened episode counts, I was excited. This meant that the amount of filler plotlines were most likely going to be diminished and that we would most likely see a lot more action. However, the final product was not what I expected.

There is so much story here that is blown through way too quickly because of the low episode count. Some episodes feature plots that would normally take a full season to unfold, but instead, only take up one hour of screen time. For example, Jon Snow’s expedition north of The Wall in “Beyond The Wall” sounds like an incredibly engaging plot point that could have lasted for multiple seasons. Instead, we get an incredible cast of characters and one awesome action scene before almost everyone is returned safely back to the other side of The Wall.

The problem with this breakneck action is that we never get a moment to reflect on what we just witnessed, because it is already being overshadowed by the next big thing. For example, Brienne coming in to rescue Jon and sacrificing his life would have been a huge moment in any other season, but here, it was sandwiched right between the death of Viserion, the dragon, and his resurrection. There are other similar moments that completely forgot about, like the fact that Cersei may be pregnant. That revelation is a game changer, but not one that we get ample time to react to because attention was immediately diverted away from it and back to the next action set piece.

Unnecessary plotlines

With the speed of this season, one would expect the majority of unnecessary subplots to be cut out, but instead, we have one of the now irrelevant characters who ended up biting the dust, like the Martells, and the rest of House Tully, although Olenna’s death was an utterly fantastic scene. It’s a shame, but it is something I think will change as we head into the final season.

I remember watching Jon Snow take on a white walker in the season five episode “Hardhome.” The entire sequence had me shaking in my seat, wondering if my favorite character was finally going to meet his end, but as of season 7, I am rarely at the edge of my seat. “Beyond The Wall” featured seven fan favorite characters take on the entire army of the dead and all live to tell about it, save for Thoro, arguably the most expendable of the seven. We’re at the point where there are no more characters being introduced and so few left that the majority of the living characters are essential to the plot and therefore cannot die. It’s a shame, but it is something I think will change as we head into the final season.

A better budget

While the condensed episodes were mainly an annoyance, they did make way for a much larger budget, a budget they used to great extent. There were quite a few times I had to remind myself that I was watching a TV show and not a big-budget blockbuster movie. This was most apparent in the final moments of the best episodes of the season, “The Spoils of War.”

“The Spoils of War” featured the most epic and large scale battle we have seen on the show to date. With a much larger budget, we were finally able to watch Daenerys unleash Drogon and witness the power we have heard so much of throughout the series. Watching Brown fire a giant crossbow at Daenerys while riding an airplane sized dragon will forever be up there it’s also annoying that with only a handful of episodes left they spend time on filler stories while there is still so much viewers are aching to see. How are they possibly going to fit revelations like Jon Snow’s parentage coming to the public, The Prince Who Was Promised, The Night King’s backstory and other mysteries into the final season? Perhaps next season will just be alternating between huge twists and epic action scenes.

Not the same game

The other main gripe I have about this season is that it just does not feel as much like “Game of Thrones” as past seasons have. Tonnally, it is a bit different. Maybe it is just the speed at which they’re going or where the story has progressed to, but it makes me miss the early seasons more.

“Game of Thrones” used to feature sprawling narratives with many different characters that can be killed off at any moment no matter how essential to the plot they were. This is the reason I initially got into the show, I mean, what kind of show is bold enough to kill its main protagonist off after just nine episodes? Every season brought us at least one devastating tragedy whether it was The Red Wedding, the mind-numbing death of Hodor, or the destruction of the Great Sept of Baelor. We so often got edge-of-your-seat moments in the earlier seasons, so I was expecting a major body count this season. However, it was mostly just the now irrelevant characters who ended up bitting the dust, like the Martells, and the rest of House Tynel, although Olenna’s death was an utterly fantastic scene.

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This week in music

Iowan artists continue to pave the way in innovation in the scene

BY PARKER REED
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WHAT HAPPENED?

Slipknot to release new documentary based on first-ever Mexico performance

Des Moines-based heavy-metal group Slipknot first played Mexico City in December 2015 at that year’s iteration of Knotfest, the group’s annual festival which has been hosted by a variety of locations over the years. The group’s new documentary, “Day of the Gusano,” will document the event and showcase not only the band’s famously aggressive live show, but will also focus on the fanbase, known as “Maggots,” and how important they are to the band’s legacy. “Day of the Gusano” will hit theaters around the world on Sept. 6, of which are located in Iowa. For more information on the film, visit dayofthegusano.com.

Face value ticket resale program to debut stateside this fall

Last week, Taylor Swift introduced her controversial “Taylor Swift Tix powered by Ticketmaster Verified Fan” concert ticketing system. The system essentially rewards those fans who dish out more cash for T-Swift merchandise by granting them prioritized access to show tickets. To help combat this, UK-based company Twickets will launch in the fall in the U.S. and allows users to trade concert and live-event tickets at face value. The company first appeared in Europe in 2015 and has since branched into Australia as well, and has been a success in both by partnering with artists based in both regions. For more information, visit twicketsusa.com.

WHAT’S NEW?

Albums

“American Dream” – LCD Soundsystem

The New York disco-punk outfit has essentially been in the spotlight ever since they announced their reunion back in January of 2016. In that way, it’s kind of crazy to think that the group’s highly-anticipated fourth album is just releasing today. The group released two tracks back in May before performing both of them on SNL later that month. It’s been quite the journey for “American Dream,” but it’s finally here, and it’s fantastic. “Drying the Eyes of the Goddess of Gloom Underneath the Stars and the Moon” – Gloom Balloon

It’s quite the mouthful of a title, but that’s what Iowa-based musician Patrick Tape Fleming does best: create a unique experience for anyone that wants to listen. Fleming’s experimental, multi-genre project Gloom Balloon has always been known to drop jaws. Whether Fleming is gyrating his hips at an all-out dance party, or timidly hunching over a piano to a quaint crowd at a smaller club, he’s always been known to engulf the listener with a strong sense of flair and enough personality to put other artists to shame. Check out of Gloom Balloon’s release parties tonight at Vaudeville Mews in Des Moines.

Singles

“What Lovers Do” – Maroon 5 feat. SZA

Remember when Maroon 5 was more than just the Adam Levine show? That seems so long ago. The band’s latest single continues a streak of three singles that have featured some of music’s biggest names, like Kendrick Lamar, Future and now SZA. In November of 2015, guitarist James Valentine spoke about making a more “traditional” record with the group, similar in spirit to the group’s debut “Songs About Jane.” Unfortunately, the group continues to delve further into the dance realm with an instrumental that sounds like a weaker version of The Weeknd’s “Can’t Feel My Face.” Hopefully Maroon 5 will eventually create a more focused, rooted project in the near future, but it seems unlikely.

“Over Everything” – Courtney Barnett and Kurt Vile

Barnett and Vile’s upcoming collaborative album “Lotta Sea Lice” (due out Oct. 13) is easily one of the most anticipated indie releases of the year. The duo’s first preview of the album sees the two trading vocals over a jangly guitar-led track, which appropriately represents the two’s individual styles well, if leaning a bit towards Vile’s more low-key vibes. A bit more Barnett would be appreciated, both in appearance and influence, but this is only one track, so we’ll give them the benefit of the doubt. Give this one a spin this weekend.

LCD Soundsystem released a 14-minute single, separate from their album

James Murphy surprised the band’s fans Wednesday evening with the release of a single titled “pulse (v. 1),” an extended instrumental that Murphy called “super wonky” in a Facebook post Thursday morning. The 14-minute track was released just 24 hours before the release of the group’s highly-anticipated fourth album “American Dream,” and was originally supposed to appear on the record as the final track, but was cut because it wouldn’t fit on the vinyl version of the record. Regardless, “pulse (v. 1)” is now available on streaming services everywhere and could potentially be released one day as a 12,” according to Murphy.

In case you missed it...

Maroon 5 continues to tease new album supposedly due out in November.
These two characters have such a complex relationship that hasn’t been touched upon since season four. Their back and forth was so emotional, in that we have seen so much history between the two and their relationship that we understand what each one feels.

Many of these character reunions appeared in the finale, but ultimately “The Dragon and the Wolf” fell a bit flat as a setup for the finale season. I still have no idea how the next season is going to play out and it almost feels as if the writers are unsure as well.

The finale

The finale featured nearly every main character that was still living confront each other in King’s Landing, and yet it didn’t feel as epic as it should have. Sure, the small interactions between supporting characters were great, but Jon’s reunion with Cersei was nothing special, and the two most powerful women in Westeros’ long awaited meeting only featured a few lines of polite dialogue.

The final moments of the season featured the inevitable fall of The Wall, or at least a section of it. Honestly, this moment was not as hard hitting as I thought it would be, maybe it’s because we all saw it coming. All in all, season seven of “Game of Thrones” was another strong chapter in an amazing show, even if it wasn’t the strongest. I still cannot wait to see how the final six episodes wrap up so many epic storylines, even if we may have to wait two more years.