Numerous road closures are planned in Ames as the city prepares for the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI) just three days away. As thousands of bike riders flow into Ames as early as 8 a.m. on July 24, University Boulevard, South Dakota Avenue, Mortensen Road, Beach Avenue, South Fourth Street and Sixth Street will have delays or complete closures. Brad Becker, traffic supervisor for the City of Ames, said people on Tuesday and Wednesday would be best off entering the city from the North as all entrances into the city from Highway 30 would be "highly congested."

"All of the off ramps in to Ames off of Highway 30 will be heavily congested so your best bet when coming to town, if you aren't coming for the event, would be to come in from the North," Becker said. "If you don't want to be delayed, then find a different route."

Becker said riders will reach Ames early in the morning so Ames residents could have troubles commuting.

"On the in-route, we are expecting some early bikers around 8 a.m.," Becker said. "We will most likely have things closed around 8 a.m. and opened back up around 6 p.m."

The next morning, early commutes will be disrupted more heavily.

"People will start leaving around 5 or 6 a.m., so there could be heavy bike traffic from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.," Becker said.

With RAGBRAI bringing more than 20,000 people to Ames, participants and the public will have the opportunity to attend various events in the Main Street area.

RAGBRAI IN AMES

Behind the Scenes of the Cyclone Loop

BY DEVYN LEESON
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With thousands of cyclists riding through Iowa towns every summer for RAGBRAI, volunteers and planning are essential to the event.

This year Ames is one of those towns on the route, hosting cyclists on July 24. The last time Ames landed on the RAGBRAI route was 2008. Ames added a special route this year with the "Cyclone Loop". The loop sends riders through the inside of Jack Trice Stadium.

"We're very excited to have the riders ride into Jack Trice Stadium with the scoreboard on and have a great finish to a day like today," said Iowa State athletic director Jamie Pollard at the Cyclone Loop announcement on June 5. The RAGBRAI riders will be able to cruise through the Cyclone Loop from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 24.

While the loop provides an inside look to Jack Trice Stadium, the set up for it didn't happen overnight.

The RAGBRAI route was released at the end of January. With the route reveal, the staff at Think Ames began to prepare.

"Collectively, the office started planning the events right in January when they got the bid," said Liz Kurt, the head of the Cyclone Loop committee. The Think Ames staff wanted to do something special to commemorate RAGBRAI passing through, so they explored multiple options. Julie Weeks, the President and CEO of Think Ames, said that they communicated with Iowa State and the City of Ames early on to find a unique feature of Ames to showcase.

"Before we understood the complete route, we looked at opportunities on campus, itself," Weeks said. "We looked at Ada Hayden Park, we looked at south Ames, we looked at doing something south of Jack Trice — at Reiman (Gardens) or the research park."

Ultimately, the committees ruled out Reiman Gardens and the south parts of Ames based on the flow of traffic in the city, so they settled on Jack Trice Stadium being the focal point.

Once going past Jack Trice Stadium was in the plan, Weeks and her staff talked with the Iowa State Athletic Department about utilizing the inside of the stadium.
While they get here over the course of many hours, when they leave in the morning traffic will be heavily increased.

“Wednesday we will have to manage the way out, which is more difficult in some ways as they are leaving all at once,” said Ames Police Commander Geoff Huff.

The city will have the majority of intersections staffed with volunteers that will allow for people to pass when there is a gap in riders, but there is no guarantee people will be allowed through. It is best for commuters to avoid the route all together.

“We will not allow traffic along certain routes,” Becker said. “There is a certain route from the Ames Middle School to Ash Avenue where there will be no vehicular traffic all day long. Only some of the intersections will allow car traffic during the gaps of riders.”

The city has been doing more than just closing roads to prepare for RAGBRAI: They have been cleaning and fixing the roads on the route.

“We have known about the route since RAGBRAI released it obviously,” Becker said. “Since then we have gone along that route and patched everything.”

The Ames Police department has been preparing as well to ensure riders will be able to get in and out of Ames safely.

“Our department has been working with all of the different city departments in order to manage the route in and out,” Huff said. “It has been a many month process to prepare for 20,000 riders to come into Ames.”

Past 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Huff said riders will be more on their own as the roads open up again, but the police department will have officers around campgrounds and around downtown where many events will be taking place.

“[RAGBRAI] has hired twenty private security officers to cover the events and the Ames Police Department will have some of their officers working closely with them,” Huff said. “It is best for commuters to avoid the route all together.

The city will also be cleaning the streets along the route on Monday night and early Tuesday morning to make sure riders can safely make the journey through Ames.

On Tuesday, the specific roads that will be closed will be South Dakota Avenue and County Road R38 from 270th Street to Mortensen Road, Highway 30 off-ramp, westbound exit 144 on to South Dakota Avenue, Mortensen Road from Pinion Drive to Hayward Avenue and the northbound section of Beach Avenue.

On Wednesday, the roads to avoid will be the southbound portion of University Boulevard southbound from Sixth Street to South 16th Street, the eastbound section of South 16th Street from University Boulevard to Dayton Avenue and the northbound section of Dayton Avenue from Southeast 16th Street to East Lincoln Way.

People should also avoid South Fourth Street from Beach Avenue to University Boulevard between 7 p.m. July 23 to 10 p.m. July 24 and Sixth Street from University Boulevard to Brookridge Avenue between 6 a.m. July 24 to 11 a.m. July 25.
Visitors now charged for parking passes

BY RAE HATEN
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As of July 1, visitor parking passes at Iowa State are no longer free. Five dollars per day with a maximum of five days of parking is what students and visitors are to expect coming back to classes this fall.

However, Mark Miller, Iowa State’s Director of Parking, said that visitors are taking spaces away from students and faculty.

“In the past, the visitor permits were designed for parents and grandparents and siblings and even a boyfriend or girlfriend, but it got to the point where they’re taking up parking spaces,” Miller said. “The discussion is, should we be providing free parking for visitors when the students and staff have to pay?”

He said most schools do not provide free parking and Iowa State’s visitor parking costs less than other schools in the Big 12.

Solving this issue started with recommendations from the Transportation Advisory Council, a group composed of students and faculty.

“The students on the committee were the most proactive, saying ‘we should be charging visitors, our parents, to pay five dollars to come visit us.’ It may alleviate some of the people that are abusing the visitor permits – they’re taking up parking spaces away from students and faculty,” Miller said. “In the past, the visitor permits were designed for parents and grandparents and siblings and even a boyfriend or girlfriend, but it got to the point where they’re taking up parking spaces,” Miller said. “The discussion is, should we be providing free parking for visitors when the students and staff have to pay?”

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“Visitors are anyone who is not faculty, staff, a student, a vendor or a construction worker, Miller said.

“I think that there’s a misnomer out there that we’re collecting tuition dollars like everybody else,” Miller said. “We are self-supporting, so we don’t get any tuition or state dollars. Everything we have to pay for — lot repairs, salaries, IT Services, 285 or 290,000 dollars to CyRide for the Orange Route, scheduled capital projects, etcetera — has to come from permit fees, fines and meter revenues.”

Capital projects, Miller explained, are major future repair or construction projects funded by whatever money is left after annual costs, like lot repairs and salaries, are settled.

“By spreading out who’s helping to pay, it keeps everybody’s costs down, and that’s the goal,” Miller said. “We want to provide good parking at a reasonable price.”

PARKING DIVISION POLICY

The Parking Division’s policy on visitor voids has also changed.

There used to be three voided tickets in a lifetime. We reduced that to one,” Miller said. “If you come onto campus, it can be confusing. If you park in the wrong spot, we’ll take that ticket back and try to explain where you should park and how to get the proper permit.”

Overall, Miller would like to see people taking alternative means of transportation to keep parking spaces available.

“We’re hoping people ride CyRide,” Miller said. “We help fund all the bike initiatives on campus. We were part of implementing the Zipcar to provide car sharing services on campus. We’re looking at all kinds of different means of transportation to reduce the amount of cars coming to campus.”
Why is President Donald Trump defending Russia so vehemently? At his summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin this week in Helsinki, Finland, Trump stated in an interview that he believed Putin’s assertions that Russia did not meddle in the 2016 presidential election.

Let me rephrase that. Standing on foreign soil, our president stated that he believed the words of the criminal leader of a hostile power over hard evidence presented to him by his own intelligence agencies.

There was almost immediately a bipartisan outcry. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell stated that there is “indisputable” evidence that Russia tried to affect the 2016 election. Senator Kamala Harris lamented that Trump “invited” Putin to attack us again. Other officials, from House Speaker Paul Ryan to former CIA director John Brennan, spoke out against Trump’s actions.

Even more concerning is the German response to yesterday’s events. Heiko Maas, Germany’s foreign minister, addressed the situation in no uncertain terms.

“We can no longer completely rely on the White House,” Maas said.

In addition, a YouGov poll asking respondents whether Trump or Putin was the bigger threat to world security showed that 64 percent of Germans chose Trump, with only 16 percent choosing Putin.

Trump’s attempts at damage control have been incomprehensible.

“As I said today and many times before, ‘I have GREAT confidence in my intelligence people,’” he tweeted soon after the summit. “However, I also recognize that in order to build a brighter future, we cannot exclusively focus on the past — as the world’s two largest nuclear powers, we must get along!”

He would let Russia spit on our faces, and then apologize for it.

Today, Trump backtracked on his statements, stating that it was a mere slip of the tongue. Even if you ignore the fact that the new version makes no sense in context, former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci — who says he still considers himself loyal to Trump — had some damning words.

“This is a mistake of words, by the way, this is not a bad PR kerfuffle. This is a mistake of strategy and execution. This is a mistake of thinking, and you have your ego involved,” Scaramucci said.

Even worse, Trump made further statements attempting to absolve Russia of blame.

“I could be other people also. A lot of people out there,” Trump said reading off a sheet of paper.

“These assertions are not backed by any evidence or findings from American intelligence agencies.

So why is Trump going out of his way to try and protect Russia? The answer, as Scaramucci said, is simple. It’s because he is afraid that people will discover that his election victory was illegitimate.

The pieces are all in place. The role of White House cyber coordinator, which is the role responsible for coordinating American cyber defenses, has been eliminated. The Department of Homeland Security and the President’s National Security Council advise the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

The damage he has done to American foreign affairs is, quite honestly, incalculable. The vast majority of his foreign policy has been characterized with words like “mistake,” “step back,” and “blunder,” amongst others.

Mueller hasn’t come out with concrete evidence of collusion yet, but it doesn’t matter whether there was any collusion or not. If Trump benefitted at all from Russian interference, he needs to step aside.

If it is proven that Putin put Trump in office, it is absolutely unfathomable that Trump would stay there and continue to dance on Russian strings — whether Trump knows about them or not. If Trump, the ex-KGB agent and dictator, in all but name, is special counsel Robert Mueller or others, will discover evidence that Putin landed him in the White House and is continuing to play him like a fiddle. He needs to realize that, in the words of Speaker Ryan, “Russia is not our ally.”

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It’s time for Trump to face the music.

There is no such thing as a harmless stereotype

By Daniel Shaw

Stereotyping has a pervasive influence on the way people live their lives. However, stereotyping is unrealistic. Human beings are all unique individuals regardless of race, gender, religion, sexuality or any other identity or label.

Every person is inherently different, from the genetic makeup that defines physical appearances to the psychological development of people’s minds influenced by different upbringings.

Some argue that stereotypes often stem from some sort of truth. However, the idea of applying any truth based on observation of one individual or a small population to an entire demographic is absurd and insidious.

I’m not here to say that people should stop stereotyping other people and that I have never stereotyped other people before in my life. Stereotyping, like many things, is very complex. It’s not something I can understand fully or explain in a single statement.

However, the purpose of the model minority argument itself is unethical. A National Public Radio article, “Model Minority Myth,” discusses how the model minority stereotype was perpetuated to students struggling with harmful effects brought on by the model minority stereotype for Asian Americans.

Moreover, the purpose of the model minority argument itself is unethical. A National Public Radio article, “Model Minority Myth,” discusses how the model minority stereotype was perpetuated to students struggling with harmful effects brought on by the model minority stereotype for Asian Americans.

For example, some people consider Asian Americans to be model minorities due to racial stereotypes of them being smart, successful and motivated. However, considering how diverse the Asian American demographic is, this cannot be possible true for every one of them.

The 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau found that 11.17 percent of Asian Americans were in poverty and 25.98 percent had low incomes. Additionally, among demographics considered Asian American, the Bhutanese population group had far higher percentages with 64.93 percent in poverty and 94.41 percent of people with low income.

This survey illustrates the disparity between the overall image and statistics of Asian Americans as a whole, along with differences between specific demographics within the Asian American population.

Not all Asian Americans are the same and it is unsafe to assume that an entire population fit one image.

Model minority labels are particularly problematic where they place emphasis on expectations. The University of Texas at Austin Counseling and Mental Health Center even has a page dedicated to students struggling with harmful effects brought on by the model minority stereotype for Asian Americans.

The reality is that stereotyping is human nature.

“We categorize people automatically, unconsciously, immediately, based on a person’s race and based on a person’s sex,” said John Dovidio, a professor at Northwestern University. “When you’re a social animal, you need to be able to categorize. That’s human nature.

Stereotyping, like many things, is very complex. If it is oversimplified, then we cannot devise a complete solution.

For every person, there is a part of their character that defines them as a unique individual. However, to assume that all people are the same is false.

There are people who are afraid of their own race, who are afraid of their own sex, who are afraid of their own religion. However, to assume that these fears are universal is false.

The media and the general public need to stop perpetuating the idea that all people are the same and start recognizing that every person is inherently different.

For example, some people consider Asian Americans to be model minorities due to racial stereotypes of them being smart, successful and motivated. However, considering how diverse the Asian American demographic is, this cannot be possible true for every one of them.

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Model minority labels are particularly problematic where they place emphasis on expectations. The University of Texas at Austin Counseling and Mental Health Center even has a page dedicated to students struggling with harmful effects brought on by the model minority stereotype for Asian Americans.

Moreover, the purpose of the model minority argument itself is unethical. A National Public Radio article, “Model Minority Myth: Asian Americans Used As A Racial Wedge Between Asians And Blacks,” discusses how the model minority stereotype was perpetuated to use historically selective immigration policies that have helped with creating the image of successful Asian Americans against other minorities to degrade them.

An interesting solution to some issues of stereotypes and labels is brought up by Morgan Freeman in a 2005 “60 Minutes” interview with Mike Wallace.

“Stop talking about it.” Freeman tells Wallace. “I’m going to stop calling you a white man and I’m going to ask you to stop calling me a black man. I know you as Mike Wallace. You know me as Morgan Freeman.”

Freeman is bringing up a flaw in the way many people address other people by using easily identifiable labels. He advocates thinking of people as individuals rather than through labels such as white or black.

I understand how it is nearly impossible to eradicate stereotyping. However, the goal is to try to understand and think of people as individuals, instead of putting a label on them and assuming they are another part of a stereotypical image.
ATHLETES COMPETE?

BY SAM STUVE
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Thousands of athletes coming to central Iowa to compete in the Summer Iowa Games in July, brings many reasons why an athlete might decide to participate in the Iowa Games.

Different athletes have different reasons why they choose to participate in the Iowa Games.

The Iowa Games are an Olympic style event that is the most well-known event that the Iowa Sports Foundation runs.

Since the Iowa Games hosts youth events along with adult events, many young athletes get an opportunity to compete along with their peers in the Iowa Games at an early age.

“I competed in the Summer Iowa Games, because I wanted to get my first taste of competition,” youth disc-golfer Trey Shannon of Webster City said.

The first Iowa Games occurred in 1987, which means some athletes competed in the Iowa Games when they were a kid and compete now as an adult.

“I’ve been playing in table tennis tournaments since I was 14, and I’ve been playing in the Iowa Games every year since I was in the junior event,” Ankeny native and University of Iowa student Dylan Garland said.

Ames and other cities in Story County play host to most of the events in the Summer Iowa Games, which draws some Iowa State students and faculty to participate.

“I love to play badminton, and the Iowa Games is a good opportunity to play some competitive badminton,” said John Anderson, retired Iowa State communications employee.

“A few weeks ago, I participated in the Iowa Senior Games for the first time, and I got a silver medal in badminton with John, and I’m very proud,” said Ling Cai, Iowa State senior lecturer in world languages and cultures.

“I talked her into playing with me at the Iowa Games,” Anderson said.

Some of the athletes in the Iowa Games are returning competitors, however, there are some new competitors in the Iowa Games each year.

With a wide variety of events for athletes to participate in, the athletes have the opportunity to compete in multiple events if they choose to do so.

“I typically do the triathlon, but I decided to try a couple different events. I’m training for a modern pentathlon, and this event gave me the opportunity to do swimming and fencing, which are two of the events in the modern pentathlon,” Des Moines native Cindy Maguire said.

These are just some of the many reasons why thousands of athletes of all ages and abilities choose to participate in the Iowa Games, along with the other events and initiatives that the Iowa Sports Foundation runs year in and year out.

organize and control the riders to prevent over-congestion on the loop, along with the set up beforehand.

“It involves quite a bit of set up,” Kurt said. “We’re working heavily with athletics, the city, Iowa State University preparing the area. There’ll be an entire section of food vendors at the Cyclone Loop as well because riders will coming in, and they’ll be looking for something to eat and drink.”

The food vendors around the route adds another element of preparation. Kurt has to communicate with the vendors about where and when they’ll be setting up, and if they’ll be selling merchandise or food.

Gathering enough commitments from vendors hasn’t been much of a problem, though. Kurt said that a majority of the vendors she’s talked to have contacted her and her team first.

While you view the riders either in person or online, don’t forget to remember all the hours of work going into the event to make it happen.

IOWA GAMES: WHY DO ATHLETES COMPETE?

TBT TAKEAWAYS: HILTON MAGIC LEGENDS CRUSHED IN FIRST-ROUND

BY NOAH ROHLFING
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The Hilton Magic Legends, a collection of former Iowa State players, suited up against Illinois BC in the first round of The Basketball Tournament on Saturday night.

It was not pretty.

From the start, Hilton Magic Legends were on the back foot. The problem was, they never really looked like making a game of it. Down 15-24 at the half and 74-48 after three quarters, the result was pretty much a wrap after one quarter. In the end, the Legends lost 92-63.

Lack of depth

Coming into a tournament setting like The Basketball Tournament with only six players is not great, but that’s what the Hilton Magic Legends had to deal with on Saturday.

Donte Burton, Curtis Stimson and Dante Garnett failed to show up for the Legends game, leaving the Legends without two of their top offensive players and a veteran leader.

The Legends came out sloppy, turning the ball over frequently and falling down 25-10 after the first quarter. Meanwhile, Illinois BC used its depth and went nine players deep, keeping fresh and continuing to attack on the offensive end. By the time the third quarter rolled around, the Legends looked exhausted. That only hurt their comeback attempt.

Offensively, yikes.

It was bad.

Royce White turned the ball over in the half-court time after time, there was no real cohesion between the five players who were on the court and Teras McGee was the only consistent threat from 3-point range.

Not a strong showing in any way, shape or form for the Hilton Magic Legends.

Offensively, the Legends shot themselves in the foot often. Far too frequently, the Legends would settle for a contested jumper or try to force their way into the lane without success.

Illinois BC, on the other hand, shared the ball on the offensive end and got a lot of open jumpers because of it. Jordan Price scored 19 points for Illinois BC, and the Legends were unable to mount any real resistance.

RAGBRAI riders will stop through Ames on Tuesday, bringing more than 20,000 people to the city. There will be public facilities available centered around University Boulevard and Lincoln Way.

The food vendors around the route adds another element of preparation. Kurt has to communicate with the vendors about where and when they’ll be setting up, and if they’ll be selling merchandise or food.

Gathering enough commitments from vendors hasn’t been much of a problem, though. Kurt said that a majority of the vendors she’s talked to have contacted her and her team first.

While you view the riders either in person or online, don’t forget to remember all the hours of work going into the event to make it happen.
RAGBRAI participants will ride through Ames Tuesday, bringing more than 20,000 people to the city. The Ames RAGBRAI Entertainment Committee has announced the headline acts for the evening will include The Spazmatics, a “New Wave” band that covers songs from the 1980s, and B2wins, a pop duo of twins from the slums of Brazil. The festival will start at 4 p.m. and run until approximately midnight.

The Spazmatics, which formed in 1983 by then physics teacher Kevin Stigwood after he lost a debate to a student, features costumes including bowties, taped glasses and pocket protectors, as a tribute to the 1984 film Revenge of the Nerds.

B2Wins is made up of Brazilian twin brothers Walter and Wagner Caldas, who were born in the at-risk neighborhood of Niterói in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Despite growing up in poverty, the brothers escaped their surroundings through music and started teaching others to do the same in the orchestra in which they taught. Using music as a positive outlet and social movement, the duo plays pop music on classical instruments with an electric violin and ukulele.

Other RAGBRAI acts include local country music artist Danny Grause on the Burndette Stage and classic rock band Richard Arndt and The Brew on the Main Street Stage. Another stage will feature different variety acts such as jugglers and fire breathers.

Entertainment schedule
Main Street Stage
4-6 p.m. Dan Tedesco
6:30–9:30 p.m. The Spazmatics
10 p.m.–12 a.m. Richard Arndt and the Brew

Burndette Stage
4-5:30 p.m. 42–Romeo
6-7:45 p.m. The Feel Right Band, ft. Sharare Calister from “The Voice”
8-10 p.m. B2wins
10:30 p.m.–12 a.m. Danny Grause
First National Bank Stage (Kellogg Ave)
4-6 p.m. Jenenik and The Off Brands
6-7 p.m. Dramatic Readings
7-9 p.m. Cirque Wonderland Entertainment
9-10 p.m. LAVISH
10-11 p.m. B. Well
**Farmers Market**
Members of the Ames community gather outside of North Grand Mall July 18 for the Wednesday farmers market. Booths sold everything from flowers and organic produce to honey and beeswax.

**Iowa Summer Games**
Spikeball players participate in the Iowa Games July 22 in Cylong Sports Complex. The Games lasted all weekend and hosted different sports all over Ames including archery, pickleball, badminton and many others.