Program provides Des Moines high schoolers with tuition

BY TARA LARSON
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The first cohort of the ISU 4U Promise will graduate this spring and begin classes at Iowa State in the fall. The program began in 2013 after Ako Abdul-Samad, state representative and community leader, brought the idea to then-president Steven Leath. Iowa State and Des Moines Public Schools worked together to set up a partnership through King and Moulton elementary schools. The partnership allows students from each school to earn partial or full tuition to attend Iowa State upon their fifth-grade graduation from one of these schools.

“[I]f I think about the ISU 4U Promise, I always thought about it, yes, as a college access for the youth,” said Katherine Richardson Bruna, associate professor of education and ISU 4U professor in charge. “But I had always thought about it as a way that we can actually begin to systematically create an inclusive campus climate.”

For the first cohort, this started while they were in eighth grade. Of the 23 students from the first year of the program, 15 have been accepted by Iowa State and 11 have officially enrolled for the fall of 2018. Each of those students has a story unique from the others.

MADISON BAXTER

Madison Baxter, senior at Roosevelt High School, has five siblings — two are older and three are younger. She grew up living with her mother, grandparents and five siblings, one of whom has special needs. Although her grandparents earned four-year college degrees, neither of her parents did. Madison will be the first of her siblings to enroll in college.

“My oldest sister, who’s 22, dropped out of high school in tenth grade,” Madison said. “And I have a 19-year-old sister who graduated from Scavo High School, which is a school for students who have trouble finishing high school.”

Although her older siblings and parents did not finish their degrees, Madison sees a different future for herself.

“I want to go to college because I very much want to have a better and different future than my sisters, and to be independent,” Madison said. “I hope to inspire my younger siblings and show them there are other opportunities. When you live in such a negative atmosphere, you are convinced there’s nothing out there for you.”

Madison is not sure what she will major in yet, but one thing that drew her to Iowa State is the wide array of classes. She also likes that it’s close to her home, and her best friend is an Iowa State fanatic. One of the biggest factors drawing her to choose Iowa State was the ISU 4U Promise and receiving full tuition.

“[This promise] shows that there are people out there who care about young people’s education,” Madison said. “It’s like a head-start almost, because there’s no way my family would have been able to afford tuition.”

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>> About ISU4U

The ISU 4U Promise program began in 2013, sparked by a conversation between former president Steven Leath and Ako Abdul-Samad, a state representative and community leader. Iowa State University and Des Moines Public Schools partnered to create a path to college for students at King and Moulton elementary schools. In full, the partnership includes the Iowa State College of Human Sciences, ISU Extension and Outreach, ISU Financial Aid, Des Moines Public Schools, and community organizations in Des Moines.
DARRICK BARRAGE

Darrick Barrage, senior at North High School, has dreams of studying performing arts and vocal music at Iowa State. Darrick has been involved in his high school theater department and two choirs throughout his high school career and wants to continue when he attends Iowa State in the fall.

Darrick's father did not attend college, and Darrick is unsure whether his mother did. His parents split up when he was young. Although he still is in close contact with his family, he moved out during his sophomore year to live with a friend, an agreement made by both parties, he said. Although his father did not attend, Darrick has always wanted to go to college one day.

“Ever since I was little, I've always valued school,” Darrick said. “I remember I never really wanted to miss school unless I really had to. I remember I always valued school more than anything because I valued choosing my future.”

Growing up, Darrick said he felt Iowa State spoke to him most. He remembered recognizing the Cyclones even though he was not big into sports, and he toured the campus several times through different events.

“It even played out majorly when I was accepted into the ISU 4U Promise, which essentially was the deciding reason why I definitely wanted to go to ISU, because they offered that kind of thing that I didn’t see any other college offering,” Darrick said.

SOMERLE RHINER

Somerle Rhiner, another senior at North High School, will be the first generation of her family attending college. Somerle is the only child in her family, and her father has been fairly absent in her life growing up.

“Nobody in my family has gone to college or been successful staying in,” Somerle said. “College has always been a goal because I want to make as much money as I can.”

Somerle has seen benefits from the ISU 4U program outside of the tuition promise.

“I lost connection with some of my friends because they went to different schools or whatever happened, and now we’re all back together,” Somerle said. “So [this promise] does not only provide for my dreams to go to Iowa State or college, but also bringing back these old friendships that we had.”

DENISSE SAN ELIAS

Denisse San Elias, senior at East High School, grew up in a home where neither parent finished high school, prompting her to become more interested in completing a four-year degree.

“My dad didn’t finish high school and neither did my mom, so I thought finishing high school would be an achievement but going to college would be an even greater achievement,” Denisse said. “[My family] is very supportive.”

Without the ISU 4U Promise, many students would have difficulties funding their college education, and Denisse feels no different.

“The thought of not being able to afford college really strains me,” Denisse said. “Now that I don’t have that on my back, it’s really motivating.”
China’s suggested pork tariff spells disaster for Iowa

BY ANNELISE.WELLS
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China announced tariffs on $3 billion of U.S. products on Friday in response to President Donald Trump's planned tariffs on $60 billion of Chinese produced goods.

There are 128 items on China’s proposed tariff list including wine, steel and fruit. But most importantly for Iowa, pork is also on the list.

Iowa is the number one pork producing state in the country. If these tariffs come into place, not only would agricultural trade decrease as a whole, but pork prices could also fall.

"Any tariff placed on would slow down that trade flow down, and that’s going to lead to lower prices for U.S. and Iowa pork. That’s an issue especially when farmers have been struggling with low to no returns over the past few years," said Chad Hart, associate professor in economics, serving as an extension livestock economist.

Lawrence spoke at an open forum on Feb. 28, 2018 for his Interim Vice President for ISU Extension and Outreach John Lawrence named. Lawrence was one of four finalists for the position. He has been serving as the interim vice president of Extension and Outreach since March 2017. Lawrence’s new position will begin immediately.

Lawrence holds both a bachelor’s degree in animal science and a master’s degree in economics from Iowa State. He also has a doctorate in agricultural economics from the University of Missouri.

He has been at Iowa State since 1991, when Lawrence began as an associate professor in economics, serving as an extension livestock economist.

Lawrence served as the director of the Iowa Beef Centre at Iowa State from 1998 until 2010.

In 2010, Lawrence became an associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and director of extension and outreach in the college.

"[Lawrence] has a long history of scholarship and administrative service and is uniquely qualified to lead ISU Extension and Outreach," said President Wendy Wintersteen.

Lawrence has also worked as the assistant director of the Agriculture Experiment Station and has worked with the Iowa Nutrient Research Center.

In Lawrence’s open forum on Feb. 28, he touched on a number of topics, from working with surrounding counties to supporting employees who wish to further their education while working at Iowa State.

The other three finalists were Brent Hales, Jane Clary Loveless and Daniel Devlin.

“I am honored to serve my colleagues, the university and the entire state of Iowa as the leader of Extension and Outreach,” Lawrence said. "I look forward to working with our talented faculty, staff and partners to make a meaningful difference in the lives of Iowans."
POLICE BLOTTER

3.23.18
Andrew Paul Delawery, age 33, of 724 W Ave - Nevada, IA, was arrested on a warrant held by another agency (Case update).

Mason Scott Powers, age 22, of 601 8th St - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with drug possession under the legal age, failure to have license in possession while operating a motor vehicle, and failure to obey a stop or yield sign at 2120 Union Dr (reported at 10:53 p.m.).

Devonta Markel Prince, age 19, of 161 8th Ave Ne Apt 210 - Fridley, MN, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age, failure to have valid license or permit while operating a motor vehicle, and failure to obey stop sign at 2120 Union Dr (reported at 10:53 p.m.).

3.24.18
Adam Joseph Martin, age 22, of 2416 South 4th Street Unit 405 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia at Larch Hall (reported at 12:24 a.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot 590 (reported at 9:01 a.m.).

An officer assisted an individual who was experiencing medical difficulties at Freeman Hall (reported at 6:19 p.m.).

3.25.18
An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot 62 (reported at 9:43 p.m.).

Eddy Shami Muligande, age 19, of 1218 South 4th Street Unit 405 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with possession of alcohol under the legal age, failure to have license in possession while operating a motor vehicle, probate violation at 2532-220 Union Dr (reported at 9:43 p.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a longboard at Parks Library (reported at 10:58 p.m.).
Athletics donation will make impact

Last week, Iowa State Athletics donated $1 million to the University to go toward students who are having financial difficulties completing their degrees. That is tremendous.

The donation has the opportunity to make a significant impact at Iowa State, especially considering mid-year budget cuts and lagging funding. This donation comes at a hard time for education. It’s not only a tragic situation for the student and their family when they have to drop out due to financial reasons, but it’s loss for the university and the economy.

With students carrying more and more of the costs of education, it’s no wonder there are students dropping out because they can’t afford to complete their degrees. That’s something that should truly frighten us all, especially at a land grant university.

As a land grant university, Iowa State is meant to serve all Iowans by providing affordable education. It’s extremely hard to do that when the state doesn’t give universities anywhere near proper funding and springs mid-year budget cuts on them.

Simply put, we need more funding security at Iowa State and the other regent universities. That security is not just for the institution’s sake, but for the sake of all students and prospective students who hope to obtain a world-class education at Iowa State.

That’s why donations, like the one from athletics, provide so much opportunity for better financial security. For those who have money readily available, it may be easy to forget that some students may drop out of college simply because they have no means to pay for amounts as small as a couple hundred dollars. Image how far $1 million can go for those cases.

We need more where that came from. We need more people to recognize that education is worth the investment. And we need to recognize that everyone deserves a chance to obtain an education, not just those with the money to pay for the prices that continue to rise.

Thank you, Iowa State Athletics, for your leadership. Now, let’s see the state and private donors follow through.

EDITORIAL

Congress calls in Uncle Dursley

BY DAVIS PATTON
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Editor’s note: This is a satirical opinion piece. The names of some people mentioned are fictional. All of the quotes used are also completely fictional.

United States elected officials are bringing in Vernon Dursley to help in their latest attempt to ignore the general public.

Dursley is known in the public sphere as the uncle of British wizard Harry Potter. In 1991, Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry began sending letters to 10-year-old Potter inviting him to attend their program. Dursley, Potter’s legal guardian at the time, was passionately opposed to those invitations.

Records show Dursley boarded up their doors in an attempt to block the dozens of letters, and even burned a handful of letters in the family’s fireplace. After these attempts failed, the Dursley family finally moved to a secluded shack in the middle of an unidentified body of water.

Members of Congress were inspired to call on the help of Dursley after the over 800 March For Our Lives protests across the country last weekend. Protestors were concerned with the gun violence in America, but policy makers are doing their best to disregard it all.

“Ignoring phone calls and letters in the mail is somewhat easy as a legislator,” said Florida Senator Marco Rubio. “But when hundreds of thousands of citizens of all ages and political affiliations gather in one day across the country, we have to bring in an expert like Dursley.”

In a statement, Rubio and other members of Congress say they hope Dursley’s creativity in evasion tactics will help them totally and utterly ignore every call to action made by their constituents at the March For Our Lives.

When asked to respond to Emma Gonzalez’s emotional and now viral speech, several Senators plugged their ears and started singing, “La la la la la!” They shared that this was one of the first tactics Dursley shared with them.

It is yet to be seen whether or not these senators are willing to move to a secluded shack like the Dursleys did. Still, their determination is strong to never hear the concerns of their constituents lest it result in progress.

Lastly, Rubio wanted to make sure American citizens stay assured that Dursley’s flight to the U.S. will be no cost to taxpayers. He stated, “All of his travel expenses were gladly paid for by the NRA.”
The complex process of scheduling

BY AARON MARNER
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The process of creating a college basketball schedule can be a nightmare.

First, you have to consider conference games. The Big 12, for example, plays 18 conference games as part of the 2017-18 season, league play began on Dec. 29, and the final regular season games were on March 3.

When it’s all said and done, the staff is left with about nine games to schedule on their own. Then the J1 Division I men’s basketball programs are all trying to schedule their games on their own time, meaning things can get messy.

“‘You’re looking for a match on a certain date with money and players and all of those things that just match up perfect,” said Micah Byars, Iowa State’s director of men’s basketball operations. “When you think about the total scope of what scheduling actually means, it’s amazing that any games get scheduled at all. So many factors have to work.”

With only nine games available to schedule, it’s up to Byars and the coaching staff to develop a competitive non-conference slate.

Another factor that makes scheduling so tough is that it’s often done more than one year out. When it’s done that far out, teams can be completely different than they were when the schedule was made.

“It’s really kind of a crapshoot, especially in this day and age with transfers,” Byars said. “Somewhere that we scheduled last year could have a drastic change in their roster one way or the other.”

“It worked that way with Missouri. When we initially signed that contract Cuonzo Martin wasn’t the head coach, nor did they have the roster that they have.”

Maybe the best example of that aside from Missouri is Lehigh. In 2011-12, the Cyclones opened up against the Lehigh Mountain Hawks. Lehigh’s roster featured two Iowa natives, one of which was a senior, so the game in Ames was a homecoming of sorts for Lehigh.

The problem? Lehigh had improved immensely from the year before, thanks in large part to then-junior guard (and currently Portland Trail Blazer) C.J. McCollum. McCollum led Lehigh to 27 wins that year, including a huge upset over Duke in the NCAA Tournament.

But when the schedule was made, Iowa State thought it was setting up a likely win. There’s the issue of wanting to prepare the team for the rest of the season. Byars and the coaches make a concerted effort to schedule teams that play various styles.

In 2016-17, the Cyclones played Savannah State, The Citadel and Nebraska-Omaha in the non-conference. Those three teams were ranked first, second and ninth nationally in adjusted pace, per KenPom.

To counter that, the Cyclones also faced Miami (339th) and Cincinnati (330th). That way, players and coaches alike can get familiar with different styles of play they may face throughout the rest of the season.

Iowa State also has to work around its non-conference tournaments. The Cyclones typically play in a late-November tournament that gives them three games against high-quality competition.

For the 2018-19 season, the Cyclones will be at the pinnacle of non-conference tournaments: the Maui Invitational. The field is loaded, with teams such as Duke, Xavier, Arizona and Gonzaga in the tournament.

Six of the eight teams in next year’s Maui Invitational played in this year’s NCAA Tournament, four of which advanced to the round of 32.

“Planning for this has probably been more unique than any other multi-team event, just because there’s so many factors that go along with it,” Byars said.

Byars said the contract for the Maui Invitational was signed in 2014, after Iowa State made the Sweet 16 with players like DeAndre Kane, Melvin Ejim and a sophomore named Georges Niang.

When things are being planned out that far ahead, it’s next to impossible to know how good teams will be.

Players like Monte Morris and Matt Thomas were freshmen on that Sweet 16 team, and both are a year into their professional basketball careers already.

“With big tournaments like that, Byars said, there’s one common denominator.

“The process is really predicated on the fans,” Byars said. “We get such great fan support at all of those neutral site events that people are knocking our doors down.”

“There’s also equally successful teams that don’t get the interest [from the tournaments] because of the fan turnout.”

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Now that many people can access some form of camera through smartphones, one might assume that painted portraits are no longer needed to record the appearance of a person. But the tradition still continues at Iowa State, as shown in the “Face Value” exhibition at the Petersen Art Museum.

“In the last few months, we’ve had several portraits be completed. Because we had so many, we decided to present them all at the same time,” said Nancy Gebhart, educator of visual literacy and learning with University Museums.

The exhibit contains seven new portraits of deans, presidents and department chairs at Iowa State, along with 12 bronze bas reliefs sculpted by Christian Petersen. Portraits include former Iowa State president Steven Leath, as well as President Wendy Wintersteen’s portrait from her time as the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

When a portrait is painted, the person and their significant other are allowed to choose the artist and the style of their painting with the assistance of University Museums. Over time, Iowa State’s portraits have evolved from a traditional portrait into portraits that depict the personality and essence of the subject.

In former president Leath’s portrait, he chose to include his dog in the photo, while former College of Engineering Dean Jonathan Wickert is holding an iPhone. “Part of that comes from personal preference,” Gebhart said.

Not all portraits are able to be painted with a live subject. Perry Holden, former vice-dean of agriculture, passed away in 1959 and his portrait was painted using a photograph. Because the artist did not get to know Holden personally, his portrait has a different mood and lacks aspects of his personality that are present in other portraits painted with live subjects.

Iowa State has maintained its portrait tradition in other ways over the past year, when guest artist Rose Frantzen painted portraits of influential Iowa State faculty and staff. Currently, this exhibit is touring across the state of Iowa.

Getting a portrait painted is not a requirement for deans or presidents, but the portraits serve a larger purpose for the university. “It’s just a tradition that the university has had since the beginning,” Gebhart said. “It’s part of how we care for the cultural heritage of our institution.”

The exhibit will remain open until March 28. After the exhibit closes, the portraits will be permanently installed in locations across the Iowa State campus.
twice this season and took down Minnesota back in February.

“I was very surprised that they would send three Big 12 Schools out of four to the same regional,” Sievers said. “Granted, that doesn’t really matter. We’ve seen all of these teams except Kentucky.”

The NCAA said the brackets would try to have no more than two teams from a conference in the same of the six regionals.

“Honestly, it’s quite disappointing,” said Jay Ronayne, head coach. “When there are four teams in a conference and three are in the same regional, obviously it didn’t enter into their calculations. In my opinion, if there was any way they could have, they should have separated us.”

The one team the Cyclones haven’t faced off against this season yet is Kentucky, the No. 2 seed in the regional. Ronayne said he’s been watching film on the Wildcats and sees them as very similar to Denver.

“I see high quality gymnastics,” Ronayne said. “They’re very good and very consistent. For us, it’s our challenge to bring our very good and our very consistent, then let the chips fall where they may.”

The Cyclones face a difficult challenge but a chance.

“If we hit 24 routines, we can go [to the national championship],” Sievers said. “We have to hit great routines but we can go. We have to believe it.”