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Iowa State Daily

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STUDENT LIFE

STUDENTS FIGHT FOR FUN

While the medieval combat society at Iowa State may not be a very well known club, many students cannot help but be intrigued by them when they come across them practicing. Tir Aislein is most commonly seen in battle around campus with foam swords and shields. They are a self-described family of nerds.

BY JACKIE NORMAN @iowastatedaily.com

Most of the members have fighting names that they use instead of their real names. This becomes helpful when there is more than one person with the same given name on the field because no one else shares the same fighting name. Kerrigan Thornton or “Aelin” dodges a spear blow delivered by Joseph Hudson or “Vorago.”

All of the weapons are padded but they still hurt which is why most head shots are illegal in the sport. No head shots are allowed except for weapons that can be thrown such as the javelin.

While they are not widely recognized, medieval combat is quite a workout for those involved. It is a full contact sport that is physically demanding to those involved.

It is a battle of the spears as Vorago and Lindsey Laughlin or “Mynnix” are the last ones standing in a free for all game. Spears are great weapons to use since they can be wielded at a distance and can break through shields but one on one spear fighting can prove to be difficult.
Haila prepares for mayor duties

Mayor-elect values community

Days after the results, John Haila said it still hasn’t hit him yet.

Haila, who became Ames’ mayor-elect after earning 58.41 percent of the vote, has a long history with Ames, starting with attending Iowa State in the ‘70s to moving his architecture business there in 2009.

He eventually got involved with city organizations such as the Campustown Action Association and the Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees.

“My appreciation for this community has grown immensely the more I’ve gotten involved,” Haila said. “I would say that 98 percent of the people I talked to [said] they love this community; they love Ames...I’ll bet there was several dozen people I talk to that said, ‘We were just going to come here for a year or two and then we were going to move on and, you know what, that was 30 years ago.’”

Seven to eight months before the election, Haila was planning to run for City Council when he was asked if he’d consider running for mayor by “two influential people.” From there he did what he plans to do as mayor: facilitate conversation and listen to what the community has to say.

“I met with between 50 or 60 different people and I asked them for their feedback,” Haila said. “Don’t talk me into it, ask me questions, help me think, is this really a good fit and it was unanimous. Everyone from a broad cross-section of people—from different political backgrounds and age groups and family—and all of them just came back [with] the same two things.”

He said these two things that they believed made him fit to be Ames’ next mayor were his leadership skills and character qualities.

Now, as he transitions into his role as mayor, he will go out into the community again.

“Great results through great relationships,” Haila said.

One of Haila’s supporters was Mayor Ann Campbell, who endorsed Haila in a letter to the Ames Tribune. Haila said one of the best things Campbell brought during her time as mayor was her ability to listen.

“So as I sat in the council meetings for the last seven, eight months, I’ve been very impressed and learned a lot by just watching and observing how she’ll let conversation go and at the point where you say, ‘I think there’s been enough conversation, OK council, I would entertain a motion.’”

He also complimented her networking throughout the community. He said he will be asking her to introduce him to people he hasn’t met in the community.

“This city is intertwined and we need to work together, so knowing people will be helpful,” Haila said.

Haila said Campbell is very knowledgeable of what happens at the county level as well as the state level while being involved with local issues.

Haila said he is most excited to follow Campbell in her ability to represent and lead the community.

“I talked about this in my campaign a lot. The mayor’s role is not just being the parliamentarian...the mayor also appoints over 100, about 120 different people to boards and commissions, and [Campbell] has been committed to a balance of representation of people from across the board,” Haila said. “So I’m going to definitely follow what her lead is in terms of communication.”

Once Haila takes over as mayor, he will need to start a relationship with the newly appointed Iowa State President-select Wendy Wintersteen. Haila added that he wants to improve student engagement with the city.

“I want to get students more actively engaged in the community because I believe that students bring a tremendous strength, vitality, insights that will benefit the Ames community and I believe that if we know one another, we’ll understand one another,” Haila said. “And I’m not saying that, ‘Oh it’s just terrible; I just think there’s room for improvement.’”

After the results, Haila’s opponent, Victoria Szopinski, said she felt Haila ran a dishonest campaign.

“We did no negative campaigning, even though we had information,” Szopinski said. “We chose not to use it, the other side didn’t have the same regard; they made stuff up. There wasn’t anything negative so they made stuff up, and it’s unfortunate.”

Szopinski did not comment further on her accusations of Haila’s alleged dishonesty. Szopinski also chose not to elaborate on what negative information the Szopinski campaign withheld about the Haila campaign.

“I’m very disappointed that they [Haila campaign] felt they had to make things up to win, that they had to resort to lying about the Haila campaign,” Szopinski said. “That is really the truth of what went on here. I hope [Haila] does a good job.”

Haila said he does not wish to address these comments.

“The election is over and I’ve, throughout the entire campaign, I’ve chosen to talk about positive things; talk about the community and I will continue to do that,” Haila said. “I have nothing to hide. I have no skeletons in the closet and I’m moving forward.”

Through the campaign season, Haila said those running—which includes himself, newly elected Councilman David Martin for the Third Ward, re-elected Councilwoman Gloria Betcher for the First Ward and re-elected at-large Councilwoman Amber Corrieri—have actively engaged with the community.

Now, Haila said, he looks forward to a January goal setting meeting where this engagement can turn into concrete plans.
SCAN not ‘anti-student’ or ‘anti-rental’

Earlier this year, the Iowa Legislature passed a law pitting Ames residents against each other. On one side were landlords and property managers, breathing a sigh of relief that Ames can no longer restrict occupancy based on familial status. On the other side were neighborhood associations, fearful that without the ordinance, their neighborhoods and houses would become largely renter-occupied.

Caught in the middle? Students — unaware of the large impact their temporary presence has on Iowa's laws and Ames' ordinances on housing.

Working under a deadline of Jan. 1, 2018, the city has discussed limiting low-density residential housing based on student status, number of bedrooms and even parking spaces. Other issues have been raised, too, such as: Is the city taking a proactive or reactive approach to rental enforcement? Which is the better option?

As a way to better understand the issue of housing in Ames — specifically relating to rentals in single-family residential homes and neighborhoods — and its impact on students, the Iowa State Daily has created a series of articles looking at the issue that affects our city, our residents, our landlords and our students. This is the sixth article in that series.

Below are interviews with city, student and university officials and stakeholders on how rental housing directly, and indirectly, impacts them.

Students that live in neighborhoods that surround campus don’t always realize their next-door neighbors may be a family.

Sometimes students and these families living in the same neighborhood can disagree and clash over issues and cause a rift in these communities.

Neighborhood associations in these areas don’t want to push students away from them, said Barbara Pleasants, current president of the South Campus Area Neighborhood Association (SCAN).

“We’re not anti-rental or anti-student, but it changes the nature of a neighborhood when a large portion of homes are occupied by people who come and go every year,” Pleasants said.

Pleasants said they want stability.

The Iowa Legislature passed a law last spring that rescinded an Ames ordinance that keeps more than three unrelated people from living in a house together, which had been in effect for years.

So the City Council has been trying to figure out how to regulate student housing.

For Pleasants, this is not good news.

“When enforced, [the ordinance] was good. There are other problems that caused issues, but the occupancy ordinance helped us,” Pleasants said. “I don’t think anyone complained about the ordinance itself.”

Pleasants saw one of these other problems with the ordinance being the lack of enforcement.

“Enforcement is based on complaint. So nobody was going around checking who was in a house, it was up to neighbors to report violations,” Pleasants said.

Pleasants said she hasn’t seen the ordinance as properly enforced.

“The ordinance itself was about the best one could have thought — it is very common all over the country in college towns because it works,” Pleasants said.

Pleasants hopes the city and the university will work together to solve some of these problems.

The South Campus neighborhood has seen a large shift away from family-centered houses, Pleasants said.

Fern Kupfer, who founded SCAN, agrees.

Kupfer said she is also worried about what such a shift might have on affordable housing in the neighborhood.

“Preserving neighborhood integrity and keeping housing affordable is what we need to focus on,” Kupfer said. “It hurts the community when you basically have college slums.”

Kupfer moved out of the neighborhood due to how much she saw it change.

Pleasants, however, has stayed for the last 34 years.

If they’re going to stay, Pleasants said they need to find “creative solutions” to resolve the issues of a new ordinance to find something that works for everyone in the neighborhood.

Kupfer agreed, but still sees students as a large problem beyond just the occupancy ordinances.

“If you’re a homeowner, you don’t want to be in a neighborhood… [where you are] surrounded by students who are always partying,” Kupfer said.
POLICE BLOTTER

11.11.17

Derek Guy Lester, age 20, of 605 W 70th St - Kansas City, MO, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 10:41 a.m.).

Kourtney Alice Condon, age 20, of 709 Bay Dr - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 10:41 a.m.).

Luke Carey, age 20, of 1425 Coconino Rd Unit 104 - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Jack Trice Football Stadium (reported at 10:52 a.m.).

Joseph Fetherling, age 20, of 2611 Knapp St - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 10:56 a.m.).

Deshawn Joseph Jordan Welch, age 19, of 403 E 16th Ave - Indianola, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Jack Trice Football Stadium (reported at 10:56 a.m.).

Sarah Anne Walter, age 20, of 1222 S 8th St - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:10 a.m.).

Marc Robert Wackelin, age 19, of 2320 Lincoln Way Unit 618 - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:17 a.m.).

Kevin Gerald Ripp, age 20, of 8710 County Rd Kp - Cross Plains, WI, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:17 a.m.).

Shane Michael Sweeney, age 19, of 1405 Coconino Rd - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:23 a.m.).

Taylor Reed Christensen, age 19, of 4001 Schubert St - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:23 a.m.).

Alexander Fisher Schell, age 19, of 926 Hayward Ave Unit 3456 - Ames, IA, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at Lot G3 (reported at 11:38 a.m.).

Emilee Marie Muller, age 21, of 213 S Sheldon Ave Unit 1 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication at Lot G3 (reported at 1:25 p.m.).

Nicholas Jay Miller, age 31, of 2002 S 5th Ave - Marshalltown, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication at 524 Intrafields Rd (reported at 2:53 p.m.).

Nathan Charles Fulton, age 20, of 15319 Airport Ave - Urbandale, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication and possession of alcohol under the legal age at Jack Trice Football Stadium (reported at 3:22 p.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot 55 (reported at 10:31 a.m.).

William John Dean, age 46, of 305 N Union St - Madrid, IA, was cited for reckless use of fire or explosives at 524 Intrafields Rd (reported at 6:11 p.m.).

11.12.17

An officer initiated a driving violation investigation at Stange Rd and Greenbloom Dr (reported at 12:45 a.m.).

Mark Thomas Gravee, age 28, of 3119 Story St - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication - 2nd offense at Union Drive Community Center (reported at 1:44 a.m.).

Officers assisted another agency with a criminal investigation at 2801 Grand Ave (reported at 6:21 p.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Memorial Union Parking Ramp (reported at 1:00 p.m.).

Mitchell Paul Winkens, age 18, of 926 Hayward Ave Unit 8424 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication, possession of alcohol under the legal age, and falsifying driver’s license or non-operator ID at Pearl Hanson Hall (reported at 4:11 p.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a backpack at MWM Commons (reported at 6:17 p.m.).

An individual reported damage to a gate arm at Memorial Union Parking Ramp (reported at 8:37 p.m.).

Dalton Raythan Hensel, age 24, of 111 Lynn Ave Unit 804 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia at Memorial Union and Lot G3 (reported at 10:44 p.m.).

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IOWA STATE DAILY BLOG

The Iowa State Daily welcomes comments and suggestions or complaints about errors that warrant correction. To submit a correction, please contact our editor at 515-294-5668 or via email at editor@iowastatedaily.com.
New tax bill wouldn’t help Americans

Discussing the proposed Republican tax bill is difficult because different versions appear almost daily and the House and Senate have alternative bills. But the proposals have some features worth noting.

Graduate students often receive waivers of their tuition as part of a financial package to make extending their higher education affordable, or at least a little less unaffordable. In the past, this benefit has not been considered taxable income for graduate students. Under the proposed House bill, tuition waivers would be taxable as earned income.

If the House version of the bill passes, a student earning a stipend of $18,000 and awarded a tuition waiver of $25,000 would have to calculate tax on income (before any exemptions) of $43,000 rather than $18,000. This would require cash that would have to be calculated tax on income (before any exemptions) of $43,000 rather than $18,000. This would require cash that

Another target of the proposed tax bill is kindergarten through 12th grade teachers, who will lose a $250 deduction for buying supplies out-of-pocket. A 2013 study found the average teacher spends almost $500 from personal funds annually to supplement meager school budgets. Removing a deduction that allows teachers to deduct part of what they spend personally is mean-spirited and misguided.

At the same time, the House bill would eliminate the rarely-paid estate tax (which applies to only one in 500 households). The Senate would double the exemption; individuals would pay estate tax only on amounts over $11 million ($22 million for couples).

What do these proposals say about our national values and priorities? Why make graduate school unaffordable and remove a small but symbolic deduction from dedicated teachers, while allowing the extremely wealthy to accumulate even more wealth tax-free? How does any of this make America greater?

Sometimes, on certain days, it can be hard to even leave your room. Leaving the room means you have to face reality and the outside world, full of stress, people and responsibilities that can seem too hard to keep up with. It can even be deciding whether going to class is worth the work.

At Iowa State, counseling is offered for almost anything. Whether you are depressed, stressed, have a relationship problem or would like some help with anxiety, the Student Counseling Services here on campus can do almost whatever a student needs. This service is also included in tuition, so if it’s already paid for, why not use it?

No one, especially college students, should allow anxiety to seize even a little bit of their time, and the only way to prevent this consumption of worry is to get help for it.

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The Daily encourages discussion but does not guarantee its publication. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter or online feedback.

Send your letters to letters@iowastatedaily.com. Letters must include the name(s), phone number(s), majors and/or group affiliation(s) and year in school. Phone numbers and addresses will not be published.

Online feedback may be used if first name and last name, major and year in school are included in the post. Feedback posted online is eligible for print in the Iowa State Daily.
The Iowa State volleyball team had an up and down week last week. The team went out and swept the West Virginia Mountaineers on the road only to follow up with an inconsistent four-set loss to the Texas Longhorns at home, the then-No. 3 ranked team in the country.

Now, the Cyclones look to put together a consistent week as they have two road matches. The road trip starts with a match against the Oklahoma Sooners.

"Pretty huge week coming up for [Iowa State]," said coach Christy Johnson-Lynch. "[Oklahoma] is playing a lot better than they did earlier this season. It's going to be a big challenge to go on the road and win and play well."

However, earlier this season Iowa State had an easy time with Oklahoma. In the match at Hilton Coliseum, the Cyclones won in four sets. The only set the Sooners won was the first, 31-29. After that it was all Iowa State.

The Cyclones offense and defense were on point in that match, collectively tallying a .256 hitting percentage, while holding Oklahoma to a .202 hitting percentage. However, the Sooners are a different team now than they were in September.

"Probably, like a lot of people, just figuring some stuff out," Johnson-Lynch said. "How to use people the best way. I think [Oklahoma's] outsides are playing pretty well. They are relying on one outside a lot. She is getting close to leading the conference in kills per set."

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The outside hitter Johnson-Lynch is referring to is junior Alyssa Enneking.

Last time against Iowa State, Enneking totaled 21 kills. Although Enneking is a threat, the team is preparing like she is just another normal outside hitter.

"Just the same as any other hitter," said libero Hali Hillegas. "I think we realize that they rely on their outside hitters a lot. So, we are going to focus in on them and then see what they do against us."

But overall, as a team, the Sooners are just playing at a better level.

While Oklahoma is playing better, which means it will be more difficult to get a win this time around for Iowa State, this match presents another opportunity for the Cyclones to keep on building their resume to claim a top-16 seed for the NCAA Tournament. Going into the match, Iowa State's RPI is No. 15 in the country. That is a big factor in determining which teams claim a top-16 seed to host an opening round of the NCAA Tournament. And a win against the Sooners can possibly move the needle a tad bit further to help the Cyclones claim one of those 16 spots.

"[These last three matches] are crucial," Johnson-Lynch said. Although these three matches are critical, there are more factors in determining whether Iowa State claims a top seed.

"The wins and losses are more under our control," Johnson-Lynch said. "After that, we can win out and get a seed or we can win out and not get a seed. We just don't know."

Iowa State doesn’t talk about whether or not it will claim a top-16 seed. It just focuses on the next practice and match at hand.

And come 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, down in Norman, Oklahoma, the Cyclones will be focused on taking down the Sooners.
The way the combat works is pretty straightforward, to kill the enemy. Opponents can be taken down in several ways. A shot to the torso or head, when legal, is an automatic death. Strikes to the legs and arms results in a loss of use of that appendage, losing two usually results in death. Just like there are various ways to die, there are various fighting scenarios that are played. Firth (left) is in combat with Russell Silvis or “Vengar” (center) and Logan Anderson or “Duc” (right) in a game that takes on the aspect of World War II. Germany, with its advanced weaponry, is trying to invade Russia, who have very limited weapons as shown by Duc using a potato as a weapon.

Tir Asleen is a “realm” that is apart of a broader combat society called Belegarth. Belegarth stretches across the United States and also includes realms in Europe, Mexico and Puerto Rico. Belegarth differs from regular live action role-playing (LARP) in that it focuses more on the fighting aspect then the role playing.

Tir Asleen is a medieval combat group that is commonly seen on campus fighting with padded swords and shields. The group participates in fighting games that include everything from one-on-one “king of the hill” to team groups like capture the flag. The premise of the sport is to invoke dark ages fighting with medieval weapons and garb.
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