YOUR LOCAL VOTING GUIDE

Polling locations in Ames will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WARD 1
A: W1P1 - Wilson Toyota, 2212 S. Duff Ave. (effective 9/18/17; temporary site)
B: W1P2 - University Baptist Church, 2400 Mortensen Parkway
C: W1P3 - Human Services Center, 126 S. Kellogg Ave.
D: W1P4 - Ames Public Library, Auditorium, 515 Douglas Ave.
E: W1P5 - Grand Avenue Baptist Church, 612 24th St. (effective 9/18/17; temporary site)

WARD 2
F: W2P1 - Fire Service Training Bureau, 1015 Haber Road, ISU
G: W2P2 - Bethesda Lutheran Church, 1517 Northwestern Avenue
H: W2P3 - North Grand Christian Church, 919 30th St.
I: W2P4 - Ascension Lutheran Church, 2400 Bloomington Road
J: W2P5 - Stonebrook Community Church, 1611 Eisenhower Avenue

WARD 3
K: W3P1 - Green Hills Retirement Community, 2205 Green Hills Drive (effective 9/21/17; temporary site)
L: W3P2 - Ames Middle School (Room B111A), 3915 Mortensen Road
M: W3P3 - Collegiate United Methodist Church, 2622 Lincoln Way
N: W3P4 - Hilton Garden Inn, 1325 Dickinson Avenue
O: W3P5 - St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church, 209 Colorado Avenue

WARD 4
P: W4P1 - Buchanan Hall Room 2009, 2160 Lincoln Way, ISU (effective 9/5/16)
Q: W4P2 - Maple Hall Conference Room M01B, 204 Beach Road, ISU
R: W4P3 - Union Drive Community Center Room 136, 207 Beyer Ct., ISU
S: W4P4 - Collegiate Presbyterian Church, 159 Sheldon Avenue
T: W4P5 - Trinity Christian Reformed Church, 3626 Ontario Street

HOW TO FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE
Go to the Iowa Secretary of State website, click “Find my polling place” on the front page, and enter your zip code. Or, numbers in parentheses show the precinct number on your voter registration card.

HOW TO REGISTER

CANDIDATE PROFILES
Mayoral policy questions

Victoria Szopinski

Ames mayoral candidate Victoria Szopinski said that she feels people need to be heard and know they’re being heard.

“ Asking people, engaging and appreciating that there’s a lot of knowledge out there and we can figure these things out together ... People want to help. They just need to be asked,” Szopinski said.

Szopinski feels that it is important for Ames to keep the Resolution to Reaffirm the Public Safety Function of Law Enforcement.

“If enough cities stand up and say ‘Fine, pull our money, but we have values,’ then it’s not going to happen,” Szopinski said.

Szopinski sat on the Iowa ACLU board of directors that supported the state legislature’s decision to eliminate Ames’ occupancy ordinance about three non-related adults, but felt that college towns should be given unique consideration and opposed the legislation.

Szopinski said during the Nov. 2 candidate forum hosted by Iowa State’s Student Government on Nov. 2.

Mayoral candidate John Haila, who describes himself as “passionately non-partisan,” said in his September profile with the Daily that he wants to ensure that jobs that are illegal, Haila again stressed his belief in hearing as many viewpoints as possible before making decisions about how the city should respond.

“I believe that at this point in time, Council is landing on one adult per bedroom plus one and I believe this seems to be a reasonable compromise,” Haila said at the candidate forum hosted by Iowa State’s Student Government on Nov. 2.

With regards to the lease gap, Haila feels the city government should not be involved in regulating leases.

“I would not be supportive of the city starting to insert itself into dealing with lease issues,” Haila said at the Nov. 2 candidate forum. “A lease is a legal document that you enter into, a student enters into with a landlord and for the city to start getting into and dealing with lease issues, I believe becomes an overextension of what the city’s responsibilities should be. I am certainly sympathetic to that and I know that when you are going to school and you sign a lease that there’s a lot of fine print.”

When Haila was asked about tangible actions to increase inclusion for black residents of Ames at the Oct. 18 candidate forum at the Ames Public Library, he responded with a general message of relationship building.

“It is not just a matter of saying ‘someone else should do it,’ it is actually us personally reaching out across the aisle, across the street, whatever, ally us personally reaching out across different walks of life,” Haila said.

Mayoral policy questions

BY K.RAMBO
@iowastatedaily.com
It’s that time of year again — it’s election time.

Four candidates are running for City Council this year, two of them uncontested for their current seats, and two running head to head for the third ward seat. Meet the candidates who could be representing you in local government.

Rob Bowers

Rob Bowers is the current Iowa State associate director of public safety running against David Martin for City Council member Peter Orazem’s seat in the third ward.

Bowers has served on the Iowa State Police Department for 32 years, the Iowa State University Professional and Scientific Council and is the current Vice Chair of the Ames Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a graduate of Iowa State, receiving his bachelor’s degree in political science and economics as well as receiving a master’s degree in public administration.

Bowers’ largest platform initiative is to increase private sector job growth. In addition, Bowers feels that the creation of a public gathering space is crucial to the Campustown community. Bowers, as someone with a background in law enforcement, has spoken publicly about the importance of public safety.

David Martin

David Martin currently works full time as a consultant at his company David Martin Consulting for computer technology and is running against Rob Bowers for outgoing City Council member Peter Orazem’s third ward seat.

Martin is an Iowa State graduate, majored in mathematics and computer science and received his doctorate in computer science from Boston University. Martin does not have experience in public office but feels that his experience living in various places, including California and Germany, has given him a unique ability to communicate and collaborate.

Martin hopes to promote inclusivity in Ames as an openly gay elected official as well as improve internet connectivity by treating reliable high-speed internet as infrastructure. Martin is also focused on affordable housing and providing opportunities to those in Ames that he feels he received while growing up in near Campustown.

Gloria Betcher

Gloria Betcher is an adjunct associate professor at Iowa State University and is an incumbent running unopposed for the City Council third ward. She received her bachelor’s cum laude in medieval studies and Latin from St. Olaf’s College and received her master’s and Ph.D. in English from the University of Minnesota.

Betcher currently serves on the Ames Economic Development Commission Board and the Ames Historic Preservation Commission, in which she has been chair of for seven years.

Her primary values include neighborhood stabilization, quality of life around Campustown and economic growth in Ames. Betcher is also heavily focused on improving relations between students and long-term residents through various efforts including the Campus and Community Commission.

Amber Corrieri

Amber Corrieri is an at–large member of the City of Ames Council and a graduate of Iowa State University. She was first elected to City Council in 2013 and is running uncontested for her current seat.

Corrieri previously worked in the financial field but currently directs Mainstream Living, a nonprofit organization that provides residential and support services to people with disabilities or mental illnesses.

Corrieri’s primary concerns are affordable housing, the Healthy Life Center and a public gathering space in Campustown. Corrieri is heavily focused on increasing and strengthening human services through implementing an outcomes-based measurement system. She also believes in investment in campustown and downtown Ames, as well as incentivizing non-formula business growth in Ames.
POLICE BLOTTER

11.2.17
Kibaek Kim, age 22, of 2610 Stange Rd Unit 11 - Ames, IA, was cited for criminal trespass at 2610-11 Stange Rd (reported at 8:02 a.m.).

Collin J Stefanik, age 23, of 4300 Westbrook Dr Unit 20 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication at Chabotlen St and Stanton Ave (reported at 1:34 a.m.).

An officer initiated an assault related investigation at Sheldon Ave and West St (reported at 10:00 a.m.).

An officer initiated a harassment related investigation at Beyer Hall (reported at 9:53 a.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a bicycle at Eaton Hall (reported at 10:05 a.m.).

Meghann Olivia Hoag, age 20, of 723 Hudson St - Eau Claire, WI, was cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age at University Blvd and 4th St (reported at 9:01 p.m.).

An officer initiated a drug related investigation at Elm Hall (reported at 11:30 p.m.).

11.3.17
Changde Seo, age 22, of 2810 Stange Rd Unit 8 - Ames, IA, was cited and released for possession of drug paraphernalia at (reported at 12:11 a.m.).

Jacey Goetzman, age 19, of 4088 Elm Hall - Ames, IA, was cited and released for possession of drug paraphernalia at (reported at 11:42 p.m.).

Jovarras Teerrell Hodges, age 19, of 4912 Mortensen Rd - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance, operating while intoxicated, possession of drug paraphernalia, and improper registration plate lamp at Mortensen Rd and Seagrave Blvd (reported at 1:54 a.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot 11 (reported at 8:15 a.m.).

An officer checked on the welfare of an individual at Town Engineering Building (reported at 9:34 a.m.).

An officer assisted another agency with a criminal investigation at Armory Building (reported at 9:36 a.m.).

Drew Markhabat Seefeldt, age 21, of 1229 Hawthorn Court Dr Unit 3634 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct at Hub (reported at 12:22 p.m.).

An individual reported being assaulted at Jack Trice Football Stadium (reported at 2:47 p.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a laptop at Parks Library (reported at 3:34 p.m.).

An investigator observed a property damage collision at Stange Rd and Bruner Dr (reported at 4:33 p.m.).

11.4.17
Edward Ford Pszczolkowski, age 21, of 3316 West Street - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with public intoxication at Lincoln Way and Hayward Ave (reported at 12:42 a.m.).

An investigator observed a property damage collision at Ames Intermediate Facility (reported at 1:57 a.m.).

Anthony Lopez Romero, age 51, of 1024 Shagbark Dr Unit 8 - Nevada, IA, was arrested and charged with operating while intoxicated, driving on wrong side of two way highway, and failure to have valid license or permit while operating at Lincoln Way and Beach Ave (reported at 2:45 a.m.).

Bienfait Mbonimpa Kirivita, age 23, of 2311 Chabotlen St Unit 301 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with operating while intoxicated, improper use of lanes, and failure to prove security against liability at Lincoln Way and Marshall Ave (reported at 3:05 a.m.).

An officer responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch at 3400-89 Mortensen Rd (reported at 5:44 a.m.).

Drew Markhabat Seefeldt, age 21, of 1229 Hawthorn Court Dr Unit 3634 - Ames, IA, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct at 36 Frederiksen Court (reported at 6:03 a.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a bicycle at Friley Hall (reported at 7:37 p.m.).

IOWA STATE DAILY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

IOWA STATE DAILY

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AJ’s Ultra Lounge, located on Chamberlain St. in Campustown, is known for their ever-expanding patio, late nights and the infamous VIP Lounge.

“AJ’s Ultra Lounge has its own image compared to other bars in Ames, because there are so many different areas that we utilize. AJ’s is named after my wife, Andrea Jill Singh, who is also a co-owner of the bar and both liquor stores in Ames,” said Ben Singh, co-owner of AJ’s Ultra Lounge.

“AJ’s is the best place to hang out with friends at the end of the night, especially if you want to get your dance on,” said Dylan Firsching, senior in elementary education.

Explaining the atmosphere of the bar, Singh said, “Each floor level offers something different at AJ’s Ultra Lounge, the first floor is more of a casual sports bar feeling,”

“It’s easily the best patio in Ames, and it’s always getting better,” said Clay Gunzenhauser, senior in civil engineering.

“The second floor has more of a club feeling to it, with a dance floor and the third floor is a VIP Lounge with bottle service,” Singh said.

The patio at AJ’s Ultra Lounge allows students to enjoy drinks outside for eight months of the year, as long as weather permits.

Commenting on the success of AJ’s Ultra Lounge and AJ’s Liquor Store, Singh said, “AJ’s has become such a part of Campustown because of the Iowa State students and the support of Ames citizens. We are so proud to be a part of the Ames community.”

BY MATILDA.KILSTAR
@iowastatedaily.com
This week, you've worked harder than you ever have before, Aries. You're finally seeing it all pay off and now is the time to reward yourself! On Friday, you'll run into a friend from your past. Make plans to catch up, and feel free to brag about your hard work and recent accomplishments.

Don't let anyone push you around, Taurus. Someone you have been collaborating with has taken credit for your work. Take ownership for the effort you've put in and voice your opinion! Someone you admire will take notice and finally give you the credit you deserve.

Why does everything have to be so complicated, Gemini? You're juggling more than you can handle and it's overwhelming you. Take a step back and list everything that truly makes you happy. If something is causing you stress, maybe you should move on. You'll have a clearer mind Sunday.

You are feeling uncertain about an upcoming opportunity, Cancer. Could it be a new job? Or perhaps a promotion? Either way, you're not sure if you are capable of this new responsibility. There is a reason you have been given this opportunity, so take it in stride. Financial success is in your horizon if you give it your all and stick with it.

You tend to be the funniest one in the group, Leo. While your sense of humor is one of your best qualities, be careful about hurting someone's feelings. Friday will be your best day.

Loosen up this weekend, Virgo! You're feeling stuck and unsure of what to do next. You always end up figuring it all out so don't worry. For now, head to AJ's and have a night out. Sometimes, you obsess about the future without enjoying the present. You will have the time of your life Saturday night, just let go!

You have a difficult time in choosing which path to take, Libra. Your tendency to agonize over the making right decision often leads to second-guessing yourself. You always know what direction to take, just listen to your intuition. Sunday will be a day of clarity and realization for you.

You've been indulging lately, Scorpio! Whether you're spending too much money or eating too much Halloween candy, you may want to step back before it becomes a bad habit. Saturday will tempt you to indulge, but do your best to fight it!

You've been all over the place, Sagittarius. In this case, it's because everyone wants to see you! Enjoy the popularity and company of your friends. Friday will be your best day!

Sometimes even a self-sufficient Capricorn needs help. You've been having trouble in an important aspect of your life. Perhaps a challenging class or job? Although you are known for your independence, a weight will be lifted off your shoulders if you ask a trusted person for help.

Are you putting your mental health first, Aquarius? Make sure to check in on yourself occasionally, and to give yourself breaks when needed. Saturday is the perfect day to relax and unwind!

You are deeply rooted to your family, and lately it feels like you're on your own. This is far from true, Pisces. Give a close family member a call and let them know you're thinking of them. They will appreciate it and it will give you the comfort you need.

Q: How do computers get drunk?
A: A screenshot of tequila

Q: What does tequila prove?
A: That happiness is the movement in between lime and salt.

Q: Why is tequila never the answer?
A: Because it makes you forget the question

Q: Is it alright to drink a bottle of tequila?
A: Only if you want it to-kill-ya

Q: What do you do when you mix English class with tequila?
A: Tequila Mockingbird

Q: What do you do when life hands you limes?
A: Find some tequila and salt
You: What's up? You ready to ___________tonight? Friend: Totally! What time are you ___________ over? You: In a
little while. Did you buy all the_________for the party? Friend: I think so. Let’s do a/an ___________ rundown.
You: Okay, we need a/an ___________ of beer, plenty of _________ Solo cups, some ping-pong ___________, _________
pizzas, a couple bottles of ___________ and a/an ___________ music playlist to keep it going. Oh, and do you have any
more of those ___________ brownies? Those were ___________ intense. Friend: All good! You: ___________ How many
_____________ the invitation? Friend: Wow, this party is going to be ___________ boring with just the two of us huh? You: Let's
just go to the ___________.

MAD SCRIBS

WIN TICKETS
FOR THIS SATURDAYS GAME

Simply comment on this promotion on facebook & you are entered!

You must be here Wednesday to win!
There are three main types of tequila that are important to know about when choosing what’s going to go best with a meal: Silver, Reposado and Añejo. Silver is the lightest and least strong tequila of the three, as the darker the color of tequila the stronger the flavor will be.

**SILVER TEQUILA**
Silver tequila is the preferred tequila for margaritas because it’s associated with a smoother taste. Additionally, it goes well with appetizers or lighter dishes such as...
- Chips and salsa/guacamole
- Ceviche
- Tempura
- Pork or seafood dishes
- Tamales/enchiladas

**REPOSADO TEQUILA**
Reposado tequila has an oaky flavor to it, this is because it is aged in oak barrels anywhere from two months to a year. Reposados are best paired with honey, cinnamon, orange juice or anything spicy or smoky such as...
- Chicken breasts or steak
- Cheeses
- Soups
- Chocolates

**ANEJO TEQUILA**
Añejo is one of the oldest tequilas since it needs to be aged for at least one year in oak barrels. Because of this they tend to have the strongest oak flavor, they usually are a lot smoother though. Try it with:
- Beef tenderloin or filet or sirloin steak
- Seafood
- Reserve cheeses
- Chocolate truffles/cake
- Roasted chicken

Since there are three main types of tequila, we will do a pairing for each type this week!

**DARING PAIRINGS OF THE WEEK**
Casamigos Tequila Blanco Margarita + Shrimp Tempura
Partida Tequila Reposado Chai Hot Toddy + Spicy Chicken Tortilla Soup
1800 Tequila Añejo Blizzard Saver + Chocolate Truffles
Cooking
Cooking the agave is the next step. Conventional brick ovens and/or stainless steel autoclaves are used to activate a chemical process within the heart of the agave that converts complex carbohydrates into simple, fermentable sugars. The heart of the agave, also called the piña, is softened to make sugar extraction easier.

Extraction
Extraction, step two, occurs when the agave heads are moved to a milling area for sugar extraction. The cooked hearts are crushed to release a juice termed “aguamiel” that will soon be fermented. Most distilleries use a machine to separate the fiber from the aguamiel, later mincing the hearts and washing with water to strain and remove the essential juices.

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Fermentation
This leads to step four: fermentation. Similar to the creation process of other alcohols, fermentation is essential because this is when the sugars are converted into alcohol. Distillers do so by using a form of wild yeast to stimulate and control the fermentation process. This can take anywhere from seven to 12 days depending on ingredients and methods used.

Distillation
During distillation, step five, ferments from the previous step are separated by heat and steam pressure within stainless steel pot stills or distillation towers. Usually tequila goes through multiple rounds of distillation, with the first distillation taking a few hours. This is known as destilamiento, or smashing, which produces an alcoholic liquid called ordinario. Round two of distillation, commonly referred to as rectification, lasts about three to four hours and as a result yields an even stronger alcohol level.

Aging
Aging, the next step, varies widely based on the distillery and the type of tequila they desire. Factors like time aged and barrel quality will affect the taste of the tequila; for example, the longer the tequila ages, the more color the final product will have.

Bottling
Bottling, the final step, is arguably the most precise. Because tequila has an Appellation of Origin status, production is restricted to five Mexican states: Guanajuato, Jalisco, Michoacán, Nayarit and Tamaulipas.

Tequila Education

BY JULIAN MCKEE
@iowastatedaily.com

Taco Tuesdays and margaritas go hand in hand for many college students. What goes hand in hand with a good margarita? Tequila, of course.

A unique quality about tequila is that authentic tequila is always made with blue agave, a succulent plant found in Mexico. All tequila that contains 100 percent agave must be bottled in designated Mexican regions while also bearing the “Hecho en Mexico/Made in Mexico” label. Mixtos, or tequila with anything less than 100 percent agave, is able to be sold and bottled throughout the entire world.

An ice cold margarita, Long Island Iced Tea or Tequila Sunrise are great ways to enjoy the classic taste of tequila. There are seven steps that go into the creation of tequila, each step regulated by the Consejo Regulador de Tequila to guarantee the general rules and guidelines are followed to ensure maximum quality.

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AJ's Ultra Lounge, located at 2401 Chamberlain St., is Ames’ largest bar. With three distinctly different levels, AJ’s has something for everyone. Some interesting and unique things about AJ’s include:

1. AJ’s has birthday specials for ‘Mugs’, on the Thursday of your birthday week head to AJ’s to get 21 mugs for $21. The special

2. AJ’s has birthday specials for ‘Mugs’, on the Thursday of your birthday week head to AJ’s to get 21 mugs for $21. The special

3. AJ’s has birthday specials for ‘Mugs’, on the Thursday of your birthday week head to AJ’s to get 21 mugs for $21. The special

4. AJ’s also has great drink specials Wednesday through Saturday. On Wednesday from 8 to 11 p.m., they offer $1 wells, $2 wells from 11 p.m. to midnight and then from midnight to close $3 wells. Thursdays are for mug night as well as $5 Adios drinks and $5 domestic beers from 8 to 11 p.m. Friday’s at AJ’s are reserved for Friday after class (FAC).

AJ’s understands that after a long week of classes and homework students need to unwind, so from 5 to 5:30 p.m. AJ’s offers 50 cent wells drinks. From 5:30 to 8 p.m. $1 wells, 8 to 10 p.m. $2 wells and then finally, from 10 p.m. until close $4 wells. On Saturdays AJ’s offers $1 wells from 8 to 10 p.m., after from 10 p.m. until close there are $4 wells specials. They also offer $4 fish bowls, $3 margaritas and $5 pitchers.

5. Not only is AJ’s the largest bar in Ames but they also has the largest patio, where FAC usually takes place.
How do you prefer your tequila?

1. What do you like to mix your tequila with?
   A) Lime Juice
   B) Orange Juice
   C) Grapefruit Soda
   D) Pineapple Juice

2. Where do you like to drink your tequila?
   A) With friends at a bar
   B) At a house party
   C) At the pregame before the party
   D) At AJ’s Ultra Lounge

3. What do you like to eat with your tequila?
   A) Buttered shrimp
   B) Ground beef tacos
   C) Spice rubbed steak
   D) Grilled pork tenderloin

4. Who do you prefer to drink your tequila with?
   A) Family
   B) Friends
   C) Coworkers
   D) The loner at the bar

5. What type of glass do you prefer to drink your tequila from?
   1) Margarita glass
   2) Collins glass
   3) Highball glass
   4) Champagne flute

If you picked A for most of the answers, you prefer to drink a margarita. Normally, a margarita consists of tequila, triple sec and lime juice. The rim of the glass is edged with salt and accompanied with a wedge of lime.

If you picked B for most of the answers, you prefer to drink a Tequila Sunrise. A Tequila Sunrise is a mix of tequila, grenadine and orange juice. The drink is normally unmixed to represent the colors of a sunrise.

If you picked C for most of the answers, you prefer to drink a paloma. A paloma is one part tequila in addition to three parts grapefruit-flavored soda. This simple drink is easy to make, especially if the only drink glass you have around is a soda can.

If you picked D for most of the answers, you prefer to drink a matador. Although the matador is a little less common than a margarita, it is still popular and easy to make. Normally a matador consists of tequila, pineapple juice and lime.
Join The Draft at SIPS

FRIDAY NOV 10

8:00–9:00 FREE SMIRNOFF DRINKS
9:00–10:00 $1 SMIRNOFF DRINKS
FREE PIZZA

-VIP CARD REQUIRED FOR SPECIAL-
** AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT DOOR **
A decentralized campus is beneficial

Universities offer, as their name implies, a multitude of choices and opportunities for student learning, formal and extra-curricular. With its eight colleges, Iowa State University provides students with a wealth of courses of study.

At ISU, the colleges operate in many ways in a decentralized fashion. For instance, the College of Business has its own resident academic advisors, its own publicity staff and its own development officers who coordinate their efforts with the ISU Foundation. Of course, the faculty of the college determine curriculum for the majors offered by the college, which differs significantly from courses of study in other colleges.

Because different areas of study have very different world views, investigate research questions from alternative viewpoints and methods, and have different approaches to educating and training students, such independence and decentralization is beneficial.

However, sometimes students want to build bridges across colleges to see the same issues through a different lens.

The university provides possibilities for learning about other fields in the lecture series, visiting scholars presentations, movies and events. We ask for more opportunities for formal learning and class work across colleges.

For instance, currently students seeking two degrees must repeat all their general education requirements in both colleges rather than create a fruitful synthesis that reduces repetition.

Sometimes coordinating between colleges adds what feels like unnecessary time and procedures to a student’s already busy schedule.

We appreciate and value the decentralization that allows differences to flourish and reflects the very different goals and underlying views of ISU’s colleges, but when students want to bridge those differences in their courses of study, we would like to see tools for easier communication and coordination.

By Isaac Sinclair
@iowastatedaily.com

COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Columnist Isaac Sinclair argues that when students take a gap year, it can actually be beneficial. 96 percent of students who took a gap year said it helped them develop as a person.

When I came to college, I remember being excited and nervous about what was to come. My future was right in front of me, and I was ready to find out what that actually looked like.

But for others, college can be a daunting task. It can feel like a tall mountain that they can’t climb, whether that’s financially or mentally.

A solution to ease this pressure is taking a gap year, which means you take a year off between graduating high school and entering college.

Personally, I would never take a gap year. I know it would be difficult for me to get back into the swing of college life, but I do think gap years have their benefits in certain situations.

Students should not take a gap year simply because they want a year off of school. Taking a gap year to just sit around and do nothing is pointless, and a sign that you aren’t taking your academic life seriously. Taking a gap year shouldn’t be focused around having fun and being lazy. It should be about doing what’s right for you.

Many people take a gap year to earn enough money to afford college, they don’t feel prepared to go to college or to avoid being academically burnt out. I believe that is a great decision. Making sure you are financially and mentally prepared for college is important, and taking a gap year will allow people to do that.

However, if you take a gap year, you need to have a long-term plan. You need to be productive in your year off while also being sure you know what your plans and goals are once you come back to college.

96 percent of students who took a gap year said it helped them develop as a person. Having the time to reflect upon life and decide what you want to do with your future is important.

You just need to make sure your priorities and plans are aligned with one another if you do decide to take a gap year.

Besides self-development, 90 percent of student who took a gap year returned to college within a year, and those that returned tended to have a higher GPA than non-gap-year students and be more focused.

When done right, a gap year can help students avoid academically burning out and refocus them on what they actually want out of their life and college experience. I would advise caution when deciding to take a gap year, but if you have good reasons for doing so and have a plan going forward, more power to you. Enjoy your gap year and make sure you come back to college prepared and focused.

Student gap years can be beneficial

BY ISAAC SINCLAIR
@iowastatedaily.com

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Iowa State Daily Tuesday, November 7, 2017

SPORTS

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I know, Iowa State hadn’t lost a football game in 36 days until last Saturday when the Cyclones lost to West Virginia 20-16. That loss still doesn’t mean Iowa State is out of the Big 12 Championship game in December.

Iowa State is 6-3 overall and 4-2 in the Big 12, which means the Cyclones are currently tied for third with Oklahoma State and West Virginia. Even though they’re third, they need a win and a small prayer to get into that championship game.

There are different situations that play into Iowa State’s chances to play in Arlington, Texas, on Dec. 2. The easiest way for the Cyclones to reach the Big 12 Championship game is to win out the rest of the regular season and hope for a loss from TCU or West Virginia.

If TCU, West Virginia and Iowa State win out the next three weeks, Iowa State will not be in the championship game. TCU would obviously have the better record and West Virginia would have the same record as the Cyclones, but would hold the head-to-head tiebreaker.

If Iowa State defeats Oklahoma State, Baylor and Kansas State, it will need a loss from West Virginia or TCU to reach the title game. If it loses any of the next three games, it could be interesting to nearly impossible for Iowa State to head to the Big 12 title game.

The 4-3 team will have little to no shot to reach that title game. Now, Iowa State has one thing Oklahoma State doesn’t have this season.

The tiebreaker.

Iowa State has defeated Oklahoma and TCU this season, while the Cowboys have lost to both. Oklahoma State needs this win to stay in contention of going to the title game. As for West Virginia, the Mountaineers have lost to TCU and Oklahoma State this season. West Virginia plays Oklahoma in the last game of the regular season.

I still think Iowa State has a very good chance to make it to the title game. The Cyclones are 3-2 at home this season, but the last two home games have been Iowa State wins. Iowa State needs to win this game to have any chance of making the title game and I think they’ll be able to pull it off. Also, I think West Virginia will fall to Oklahoma since it’s in Norman, Oklahoma, and the Sooners are ranked in the top five.

The Cyclones shouldn’t have a problem against Baylor and Kansas State, their last two opponents, so this upcoming game is the biggest game for Iowa State. If it loses, the title game chances fall to the smallest percentage.

Oklahoma and TCU have fairly easy matchups the last two weeks of the season. TCU plays at Texas Tech and at home against Baylor, while Oklahoma plays at Kansas and hosts West Virginia. Both the Horned Frogs and the Sooners should be 2-0 over those weeks unless a major upset.

So to wrap it all up, Iowa State needs to win out these next three weeks and have a little miracle to take a trip to AT&T Stadium, the home of the Dallas Cowboys.

In addition to the possibility of a Big 12 title game, Iowa State fans will enjoy heading to Florida or Texas or somewhere south for a bowl game at the end of December. So, if there’s no title game, at least fans can enjoy the warmth in December at a bowl game.

I hope this makes you breathe a little easier because everything is going to be alright, Iowa State fans.

FOOTBALL STANDINGS

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<tr>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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*These are the top five of the 10 teams in the Big 12
Alum to release debut novel

“The Breathless” by Tara Goedjen

Author Tara Goedjen will be having a reading and book signing for her new book “The Breathless” 7 p.m. today at the Ames Public Library.

Goedjen summarized her debut novel as, “A gothic mystery set on the Gulf Coast, “The Breathless” follows 16-year-old Mac Cole’s quest to uncover who is responsible for her sister’s mysterious death and the terrifying turn it takes as she starts to dig up long-buried secrets about her family’s dark past.”

“In elementary school, around fourth grade, I remember just knowing that I would write a book one day. I loved reading so much that I wanted to be a part of the process in a more significant way,” Goedjen said. “I wanted to tell stories that made other people feel how I did every time I picked up a good novel.”

An alumna of Iowa State University, Goedjen originally came to Ames on a scholarship to play tennis, somewhat following her father who played football for the Cyclones.

“Even as a freshman, I knew I wanted to be a writer, but I wasn’t sure what to get my degree in, or what I’d do for work after graduating. I ended up majoring in marketing and minoring in English,” Goedjen said.

Goedjen continued, “One of my favorite experiences at Iowa State was getting invited by my English professor to help teach creative writing at [a] prison. That course showed me the profound effect that writing and storytelling can have, and it also inspired me to get a master of fine arts in order to continue teaching.”

“The Breathless” isn’t the first novel that Goedjen has written, but it is the first that she’s published.

“Receiving an offer from Random House to publish it was a dream come true, especially after all of the years I spent writing in my spare time. I used to write in the mornings before teaching and between the postgraduate classes I was taking,” Goedjen said. “Sometimes the hardest part of pursuing a passion is finding time for it outside of your day job, and staying focused on what matters most to you.”

Like other authors, Goedjen wears her influences on her sleeve. Main influences of hers include Toni Morrison and Shirley Jackson.

“When I was in high school, I adored Stephen King, and that early love of his work inspired me to write,” Tara Goejen said. “The best part about releasing my debut has been getting the chance to meet readers at book events. I’m constantly inspired by other young-adult authors.”

“As a writer who got her start while at Iowa State, Goedjen closed with some words of advice for other aspiring writers who are also taking classes.

“Just keep working on your craft, and take every opportunity you can to learn more about the writing process and how the publishing industry ticks,” Goedjen said. “Attending readings and book events is a great way to make connections and figure out what writing advice might work for you.”

Goedjen’s reading and book signing is free and open to the public.

Last week in music: Pop dominates

“Red Pill Blues” - Maroon 5

Listen, I could sit here and make a joke about how Maroon 5 has been the “Adam Levine Show” for their last few albums, but that’s not a secret.

I could comment on how humorous it is that with seven official members, the band sounds more minimalist than ever, but they have been on that path for a while now. The truth is, “Red Pill Blues” is a pop album so subtle that it hurts.

Most tracks feature Adam Levine doing his best Drake or The Weeknd tribute, a sound that doesn’t best suit the band’s strongest points. I guess the most frustrating part of Maroon 5 as a whole right now is that we know they can write incredible pop songs (take a look back to 2002 or 2007 for proof), they’re just choosing not to.

“The Thrill Of It All” - Sam Smith

Here’s the thing... If you enjoyed Smith’s debut smash LP “In the Lonely Hour,” you will more than likely find much to like about “The Thrill Of It All.” In many ways, it’s essentially part two of his freshman LP. Many of Smith’s gospel and R&B influences are still very prevalent, but his songwriting skills are a bit more subdued this time around and less hook focused.

Maybe “The Thrill of It All” wasn’t the best name for the album, as it wasn’t as thrilling as maybe Smith had hoped.
FAMILIES OF FALLEN SERVICE MEMBERS ATTEND GOLD STAR CEREMONY
The national anthem is played as the flag is presented by Iowa State ROTC members at the Gold Star ceremony on Monday. The four servicemen honored at the ceremony were Robert Geoffroy, Wheeler Brooks, Jeffrey Krommenhoek and James McGough.

HOW TO REGISTER
Pre-registration has closed since it must be done 10 days before the election. No worries, people can still register the day of.
In order to register at the polls, people must bring a few materials.

According to the Iowa Secretary of State’s website, the following are acceptable forms of ID:
- Iowa non-driver ID card
- Out of state driver’s license or non-driver ID card
- U.S. passport
- U.S. military ID
- ID card issued by employer
- Student ID issued by Iowa high school or college

Voters must also prove their residency. The following materials are accepted:
- Utility bill (including a cell phone bill)
- Bank statement
- Paycheck
- Government check or other government document

If someone can’t prove their identity or residency with the above materials, someone else may attest for them requiring both to sign an oath swearing the statements being made are true.

Falsely attesting or being attested for is registration fraud. It is a class “D” felony and is punishable by a fine of up to $7,500 and up to 5 years in prison.

Pakistan’s Role in the War Against Terror
Consul General Faisal Niaz Tirmizi
Faisal Niaz Tirmizi is the Consul General of Pakistan in the Chicago Consulate.
Tuesday, November 7, 2017
7 pm - Great Hall, Memorial Union
Sponsored by Pakistan Student Association and Committee on Lectures (funded by Student Government)