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From Booking Bands To Basketball Brugman Wins Big

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HEN THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY women’s basketball team made it to the “Sweet 16,” B.J. Brugman was watching, analyzing and hoping for a win.

Brugman, a junior in agricultural business, is a point guard for the women’s scout team. That means he studies the plays of the opposing team and employs those same plays during practice sessions to give Iowa State the edge.

“My cousin was on the team 10 years ago and I remember hearing about it, so when I came to Iowa State I contacted the coach and asked about it,” Brugman says.

Playing opposite Alison Lacey, Iowa State’s point guard, wasn’t an easy job, Brugman says, but it kept him on his toes. Lacey, who graduated in May, was drafted by the WNBA Seattle Storms.

Latoja Schaben, the assistant Iowa State women’s basketball coach, says she recruited Brugman as soon as she saw him play. As the scout team point guard he’s a dedicated leader that keeps the team focused, which means the women’s team gets a good workout.

“Basically their job is to get our team ready,” Schaben says. “They have to learn the opposing teams’ plays in 20 minutes and to do that you have to know the game and understand it.”

Scout team members don’t get paid, but they do get a uniform, shoes and tickets to home games. Even though the practice schedule is demanding – nine hours a week – it was an opportunity he couldn’t pass up.

“It really gives you a different perspective when you watch the game,” Brugman says.

Brugman is proud to have been part of the effort that helped Iowa State become one of the top 16 teams nationally.

Playing on the scout team has kept Brugman in shape, but he hopes his college degree will help him attain another goal. Someday he’d like to hold the position of U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

He’s the vice president of alumni relations for Alpha Gamma Rho and served as the co-chair for the 2010 Veishea. Organizing and implementing entertainment for the largest student-run event in the nation was challenging and rewarding.

“We had a full house at every event,” Brugman says. “The committee worked extremely hard to bring in a variety of artists. It was exciting to see it all come together.”

This summer Brugman has an internship at CHS Inc., which manufactures soybean oil, as a grain merchandiser in Mankato, Minn.

“Last summer I worked for Syngenta on the production side and this summer I’ll help clients decide when to sell,” Brugman says.

Next year he’ll continue to play on the Iowa State women’s basketball scout team. He’ll also take on more responsibilities as the general co-chair for the 2011 Veishea.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

CALS STUDENT SELECTED TO BE 2010 UDALL SCHOLAR

Samuel Bird, a second-year student in global resource systems and economics from Gilbert, has been named a 2010 Udall Scholar by the Udall Foundation. The foundation, established by Congress in 1992, awards scholarships to undergraduate students committed to careers related to the environment or Native American issues. Among other honors and activities, Bird lived and worked in Uganda as part of the ISU-Makerere University Uganda Service Learning Program, is president of the ISU International Agriculture Club and represented the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences at the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in 2009.

Horticulture students help keep campus blooming

The ISU Horticulture Club is involved in many projects both on and off campus, ranging from providing plants to the new Souls Visitor Center to maintaining the plants in the Gerdin Business Building, as well as their annual sales and a variety of service projects. This fall, they took on the flowerbed at the corner of Wallace and Osborn.

CALS STUDENT TEAMS TOPS IN NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

- The Block and Bridle Club received first place for its website, first place for its annual yearbook and third place in the club activities division at the 90th Block and Bridle National Convention.
- The newly re-established Dairy Products Evaluation Team won fourth place in all products and third place in cottage cheese, cheddar cheese and butter category during the 88th Collegiate Dairy Products Evaluation Contest. It has been 34 years since ISU last had a Dairy Products Evaluation Team.
- The ISU Horse Judging Team was the highest scoring three-person team at the All-American Quarter Horse Congress and at the Arabian Horse Nationals.
- The Iowa State chapter of SEEDS (Strategies for Ecology Education, Development and Sustainability), a program of the Ecological Society of America, placed second in its chapter of the year competition. (Club adviser Fred Janzen, is profiled on page six).
- For the fourth consecutive year, the ISU Soils Judging Team has qualified for the national competition. The team placed third overall at the American Society of Agronomy Region 5 contest.
- The ISU Livestock Judging Team finished fifth overall at the American Royal Livestock Judging Contest.
- The ISU Turf Club won first place at the Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition for ... the eighth time the team in nine years ... at the annual Golf Course Superintendents Association of America’s education conference.

UNDERGRADUATE TO PRESENT RESEARCH AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Jenna Dixon, an undergraduate in animal science, will present her research on Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) at the Experimental Biology international conference in April in Anaheim, Calif. Dixon works the lab of Josh Selsby, assistant professor in animal science. DMD is caused by a dystrophin deficiency and affects one in 3,500 male infants, leading to wheelchair confinement by the early teenage years and death by the mid to late 20s.

TWO CALS STUDENTS RECEIVE WALLACE E. BARRON AWARD

The 2010 Wallace E. Barron Award Recipients include Tyler Bauman, a senior in animal science, and Nicole Cortum, a senior in public service and administration in agriculture. (Bauman is featured on pages 10-11).

They are two of four students who were recognized at an ISU Alumni Association Board of Director’s lunch Feb. 26 and a reception at the Knoll April 25. The Wallace E. Barron All-University Senior Award was established in 1968 to recognize outstanding ISU seniors. The award is in memory of Barron, who received his bachelor’s degree in 1928 in agricultural economics. After graduation, he served in various offices at Iowa State until 1970. He was editor of the Alumnus from 1935 until 1968.

STUDENT COUNCIL NAMES AG MAN AND AG WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The CALS Student Council named Ryan Hrubes and Nicole Cortum the CALS Agricultural Man and Agricultural Woman of the Year at the National Ag Day barbecue March 9. Hrubes is a senior in agricultural business, and Cortum is a senior in public service and administration in agriculture. The award goes to graduating seniors who have demonstrated leadership in the college, strong academic success, and participated in quality internships and volunteer services.