Swimming against the odds

Special Olympian Ben Schnable strives to overcome the current in the sport he loves
Only at iowastatedaily.com

Full coverage of this weekend's Summer Games

Photo: Logan Gaedke/Iowa State Daily

More columns by Jason Arment and Sophie Prell

The Daily will soon delete past online comments

Photo: Kelsey Kremer/Iowa State Daily

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A look at Iowa State

The Daily will soon delete past online comments

Polcie Blotter: ISU, Ames Police Departments
This information in the log comes from the ISU and the City of Ames police departments' records. All those accused of violating the law are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

May 4
Chao Zhang, 19, 1418 South Dakota Ave. unit 217, was arrested and charged with driving while barred and harassment. (reported at 6:20 a.m.)
An individual reported almost being struck by a passing vehicle. (reported at 7:18 a.m.)
Moses Nathanie, 56, 308 East Lincoln Way unit B, was arrested and charged with intoxication. (reported at 10:20 a.m.)
Benjamin Yeager, 7304 Wallace Road, reported an egg was thrown onto his vehicle. (reported at 10:27 a.m.)
McKinley Daniels Jr., 43, 1418 South Dayton Ave. unit 22, was arrested and charged with driving while barred. (reported at 11:15 p.m.)
Vehicles driven by Xinnan Xu and Eric Jordan were involved in a property damage collision. (reported at 11:39 p.m.)
A vehicle owned by Jacob Dorris sustained a fire in the engine compartment. (reported at 12:28 p.m.)
Vehicles driven by Victoria Torrescano and Travis Graves were involved in a property damage collision. (reported at 1:32 p.m.)
Officers initiated a drug-related investigation.

May 5
Alessandro Guariento, 19, of Plano, Texas, was arrested and charged with intoxicating, interference with official acts, and cited for possession of alcohol under the legal age. (reported at 12:18 a.m.)
Nathan Smith reported a vehicle struck his car. (reported at 12:48 p.m.)
Komian Avochinou reported the theft of a textbook at Parks Library. (reported at 12:52 p.m.)
A staff member reported receiving several harassing telephone calls. (reported at 3:52 p.m.)
A vehicle driven by Fuyuan Jing collided with a parked car. (reported at 6:01 p.m.)
Emma Mae Allen, 24, of Chicago, Ill., was arrested and charged with a warrant. (reported at 6:05 p.m.)
Murphy Gillogly, 18, of Chicago, Ill., was arrested and charged with criminal mischief. (reported at 11:47 p.m.)

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General Information:
The Iowa State Daily is an independent student newspaper established in 1890 and written and edited entirely by students.

Publication Board
Listed by college: Jennifer Pfannang, chairperson; Laura Coombs, vice chairperson; Kristin Merchant, secretary; student members: Lami Khanidar, Emily Kendle, Leslie Millard, Nicholas Shell, Zach Thompson; faculty members: Barbara Mack, Russ Lazzaroni, Sarah Bartholome, professional member

ISU students subscribe to the Iowa State Daily through activity fees paid to the Government of the Student Body. Paid subscriptions are 40 cents per copy, $40 annually for mailed subscriptions to ISU students, faculty, and staff; and $62 annually for subscriptions mailed in-country or out of the country to the general public.

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE
Nature

Conservation Station teaches community

By Logan Gaedke

The Conservation Station, a mobile learning platform for soil and water conservation, was unveiled Thursday at Ada Hayden Park to a crowd of Ames homeschool children.

Jerry Dewitt, director of the Leopold Center, gave a speech to thank those who donated to and helped bring the project to completion. Dewitt and members of the Iowa Learning Farm believe Iowa has a great deal of natural beauty that deserves more efficient maintenance than it has received in the past.

The front section of the Conservation Station will be a learning area offering an interactive multimedia experience. Photographs, art, music and video will be used to teach visitors how soil and water interact in various situations.

The rear section of the station folds out with a rainfall simulator that gives visitors the chance to see how rainfall runoff and drainage accumulate. Samples currently range from bare soil to plant matter and grasses, with solid concrete and modular paver blocks in the works. The Iowa Learning Farm has already booked more than 50 showings across the state, at places such as county fairs and farmers’ markets, and expects to arrange many more to come. Visitors can stop in at Conservation Station locations for free.

Education

College of Engineering joins national top 20

By Sarah Haas and Chelsea Davis

The College of Engineering placed in the top 25 percent of all engineering graduate programs in the U.S. News & World Report’s 2011 list of America’s Best Graduate Schools.

Six of the college’s eight graduate programs are ranked in the top 20 public universities. Overall, the college ranks 45th, but ranks 25th among public universities.

In a statement, Balaji Narasimhan, associate dean of chemical and biological engineering, said, “Iowa State’s College of Engineering is supplying a steady stream of talented problem-solvers who are focused on innovation. Our attention to the major issues of today — renewable energy, safe food, clean water, sustainable environment, a sound infrastructure — means that our students will be providing solutions now and in coming decades.”

Narasimhan also said the ranking “can be directly attributed to the excellence of our faculty and students and correlate with the banner year we had with respect to record numbers in research expenditures, graduate student enrollment and doctoral degrees granted.”
Relocation

Fighting Burrito makes move to Welch Avenue

Restaurant hopes to gain more customers closer to campus

By Micaela Cashman
Daily Staff Writer

Fighting Burrito has found a new home.

The popular restaurant, currently located at 2712 Lincoln Way, will move to 117 Welch Ave., next to Cy’s Roost.

The building recently hosted Mochi smoothie and ice cream shop; it also held a Dairy Queen.

The new location will open in mid to late summer, said owner Matthew Goodman.

Goodman is in the process of designing the interior. While no physical work has happened yet, Goodman said the design is proceeding well.

Goodman said he is moving the restaurant for three main reasons: to gain more business, to meet more students and provide a more comfortable atmosphere.

Currently, Fighting Burrito is the farthest eatery from Campus Town that competes in the late-night food market.

“The closer we are to the district,” Goodman said, “the more business we’ll have. We do very well late-night, and the new location will support that.”

Open until 4 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Fighting Burrito has the latest hours in Campus Town.

Goodman hopes the new location will help the restaurant pull in more customers.

Goodman said his restaurant gets the most business in the early hours of the morning, but he hopes moving to Welch Avenue will gain business in the daytime.

“Right now, there’s a certain kind of customer that comes in,” Goodman said.

Those customers are mostly college-aged students, and they often live off campus.

Students living on campus sometimes don’t venture out to where Fighting Burrito is currently, Goodman said.

By moving to Welch Avenue, the restaurant will be closer to where new students explore first.

He wants to make the new space a comfortable environment for all age groups, including professors.

“We want to provide a nice environment and good food,” he said.

While the Welch Avenue building is not bigger, Goodman said he has invested more into using the space wisely in order to create that nice environment.

The site may be changing, but Fighting Burrito will remain the same restaurant with the same food and people that has made it popular.

It prides itself on fresh products and satisfying meals.

“It’s still going to be us,” Goodman said. “We’ll compete with the other restaurants the same way we always have: We provide a unique product.”

Goodman said the restaurant was a success even when it first opened six years ago, but he is excited to leave the old site behind.

Goodman said moving the restaurant locations is like moving into a new house or apartment.

“You get rid of all the old stuff that drove you crazy before. Of course, I’m sure there will be things that drive me crazy about the new location too, but it’s very exciting to acquire a new place,” Goodman said.

He hopes the transition between locations will go smoothly, so the restaurant will not have to close for any length of time.

Goodman said the old Fighting Burrito location may host a bakery or coffee shop in the future.
**Promotion**

Ames Chamber of Commerce hosts booth at ISU Orientation Resource Fair

*By Micaela Cashman*

*Daily Staff Writer*

The Ames Chamber of Commerce will host a booth throughout June at the ISU Orientation Resource Fair.

Throughout the orientation resource fair, the booth will welcome more than 4,500 new students to town, while representing various businesses that belong to the Ames Chamber of Commerce.

“As we like to say, ‘Shop Ames, Grow Ames,’” said Ames Chamber of Commerce Program Manager Crystal Davis.

“We truly believe everything new students and their families may need can be found right here in Ames,” Davis said.

Davis said the booth will provide information about everything from where to buy a great cup of coffee, to where to get your computer fixed, to where to go to the doctor.

The booth also will provide more than 250 fliers and brochures.

There will be more than 500 promotional items available.

The Ames Chamber of Commerce hosts a booth every year at the orientation resource fair.

In addition to the Ames Chamber of Commerce’s booth, the orientation resource fair also has booths from Greek societies, student-run groups and foundations.

Businesses that hand out coupons at the fair often see those coupons utilized, Davis said.

Seeing these coupons utilized shows us that the Ames Chamber of Commerce’s booth positively affects more than the Ames businesses exclusively, but it also benefits new students and their families, as well as visitors to the community.

Davis said the orientation resource fair gets new students excited about the approaching school year, as well as their new surroundings.

The business community strives to provide a welcoming and friendly environment for the ISU students and families, Davis said.

“This is a great opportunity for our members to showcase themselves and their businesses to thousands of new residents and visitors to our community,” Davis said.

**Award**

FOX Engineering firm honored by Grand Conceptor

*By Micaela Cashman*

*Daily Staff Writer*

FOX Engineering, 1601 Golden Aspen Drive, earned the Grand Conceptor award at the recent American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa banquet in West Des Moines.

The fifth annual event was held May 6. The event honored engineering firms in many different categories.

FOX Engineering focuses on environmental engineering.

The firm earned their award in the wastewater category for the membrane bioreactor wastewater treatment plant, which was completed in the summer of 2008 in North Liberty.

The firm, which prides itself on having the largest, most experienced personnel in Iowa, serves municipal areas across the state, according to its website.

Other services provided are stormwater management, municipal services and site development. FOX Engineering has been working in Iowa for more than 20 years.

Visit FOX Engineering at foxeng.com to learn more about the company.

**Online Retail**

PowerFilm teams with Boy Scouts to sell products

*By Micaela Cashman*

*Daily Staff Writer*

PowerFilm teaming up with Boy Scouts

PowerFilm, 2337 230th St., will now sell their company’s products on the Boy Scouts of America’s online retail store, scoutstuff.org, according to a May 11 news release.

PowerFilm is a company that manufactures flexible solar panels.

The company is scheduled to launch its products on the Boy Scouts of America website sometime this month.

As part of the agreement, PowerFilm engineers have teamed up with the Boy Scouts of America organization to create a new, custom product.

The product they’ve created is a 7.5-watt foldable charger.

This new product will benefit the Boy Scouts organization, especially now that technological equipment is available that requires a more powerful charge than was previously necessary.

The powerful and foldable charger will be available exclusively at the Boy Scouts of America’s online retail store, scoutstuff.org.

“PowerFilm is pleased to expand its association with the good name and high values of the Boy Scouts of America organization,” said President and CEO of PowerFilm Tim Neugent.

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**Web Links:**

For more information on Boy Scouts and PowerFilm visit: www.scouting.org/ www.powerfilmsolar.com/
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—Daily Staff

Special Olympics by the numbers

- The Special Olympics came to the ISU campus this weekend.
- Out of 2,800 athletes, 1,400 gold medals were awarded.
- "This is the largest Special Olympics Iowa event held during the year," said Special Olympics Iowa President and CEO Mark A. Reed. "Athletes, their families and coaches travel to Ames from every part of the state for this competition."
- Sports included aquatics, track and field, cycling, and others. There was also a roller skating competition held in Des Moines.
- "More than 1,200 coaches and chaperones, as well as 1,400 volunteers, donated their time to make this event a success," said Joyce Allard, director of communications for Special Olympics Iowa.
- Also featured at the event was an Olympic festival, a dance and the healthy athletes screening program "to improve greater overall health and fitness for the athletes."

—Daily Staff

Special Olympics by the numbers

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—Daily Staff
Special Olympics

Ben Schnable, left, smiles after receiving his gold medal for the 50-yard freestyle competition Friday at Beyer Hall. Schnable’s exuberance for swimming peaked during his high school years, when he joined the school’s swim team. Photo: Logan Gaedke/Iowa State Daily

At home in the water

By James Heggen
Daily Staff Writer

Ben Schnable has come a long way.

Schnable was one of 2,800 athletes who competed in Ames last week as part of the Iowa Special Olympics. He took home one first place and two second place finishes in swimming Friday. It’s quite a feat when as recently as high school, Schnable couldn’t swim a full length of the pool and had to be in the outside lanes for safety reasons.

“This is the highlight of his year, he just loves it,” said his mother, Kathy, who volunteers with the swim team.

Ben has been swimming since high school, where he said he was drawn to the sport because it was a place where he could be himself and didn’t have to worry about grades or the stress of his other classes.

“I guess it was just so unique,” he said. “I didn’t have many classes that were not in the classroom.”

Ben enjoyed swimming so much, he decided he wanted to join the Ames High swim team, which was no small task.

Kathy said Ben has a “paragraph” of diagnoses, including mild cerebral palsy. This affects his motor skills, which makes some tasks, including swimming, more difficult.

But Ben was determined to make the team. He spent a lot of time working with his teachers to improve his swimming ability, and his sophomore year, Ben made the team.

Kathy said she was very proud of Ben’s accomplishment — he is the only one in his family to have lettered in a sport. She said, as a parent, sometimes you get nervous if you’re not sure if your child can do something, because you want him or her to succeed, but also don’t want your child to have hurt feelings if it doesn’t work out.

“He did it, he amazed me, he was determined,” she said. “I was very proud of him because he didn’t give up.”

Ben said it was great to be on the team and it boosted his self-confidence. He also said he enjoyed the social aspect of being on the team.

Ben graduated from high school in 2008, but decided to continue swimming through Active Lifestyles, a sports program for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities through the Arc of Story County.

He joined the team in February of 2009, which has allowed Ben to continue his swimming career, but also has filled a social void left after he graduated, Kathy said. She said he had been kind of lonely after losing the contact with his fellow classmates, some of which he knew as far back as kindergarten.

Ben will be back next year, and Kathy, along with Patty Gibler, who also volunteers for the team, will be taking over the coaching position from Eileen Thompson. Thompson is retiring after five years with the team.

Death

Slipknot bassist Paul Gray found dead in hotel room

By Gabriel Stoffa
Daily Staff Writer

Slipknot band member Paul Gray, 38, was found dead Monday morning in a hotel room at TownePlace Suites by Marriott.

The band’s roster is made up of Shawn Crahan, Chris Fehn, Paul Gray, Craig Jones, Joey Jordison, Jim Root, Corey Taylor, Mick Thomson and Sid Wilson. Gray was a backup vocalist and bassist for the heavy metal band since 1995.

Fans across Facebook and Twitter were skeptical of Gray’s reported death earlier in the day, as fake reports concerning certain Slipknot band members have been circulated many times in the past.

There is no evidence of foul play, according to Urbandale police. However, a complete investigation of the death will be undertaken.

An autopsy will be performed Tuesday by the Polk County Medical Examiner's Office to determine the exact cause of death.

Toxicology testing will be completed to determine any contributing factors to Gray’s death.

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Editorial board seeks positive changes

The editorial has long been written and taken as a majority rules. Any dissenting opinion, which there usually is, has gone unnoticed in the final piece.

We plan to change that and make every opinion and concern heard in the editorial since the board is a representation of the community, and all voices should be acknowledged.

Racism:

Society prejudices go too far

As a veteran it’s easy for me to say that I have some racial prejudices against Arabs. At least I’m up front about it, I don’t waste time hiding from it.

I have love for their freedom fighters though. I guess spending a little time living in Iraq and seeing what a war torn, third world country looks like gave me some insights into why they do what they do.

It’s a strange kind of love though, that makes most civilians very comfortable. A kind of paradoxical love that allows me to smile when our boys bring the noise into their towns, and understand when some of ours expire in the sand, gasping from a sucking chest wound, while they stare at a foreign sky.

So when I read about how France is cracking down on Muslim traditions, I got angry. When I read the Washington Post reporting that, “The French government decided Wednesday to impose a $185 fine on women who wear a full-face Islamic veil in public,” my blood boiled.

Especially when in the same article, it is further reported that, “Muslims here have complained that they feel singled out for a practice that, according to an Interior Ministry estimate, concerns fewer than 2,000 women in a country of 64 million inhabitants.”

And when the reasons Muslims traditions are being singled out is the government wanting to “uphold traditional European values,” my head almost exploded.

The bottom line is that people are people to me and — Muslim or not — they have the right to wear what they want. My allegiance to liberty far outweighs my racial prejudices.

The French are lying to themselves if they think what they are doing isn’t motivated by racial hate. It’s easy to use florid words to disguise something ugly and malicious. A good historical example would be:

“What we must fight for is to safeguard the existence and reproduction of our race and our people, the sustenance of our children and the purity of our blood, the freedom and independence of the fatherland, so that our people may mature for the fulfillment of the mission allotted it by the creator of the universe.”

Welcome to nationalism at its finest — Hitler’s “Mein Kampf,” the epitome of nationalism in its purest form.

That’s just an unfortunate side effect to all of the bonding, the majority is doing when nationalism is first introduced. The introduction of these seemingly grand ideals that will supposedly solve problems creates energy.

Most positive results take some time to build up, because creation takes time, but destruction is instantaneous. Like a crackhead’s nervous energy, this vibrant energy needs an outlet, and the minorities are always a good target.

I should be praising this decision by France. I should be thumping a pulpit and talking about how militant Islam is a threat to our way of life on this side of the pond, as was made clear by 9/11. I just can’t bring myself to do it.

We need to move past 9/11. As a people we need to let it heal, to stop using it as some trump card to fall back on, when it’s time to hate Arabs or be xenophobic in general.

It’s time to broaden our world views by kilometers. It’s time for us to take steps forward, not to understanding Islam, but to understanding ourselves, because we are them. They are no different than us.

I love them, hate them, understand them, celebrate our victories over them and don’t begrudge them their victories over us.

It’s almost like my experience with Muslims isn’t completely from watching TV and movies. That may be I have some real world experience with them, and like any complex relationship, it’s a little tough for people on the outside looking in to understand.

One of the questions I was often asked while I was patrolling the little section of Iraq my tour allowed me to visit was, “Where are the musalaheen?” Musalaheen [moos-a-la-heen] means gunslingers in Arabic, or my pronunciation was at least close enough that everyone understood what I was asking.

I once asked a child, this child of at most 6, where the musalaheen were. I towered over him in my gear with my rifle resting in the crook of my arm jutting upward toward the sky.

The child looked at me, and raised a pointed finger, not of accusation, but of innocent understanding. “Musalaheen,” he said, answering my question and labeling me the very thing I was seeking. My face went blank. That’s how a child started the cascade of thought that would forever change my world view.

We need to accept people for who they are. If not just to do the right thing, then because soon enough that small worldview that the majority has eddies you out of the picture. It won’t be long until society decides outspoken, liberty-loving, tattooed guys with military backgrounds like yours truly need to take a walk.

Hopefully there are people enough to stand up for me when I need it, and hopefully for you as well.
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### Daily Crossword

**Across**
1. Indiana senator Evan
2. Start of a crystal ball user's prediction
3. 15 Dedicatees of Beethoven's "Bagatelles in A Minor"
4. Haydn's sobriquet
5. Monster beard
6. Patty Hearst's SLA alias
7. Landlord
8. Robinson and Thomas?
9. Sense of self
10. Poor offering
11. Sweater fare
12. Impossible
13. Where the buffalo roam
14. Fruity refreshment
15. Argue
16. Passed with flying colors
17. Owens and Henry?
18. PBS science series
19. Most corpulent
20. Do an impression of
21. Jay-Z genre
22. Point of contention
23. City of Light to Cole Porter
24. Memphis middle name
25. Cash
26. Garfunkel and Tatum?
27. Lively style
28. Sylvan setting
29. Heavy hammer
30. Let up
31. Marksman's game
32. Toast the organizers.
33. Heavy rock?
34. Heavy hammer
35. Famous area
36. A, in communications
37. Nickname of London's Great Bell
38. Lagged
39. Pigs out
40. Start
41. Court arbiter
42. Doze
43. Do an impression of
44. Do the trick. Otherwise, choose soft furnishings
45. Leather
46. Do the trick. Otherwise, choose soft furnishings
47. Medium-sized
48. Medium-sized
49. Medium-sized
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66. Medium-sized

**Down**
1. 1 Nickname of London's Great Bell
2. Italian region known for its cheese
3. Brick road color
4. Cure
5. Heavy rock?
6. Frighten
7. Weasel cousins
8. "Yeah, right!"
9. Chair
10. Bucky Beaver's toothpaste
11. Sass, with "to"
12. 15-Down parts
13. Wrestling surface
14. Settle a debt
15. Baseball field?
16. Ford from Tennessee
17. Ford from Tennessee
18. Ford from Tennessee
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### Daily Horoscope

**Leo:** Anything you can imagine you can achieve.

You need this data to feel less out of touch with reality.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Work from home today if you can. You'll get a lot more accomplished, as you have the entire household at your disposal. Anything you can imagine you can achieve.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Use your imagination to create a transformative experience for you and your favorite people. The scenario involves great food and unusual company.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Open yourself up to information and your favorite people. The scenario involves great food and unusual company.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 5 -- Choose your attire carefully today to maximize the sensual. If you work at home, silky pajamas will do the trick. Otherwise, choose soft fabrics that comfort.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- If only every day could be like today at work! You gather information and consider logical outcomes, and the work flows freely.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Friends and associates gather together to celebrate. They add unique flair to a normally staid social setting. Toast the organizers.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Time pressures convince everyone to work harmoniously together to complete projects on deadline and under budget. Save big changes for later.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- You find yourself in the enviable position of enjoying today's activities. A family member suggests a new restaurant, and you happily go along to try it.
### Sudoku

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**Solution:**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every number 1 to 9.

For strategies on solving Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

### LMAO [txt]

- [515] At Es tas writing a paper and hw with a pitcher... Best way to study!
- [515] omfg i just shit alo ffer myself at the bar... should i leafe?
- [512] you were on fire last night! you sent me texts all night with quotes from the hangover
- [515] Certain people bring out the crazy in me, but other than that im not crazy
- [515] My dad is coming up, incase you need to put on a bra

Submit your LMAO [txt] at iowastatedaily.net/games to get published online or on the games page.

### Joke of the Day

**Your first job will be to sweep the floor.**

But I’m a college student, the young man replied.

In that case give me the broom - I’ll show you how.

**Solution:**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every number 1 to 9.

For strategies on solving Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

### Shareyourhappiness!

Place your engagement, wedding, anniversary, or retirement announcements in our next UNIONS section. It’s easy and FREE! Log on to our website [www.iowastatedaily.com](http://www.iowastatedaily.com) or stop by 108 Hamilton Hall for a form!

**Submission Deadline:** June 17
**Unions Publication:** June 24
Student wins design competition with ‘Ames Railway Corridor’ film

By Abigail Barefoot
Daily Staff Writer

Zijie Cao, graduate student in architecture, proved design is not limited to drawing.

Cao won first place in the student category of the Society for Moving Images about the Built Environment 2010 Short Film Competition.

“I think doing video is very special because it has time, it’s not the same as drawings or words, it adds something more and is very beneficial,” Cao said.

Cao’s two-minute video, “Ames Railway Corridor,” was selected to receive the grand prize. The film focused on the history and development of downtown Ames, and it studied the railway corridor.

The film competition featured two categories: general and student. The judge’s panel was composed of artists, architects, designers and editors.

The panel judged videos on the originality of story, effectiveness in expressing the “personal infrastructures” theme and the quality of execution to blend rigorous craft with intelligent storytelling.

First the judges picked five films from the student category out of the 208 total submissions. These five films moved on as finalists the winner was decided.

“Ames Railway Corridor” was selected from among the finalists as the winning film.

Cao chose his topic because of the relationship between trains and the community of Ames.

“It was interesting how the railway engages in peoples lives, the benefits it has and how people become accustomed to the railway,” Cao said.

The competition was not only a fun experience for Cao but also a chance to learn about culture through the different films.

“I am really excited. I can’t believe I won. But it is really good because a lot of people competed, and I learned a lot, so it was very helpful,” Cao said.

The hardest part of the project was creating a character to narrate the story.

“I have never done that before, writing stories wasn’t really my thing,” Cao said.

Submissions could be produced in any motion image medium and were intended to enlighten and entertain with stories about infrastructure on a personal or public scale, according to the SMIBE website.

Cao created the award winning video as part of an assignment in a course titled Studio and Media I: Mapping, Programming and Building.

The assignment addressed the programming of a long-term project — the functional and intangible activities that happen in a space. Marwan Ghandour, associate dean of architecture, taught the class.

All of finalist videos will be screened at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles, Calif., and the Graham Foundation, Chicago, Ill. The films will also be online.

Ames Foundation spruces up flowers on Grand Avenue

By Paige Godden
Daily Staff Writer

The Ames Foundation will be digging out the top soil and replanting perennials and annuals Wednesday in the planters along Grand Avenue.

The Ames Foundation started the $54,000 project March 26, said Joyce Vegge, president of the Ames Foundation.

Verne Bates, Ames Foundation member, said in addition to planting, there will be decorative wraps going around pots to make them more attractive.

“This project is the type the Ames Foundation was created to do. Bates said the flower beds were planted several years back, but no one had been watering or weeding them.

Vegge said this project will hopefully boost economic vitality downtown.

The Ames Foundation has raised money for small and large projects in the Ames community, according to its website.

Some other projects the Ames foundation has completed include the restoration of Bandshell Park, landscaped city parks, cemeteries and entrances and was responsible for the time capsule in Stuart Smith Park.

Q: Jerry, What can you use to get rid of clover in your lawn?

A: Weed-B-Gon
Clover and Oxalis Killer

Effective 5/25-6/1

Garden Center

$11.99
Hy-Vee Lawn Food

$14.49
Ferns

4/$5.00
All American Top Soil

$19.99
Hydrangeas

$8.99
Weed-B-Gon Clover & Oxalis Killer