Olympics leads the way to hope

Marissa Yessak, of Vinton, practices the 50 meter walk May 5 at the Vinton-Shellsburg track to prepare for the State Special Olympics competition in Ames. This is Yessak’s first year participating in Special Olympics.

Photo: Kelsey Kremer/Iowa State Daily

KARAOKE TUESDAY

- $5 For 8 Boneless Wings
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- $1 Tube Shots (9pm-1am)
- $2.25 Spiced Rum and Pepsi (9pm-1am)

westtownpub.com
3... Poll: Who is your favorite ‘Avenger’?  
4... One-on-one: Jonathan Wickert  
5... ISD road trip: Boone  
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Sports:  
Men’s basketball finishes 24th in attendance  
Hilton Magic helped lead the ISU men’s basketball team to a 16-2 home record, including home victories over two top-10 teams, Kansas and Baylor. With an average attendance of 13,015, the Cyclones finished No. 24 in the NCAA in attendance, which was second-best in the Big 12.

Softball season ends against No. 3 Oklahoma  
The ISU softball season came to an end as the Cyclones were swept by No. 3 Oklahoma. Iowa State finished the season with a 14-39 overall record and a 2-22 mark in Big 12 play. Senior Dalyn Varela ended her career on a high note, hitting a homer in her final game as a Cyclone.

Women’s golf ties for 14th at NCAA regionals  
Making its third consecutive appearance at the NCAA West Regional, the ISU women’s golf team tied for 14th, ending the season.

Regular season ends for ISU men’s, women’s track  
The men’s and women’s track and field squads wrapped up the outdoor regular season on May 13th. Edward Kemboi helped along the Cyclone men by winning the 800-meter run with a time of 1:46.65. On the women’s side of the track, senior Kianna Elahi brought home first place honors with her personal best time of 56.41 in the 400-meter hurdles.

LAZERfest rocks out with 20,000 fans  
LAZERfest was successfully hosted in its new venue at the Central Iowa Expo in Boone, Iowa. More than 20,000 fans packed the grounds on Sunday to see 13 performances, which included names like Buckcherry, Theory of a Deadman, and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Slash. The show was headlined by Shinedown and Five Finger Death Punch.

Road construction occurring in several parts of Ames  
Sections of Oakland Street, Ash Avenue, 13th Street, Ridgewood Avenue and parts of Lincoln Swing Street, in Ames are under construction. According to the city of Ames news release, “Construction activities will be carried out in various phases to allow for local access to residences and businesses. These activities are expected to take several months and vehicles will not be allowed in the construction zone.” These activities began May 7. Phases include storm sewer installation and removal/replacement of existing streets.

Three students compete in programming world finals in Poland  
Three ISU students headed to Poland last week to compete in the Association for Computing Machinery international collegiate programming contest, which began last Monday, at the University of Warsaw. Devon Eilers, junior; Kerrick Staley, senior; and Bryce Sandlund, senior, competed with 333 other individuals from schools such as MIT, Stanford and Carnegie Mellon, as well as other top universities around the world.

Iowa State names new provost, senior vice president  
Jonathan Wickert, dean of the College of Engineering, has been named by Iowa State as the new senior vice president and provost. Wickert will take over the position on July 30. In a news release, ISU President Steven Leath said Wickert “has shown strong leadership and an innovative approach to issues facing the College of Engineering and the university as a whole. ... He's the right person to lead a talented group of deans and other senior university officials in further advancing the quality of our academic programs.” Wickert has served on the ISU faculty since 2007 when he was named chairman of the department of mechanical engineering.
Faces in the Crowd

Who is your favorite character in “The Avengers”?

Chad Spinks
Hometown: Ames, Iowa
“Iron Man, because he saves everyone in the end of the movie.”

James Stumbo
Hometown: Boone, Iowa
“Black Widow, because she’s hot and in spandex.”

Robert McClelland
Hometown: Huxley, Iowa
“Hulk, because he’s awesome and he’s a great, big, rage monster.”

Samara Clingan
Sophomore Psychology
“Thor, because he’s hunky.”

Emily Filas
Psychology
“Iron Man, because he has pretty colors and an awesome suit.”

Zach Knight
Sophomore Engineering
“Hawkeye, because he uses a bow. He’s a modern day elf.”

Next week: What upcoming major sporting event are you most looking forward to?

IsD online
Make your choice: Go online to vote in this week’s polls iowastatedaily.com

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2402 Lincoln Way
One-on-one with Jonathan Wickert

By Aimee.Burch
@iowastatedaily.com

Jonathan Wickert, currently Dean of the College of Engineering, will soon take on a new challenge, serving as Iowa State’s new Senior Vice President and Provost.

In the days following the announcement, Wickert sat down with the Daily to discuss life up to this point, what he hopes to accomplish as provost and what he feels students should know about him.

What were you doing when you learned you were chosen as the new senior vice president and provost?

I was eating breakfast, that’s the simple answer. The president invited me to breakfast. ... We were talking about the position that morning, and he offered the job to me, and I accepted immediately. I was thrilled by his offer, and I’m excited by the opportunity to work very closely with the resident. We each leaned across the table and shook hands over breakfast.

What is the first thing you want to tackle when you start?

I’ll be starting in the new job just about the same time that the school year starts. You’ll see me working very closely with the president. You’re going to see me engaged and involved around campus.

In my first year as provost, I want to go out and visit every single department on campus and get to meet students, faculty and staff in all of the departments. So you’ll see me listening and learning about the different programs on campus and also hitting the ground running really from day one since the school year will be just starting up.

Iowa State is known for being a land grant university. What are your thoughts on that? How will you work to fulfill the land grant mission?

That’s a great, great question. The land grant mission is really at the heart of the responsibilities of the provost. The provost is responsible for the teaching, the research and the extension activities on campus, and those missions are really what define land grant universities.

Land grant universities were started up under the signature of Abraham Lincoln with the Morrill Act, and one of the things we really pride ourselves on here at Iowa State is we have remained very faithful to those traditions of offering the very affordable, practical education, cutting edge research, and then being very involved and engaged outside of campus and having the university be a source of economic growth for the state of Iowa.

Iowa State has done a fantastic job of sticking to those core values even 150 years after the Morrill Act was signed, becoming — in my view — the best modern land grant university in the United States.

Why do you do what you do? What motivates you to do these jobs and take on these new challenges?

It’s really because of the remarkable students at Iowa State. I’ve always been a teacher; I’ve always been a faculty member, and really what motivates me to come to work everyday is the remarkable students at Iowa State.

Students who are so creative and who really want to use their education to make a difference in the world. You see it by the student leadership at Veishea, selling a record number of cherry pies to raise scholarship dollars.

You see it by the creativity of students in the fashion show, by our students who study abroad from the College of Design with the program in Rome, and even the horticulture students who were involved with designing the green roof at Memorial Union.

Our students are so practical and creative, and to be able to serve as provost is very exciting for me because I’ll be able to help students across the entire campus.

These next questions are just some fun, getting to know you questions. What kind of music do you like to listen to? Favorite movies?

Country music and classic rock. That’s what you’ll find on my iPod. I also enjoy the “Star Wars” movies.

Is there anything else you would like the students to know about you?

One is as provost, you will see me really involved in the campus. In the mornings, you’re going to see me over at Caribou Coffee. I’m going to invite groups of students to meet with me in my office for brown bag lunches. No agenda, just an opportunity to sit around the table and get to know each other and for me to hear what’s on student’s minds.

I’m going to teach, so I’ll be a provost that will teach a class every semester. I’ve done that as dean, and I think that’s important to continue as provost.

You’re also going to see me involved in ISU Athletics. You’ll see me at basketball and football games with my family, going to women’s volleyball and gymnastics, and those will be opportunities to interact with students.
Hiking, biking, sweet treats found in Boone

By Frances Myers
@iowastatedaily.com

During the summer months, many ISU students stay in Ames in an effort to use the summer months to take extra classes and progress in an effort to graduate on time.

With extra time on their hands between their days of classes, students may be using the summer months to relax and do stuff they usually do not get a chance to do during the regular school year.

There are many hidden gems in the towns of Iowa that are ideal for students to explore, whether they are looking for something outdoors or are interested in trying new things.

Boone, Iowa, is a town of about 12,000 people located 15 miles west of Ames. Boone offers many attractions, including Ledges State Park, Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad, Seven Oaks Recreation, several different golf courses, a variety of restaurants and places of historical interest.

The Daily took a road trip to Boone and visited Ledges, one of the most popular state parks in Iowa, and tasted the eats of Van Hemert’s Dutch Oven Bakery.

Ledges is one of the oldest state parks in the state of Iowa. Activities at Ledges include: camping, picnicking, bicycling, boating, fishing, swimming and hiking on the 15 miles of trails.

For people more interested in hiking, the Central State Park Bike Route connects Ledges; Big Creek State Park in Polk City, Iowa; and Springbrook State Park near Yale, Iowa. This is a 91 mile route, relatively flat for the most part with the exception of a few “challenge” hills across the valleys of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers.

After burning off calories hiking, we headed into Boone to check out a local bakery to recharge, Van Hemert’s Dutch Oven Bakery and Koffie Huis.

Established in 1983, this is locally owned by Denny and Terri Van Hemert with the motto, “A Little Dutch in the Heart of Iowa.”

Hannah Wailes, a student at Boone High School, has worked at the bakery for approximately 10 months. She said in her time at the bakery, the most popular selling treats include flat krispies, dutch letters, cookies and puff pillows, which consist of Holland cream between pastry dough with sugar on top.

The bakery offers a multitude of edible selections, ranging from breakfast items to soups and salads to sandwiches to sweet delicacies. It has two locations, one in Boone and the other right here in Ames.

Activities to do in and around Ledges State Park

Picnicking/Shelters/Lodge

Many picnic areas are located throughout the park with the Oak Woods picnic shelter and nearby restroom, both located in the eastern area are fully accessible to everyone.

Two open picnic shelters are available to be reserved online through the park reservation system on the Iowa DNR website.

Trails

Ledges offers 13 miles of hiking trails, most including steep portions.

Camping

There are 96 campsites, of which 40 have electrical hook-ups, 42 are non-electric and 12 are hike-in only.

Advance campsite reservations are available online through the park reservation system. Half of the campsites are currently still available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Modern restrooms, showers, a trailer dump station and a playground are located in the campground.

Bicycling

Central State Park Bike Route connects Ledges State Park, Big Creek State Park and Springbrook State Park. The 91 mile route is relatively flat with a few “challenge” hills.

Boating, Fishing

The Des Moines River flows through western edge of the park. It offers stream fishing and canoeing opportunities.

Other activities include:

Bird watching, cross-country skiing, firewood sales, geological formations, hiking, horseshoe pits, interpretive programs, jogging/running, kayaking and wildlife viewing, as well as many others.
Big 12

Bob Bowlsby, right, was introduced as the new Big 12 Conference commissioner at a May 4 news conference at the Big 12 headquarters in Irving, Texas.

New commissioner brings back stability

By Alex Halsted
@iowastatedaily.com

In office as ISU president for only four months, Steven Leath has been forced to learn fast as the Big 12 Conference quickly changes.

When Leath took office Jan. 16, the Big 12 was just months removed from the subtraction of Dan Beebe as commissioner and in the midst of watching two of its institutions — Missouri and Texas A&M — depart for the Southeastern Conference.

On May 3, the Big 12 took a leap toward renewed stability, announcing the hiring of Stanford Athletic Director Bob Bowlsby as its new commissioner. He will replace Chuck Neinas, who had stepped in as an interim commissioner.

Bob Bowlsby, who was heavily involved in both expansion and television contracts for the Pacific-12, admitted he was initially weary, but was comforted after talking with those in the conference.

Big 12 timeline

- **August 2011** — Texas A&M announces they will leave the Big 12 for the Southeastern Conference.
- **September 2011** — The Big 12 fires Dan Beebe as commissioner after four years as its leader. Chuck Neinas is named interim commissioner.
- **October 2011** — The Big 12 adds Texas Christian and West Virginia to the conference. It is later announced they will join for the 2012-13 athletic year.
- **November 2011** — Missouri officially announces that they will follow Texas A&M, leaving the Big 12 for the Southeastern Conference starting with the 2012-13 season.
- **May 2012** — The Big 12 hires Stanford Athletic Director Bob Bowlsby to take over as commissioner of the conference. He had previously been athletic director at both Northern Iowa and Iowa.

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“I was very satisfied and probably it would be correct to say encouraged and impressed with the stability and the mutual commitment [of the institutions],” Bowlsby said at his introductory news conference. “At this point I have no reservations about that.”

Bowlsby, a native of Waterloo, Iowa, acted as the athletic director at Northern Iowa for eight years before taking over as athletic director at Iowa from 1991 through 2005. His experience made him the No. 1 option for the leaders of the Big 12, according to Leath.

“He has a lot of experience in college athletics, and he functioned not only as an athletic director but he functioned in three different conferences,” Leath said. “He had a very good perspective to really know what was going on in college athletics.”

ISU Athletics Director Jamie Pollard said the familiarity of Bowlsby from fellow Big 12 athletic directors helped make him a strong candidate. Pollard himself, when he was the deputy athletic director at the University of Wisconsin, formed a strong working relationship with Bowlsby.

“Most everybody in [the Big 12] room had worked with him before, and he had proven himself as having great credibility with our administrators plus the coaching staffs,” Pollard said. “We had watched him on a national level have great political savvy and be able to know what buttons to push and when to push them.”

When Bowlsby takes over as commissioner on June 15, he will take on two more major issues facing the Big 12: a television contract and expansion.

Pollard said Bowlsby’s work with the Big Ten Network as well as the Pac-12 Network, which will debut in August, will be beneficial. He added that a new Big 12 television contract will probably “happen sooner than later.”

As for expansion, the Big 12 will sit at 10 teams when football rolls around next fall. Bowlsby said expansion will be looked at down the road, but he does not have his mind set on any particular number of institutions.

“There’s nothing magic about 11, 12 or 10,” Bowlsby said. “To the extent that we can do things that advance our agenda, we ought to at least consider that. … We are pretty excited about the 10 institutions that we have right now.”

Two of those institutions came with the addition of both West Virginia and Texas Christian to the Big 12 in early 2012 for the 2012-13 athletic year. The addition of Bowlsby as Big 12 commissioner is just the latest in a string of recent events that have renewed balance to the Big 12 conference this year.

As the direction of the conference has changed quickly since the beginning of Leath’s tenure at Iowa State, both he and Pollard have quickly formed a working relationship.

“It was a very fast pace, so the first thing is Jamie and I sat down and talked about what issues were coming up,” Leath said. “We would talk fairly regularly to make sure we were both approaching the issues with the same perspective.”

Those conversations will continue as the Big 12 approaches new opportunities and the next set of issues.

Until those next issues arise, the Big 12 will look to prove to the general public that the conference is stable — even if its leaders have felt comfortable all along.

“These of us in the room knew it was more stable than what people perceived it on the outside,” Pollard said. “In the long run we’ll just have to show it in order to get the outside to believe it.”
Design

Reiman Gardens brings oversized toys to life

By Thaddeus Mast
@iowastatedaily.com

Reiman Gardens has gained a few new accessories to adorn the flowers: Huge, oversized toys are now scattered throughout, forming an intricate, self-running chain reaction, a type of Rube Goldberg machine.

The students in the TOYS! Studio designed and constructed the device.

Mitchell Squire, associate professor of architecture and teacher of the studio, described why he has used toys as the premise for a studio class that has been running for three years.

“I wanted [the studio] to be open to different majors, from design to architecture. I didn’t want to weight it in any particular area.”

Toys are a perfect bridge that spans all the design majors. In the past, the spring studio has built a puppet theater and a miniature golf course, but this year the project was a bit larger.

“Reiman Gardens was the first type of design-build project we’ve had,” Squire said. “This was a studio unlike anything I’ve ever taught.”

Kara Thompson, a student in interior design, said this aspect was what drew her into taking the class.

“I thought it would be really fun to actually build something.”

The studio’s purpose was to instill the process of creating an idea, how to manage a project and how to communicate with clients.

The client in this project was Reiman Gardens itself, which provided funding for the TOYS! Studio to design and build something that fits into their 2012 theme “Some Assembly Required.”

In addition to managing and communication, Squire had a second objective that grew throughout the semester.

“The idea is to not let your limitations manifest into a limited project. You’ve got to overachieve,” Squire said. “Had they not been able to let their minds and imagination soar beyond what they knew they could do, then they

Photo: Liz Zabel/Iowa State Daily

Reiman Gardens has a new exhibit for the summer featuring a Rube Goldberg machine composed of oversized toys. TOYS! studio created the device.
Reiman Gardens
visiting hours

Open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. including the Butterfly Wing and Gift Shop.

Extended summer hours:
Memorial Day to Labor Day Daily: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. including the Gift Shop
Butterfly Wing: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

would not have been able to overachieve.”

While this helped the students create an intricate machine by semester’s end, it did not make for an easy project.

“It was definitely challenging,” Thompson said. “It was challenging to design it as a class.”

“I don’t think anyone would claim this studio was not a challenge,” Squire said. “It was full of all of the kinds of things one would expect to have. There were frustrations, great concerns about logistical things, such as where are we going to build this thing, whose tools are we going to use, whose expertise do we need. The one [problem] it didn’t have, thankfully, is no one got injured.”

Were the hardships worth it? Thompson thought so: “I thought the class was really rewarding. I would encourage everyone to build something they design. It was by far my favorite class at Iowa State.”

Squire agreed: “I think everyone would say they learned something. ... This particular project gave us a lot of real life lessons.”
Candidate forums leave out students

New university administrators, such as ISU President Steven Leath, need to be able to choose their own staff so that the team responsible for the university’s well-being and the fulfillment of its mission statement will be a team that can work well together.

Leath has begun to make his choices since assuming the presidency on Jan. 16. Several top administrators resigned over this past year.

Recently, Iowa State had open forums at which candidates for university registrar, senior vice president and provost, and dean of students could offer their visions for Iowa State.

The timing of those forums, however, is suspect. The forums for senior vice president and provost were hosted during Dead Week. The forums for dean of students were also during Dead Week and Finals Week. And the forums for registrar were the week after Finals. That timing made it difficult for students to take an interest in the future of their university.

While in the end those decisions should be left to the officials who will be their superiors, students should be involved in the process, if only so they know what, exactly, those officials do for them and their university.

Politics

Bring back the can-do nation

S un-faded and sand-covered, a recently discovered Kittyhawk P-40 fighter plane rests in the middle of the Egyptian Sahara Desert, having crashed there in 1942 during World War II.

The dusty hulk of the once resplendent cog in the wheel of freedom lies silently in the desert without its pilot, Flight Sergeant Dennis Copping of the Royal Air Force. Nearby sits his parachute, wind beaten and frayed, a sign that Copping survived the crash and probably used it as shelter from the sun. The absence of his body tells us that he must have attempted to walk out of the desert to save himself.

Almost like a ghost, the warplane sits there in the middle of desolation, its propeller cast asunder by the impact; the nose crumpled like a wad of paper, the landing gear folded underneath. It is a mere fragment, a dirty apparition of its once-powerful self. The fighter plane, with its sleek lines and aggressive appearance still quite readily visible in spite of the damage, speaks to us down through the ages: “I once did great things, and a great and brave man flew me along with other great men, so that you may live in a world without tyranny.”

The weight of history bears down on us always. Can you hear its message?

World War II was one of the last truly political acts America took part in. Yes, there were a few manifestations of magnificent public action in the years afterwards, such as the American space program. But as the 1940s turned into the 1950s, and the 50s into the 60s, America’s public spirit faded like the war paint on that plane in the Egyptian desert.

The men and women from the World War II-era are called the “greatest generation,” responsible for ridding the world of fascism, putting men into space and on the moon, eliminating segregation and initiating the most prosperous period of American history. These were the people who built the interstate highways, gave us the Internet and, on the side, ensured the oppression of Communism didn’t spread.

The “Greatest Generation” was the generation of getting things done, the grand performers of public action. On the face of these acts, one might argue Adolf Hitler simply had to be defeated, that we had to get to the moon before the Russians because of the nuclear threat or that highways were created to foster economic growth. However, those blithe explanations neglect their expression of our public character.

We weren’t trying to beat the Russians to space and the moon, for example, simply because whoever controlled space could nuke anyone, anywhere, at any time, but because we had to prove that America and American values were superior to the Soviet tyrannical way of life. We had to beat the Russians because we had to prove America and our constitution, our laws, ethics, morals and our character — the very who-ness of who we are — was better.

America was the can-do nation. Politically, it was because Republicans weren’t the party of “no” and automatic opposition like they are today. Republicans were the party of the alternative — the yang to the Democrats’ yin.

This 40-odd year span marked an era of remarkable cooperation and collegiality in both the House and the Senate. There was no so-called “party line,” there was only Americans working for America. It was in this period America saw some of her greatest moments.

Today, though, America, like Sergeant Copping’s fighter plane, is without a pilot and is a figment of its former self. America is absent her men and women of courage to do what needs to be done; our leaders are missing in action. Whereas the members of Congress used to be cooperative, Republicans and Democrats have taken up ideological arms against each other. Where are the Dennis Coppings of the political world, who will stand up together and say no to the ideological two-sidedness?

Wait Whitman said, “Nothing is ever really lost, or can be lost,” that “the embers left from earlier fires ... shall duly flame again.” Hopefully America’s public spirit, like the old fighter plane once valiant, can be rediscovered, dusted off and put back into action.

By Barry Snell
@iowastatedaily.com

Barry Snell is a senior in history from Muscatine, Iowa.
Politicians need to work, not wait

The Iowa Legislature’s 2012 session is over. Our senators and representatives put in long days and nights — more than they were getting paid for, even. But at the end of the day, they were pathetic. Their prevailing conception of politics was absolutely wrong.

At the end of April, some Republican legislators suggested they wanted to simply adjourn the session and go home, leaving their business unfinished.

From a simple appropriations standpoint, that may have been feasible: Last year the Legislature passed a budget for this full year and half of a budget for next year. The money wouldn’t have run out until January, by which time a new election presumably would have put Republican majorities in both houses and ended the divided government we have to deal with currently.

Then, on Thursday, Gov. Terry Branstad said he is open to calling a special session of the Legislature to pass property tax reform. He said, however, for him to do that, he would need assurance from Senate Democrats that they would pass a bill very close to the one the House passed with Republican support. According to one news story, Branstad said, “I want an assurance that they will have the votes to do it. I don’t want to call them back unless we feel confident that they have the votes and they’re going to come in and do it.”

The fact that some of Iowa’s dignitaries considered abandoning their posts to wait for more favorable election results is beyond words — and I say that from the standpoint of a citizen who thinks he has some idea of what politics is and who watched the legislative game at the statehouse for three sessions. If our trustees of the public good are unwilling to stick it out, how can they ask us to maintain our confidence in any of the institutions we hold dear?

Good politicians don’t need party or ideological majorities to pass their legislation. They can find common ground in any situation. To the extent that we have such representatives and senators in office as those Republicans who kept at the back of their minds the idea of quitting and coming back to Iowa’s public problems after ideologically favorable election returns, we have in office cowards instead of politicians.

As Yury Zhivago said, “A grown-up man is supposed to grit his teeth and share in whatever’s coming to his country.”

Another poet, Robert Frost, observed, “The best way out is always through.” Although a poet, his message is instructive: We cannot genuinely solve our problems unless we confront them. To misquote another poet, William Shakespeare, politics is not politics which fails to alter when alteration finds.

Ignoring the elephant in the room is useless. And it’s not political, at all.

What is political ties us together in relationships with other people, and the problems that arise from those relations require collaboration to work out solutions. There is nothing political, however, in waiting to work out those solutions by waiting for election results to deliver a like-minded majority.

Waiting for elections to put into office carbon copies of politicians — to give us the same viewpoint a second, third or fourth time — amounts to coping out on solving the problems we face — together, not individually.

The legislative process is more than voting in elections and then voting on bills. Preference for that method ignores the vital differences that separate the members of any governing body: from the Government of the Student Body here at Iowa State to the City Council of Ames to the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Iowa, or to Congress itself — or any committee in between those levels or in the executive branch. The legislative process, as with all politics, requires compromise.

Rejecting compromise rejects the different vantage points each person brings to a discussion; our ideas are informed by everything from the culture of the place we grew up, religion, traditions, family life and all the rest of our preferences. Healthy politics requires a diversity of opinion; any number of dittoheads shouting in a room how much they agree with one another does nothing and is political tyranny.

Politicians should embrace disagreement, rather than shun it.

We need thrill-seeking politicians. We need our representatives to have political bloodlust coursing through their veins: We need them to seek out issues, controversies and problems, pull their colleagues into the ring alongside them and stay there until they tame those problems. We need politicians who will play the game for the game’s own sake.

Unfortunately, the members of the Iowa General Assembly and now Branstad have shown how lacking they are in genuine political talent and ambition.

They could learn something from one of the most talented and ambitious men in history, Napoleon Bonaparte: “Victory belongs to the most persevering.”

By Michael.Belding
@iowastatedaily.com

The Iowa Legislature has already let out, leaving many issues unsolved. Gov. Terry Branstad has called a special session of the Legislature to work on specific bills that were left on the table by legislators, just another example of politicians backing away from working on major issues.
Thursday Night Dinner

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Marissa Yessak reached for the worn yellow baton hanging from a rope at the edge of the track on the morning of May 5. Her teammates held the rope, and her coach, Tammy Zimmerman, stood at her side. Yessak moved leisurely down the lane.

The 8-year-old reached her first teammate. She stopped and leaned in as if to say “Hello.” Her teammate gives some encouragement, and she continues.

As Yessak approached the end of the rope, she hesitated. Her hand slipped off the baton. Zimmerman placed Yessak’s hand back on the rope and Yessak continued. After a few more slips of the hand and steps off the track into the grass, Yessak completed her race.

“It has taken me a lot to get her to walk along the rope and hang on to the rope,” said Zimmerman, head coach of the Vinton-Shellsburg Special Olympics team. “It’s taken a lot of practice to get her to do that.”

Yessak is participating in this year’s Special Olympics for the first time. She has a visual impairment that makes competing in sports difficult, but Special Olympics has given her the opportunity to participate in bowling, basketball and track.

Yessak’s father, Jason, is a teacher and coach in the Dunkerton Community School District, who never thought his daughter would be able to be in sports.

Zimmerman described Jason’s reaction: “Just watching him tear up because he never thought his daughter would do that, those kind of things is what you do Special Olympics for. ... It’s what you hope to achieve.”

Yessak and the 15 other members of her team from Benton County are preparing to come to Ames on Thursday for the State Summer Games.

Iowa State will host nearly 3,000 athletes from teams across Iowa during the three-day event, according to the Special Olympics Iowa website. The Special Olympics’ largest event of the year has been held at Iowa State since the mid-1980s.

All athletes competing in the games have already received medalist honors at regional competitions in events that include swimming, track and field, bocce, cycling, roller skating, soccer, and tennis.

The Summer Games are more than just athletic events. The annual event is kicked off in grand fashion during the opening ceremonies leads the way to hope

By Kelsey.Kremer
@iowastatedaily.com

Photo: Kelsey Kremer/Iowa State Daily

Schedule of Special Olympics Events

Thursday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Competition: Iowa State Center Parking Lot, Forker Building Courts, Soccer fields east of Maple Willow Larch Residence Halls, Lied Recreation Athletic Center
6:15 p.m. — Parade Line Up, Opening Ceremonies: Parking Lot C-2, south side of Hilton Coliseum
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Opening Ceremonies: Hilton Coliseum

Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Competition: Lied Recreation, Beyer Hall
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Developmental Events: Forker Building
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Healthy Athletes: Forker Building
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Celebration Dance: Hilton Coliseum

Saturday
8:30 a.m. to noon — Competition: Lied Recreation
Noon — Closing Ceremonies: Lied Recreation
emanonies Thursday evening as each team is welcomed by fans crowding into Hilton Coliseum. The ceremony ends with a torch lighting of Olympic caliber.

“The best part is the lighting of the torch,” Zimmerman said. “It’s amazing because all these kids – even the older kids – love watching the torch go around.”

A festival that includes a variety of activities, sports clinics, programs promoting health and a dance is scheduled Friday.

Zimmerman said her team has been practicing for the Summer Games since February.

The team, made up of students from elementary through high school, meets every Thursday and Saturday for two to four hours of training per week.

“We do a lot of running … a lot of stretching, which they don’t always like to do,” Zimmerman said. “They don’t always like to do a lot of the running either, but that’s OK. We work with it.”

The coach of nine years said she got involved because of her son, who has an intellectual disability and has participated in Special Olympics since he was 8 years old.

For Zimmerman, coaching Special Olympics is personally rewarding. On a team with many young athletes this season, Zimmerman said many of the older athletes have moved on to adult sports.

“I can watch them when we go to state events and see them keep flourishing and keep growing,” Zimmerman said.

After months of training and competition, upon arriving to Ames, Zimmerman tells her team it is time to have fun.

“Don’t take it seriously,” Zimmerman said. “Just go out and do your event and have fun while doing it.”

It is that atmosphere that keeps Vinton-Shellsburg Special Olympics athletes coming back year after year.

>>GAMES.p14

About

The Special Olympics is a non-profit, international organization for people of all ages with intellectual disabilities to develop athletic skills and compete in Olympic-type sports year-round.

“The Special Olympics is a non-profit, international organization for people of all ages with intellectual disabilities to develop athletic skills and compete in Olympic-type sports year-round.”

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“Boone’s Best Kept Secret”

“Boone’s Best Kept Secret”

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Big 12 championships finish outdoor season

T.J. Maxx brings fashion to Ames
Daily by the day

Thursday

Symposium: Sustaining Health in a Changing Environment
When: 8:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
What: A look at staying healthy in a time of climate change, growth in population and less resources.
Where: Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

Behind the Scenes
When: 10 to 11:30 a.m.
What: An interactive behind the scenes experience of Reiman Gardens, including a chance to see things not normally shown to the public.
Where: Reiman Gardens

Special Olympics State Summer Games
When: Competition begins 9 a.m., Opening Ceremonies 7 p.m.
What: 3,000 athletes competing in Iowa’s largest annual Special Olympics event.
Where: Opening Ceremonies at Hilton Coliseum with competitions hosted throughout campus

Jens Jensen and his Contemporaries in Design
When: 7 p.m.
What: Robert Grese will speak on the impact of landscape and architectural innovators.
Where: Garden Room, Reiman Gardens

NCAA Regional Men’s Golf Tournament
What: ISU men’s golf team compete for NCAA Nationals.
Where: Bowling Green, Ky.

Friday

Symposium: Sustaining Health in a Changing Environment
When: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
What: The symposium begins a second day exploring how to stay healthy in environments of the modern world.
Where: Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

Summer Courses
What: Last day to change, audit or drop a Summer Session I course without it appearing on a permanent record and without a schedule change fee.

Symposium: Sustaining Health in a Changing Environment
When: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
What: The symposium begins a second day exploring how to stay healthy in environments of the modern world.
Where: Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

Special Olympics State Summer Games
When: 8:30 a.m.
What: The Special Olympics celebrates its second day of competition.
Where: Throughout Iowa State’s campus

ISUAA Inspiration Awards
When: 5:30 p.m.
What: A dinner for the ISU Alumni Association to recognize retiring members of the board of directors and honor faculty and staff receiving awards.
Where: ISU Alumni Center

Dance Social
When: 7:30 to 9:45 p.m.
What: Free dance social hosted by the ISU Ballroom Dance Club; dress is casual.
Where: Pioneer Room, Memorial Union

NCAA Regional Men’s Golf Tournament
What: Second day of competition for the ISU men’s golf team as they aim for NCAA Nationals.
Where: Bowling Green, Ky.

Saturday

Ames Garden Club Plant Sale
When: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
What: Pick up some plants and support the Ames Garden Club.
Where: Reiman Gardens

Special Olympics State Summer Games
When: 8:30 a.m.
What: Day three of competition for the Special Olympics
Where: Throughout campus
Daily by the day

**NCAA Regional Men’s Golf Tournament**
What: The third day of competition for the ISU men’s golf team.
Where: Bowling Green, KY

**Cindy Westside Dance Recital**
When: 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.
What: Dance recital.
Where: Stephens Auditorium

**Des Moines Menace Women’s Soccer Team**
When: 4:30 p.m.
What: The Menace women’s soccer team will play F.C. Indiana. The game will be the team’s first match ever.
Where: Valley Stadium, West Des Moines

**Des Moines Menace Men’s Soccer Team**
When: 7:30 p.m.
What: The Menace men’s soccer team will play Kansas City. The men’s game will begin after the women’s game finishes.
Where: Valley Stadium, West Des Moines

**Monday**

**Woodshop Orientation with Dan Neubauer**
When: 6:30 to 9 p.m.
What: Beginners workshop on the fundamentals of woodworking equipment.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Tuesday**

**GIS Short Course: Spatial Exploration of the 2010 Census**
When: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
What: Course on working with U.S. Census data, the American Community Survey and geographic information systems.
Where: 248 Durham Hall

**Workshop: Ion Torrent sequencing technology**
When: 10 a.m. to noon
What: An introduction to Iowa State’s new Ion Torrent next-generation sequencing service offered at the Genomic Technologies Facility.
Where: 1352 Gilman Hall

**Train**
When: 6 p.m.
What: The band Train will be performing live.
Where: Wells Fargo Arena

**Wednesday**

**Odyssey of the Mind World Finals**
When: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
What: A creative problem-solving competition for students from kindergarten to college. Teams must work together to solve a wide range of problems.
Where: Iowa State Center

**Haiku in the Gardens**
When: 1 to 2:30 p.m.
What: A look into haiku poetry with Dennis Maulsby; no poetry or writing background required.
Where: Reiman Gardens

**Sunday**

**Summer Courses**
What: Fee deadline for summer semester, either minimum payment or full payment.

**Argentine Tango Practica with Valerie Williams**
When: 4 to 7 p.m.
What: A multi-level dance class. Cost of $30 for ISU members and $40 for public.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Glass Beads with Rhonda Scott**
When: 6 to 8:30 p.m.
What: Learn to sculpt glass beads with the use of a gas-powered torch.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Drawing with Sara Merritt**
When: 7 to 9 p.m.
What: For beginners to skilled artists, this workshop offers the chance to develop drawing skills.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Wheel Pottery with Vamsi Andalam**
When: 7 to 9:30 p.m.
What: A multi-level class on pottery for beginners and those with basic experience.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Silver Rings with Terrie Hoefer**
When: 6 to 9 p.m.
What: Learn to make personal rings with sterling silver sheets.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Watercolor with Jeremy Roy**
When: 7 to 9:30 p.m.
What: Watercolor painting.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union

**Silver Rings with Terrie Hoefer**
When: 6 to 9 p.m.
What: Learn to make personal rings with sterling silver sheets.
Where: Workspace, Memorial Union
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Why is it that if you tickle yourself it doesn’t tickle?

There are so many external and internal stimuli hitting you at once that your brain has learned to filter them out.

The first ones that get ignored are ones that you do; which is why you probably don’t notice your vocal chords when you talk, your tongue movements when you chew and why you can’t tickle yourself.

When you try to tickle yourself you are in complete control of the situation, there is no need to get tense and therefore there is no reaction.

The part of the brain that cancels out stimuli is called the cerebellum. The cauliflower-like mass can be found at the back, on top of the brain. The cerebellum is known to basically be the party planner; it coordinates movement control in relation to sensory signals received in other areas of your brain.

It is possible to tickle yourself though!!!

You would have to fool your cerebellum. Studies have shown that with as little as a 200-millisecond delay between you moving your hand and the tickling, you would react. However there is only one way to do this- by remote control.

Did you know?

Science has been able to design a robot that allows people to tickle themselves. To use the machine you would have to lie on your back with your eyes closed. The robot, located near you, would have a piece of soft foam attached to a plastic rod which you would control by joystick. You would maneuver the remote control and after a short delay, would respond. This takes advantage of the delay in the cerebellum.

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### Across
1. Manitoba native  
5. Seat at a bar  
10. Mallorca or Menorca, por ejemplo  
14. "The War of the Worlds" broadcast, notably  
15. *_d'Or: Cannes award*  
16. Gush forth  
17. Swimming stroke  
20. Major tractor manufacturer  
21. Welsh dog breed  
22. DJ's stack  
23. Egyptian viper  
25. Vampire vanquisher  
27. Intense emotions  
32. Bigwig  
35. Genetic carrier  
36. Persona non...  
38. Paleozoic and others  
39. Often-booed baseball play  
43. Popular faucet brand  
44. Hawaiian porch  
45. State with a peninsula: Abbr.  
46. Traffic cones  
47. MLB league  
48. Knights' horses  
50. Rang, as a bell  
51. Exams for future attys.  
53. __ Balls: Hostess treats  
54. Genesis victim  
55. Etna's outpouring  
57. In the blink...eye

### Down
1. Paper ballot punch-out  
2. Scoundrel  
3. Allay, as fears  
4. They're more than what's needed  
5. Hotel amenity  
6. Rash soothe  
7. This and that  
8. Actors Epps and Sharif  
9. Inseam measurement  
11. Mariner 4 or Voyager 2  
12. Indecent  
13. Belto making tools  
18. Step down  
19. "Arrivederci!"  
24. Ocean liner's destination  
26. Was familiar with  
27. Groom carefully  
28. Bug  
29. Phobos and Deimos, to Mars  
30. Hammer's target  
31. Greek walkways  
32. __ Balls: Hostess treats  
33. Berry of "Monster's Ball"  
34. Schindler of "Schindler's List"  
35. Queen Boleyn  
36. Baseball's Slaughter  
37. Very small batteries  
38. Big name in small trains  
40. Sound judgment  
41. Sound asleep?  
42. Genesis victim  
43. Hawaiian porch  
44.紙面 ballot punch-out  
45. Sports Illustrated named him Sportsman of the Century in 1999  
46. Traffic cones  
47. MLB league  
48. Knights' horses  
49. Rang, as a bell  
50. Sound asleep?  
51. Exams for future attys.  
52. Sound asleep?  
53. __ Balls: Hostess treats  
54. Genesis victim  
55. Etna's outpouring  
56. Voice above baritone  
58. Stats for sluggers  
60. Words of approximation  
61. Miniature golf stroke  
62. Objectives  
63. Arias article

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**Ironies**

**Unclear on the Concept:**

Licensed Texas physician Akili Graham, 34, who gives paid motivational speeches on healthy living ("How to Deal With Stress"), was arrested in October in Houston and accused as the front man for four "pain clinics" that allegedly dispense prescription drugs illegally. [Houston Chronicle, 10-13-2011]

A chief child-abuse investigator for the Catholic Church in Britain, Christopher Jarvis, 49, was sentenced in October following his guilty plea to possession of over 4,000 child-sex images on his computer. Jarvis had been hired in 2002 to protect against pedophiles’ access to church groups. [Daily Mail, 10-28-2011]

Why People Love Washington: U.S. Rep. Tom Graves of Georgia told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution in August that he and a partner had "settled" the lawsuit brought by the Bartow County Bank for failing to repay a $2.2 million loan they had taken out in 2007. Graves has been a staunch advocate for governmental fiscal austerity and voted against raising the federal debt ceiling in August. However, he had balked at repaying the $2.2 million (though he had signed a personal guarantee) because, he said, the bank should have known when it made the loan that Graves would be unable to pay it back. [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 8-11-2011]

Violinist Martin Stoner, 60, who lost his job after 25 years and who is suing the New York City Ballet for age discrimination, petitioned federal judge Robert Patterson to disqualify himself from the case because he is too old (88) and, according to Stoner, has vision and hearing problems. [New York Daily News, 10-24-2011]
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