Students compete in Taekwondo tournament

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perfe...
Business

Ames branch of Dahl’s Foods opens

New site expands shopping options

By Ben. Theobald
@iowastatedaily.com

Dahl’s Foods opened the doors of its new Ames location to customers on Monday. Founded in 1931, Dahl’s Foods has been in business in Iowa for nearly 80 years.

Mike Lee, the manager of the Ames store, was also the manager of the Cub Foods store that once occupied the new store’s location.

Lee has been in the grocery business since he was 16.

“I grew up in Ames and moved to many Midwestern cities where I worked at the grocery business,” Lee said.

Lee has worked at Cub Foods for about 20 years. He has been a manager for 19 years.

“When I was with Cub Foods for 20 years, people asked me for some place to eat and have a cup of coffee,” Lee said. “In this end of town, we have the first seating of coffee.”

Dahl’s Food Store in Ames currently employs between 90 and 95 employees. About 20 of those employees are transfers from Cub Foods.

While the staff has remained the same to some extent, there were many changes made inside of the

Mike Lee, manager of the new Dahl’s Foods on Grand Ave., stands in front of a customer checkout point. Lee says he is happy to be working with familiar faces from his previous position at Cub Foods. Photo: Jordan Maurice/Iowa State Daily

store.

“It’s been completely decorated,” Lee said. “We have full services, [someone to] sack the groceries and a drive out. It’s just completely changed altogether.”

Lee prides his store in its service and variety it gives to customers.

“If we don’t have it, we will get it,” Lee said. “We are able to get whatever people want. We will do our best to.”

For Lee, his staff members are people he can depend on to make the store successful.

Shoppers browse the Dahl’s Foods bakery section Tuesday. Community members have responded well to the new grocery shopping option, exploring the new location. Photo: Jordan Maurice/Iowa State Daily

Academics

ISU Dean of Students leaves

By Katherine Klingsies
@iowastatedaily.com

Dean of Students Dione Somerville has accepted a position at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania, according to the Bloomsburg University website.

The website reports that Somerville will be the vice president for student affairs beginning in July. The position has been vacant since the death of Preston Herring, its previous holder. Somerville has been the dean of students at Iowa State since January 2007. Earlier this month, it was announced that Somerville was a finalist for the position of vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Somerville was not immediately available for comment Wednesday.

Vice President of Student Affairs Tom Hill said Wednesday that he is happy for Somerville.

“She’s moving from dean of students to vice president of Student Affairs,” Hill said. “That’s a great career move for her.”

Keep reading the Daily for updates as this story develops.
Martial arts

Students compete in tournament

By Cristobal Matibag

Several ISU students came away from the ninth annual Iowa Governor’s Cup Taekwondo Championships Saturday. Awarded the third in blue belt free sparring, Jarret Cook, graduate in natural resource ecology and management, received third place among male blue belts for forms and black belts holding a rank of third degree or higher. Matt Hamann, graduate in education, received second place in forms among male white belts for fourth-degree black belts. All competed in the 18 to 32-year-old age bracket.

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Awardees ranged in rank from white belt to fourth-degree black belt. All competed in the 18 to 32-year-old age bracket.

Jarret Cook, graduate in natural resource ecology and management, received third place among male blue belts for forms and black belts holding a rank of third degree or higher. Matt Hamann, graduate in education, received third place in blue belt free sparring.

Matt Hamann, graduate in education, received second place in forms among male white belts for fourth-degree black belts. All competed in the 18 to 32-year-old age bracket.

Held on the lower level of Forker Hall, the tournament brought together martial artists from all over the Midwest. ISU alumni and competition judge Wes Grieme said that the tournament had drawn competitors from Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Michigan and Minnesota.

Iowa studios represented at the tournament included Bruce Taekwondo Academy of Cedar Rapids, Farrell’s of Des Moines, Kang’s Martial Arts of Coralville and Jung’s Taekwondo Academy of Cedar Rapids.

Master Yong Chin Pak, senior lecturer in kinesiology and president of the National Collegiate Taekwondo Association, said that 175 competitors had pre-registered for the tournament and estimated that 20 to 30 more had registered the morning of competition. He set the number of spectators between 300 and 400. Youths, he noted, outnumbered adult participants by roughly a two-to-one margin.

Pak attributed the relatively low proportion of ISU students at the competition to the fact that many had gone home for the summer. After an introductory address by Master Pak and the presentation of awards to several Taekwondo masters, the tournament began. Competitors executed rote patterns of movement called ‘forms’ first.

While executing their forms, competitors were judged on their speed, balance and power, as well as the fluidity with which they moved. A panel of five judges scored their performances on a 1 to 10 scale. The highest and lowest scores given were thrown out.

Grouped by age and rank, students competed in four different rings. The tournament was organized to allow the youngest, lowest-ranked students to go first. Going in ascending order, older and higher-ranked students took the rings after them. The forms portion of the competition culminated with the adult black belts competing against each other.

The forms portion of the tournament ended slightly past noon. Over the noon hour, as competitors and spectators ate lunch, students gave board-breaking demonstrations.

When competition resumed, participants turned from forms to sparring. Non-black belts sparred for two rounds lasting one minute each; black belts sparred for two rounds lasting two minutes each. Competitors were awarded points for landing blows, receiving two points for each blow to the head and one point for each blow to the body. Each blow that resulted in a knockdown earned competitors an additional point. Rounds were stopped early if competitors got seven points ahead of their opponents, or earned 12 total points.

While some ISU students competed, others assumed different roles at the tournament. Randy Benedict, a black belt and graduate in chemistry, served as a judge. Though he acknowledged the importance of his role, he said Taekwondo was about more than who won or lost a given competition.

“We do try to practice the tenets of martial arts,” Benedict said. “We don’t just throw those out the window.”

The tenets to which Benedict referred are Courtesy, Integrity, Self-Control, Indomitable Spirit and Perseverance — all qualities he said Taekwondo helped to cultivate.
Royal Wedding

Wedding of the Century

By Lindsey Schwarck
@iowastatedaily.com

National news anchors have been counting down the weeks, days and hours until the big day. Fashion critics anxiously speculate about the bride-to-be’s wedding gown designer. Paparazzi swarm the future princess, and her picture covers supermarket tabloids. The year: 1981.

The Dress

The future princess arrived outside the church in a glass-topped coach accompanied by her father. It was the moment everyone had been waiting for: the unveiling of the dress. Diana stepped out of the carriage in a ball gown fit for a queen. Created by David and Elizabeth Emanuel, the ivory dress was made of silk taffeta and lace embellishments. With a ruffled neck, full shoulders and full sleeves, the gown is best remembered for its 25-foot train. Like Kate Middleton, Diana had a spare dress (five to be exact) to wear in the event that her gown or choice of designer was revealed before the big day.

The Ceremony

After a long walk down the aisle, Diana reached Prince Charles and Robert Runcie (the archbishop of Canterbury, who led the service). The ceremony went smoothly, despite Diana transposing her husband’s name as “Philip Charles Arthur George” instead of “Charles Philip Arthur George” when reciting her vows.

After the wedding, the fans proceeded to Buckingham Palace. Church bells chimed and the crowd cheered as the husband and wife appeared on the balcony and shared a kiss. It was the first time in 300 years that a British citizen married an heir to the throne. It also stands out as the “wedding of the century.”
Local fashionistas praise Princess Kate’s style

Middleton’s look draws lavish praise
By Laura Bucklin
@iowastatedaily.com

While all brides want to look and feel like a princess, former commoner Kate Middleton actually became a princess this past month on April 29. She definitely looked the part.

“At first, I thought she looked like an angel. She seemed to glide down the aisle,” said Kelsey Pedersen, a senior in apparel merchandising design and production at Iowa State. “The lace overlay was traditional, yet had a sense of fashionable flair. Kate looked absolutely gorgeous.”

One word can be used to describe Middleton’s dress: stunning. She walked down the aisle wearing a dress designed by Sarah Burton for Alexander McQueen. A lot of thought, time and effort were put into this dress.

According to the official royal wedding website, Middleton worked very closely with the designers while they were making the dress and wanted to “combine tradition and modernity.”

Pedersen, who designed her own 1960s mod-inspired wedding dress for the 2011 Iowa State Fashion Show, commented on the modernity of the dress’ v-neck bodice. She also thought that the natural waistline created a “feminine and beautiful silhouette.”

“I feel the dress was perfect for her body type. Kate is a slender woman and the hourglass figure created by the dress made her princess material,” Pedersen said.

The hourglass figure did, in fact, make Middleton “princess material.” Fashionista.com stated that the silhouette featured padding at the hips, which harkened back to traditional Victorian corsetry.

Other traditions were echoed throughout the dress, such as the process of sewing hand-cut and engineered lace patterns onto ivory silk. This is needlework practice dates back as far as the 1820s. “Workers washed their hands every 30 minutes to keep the lace and threads pristine, and the needles were renewed every three hours, to keep them sharp and clean,” reported the LA Times fashion critic Booth Moore.

Unlike the lace, the veil used was very simple, but it also had tradition behind it—something borrowed. Queen Elizabeth lent the Cartier “Halo” tiara to Middleton, who paired it with silk ivory tulle.

“There’s absolutely no doubt that Kate’s hair was worn half up with curled ends. Pedersen thought this was "perfect for the look" that the bride was aiming for.

Andrew Barton, a celebrity hairdresser, said in an interview that Kate’s wedding hairstyle would bring about the “death of the straightening iron.” He said girls’ new “best friend” will be the heated roller.

There are already tons of do-it-yourself Kate Middleton hairstyle postings online — ample evidence that her simple and natural look can work for people other than her.

There is no doubt that Kate’s look turned many heads and started many conversations. Other brides can have guests rubbernecking and feel like a princess at their weddings by following some of Middleton’s examples above: dressing for their body type, incorporating tradition and keeping it simple.

By following these rules, Middleton even impressed Robb Young, a British fashion writer who recently released a book called “Power Dressing: First Ladies, Women Politicians and Fashion.” The book investigates the wardrobes that rule the world and the women who wear them.

“There’s absolutely no doubt that Kate’s dress will be a trend-setter. It’s sleek, understated, flattering, thoroughly modern and romantic, which, ultimately, I think is probably what most brides today are looking for,” Young said.

Kate Middleton’s traditional, understated makeup and wardrobe choices met with the approval of many in the popular press. Here, she clasps the arm of Prince William while waving from the balcony of Buckingham Palace. Photo courtesy of Leslie Millard
Royal Wedding

Student watches festivities

By Jolie Monroe
@iowastatedaily.com

Coverage of the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton was everywhere weeks before it took place. U.S. magazines, television shows and newscasts covered every detail of the important day. While coverage seemed to be at a maximum here, wedding news and memorabilia were even more abundant in London. Merchandise was sold throughout the city. Some hung banners in front of their houses. People from all over traveled to London to watch the day’s events unfold.

Leslie Millard, senior in marketing, is currently studying abroad in London. Not only is Millard able to enjoy London for the semester, but she also got to be present for one of the country’s most exciting moments. Millard made a point of being outside key locations associated with the wedding, because she wanted to be present for Prince William and Middleton’s historic union.

While some dedicated people spent the night in the streets of London to get a good viewing spot, others arrived early in the morning. Millard and friends woke up at 4 a.m. in order to reach the city by 5 a.m. Since they got there before many other spectators, they didn’t have a problem finding a spot from which to view the royals.

“We had the perfect spot on The Mall. We were right across the street from Clarence House, where William came from,” said Millard.

Around 10:10 a.m., William left the house. After his departure, Millard was able to see the queen and the bride as they passed. While a select group of people were allowed inside Westminster Abbey, Millard was one of the lucky few who were able to see a bit more.

“We were right behind the BBC News crew, which had a flat screen TV showing the wedding from inside the Abbey, and we could hear everything on huge speakers,” Millard said.

“Afterwards, we saw everyone returning from the wedding and fought our way down The Mall to see [Kate and William’s] kiss. We made it all the way to the steps of the fountain right in front of the gates to Buckingham Palace,” Millard said.

While one might expect the scene to be chaotic, it was orderly and friendly, Millard said. There were also security and policemen guarding the area. Millard and her friends were required to walk through metal detectors, but didn’t have much trouble getting to good viewing spots. As an American watching British history being made, Millard said she “didn’t even think about being American.

“There was such a sense of British pride, and I was singing and clapping right along with them,” she added.

Along with the pride came celebration. Some of the celebrators sported interesting outfits.

“There were a lot of people, men and women, in wedding dresses. Everyone wanted to be Kate, no matter gender, age or nationality,” Millard said.

While a wedding of this size has multiple defining moments, Millard said hers was “chanting with the huge crowd of people in from of the palace, [screaming] ‘Kiss! Kiss! Kiss!’ and seeing the unprecedented two kisses.”

The wedding brought together millions of people, in person and through the television, to watch the event unfold. With perfect timing, Millard was able to witness the experience of a lifetime.

Wedding Fashion

Achieve your own ‘royal’ wedding for less

By Hanna Johansen
@iowastatedaily.com

Did you absolutely love the grand appeal and stature of the Royal Wedding? Did you instantly fall in love with Kate’s dress?

Don’t let your lack of royal status stop you and your Prince Charming from having that fairy tale wedding you have been dreaming about. Having your own royal-inspired wedding is easier and cheaper than you may have imagined.

The first step in achieving a wedding similar to Kate and William’s is to choose a location. A historical castle or grand ballroom will furnish that distinguished feel you are trying to achieve. Look for a location with lofty ceilings, a picturesque staircase or sparkling chandeliers. Adding a red carpet will help sustain the elegant tone the location.

Set the nature of the wedding right away by sending guests engraved, formal invitations. Seal the envelopes with a colored wax crest highlighting your initials to impart a high-class feel. Maintain the crest and engraving theme on your wedding programs.

A grand entrance is key to pulling of a royal wedding. A horse-drawn carriage is customary, but a luxurious car or other majestic mode of transportation could also suffice.

Look at wedding traditions that are incorporated into most royal weddings for more inspiration. These include things such as adding a sprig of myrtle, known as the herb of love, to your bridal bouquet, playing majestic ceremony music such as Mendelssohn’s “Wedding March” and the hymn “The Lord is My Shepherd”, and requesting that all female guests wear a hat.

Another royal wedding tradition is the dress. It is strict tradition that brides wear a white dress — usually one made of silk with lace detailing. Kate’s dress is sure to intrigue designers so acquiring such a look should be a fairly simple task.

If you are looking for a place to start, designers Mon Cheri, Sophia Tolli and Kathy Ireland all have dresses in their new lines fit for a queen. With their delicate lace and intricate details you are sure to feel like royalty.

Engagements

Wedding announcement

Lori Klootwyk, daughter of Brian and Kelly Klootwyk of Knoxville, and Todd Ellensohn, son of Gary and Mary Ellensohn of Le Mars, are pleased to announce their engagement and upcoming wedding.

Lori Klootwyk, junior in animal science, will graduate from Iowa State University in Spring 2012. Todd Ellensohn graduated from Iowa State University College of Agriculture in December 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in agronomy.

The couple plans to exchange vows on June 25, 2011 at St. Anthony’s Church in Knoxville.
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EMPLOYEE OWNED
Ruling should spur U.S. drug law review

In a landmark decision for the future of criminal incarceration, the Supreme Court recently ruled that California must reduce its prison population by some 46,000 inmates within two years.

Logically speaking, nonviolent offenders should top the list of to-be-released prisoners. And what group of criminals is check-full of nonviolent offenders? Those with drug charges for intent to distribute, manufacture and sell. Granted, drugs can ruin a person’s health, but their relative pros and cons are not the issue here,

Due to the Supreme Court’s ruling on overcrowding and the infringement on human rights by the prison system, drug laws warrant reconsideration. Re-evaluating them could preempt prison overcrowding problems like the one the Court recently ruled on.

In 2001, 20.4 percent of all adults serving time in state penitentiaries were drug law violators. Ten years later, folks are still using drugs. There’s little indication this trend will stop.

Since the California ruling is likely to set up a chain of human rights violations for inmates across the country, the overcrowding issue might become something every state will have to evaluate.

Why not remove some of those nonviolent inmates incarcerated because of drug charges by getting the government to finally and fully re-evaluate whether some drugs — if any at all — should be illegal or should be understood in the same way as alcohol?

Letters

Memorial Day activities planned

The Ames Patriotic Council invites everyone to participate in honoring veterans this Memorial Day this Monday.

The Memorial Day parade will start from City Hall on 5th & Clark, at 10:30 a.m. and proceed north along Clark and then east along 9th Street to the Ames Municipal Cemetery.

At the cemetery, Ames resident Norm Rudi will be the main speaker. In addition to being a noted local architect, Mr. Rudi has authored several popular books of World War II veterans’ biographies, including “A Neighborhood of Eagles,” “An Iowa Pilot Named Hap,” and “A Full Measure.”

The Ames Municipal Band under the direction of Mike Golemo will play patriotic music. Jim DeHoet will sing. A flyover by the Iowa Air National Guard is scheduled.

American Legion Post #37 will host a lunch afterward at the Legion Post on 225 Main St., Ames. Later, two salutes will be given — one at the Ontario Cemetery at 1:15 p.m. and at the Story Memorial Gardens at 1:30 p.m.

Anyone, especially any veteran, wishing to walk in the parade is welcome. Parade participants should gather in the parking lot on the west side of City Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Volunteers are still needed to help staff barricades along the parade route from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to help may call Charlie Clatt at 232-3938.

In case of rain, the parade will be cancelled and the program will move indoors to the Ames Municipal Auditorium at 11:00 a.m.

The public is encouraged to participate to honor all those who have served and who continue to serve our country.

Herman C. Quirmbach is a member of the Ames Patriotic Council.

Patriotism

Honor those who died for freedom

Like most people, I look forward to the upcoming three-day weekend: class and work are canceled, and for that extra day we’re granted, we’re allowed to enjoy some leisure time. For some, this means nothing more than slowing down. Others take trips to cabins, fish on lakes, watch late-night fireworks, enjoy afternoon barbecues or thrill to each lap of the Indianapolis 500.

But as we’re enjoying our free time, we mustn’t lose sight of the sacrifices that make it possible. Memorial Day symbolically marks the start of summer and gives Americans an extra day off between two work weeks. This weekend, we meet with friends and bond with our families.

Life in modern society has nearly everything that could be asked for — we have more political liberties than ever before and, in material terms, our lives are of unparalleled quality. Still, we all too quickly forget these liberties and the debts we owe to those who protected them. Even on the day designated for honoring the guardians of our freedom, we often find ourselves focusing inward.

Don’t fall into that trap. This Memorial Day, take a few moments to be grateful and to acknowledge what Memorial Day is all about. We’ve made this day into our own private day, but it is not about us or our leisure pursuits. Step back, and consider the individuals who lost their lives so you could enjoy yours. For just a moment, forget your vacation and remember the simple things we often take for granted. These activities include voting, equality, free speech and the very elements give us cause to celebrate this holiday.

Remember the individuals who have been fighting for these simple rights from the time of the Civil War to the present day. If you like to use ‘political’ words such as ‘socialist’ and ‘fascist,’ consider the individuals who actually fought in World War II so that you could exercise the right of political speech. Complain about the president if you must, but be grateful for the soldiers who fought in the First World War to make the world safe for democracy. We want to enjoy our Memorial Day weekend with our families and friends and all activities we hold dearest, but this holiday isn’t about us.

Memorial Day is about those who gave their lives for us — those who lost their families and their lives so that we could enjoy ours. Whatever you do this weekend, spend a portion of it thinking about their sacrifice.
Gender

Parents of ‘genderless’ child are wise to defy stereotypes

By Claire Vriezen

While attempting to keep up with news around the world, I happened upon an article with a title that struck me. The link I followed read “Parents keep baby’s sex a secret, seek to raise ‘genderless’ child.” The article took me to a couple who had made the decision to withhold the sex of their child from friends and family: Their intent, they explained in a mass email, was to make “...a tribute to freedom and choice in place of limitation, a stand up to what the world could become in [our child’s] lifetime (a more progressive place?)”.

The couple’s parenting choices stem from a desire to let their children be “unconstrained by social norms about males and females.”

Curious about the response to this couple’s decision, I browsed through the comments at the bottom of the page. They were full of anger, shock and Internet commenters’ normal vitriol.

While I’m not entirely sure this couple is approaching the subject of gender in the best way, I must say that I admire — at least in theory — what they are attempting to do. It simply comes down to trying to teach their children that having tastes and desires that may not fit with traditional gender roles isn’t a bad thing.

From birth, girls are showered in pink, and boys are adorned in blue. As they grow older, girls receive dolls and tea sets, while boys get toy cars and baseball mitts.

In developmental psychology, practices like these can be tied to social learning theory. According to proponents of this model, children learn masculine or feminine behaviors by being rewarded or punished for “gender-appropriate” or “gender inappropriate” behavior.

An example of the punishment/reward system for children might be something as simple as telling a sobbing boy that “big boys don’t cry,” or praising a young girl for playing with dolls.

I doubt that many of those who buy the “appropriate” color for a baby shower or give “girl” and “boy” toys realize the stereotypical gender roles they may be perpetuating. I question how harmful it is to reinforce these roles in the long run. Far more harmful is the notion that certain behaviors or personalities are only acceptable for people with a certain set of chromosomes.

I hope to be a parent myself someday. I can safely bet that I will not go without purchasing my daughter some frilly pink dress, or my son the latest action figure. I can only hope to be a good enough parent that I can teach my children to be whoever they want to be.

This controversial couple is attempting, albeit in an unorthodox manner, to avoid the constraints of gender stereotypes that are foisted upon even the youngest of children, and the expectations that come with one’s biological makeup.

Teaching this sort of open-mindedness and promoting individualism seems to be just the sort of thing responsible parents should do.

Religion

‘Lost’ as authoritative an apocalypse predictor as the Bible

By Gabriel Stoffa

The Rapture came and went on May 21, with exactly zero souls sucked up into the cosmos. That’s about 200 million shy of the number that broadcaster Harold Camping and his followers predicted.

Camping has since said May 21 was actually a “spiritual” day of judgement. God’s worthy faithful will still strike me. The link I followed read “Parents want to keep their baby’s gender a secret.” The article took me to a couple who had made the decision to withhold the sex of their child from friends and family.

Their intent, they explained in a mass email, was to make “...a stand up to what the world could become in [our child’s] lifetime (a more progressive place?)”.

The couple’s parenting choices stem from a desire to let their children be “unconstrained by social norms about males and females.”

Camping’s original prediction was set for Oct. 21. Then, apparently, Camping’s original prediction of the earth’s total destruction will prove true.

For now, it appears that everyone is just in a state of limbo.

Isn’t this all a little like the plot for “Lost”?

The Losties of judgment came, and they had to

The Losties day of judgement... So now 15 is good.

There are 16 titles for Jehovah in The Bible. In I Corinthians 13:4-8 there are 16 attributes of love. Love and God are certainly relevant to Judgement Day, so 16 checks out.

Oct. 21 is the 23rd day of the seventh month of the Biblical calendar; there’s 23.

Revelation 13:5 says, “And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for 42 months.” And according to “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy”, 42 is the most awesome number ever and the answer to everything, so 42 is a go.

There is a prophecy of the End Days in the script of “Lost.” Legions of lost souls must believe my words.

After all, I used a system of numerology just as arbitrary as Camping’s.

You can use any interpretation of anything as an excuse for your actions, particularly if your numbers come from a book as outdated and self-contradictory as The Bible. So beware of those who attempt to use religion as anything other than a means of coping. Life is tough enough without some jackass trying to put “the fear” into people.

Now send me donations and let me lead you down the primrose path to enlightenment. Cheers.

The counterparts in “Lost” as authoritative an apocalypse predictor as the Bible

By Harold Camping used the Bible to formulate his prediction of the End Times. Columnist Stoffa argues that any text can be adapted to this purpose—even if that text is the script of a popular television show. Photo: Marcio Jose Sanchez/Associated Press

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EMPLOYEE OWNED
The 17th annual ArtWalk will showcase local artists at nearly 40 downtown stores. The event will take place Friday, June 3, from 5pm to 8pm in downtown Ames. Many of the artists will perform live demonstrations at this district wide event. As always, ArtWalk will offer a wide variety of local arts and fun entertainment. Artists’ types include jewelry makers, painters, photographers, and wood workers, to name a few.
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123 Main St. Ames
New video game retailer tries an old-school approach

By Vincent Geerts
Ames247 Writer

There are many stores in Ames that sell video games, but the newest of these, Pixels Video Games, aims to offer more than just another retail experience. The store opened across the street from Friley Hall on Hayward Avenue only 18 days ago, but owner Aaron McMahon said it has already elicited a lot of positive feedback from customers.

“There’s not really a store out there that’s dedicated to how awesome video games are,” McMahon said. “Every other store you go into, it’s just to buy something, but here you come in and hang out, and buy something if you want.”

The shelves of the store are lined with video games from consoles dating back to the Atari 2600. It also features a collection of classic arcade cabinets like “Ghosts ‘N Goblins,” “Super Mario Bros.,” “Contra II” and a four-cartridge Neo Geo machine. McMahon said he has been trying to set high scores for customers to beat. In the future, he might offer store credit to top performers.

In one corner, two couches and a television stand ready with a playable Super Nintendo Entertainment System.

McMahon worked as a manager for local retailer Gamers for four years. He believes this experience has taught him lessons that he can apply to his own business. “We didn’t want to feel like another game store,” he said. “I thought to myself, ‘How can I make this more fun?’

The small staff consisting of only McMahon and three other good friends once worked together at Gamers, united by their passion for games.

McMahon said his staff’s “knowledge on video games cannot be surpassed.”

“If they need to know something about video games, we can tell them,” McMahon added.

McMahon himself has been collecting video games for as long as he can remember. Before he opened Pixels, his apartment was stacked wall-to-wall with video games. At one point, he owned about 90 percent of the entire SNES collection.

He used a portion of his collection to help start the business, but it’s been difficult keeping the store well-stocked. Diligent eBay and Craigslist purchases are necessary. McMahon encourages the customers to pitch in by bringing him their own games.

“They’ve got it, and it’s video-game related, we’ll probably buy it.”

Pixels offers in-store credit or cash for game-related media, as well as competitive prices on all modern equipment and games.

In the future, McMahon hopes to expand the business to sell board games and collectible cards, but he isn’t looking to abandon his friendly approach.

“It’s more about compassion for the games than it is trying to make money from a business.”

Art

Art conservator to restore Christian Petersen works

By Scott MacDonald
Ames247 Writer

They’ve withstood over a half century of Iowa weather and become a full part of ISU culture. But the numerous sculptures made during Christian Petersen’s historic residency on campus have started to show their age. In light of this change, University Museums has hired a fine arts conservator to restore and reinstall several of Petersen’s outdoor works this month.

Francis Miller, the director of ConservArt, a restoration firm based in Hamden, Conn., will complete a series of preservation — including three outdoor installations and several of Petersen’s studio sculptures — beginning May 16.

Perhaps the best-known and most-visited of Petersen’s works is the Fountain of the Four Seasons, carved from limestone and located in front of the Memorial Union. Miller and his team have worked since last Monday to conserve and restore the ISU landmark.

Ames’ use of well water has contributed to lime deposits building on the fountain, said Miller. “There’s a high calcium content, so the lime gets deposited [on the sculptures],” he said. “Lime and limestone come from very similar materials, so we have to be as careful as we can try to clean the sculpture without going too far and overcleaning.”

The restoration work also included touching up the masonry on the fountain.

“The masonry required more maintenance than typical sculptures,” Miller said, adding that the work might need to be redone “every 12 years.”

Miller also worked on The History of Dairying, located in the Food Sciences building courtyard, and performed two installations. The first was Petersen’s “Reclining Nudes.” “Nudes” was formerly located in front of Roberts Hall, but has now been cleaned and installed in the Anderson Sculpture Garden south of Morrill Hall. The other work, “Harriet Bart’s Alcove”, which was removed in 2009 for restoration, will be reinstalled under the Catt Hall exterior stairs.

To learn more about the processes and techniques used by Francis Miller of ConservArt in restoring the Christian Petersen sculptures, and hear about some of the challenges Miller faced during his work, come to his lecture entitled “Conserving a Legacy.”

It will be given 7 p.m. Thursday in the Peterson Art Museum auditorium, located in Morrill Hall.

Music

Sylvia Munsen moves on

By Vincent Geerts
Ames247 Writer

Despite her attachment to the choir, Munsen is happy to be able to continue serving music and arts educators. As the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Endowed Chair for Elementary Arts Education at Utah State, she will be able to spend interest collected on a $3 million endowment each year. The money she spends will be meant to facilitate better music and arts training for up-coming teachers, as well as current educators.

Utah does not require music or art to be incorporated in grade-school curricula. For this reason, Beverley Taylor Sorenson, a strong advocate for arts education in Utah, established endowed chair positions at several Utah universities. Munsen described her new job as an “advocate PR position” which would

Ames247 Writer

tries an old-school approach

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Gaming

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Christian Petersen works

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sojourn  - SOH-juhrn; so-JURN
intransitive verb:
1. To stay as a temporary resident; to dwell for a time.
noun:
1. A temporary stay.

Example:
A certified laboratory will assay the samples of gold and silver to determine their levels of purity.

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help to ensure future generations receive continued music and art education.

During her time in Ames, Munsen has taken the ACC’s Concert Choir across oceans and to the stage of Carnegie Hall. As the chairperson of music education, she helped to establish an international student teaching program in Rosendal, Norway, personally making a seven week trans-Atlantic trip to set it in motion. She is proud of the work she has done.

“I was able to develop a children’s choir of excellence, and was able to utilize 65 Iowa State students during those 16 years,” she said. “It offered those students very valuable experience.”

Munsen leaves for Utah June 26. Two new conductors have been chosen to manage the children’s choirs. Donna Niday from the ISU English department will fill her position as the chairperson of music education during the transition.

Music

Free Stage lineup announced

By Aaron Hofmeyer
Ames247 Writer

The Free Stage performers have been announced for the 2011 Iowa State Fair. This year’s acts include hip-hop duo The Yin-Yang Twins, Iowa natives The Nadas, Brother Truckers, The Blue Band and a cappella group Tonic Sol-Fa.

Performing 8 p.m. August 17 on the Anderson Erickson Dairy Stage is Atlanta rap duo The Yin Yang Twins. In 2000, members Kaine and D-Roc joined together to produce their debut album, “Thug Walkin.” Since then, the rap duo has created five more albums. Their output includes collaborations with Britney Spears and Lil Jon.

Des Moines band The Nadas plays August 11-13 at 7 and 9 p.m. Formed in Ames in 1995, the bluesy folk-rock quintet started out on the college scene before releasing their debut album “Not a Sound.” The band opened for Bon Jovi in 2005, and performed at SXSW in 2006.

Tonic Sol-Fa has become an in-demand a cappella group since its formation in the 1990s. Having sold over one million albums worth of their pop-music-oriented stylings, the group has shared the stage with such performers as Lonestar, Jeff Foxworthy and Jay Leno.

They can be seen on the Anne and Bill Riley Stage August 11 and 12 at 7 and 9 p.m.

The Free Stage perform-
ers have been announced

Iowa State Fair Free Stage Performance Schedule:
To see the entire line up go to
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