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Interview Schminterview

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Interview
Ted Tedesco,
Ames Mayor

What's the best thing about being mayor?
Certainly not the pay. (Laughs) It's only about $7,000 a year.

Do you get any other special treatment due to your position of power? A private jet to whisk you away at a moment's notice? Bodyguards prepared to take a bullet to protect you? No, the Secret Service quit the day after I got elected.

On the City of Ames Web site, you have "cheering on the Cyclones" listed as one of your hobbies. Who's the team you most want ISU to beat every year? Nebraska. I was born and raised in Council Bluffs, so there were a lot of Nebraska fans around. So yeah, definitely Nebraska.

You graduated from Iowa State. What were the Ames' hot spots when you were a student? There were no bars in Campustown. The only bars were downtown. And most people didn't have cars, so we did a lot of walking.

Schminterview
Tin-Shi Tam,
Campanile Lady

Do you ever mess up while playing the carillon? It depends what you think are mistakes. People don't notice if I do.

Do you ever want to play hardcore rock on the carillon? Sometimes. I take requests on Fridays, so I try to play those. People can e-mail me with what they want to hear.

What are some of the songs people have asked you to play? I played Sweet Home Alabama once, and I let a guest play Bohemian Rhapsody.

Everybody knows about the tradition of becoming a true Iowa Stater by kissing under the campanile. Are you a true Iowa Stater? No, I guess I'm not. Yet.

How do you get up to the top of the Campanile? Is there a secret door? No, I do it the old-fashioned way. There are 20 spiral steps and then five regular flights to get up there.