



Oct. 1

Snagged a flag

Flag football is one of the intramural sports wrapping up its post-season tournaments. With 1,825 participants, it's one of the most popular sports this fall.

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Where's Bob?

Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert spotted this towering cyclone?

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Live Green tip: Take stock

A little inventory work can save you money and lessen your environmental footprint. Find out how forward-thinking can help during the purchasing process.



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Open houses

- 4-H Week, Oct. 5
- Cyclone Sports Medicine, Oct. 7
- Hotel Memorial Union, Oct. 8

Arts & events

Cyclone Stampede Rodeo

Ride 'em

Intercollegiate participants will compete in the annual Cyclone Stampede Rodeo Oct. 3-4. Events include bull riding, steer wrestling and barrel racing.

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Better basics

ISU faculty will partner with Des Moines Public Schools, using a \$1.5 million grant to strengthen history education.

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Everyone is a Cyclone

It's tournament time in the world of intramural sports sponsored by ISU recreation services. Post-season tournaments in flag football (pictured) and ultimate Frisbee continue for the next few weeks on east campus fields. Associate director of recreation services Garry Greenlee estimates that 75 percent of the student body participates in intramurals each year. That includes "someone in 14 different events, and someone who played in the Texas Hold 'Em tournament." The big draws this fall are flag football (1,825 students), ultimate Frisbee (700 students), and the fall season of broomball, just getting under way (1,100 students). *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

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Up to 73 positions to be cut or shrunk in current budget

by Anne Krapfl

Three months into the fiscal year, Iowa State leaders have a clearer picture of one piece of this year's budget: eliminated positions. An estimated 73 merit and P&S positions will be eliminated or reduced (fewer work hours) as part of plans to balance an FY10 operating budget that contains \$38.3 million less in state support than the university received on July 1, 2008.

"We regret these actions and the impact they have on individuals, families and the university as a whole," said president Gregory Geoffroy. "However, they are unavoidable because of the reduction in state appropriations and a downturn in business to some university units that charge fees for their services."

Merit positions

As outlined in the state's contract with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), in late June Iowa State began a specific notification process -- involving the union, the state board of regents and other state offices -- for ISU merit positions proposed for elimination. Iowa State leaders received word earlier this week that its plan was approved for implementation.

An estimated 35 merit positions will be reduced or eliminated, but more individuals than that may be affected as the merit seniority and "bumping" process unfolds over the coming months.

In addition, three supervisory/confidential positions are being eliminated.

P&S positions

An estimated 19 professional and scientific positions have been reduced or eliminated. P&S employees in the affected positions began receiving their 90-day notices as early as late June.

The P&S figure does not include the impact of the ISU Extension reorganization announced April 30. Some individuals whose Extension positions were eliminated moved into other positions at the university or retired, leaving a net 16 Extension employees without jobs.

Another variable: The RIO

One budget reduction strategy university leaders approved in March was a retirement incentive option. Under the terms of the package, an estimated 850 employees qualified for it. The application window for that option closed June 30, and the 210 employees approved for early retirement have until Jan. 31, 2010, to actually retire from Iowa State. That group includes 99 P&S employees, 95 merit employees and 16 faculty members.

In flux

Associate vice president of budget and planning Ellen Rasmussen said the number of eliminated positions has fluctuated since June -- and may continue to do so.

"Unit leaders are working really hard to secure other long-term funding for some of these positions and assisting all the individuals that may be impacted," she said. "When it comes down to protecting jobs, people have gotten pretty creative."

Rasmussen said the continuing possibility of a mid-year reversion of state funds leaves the university vulnerable to further position eliminations. The state's next revenue estimating conference will be held Oct. 7, after which more will be known about the strength of the state's budget.

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Where's Bob?

University photographer Bob Elbert shot part of "Whirlwind," the bronze sculpture on the south side of the Memorial Union that is part of University Museums' Art on Campus collection. The "debris" caught up in the cyclone are items with special meaning at the Memorial Union or Iowa State -- swans, a horse, rose, gold star, for example.

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Live Green: Let there be (less) light

by Paula Van Brocklin

The days of pop machines as beacons of light in long, dark hallways are gone, at least here at Iowa State.

Within the next few weeks, 168 of the 192 pop machines on campus will be equipped with a Vending Miser -- a device that automatically shuts off the machines' bright lights after a period of inactivity. The move should save about \$80 per machine per year, for a total energy savings of \$13,400 annually. For now, machines with card readers will not receive a Vending Miser, since its technology could deactivate the cards. Snack machines also are not included.

How it works

The Vending Miser, which looks a bit like a parking meter, contains a motion sensor. It sits on top of the pop machine and monitors movement. If there is no nearby activity for 15 minutes, the Vending Miser cuts the lights. When it detects movement about 15 to 20 feet away, the machine lights up again.

The Vending Miser is not tied to the machine's compressor, so when the lights shut off the cooling mechanism continues to run. In other words, your beverage of choice always will be cold.

Funding

The ISU Council on Sustainability piloted the Vending Miser last spring on two machines, one each in Carver Hall and Student Services Building. After conducting a one-week test, the group determined the cost savings would quickly pay for the initial cost of the equipment.

The project's start-up cost is about \$18,400. Dr Pepper Snapple Group has agreed to pay half the cost to retrofit 68 machines, or \$4,080. ISU Dining is contributing another \$4,000, and vending services is picking up the rest of the tab. With these contributions plus the energy savings, the project should pay for itself in about 16 months.

Janet Krengel, chair of the council on sustainability, credits facilities planning and management, ISU Dining and the support of vice president for business and finance Warren Madden for making the Vending Miser project a reality.

"This has been just so amazing," Krengel said. "Everyone involved has been so terrific."

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New tweaks, times for IPR talk shows

by Erin Rosacker

Beginning Monday, Oct. 5, Iowa Public Radio will tweak its lineup by making a switch with its two locally produced talk shows.

The Exchange will move from its morning slot to a noon start, and *Talk@12* will reclaim its former name (*Talk of Iowa*) and air from 10 to 11 a.m. Both programs originate from IPR's WSUI AM/KSUI FM studios in Iowa City. The flip-flop of shows will not impact the rest of the schedule, which keeps the hour-long *On Point* and *Fresh Air* national programs at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., respectively.

Current host Ben Kieffer and Jeneane Beck will share host duties for *The Exchange*, which will focus on news and current events. Greg Shanley will continue to lead the discussion on *Talk of Iowa*, which will stick to lifestyle, arts and cultural topics. *Talk of Iowa* still will feature many favorites, including ag reports from ISU Extension market news director Doug Cooper, ISU horticulture specialists on Fridays and Wednesday politics. Regular segments will continue with wildlife specialist Jim Pease, "sleep doctor" Eric Dyken, and experts on home improvement, computers and movies. A new food segment and "author Monday" also are included as part of the *Talk of Iowa* lineup.

Iowa Public Radio was created by the state Board of Regents in 2004, merging the public radio stations at the three regent universities. Iowa State's WOI 640 AM and WOI 90.1 FM stations are part of the network.

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Live Green tip: Take stock

Merry Rankin, director of sustainability

Now that you've settled into your semester schedules, take time to inventory your things. Determine what items you need or will need before semester's end and what items you don't really need at all.

Thoughtful purchasing and inventory management can save you money (initially and many years in the future). It also lightens your footprint on the planet. These tips will help you "take stock."

- **Look for the seal of approval.** Purchasing a product that is energy-efficient and supports sustainable consumption is easier than you think, thanks to certification and evaluation rating systems including [Energy Star](#), [Green Seal](#) and the [Forest Stewardship Council](#). Check out these groups' web sites to get started.

Or contact ISU Purchasing and Central Stores. Both of these offices are knowledgeable and proactive in green purchasing for Iowa State.

- **Think long-term.** Consider durability in *all* of your purchases. It's common practice to think durability when buying high-ticket items, such as large equipment purchases. But what about inexpensive items, like pens, with their much shorter purchase-to-disposal life cycle?

Each year, an estimated 106 billion disposable pens are purchased in the United States. Laid end to end, these pens would circle the earth about 348 times. Imagine the difference if we all considered a reusable option.

University Book Store offers a variety of refillable pens that are similar in quality and price to disposable models. And refills are considerably more cost-effective than replacing an entire pen. The bookstore also can help you find other durable product options.

- **Consider re-use.** When you need to make a purchase, consider buying used rather than new. It saves you money and ensures full use of resources that already have been invested in making products.

We have a treasure trove at Iowa State of used, functional items specifically intended for university needs and operations. ISU Surplus has been facilitating the sale and transfer of reusable university assets for more than 25 years. Office furniture, lab equipment and supplies, computers and bicycles are among the many items available. Sales for university departments and units are held Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon, at the warehouse at 1102 Southern Hills Drive, Ames. [Public sales](#) are Wednesdays, noon to 3 p.m.

- **Lighten your information load.** While it's important to stay connected and informed, the resources necessary to produce periodicals, magazines, newspapers and newsletters can be substantial. A ton of magazine paper, for example, requires eight to 15 trees, depending on paper quality. It takes a large number of trees to fill subscription demand, not to mention disposal costs when it's time to toss the publication.

Inventory the print resources you currently receive at home and the office. While you're at it, consider the publications your unit produces. Are all of the resources needed? Can an online subscription replace a hard copy version? If hardcopy is necessary, are there ways to re-use materials and perhaps help others save money and resources? Contact printing

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Ride 'em

The annual Cyclone Stampede Rodeo, held this year on Oct. 3 (1 and 7 p.m.) and Oct. 4 (1 p.m.), features participants from the 15 colleges and universities in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's Great Plains region. Contestants will participate in several events, including bull riding, steer wrestling (pictured above) and barrel racing. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for students and \$6 for children ages 6-12 at the gate. Save \$1 on advance ticket purchases, available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Memorial Union food court through Oct. 2. The ISU rodeo arena is located on State Avenue, south of Highway 30. *Contributed photo.*

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