



Oct. 28

Where's Bob?

Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert spotted this holiday character?

Oct. 28

Regents meet Thursday in Iowa City

A flood recovery update, RIO summary and request to plan a new outdoor sports complex south of campus are among ISU agenda items when the state Board of Regents meets Oct. 28 at the University of Iowa.

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ISU Plan open change period is Nov. 1-19

ISU Plan participants will have a chance to review and change their elected benefits during the annual open change period, Nov. 1-19. Find out what's new for 2011.

Oct. 28

We love our webcams

The university's construction site webcams serve multiple purposes ... and audiences.



Construction webcams

Oct. 28

Fans: Trim the trash for Game Day Challenge

Fans at Saturday's Homecoming game will compete against nearly 90 other universities in a recycling contest sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency. Help ISU win by bringing as little trash as possible to the game and recycling the rest at various recycling spots around the stadium.

Oct. 28

Cy gets tough

A set of new mascot marks was released last week to accompany the I-State athletics logo. A tougher, stronger Cy should start appearing on local merchandise soon.

**Announcements**

- "Energizing architecture" is topic of Nov. 4 sustainability lecture
- Flu shots available through Oct. 29
- Mellencamp concert tickets go on sale Oct. 29
- Proteomics and Protein facilities combine services
- *Nutcracker Ballet* tickets on sale
- Collaborators sought for virus-insect interactions group
- Immigration filing fee changes take effect Nov. 23
- 2011 benefits are the subject of Nov. 4 open forum
- Phi Kappa Phi membership deadline is Oct. 31

Receptions & open houses

Retirements

- Dorothy Abendroth, Oct. 29
- Donna Wiegand, Oct. 29
- Sandra Gartz, Oct. 29 (no public event)

Arts & events

Yell Like Hell practice

Homecoming is under way

A week of events leads up to Saturday's Homecoming football game vs. Kansas.

Honors & awards

- Diane Birt
- Jamie Pollard
- Steffen Schmidt
- Donald Simonson

Around campus

- Students use shipping containers to design Haitian community center
- Iowa: Home to more than 1,200 acres of vineyards

Inside tools

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Oct. 28, 2010



Where's Bob?

University photographer Bob Elbert saw these kindly renditions of a witch and Dracula in second-floor windows of Hach Hall's northwest corner. It's assistant professor of chemistry Art Winter's research lab; graduate students and Halloween lovers Christie Beck and Toshia Zessin got permission to dress up the lab a bit this month.

Oct. 28, 2010

Flood recovery update, new outdoor athletics complex are among ISU items on regents agenda

by Anne Krapfl

Iowa State will ask for permission to begin formal planning of a new sports complex in the green space east of Wallace and Wilson residence halls (the Towers) when the state Board of Regents meets Oct. 28 in Iowa City. The \$10.7 million complex would include practice and competition facilities, as well as office/training/locker room buildings for the Cyclone softball, soccer and men's and women's track teams. The site currently is used by ISU recreation services for activities such as rugby, soccer, flag football and lacrosse.

As proposed, the Southwest Athletics Complex and the current soccer complex east of the Lied center would be reallocated to ISU recreation services for club sport programs.

The athletics department proposes to pay for the complex with private gifts and debt financing that uses discretionary and other gift revenues. Neither general university support nor new student fees would be sought.

Also at the board meeting, the athletics department will seek permission to purchase a new Daktronics video scoreboard and sound system for Jack Trice Stadium, costing up to \$4 million. The new system would be installed in the north end of the stadium and integrated with the Jacobson building. This purchase would be financed over 10 years and paid for with guaranteed revenue in the department's multimedia contract with Learfield Communications. Again, no general university support or increased student fees would be needed to pay for this purchase.

Flood and RIO updates

In other ISU items, vice president for business and finance Warren Madden will provide board members with another update on flood recovery efforts at Iowa State.

In the consent portion of the agenda (which means little or no discussion by the board) is a report of retirement incentive programs at the three regent universities last year and this year. The numbers from Iowa State's three retirement incentive programs are summarized in the chart below. Enrollment in a fourth retirement incentive option, Phased Plus, is open through April 30, 2011.

Summary: Participation in RIO 1, 2 and 3

Participants	Not replaced	Replacement rate
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Agenda items

Listen live

The audio of Thursday's meeting will be streamed live from the board's website. Following a closed session, the board will meet in open session beginning around 10 a.m.

Faculty	45	30	33%
P&S	153	86	44%
Merit	154	76	51%
Merit supervisory	15	7	53%
Total	367	199	46%

Savings: RIO 1, 2 and 3

	Retirement deadline (2010)	Estimated net savings (5 years)
RIO	Jan. 31	\$42.5 million
RIO2	July 30	\$21.5 million
RIO3	Dec. 31	\$13.4 million
Total		\$77.4 million

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Oct. 28, 2010

ISU Plan open change period is Nov. 1-19

by Paula Van Brocklin

Faculty, professional and scientific staff, and supervisory merit employees may make changes to their ISU Plan benefits Nov. 1-19, during the annual open change period. The **non-supervisory merit open change period** begins Oct. 29 and runs through Nov. 29.

Benefits changes

Most of the changes to the 2011 ISU Plan are the result of national health care reform. For example, employees may cover children up to age 26 on their medical, dental and Avesis plans beginning Feb. 1, 2011. But to qualify, children must be under age 26 on Feb. 1, 2011. Children still can be covered if they are married, or even if they have a job with health care benefits. In the latter case, the child's employer would provide primary coverage, and ISU only would supplement that coverage.

If children turn 26 in 2011, coverage must end on Dec. 31, 2011. However, if the children are unmarried and enroll as full-time students during the year, they may remain on their parents' ISU health or dental plans until they get married or cease full-time student status. There may be tax implications for employees insuring students over age 26.

Another federal health care reform change states that beginning Jan. 1, 2011, over-the-counter medications and drugs (except insulin) no longer will be reimbursed through flexible spending accounts without a prescription. This means your doctor will need to write a prescription for medicines such as ibuprofen, aspirin or antacids in order for you to be reimbursed for those items through your flexible spending account. Other health care items, such as bandages or hearing aids, still may be claimed without a prescription. Review the open change guides for more information.

Other ISU Plan changes for 2011 are:

- Zostavax, the shingles vaccine, now will be included in Medco prescription drug coverage effective Feb. 1, 2011
- Coverage changes (add, change or drop) to Avesis eyewear insurance will be allowed during the open change period through AccessPlus

Important dates

- **Nov. 1:** Open change period begins at 8 a.m.; participation statements available on AccessPlus
- **Nov. 4:** Webcast, 10:15-11:15 a.m.; benefits open forum, noon-1 p.m., MU Gallery
- **Nov. 19:** Open change period ends at 5 p.m.
- **Dec. 3:** Confirmation statements available on AccessPlus
- **Dec. 10:** Final day to correct confirmation statement errors
- **Jan. 12, 2011:** Final 2011 election statements available on AccessPlus

How to make changes

ISU Plan participants can log on to AccessPlus beginning at 8 a.m. Nov. 1 to change their benefits elections. Some changes may require paper forms, which are available by request from HRS (4-4800). If you plan to make no changes, you do not need to update your benefits; your current choices will carry over to 2011.

Review your information

ISU plans to conduct a review of dependents in 2011. So during the open change period, HRS asks employees to review the dependents listed on their health care coverage to make sure everything still is accurate. And, it's a good idea to review your statements both before and after the open change period.

More information

HRS is hosting an interactive webcast for ISU Plan participants Nov. 4 from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. To get access, log on to <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/benefits>. At the login page, enter your name under the "Enter as a Guest" heading, then click "Enter Room."

Mike Otis, associate director of HRS, also will provide an overview of 2011 benefits at a Professional and Scientific Council open forum Nov. 4 (noon-1 p.m., Gallery, MU). Otis' talk also will address the impact of national health care reform on ISU's benefits.

No vendor fair is planned this year. If you need additional one-on-one consultation, you may set up an appointment with a human resources specialist. Make your appointment as soon as possible during the open change period.

Oct. 28, 2010

Construction webcams serve many purposes ... and audiences

by Anne Krapfl

Construction managers rely on them. Donors to building projects appreciate them. But perhaps nobody loves and uses a construction webcam like the future tenants of the building going up.

State Gym renovation *view from the north.*State Gym addition *view from the south.*

"We know lots of people are looking at our webcams. It's a good project and a good PR [public relations] thing," said Dean McCormick, director of design and construction services for facilities planning and management. But in addition to assisting FPM construction managers and connecting donors to their projects, McCormick said the webcams serve other purposes. They contribute to security on a job site, they record the work progress for archival purposes, they can help resolve disputes and they serve as an accountability tool, he said.

"Contractors' crews know that 'eye in the sky' is watching the whole day," he said.

Construction engineering classes also use them occasionally to understand the timeframe for construction.

FPM keeps an inventory of 10 webcams, according to web technologist John Hoffman. At any time, somewhere between two and eight of them typically are in use at a campus construction site. Longer or bulkier sites -- the Morrill Road replacement this summer or the current addition to State Gym -- might use two webcams to record two angles or ends of a project.

At his or her desk computer, the FPM construction manager assigned to a project can control the camera angle, including zooming in on specific locations or equipment as needed. If you happen to be viewing a construction webcam feed when this happens, it's likely the construction manager is online, too. Unlike the university's two [public-access webcams](#), which overlook the front lawn of the Memorial Union and the lawn south of the library, members of the general public can't take control of the construction webcams.

The first of dozens

Watch it

Active construction webcams, as well as links to archived construction videos, are available from the [FPM website \(scroll to midpage\)](#).

Hoffman said the College of Engineering gets credit for operating the first construction webcam when Howe Hall was built in the late 1990s (it opened in fall 1999). The webcam was a hit with many audiences, and FPM decided to do more of it. The Palmer Building (completed in 2000) was FPM's first project; there have been more than 30 since then, including buildings, building additions and significant parking lot projects.

Hoffman wrote the software that creates and maintains the website for each camera. Generally, the cameras are turned on from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. In addition to offering live video, each webcam takes a photograph every five minutes. After 6 p.m., these images are compiled into a daily time-lapse video for departmental use. The image captured closest to noon each day also gets pulled into a **daily photo archive** for each site. These noon images also get pulled into an ongoing movie that tells the project's story from the first day of construction.

When a project is completed, Hoffman moves these project videos to a **public archive**. For example, the Morrill Road project (May 20-Aug. 30) is condensed to about 10 seconds, the movie for the Coover Hall west addition (July 2006-April 2008) runs about 60 seconds.

How do you do that?

Hoffman said he receives quite a few inquiries from IT people at other universities about how he runs ISU's webcam system. So many, in fact, that he developed a document he sends to them, outlining how to set up the server and create page templates and create time lapse videos.

A team from FPM's building access services has the task of finding -- or creating -- a high spot on which to mount a webcam and its protective bubble. Sometimes it's a building roof, sometimes a utility pole, but never the comfy confines of a computer desk from which the rest of us enjoy the view.

Oct. 28, 2010

Football fans: Trim the trash for Game Day Challenge

by Diana Pounds

Iowa State will compete against nearly 90 other universities in the **Game Day Challenge**, a recycling contest sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Fans can help their schools win by reducing waste at the game and recycling everything else. The EPA will give each school scores based on fan attendance and the amounts of trash they pitch (less is better) and recycle at the game.

The student group Engineers for a Sustainable World, ISU's Live Green and athletics programs and the state Department of Natural Resources' Iowa Waste Exchange Program are partnering to provide many recycling options in and around Jack Trice Stadium.

Some 70 large ClearStream recycling containers will be positioned in tailgate areas for recycling such things as cardboard and beverage containers, said Merry Rankin, director of sustainability. In addition, the nonprofit organization Cans 4a Cause, Johnston, will collect any redeemable containers and donate profits to Iowa Special Olympics. Look for the big white cans, Rankin added.

How fans can help

Meghan Roberts, ISU senior and president of Engineers for a Sustainable World, offered some ways Cyclone fans can improve Iowa State's chances of winning the challenge:

- Cut waste by bringing reusable items to the tailgate.
- If you must use plastic cups and plates, bring those with recycling symbols and put them into recycling bins or, if you are in tailgate areas, into separate trash bags for post-game recycling collection.
- Buy items that don't have much packaging.
- Carry your stuff in reusable bags.
- Recycle all cardboard and beverage containers (plastic, metal and glass) in the appropriate containers.
- Spread the word to everyone you know who is attending the game and encourage them to do the same.

About the competition

The contest runs through the month of October. Each participating school tracks and reports its waste reduction and recycling efforts for one home game during the month. The EPA will announce Game Day Challenge winners in November.

Volunteers sought

Volunteers are needed to pass out recycling bags to tailgaters and staff recycling stations at Jack Trice Stadium. To volunteer, contact Merry Rankin, (515) 294-5052, mrankin@iastate.edu.

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Oct. 28, 2010

Cy gets tough

by Erin Rosacker

Cy is getting his swagger on, just in time for the holidays. A new set of mascot graphics featuring a tougher, stronger Cy was developed to accompany the primary I-State athletics logo.

Trademark licensing program director Leesha Zimmerman said the **new mascot graphics**, released to vendors last week, were created to help bridge the gap between the I-State logo and the athletics word marks ("Iowa State" and "Cyclones").



The trademark licensing office collaborated with the Licensing Resource Group and the trademark licensing advisory committee to study and revamp the university's family of trademarks. Zimmerman said the new graphics were developed when the study showed "images missing between the primary I-State logo and the athletics word marks."

"We definitely wanted to keep Cy," Zimmerman said. "But we wanted to refresh him and make him look more like our mascot walking on the field."

ISU hired the Pennsylvania-based Joe Bosack Graphic Design Company to create the marks. Zimmerman said the designers studied the history of ISU's logos -- such as the walking Cy and the punching Cy -- to develop a design that incorporated elements from ISU's former marks.



Local merchandisers likely will have items ready in the coming weeks, while national brands (such as Nike) will release their products next fall. The former athletics marks, introduced in 1995, have been retired and will join the university's **vintage collection** in the future.

Oct. 28, 2010

Yell Like Hell practice. *Contributed photo.*

Homecoming events are under way

It's a week of lunches for just \$5. It's an excuse to Yell Like Hell without bothering your neighbors. It's tournaments, button-making, campaniling, fireworks and an awards ceremony. And all of it leads up to ISU's Homecoming football game, which pits the Cyclones against Kansas on Saturday, Oct. 30 (1 p.m., Jack Trice Stadium).

The following is a list of public events these last three days of Homecoming week. Admission is free, unless indicated.

2010 Homecoming: "Highlight of the Year"

Thursday, Oct. 28

- 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Free lunch (Valentino's pizza) with Homecoming button (\$5, available on site), central campus.
- 2-8 p.m., Make vintage Cyclone buttons, The Workspace, Memorial Union, 50 cents each.
- 4-6 p.m., Concert: Battle of the Bands, central campus.
- 6-8 p.m., Concert: Seabird (indie and alternative rock), central campus.

Friday, Oct. 29

- 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Free lunch (pork burgers) with Homecoming button (\$5, available on site), central campus.

Storefront window painting. *Contributed photo.*

- 1:30-4 p.m., Alumni association honors and awards ceremony, followed by a dessert reception, Cornerstone Church (northeast corner of I-35 and Highway 30 interchange).
- 2-8 p.m., Make vintage Cyclone buttons, The Workspace, MU, 50 cents each.
- 6-8 p.m., Pep rally, Yell Like Hell finals, Cy, ISU marching band, spirit squad and more, central campus.
- 8-10 p.m., ExCytement in the Streets, Greek lawn displays, neighborhood south of campus.
- 10 p.m.-12:30 a.m., Pancake feed, central campus, \$2.
- Midnight, Mass campaniling and fireworks, central campus.

Saturday, Oct. 30

- 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Cyclone Central Tailgate and silent auction, Alumni Center.
- 1 p.m., Football, ISU vs. Kansas, Jack Trice Stadium, \$10-\$60.
- 2-8 p.m., Make vintage Cyclone buttons, The Workspace, MU, 50 cents each.
- Post-football game, Open house for two hours following game, Alumni Center.

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