



Coaches compete at Hilton Coliseum

The Coaches Competition challenges coaches to solve problems not unlike the ones the competitors have been working on for three days.

On Friday night, the problem for coaches and officials was to build the tallest structure possible while only using paper and

30 inches of masking tape in five minutes. The structures were supposed to be built to “represent an iconic structure from around the world.”

Options included the Eiffel Tower, the Seattle Space Needle, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Empire State Building

and the Burj Khalifa.

The competition was fierce. The Eiffel Tower was the most popular choice — it also had the highest success rate.

Team number 12 from Colorado won the title in the final round with a height of 10-feet, 8-inches.



Odyssey of the Mind Coaches compete in the Coaches Competition after the graduation ceremony

May 25. PHOTO BY MIKINNA KERNS/IOWA STATE DAILY



Graduates listen to Dr. Sam talk about Omer the Raccoon in Hilton Coliseum on May 25. The graduates ranged from kindergarteners to seniors in college. PHOTO BY MIKINNA KERNS/IOWA STATE DAILY

Students gather to celebrate graduation

Odyssey of the Mind students gathered for a graduation ceremony on Friday night in front of a Hilton Coliseum crowd buzzing with pride.

The mood was jovial, as Odyssey of the Mind mascot Omer led all attendees onto the floor of Hilton to huge cheers.

However, the weather outside the Coliseum was anything but. Rain and hail pounded the building before the ceremony began, causing a short delay.

Once the graduates began to enter, though, all bad weather

and delays were forgotten.

The ceremony was headlined by Dr. Sam, who expressed his excitement at seeing so many graduates. Dr. Sam gave the crowd the origin story of Omer, saying the mascot was “one of our children.”

Spirit Award winner Wojtek Radziwilowicz made brief remarks as well, saying that, “There is nothing better than being wrong, funny, crazy or weird.”

Each graduate received a photo with Dr. Sam and Omer on stage with their certificate.

OMER Dining News

Your wristband is good for entry into the dining centers and special events.

CONVERSATIONS DINING (OAK-ELM): Pink 1, Pink 2

UNION DRIVE MARKETPLACE: Orange 1, Orange 2

MEMORIAL UNION FOOD COURT: Yellow

SEASONS MARKETPLACE: Red 1, Red 2, Yellow 2, Blue

Saturday, May 26

BREAKFAST: 6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

LUNCH: 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

DINNER: 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 27

BREAKFAST: 6 a.m. – 9 a.m.

LUNCH:** 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

(Seasons Marketplace Only)

DINNER:** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Seasons Marketplace Only)

Monday, May 28

BREAKFAST AT ESM:** 5 a.m. – 9 a.m. (East Side Market)

** Only for those with a post-conference package

Access to the all-you-care-to-eat dining facilities are limited to participants wearing wristbands and their guests purchasing meals.

Dining - it's all about the timing!

Want a smoother experience at the dining centers? The trick is to time your lunch when the centers are less of a "bumper car maze of trays" and more like a relaxing meal at home.

Tip of the Day:

Try to arrive before **or** after the busiest times at the centers listed below:

8-9 a.m. 12-1 p.m. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Friley Windows
Union Drive Marketplace
Conversations
Seasons Marketplace

OMER's Sibling Team



OMER's Sibling Team Booth at Creativity Festival
PHOTO BY NICOLE ONKEN/AMES CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Head over to the Creativity Festival, and you'll see a long line of parents, coaches and team members' siblings crowding around a booth filled with pins and lanyards. In the middle of the chaos, you'll see Angela Wilkerson, smiling while manning the booth. Wilkerson created and manages OMER's Sibling Booth, a program that gives siblings of competing team members a chance to join their very own team and participate in the ever-popular pin trading.

"When I was working with OMER at World Finals, we would always see the brothers and sisters of the competitors, with no teams of their own," said Wilkerson. "They came without any pins, because nobody realized that they could trade pins too. When we saw how forlorn they looked, we decided to create a program for the siblings using our extra pins."

The first year, Wilkerson and her crew handed out spare vintage pins. These pins were gathered from boxes in garages and attached to small squares of felt.

They put three to four pins on each piece of fabric and before they knew it, they gave out nearly 500 of the squares.

Now, they hand out red lanyards stamped with "OMER's Sibling" covered in a variety of vintage pins. Siblings must pick out their own lanyard, and cannot have any outside help from a parent, coach or other sibling. By participating in this process, siblings become an inducted member of OMER's Sibling Team.

"This is the largest team at World Finals," said Wilkerson. "Typical teams can only have seven members, but ours is unlimited. By Saturday, there will be nearly 500 people on the team."

Because of the demand, donations of vintage pins are always appreciated. If you'd like to donate, you can bring your pins to OMER's Sibling Booth any time during World Finals or mail them to CCI:

406 Ganttown Rd.
Sewell, NJ 08080

Team Photos

Plan to get your team photo taken during World Finals. All teams photographed will be in the yearbook.

Photos will be taken at the Creativity Festival (Lied Rec Center)

■ Saturday: 9 a.m. to noon

Photos will also be taken at Hilton Coliseum (Main Concourse)

■ Saturday: 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Team picture prices:

■ 5x7 — \$10

■ 8x10 — \$18

■ Key Chain package — \$20

(includes a 5x7 team photo with two photo key chains)

■ Odyssey Yearbook — \$22

International Festival

Teams from across the world will have an opportunity to sell souvenirs and hand-made items from their home countries at the International Festival. Walk through the Lied Recreation Center and learn about all the different countries and their cultures. It's also the perfect opportunity to meet new people and make new friends from all parts of the world. The festival is today at the Lied Rec Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. don't forget to stop by!

OMER's World News Staff

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Residence hall and Frederiksen Court check-out information

We hope you are enjoying your stay in our ISU residence halls and apartments. To make your check-out go as smoothly as possible, here is a checklist of items to complete before leaving.

■ Leave all used and unused bed linens, towels, and washcloths in the room.

■ Return any moved room furnishings to their original locations in

their original rooms.

■ Remove any personal items left in the room. We find an astounding amount of overlooked items behind the doors, in the closets, under and behind the beds, in the drawers, etc., so a few minutes for a double-check by you in each room is definitely worth it!

■ Close and latch all windows.

■ Turn off the lights.

■ Close and lock your rooms.

■ Turn in your keys to your Coach.

The Coach **must** collect all team keys and place them in the large manila envelope received at check-in. Fasten the envelope and return it to your Conference Desk (open 24 hours a day during Odyssey of the Mind) in your area:

■ Maple, Willow, Larch, and Oak-Elm: Desk on 2nd level of Maple-Willow-Larch Commons

■ Geoffroy and Buchanan: Desk at G312 Geoffroy

■ Friley, Helser, Eaton and Martin: Desk in 2104 Martin

■ Frederiksen Court: Desk in 1001-2 in the Frederiksen Court Community Center

Thank you for being our guests here at Iowa State University and we wish you a safe journey back home!

Social Media

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/OdysseyHQ

• TWITTER: @OdysseyHQ

• HASHTAG: #odysseywf

Spontaneous Problems & Silly String



Delaware Team at Spontaneous

PHOTO BY NICOLE ONKEN/AMES CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

The most stressful (or most fun, depending on who you ask) part of Odyssey of the Mind World Finals is the Spontaneous Competition. While teams typically have months to practice their long-term problems, in Spontaneous there is no opportunity to prepare. OMer's won't know what they have to do until they set foot in the competition room.

During the competition, teams need to be prepared for any problem to be thrown at them. However, there are three main categories: verbal, hands-on and verbal/hands-on. Teams are not allowed to discuss the problem until all the Spontaneous Competition is finished.

"The Spontaneous Competition is fun," said Bailey Fletcher, a team member from

Delaware. "Our first two years we were more nervous, but now we're not. This is our fourth time at World Finals."

Once team members complete their Spontaneous problem, they are led outside to great fanfare by an Odyssey of the Mind official. The team is announced, and then they are sprayed with silly string by all the other participants and parents. The crowd cheers and congratulates them.

While this part of the program is fun for the participants, the parents also appreciate it.

"I like Odyssey of the Mind because the kids enjoy it so much," said Phil Terhune, a parent from Delaware. "It's more than just the competition; it gives them the opportunity to have so many fun experiences."

Return Airport Shuttle Information

For those participants that scheduled a return airport shuttle, please check in at the Ames/ISU information desk at the Memorial Union for details about departure times and location pick up. The Ames/ISU information desk is open from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Get the App!

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD FINALS APP!

■ Go to the App Store on your phone or tablet device and search for **OMER's World** or scan the QR code here!



The Connecticut team after Spontaneous

PHOTO BY BRI GERKE/AMES CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Building, Pin Trading, Performing...Oh My!

When asked what their favorite part about Odyssey was, the team from Connecticut had an assortment of answers. From engineering, building, pin trading, performing and the celebrations at Spontaneous, it was clear this team was bursting with excitement for World Finals.

Edina Field, one of the Connecticut Odyssey coaches, loves all the creativity used by the kids to solve problems.

"My favorite part is watching them think

things through, because they go places I wouldn't have expected," Fields said.

Coach Elizabeth Wohlford, also from the Connecticut Odyssey team added, "My favorite part about Odyssey is how there are five problems and it's all about creativity. You can see every single one of them and none of them will be alike. Because it's all about the creative thinking, the solutions, and addressing all the parameters of the problem."



PHOTO BY BRI GERKE/AMES CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Important phone numbers for the 2018 World Finals

EMERGENCY ONLY:

(fire, police, ambulance) 911
The local area code for Ames is 515

ISU POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY:
(515) 294-4428

ISU/AMES INFORMATION CENTER:
(515) 294-3728

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND INFORMATION: (515) 294-3750

PROP STORAGE INFORMATION:
(515) 294-3778

ISU'S HELP VAN: (515) 294-4444 or
4-4444 (from a campus telephone)

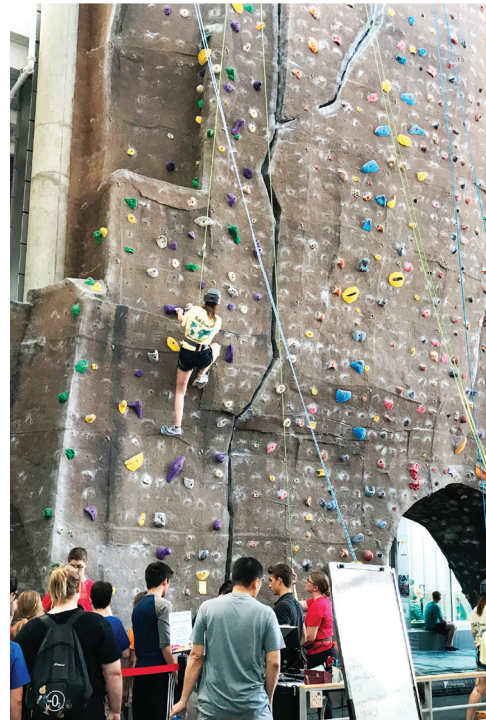
CAMPUS INFORMATION CENTER:
(515) 294-4357 (294-HELP)

ISU THIELEN STUDENT HEALTH CENTER: (515) 294-5801

MCFARLAND AFTER HOURS CARE CLINIC: (515) 956-4044

MARY GREELEY MEDICAL CENTER (NON-EMERGENCY SITUATIONS):
(515) 239-2011

2018 Odyssey Photo Album



Odyssey World Finals Schedule

Saturday, May 26, 2018

7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.: World Finals Competition: Various Locations

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Souvenir Sales, Lied Recreation Center

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Souvenir Sales, Memorial Union, Campanile Room

9 a.m. - Noon: Creativity Festival, Lied Recreation Center

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.: NASA Classroom Activities, Curtiss Hall

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: International Festival, Lied Recreation Center

***7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.:** Awards Ceremony, Hilton Coliseum *Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

9:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.: Pre-teen Party (gold), Harvester Courtyard, Scheman

9:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.: Teen Party (red), Harvester Courtyard, Scheman

9:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.: Coaches/Officials Party, Sukup End Zone, Jack Trice Stadium

Sunday, May 27, 2018

6 a.m. to Noon: Housing Check-out

Recreation facilities offer opportunities for fun

Do you need to work off those competition jitters or just want to have some fun? Then Iowa State Recreation Services has just the solution for you — loads of recreational activities on campus.

STATE GYM AND POOL:

The State Gym Complex offers opportunities to play basketball, volleyball and badminton. There is also a climbing wall, an indoor 25-person spa and a swimming pool with a three-meter diving platform, lap lanes, areas for water basketball and water volleyball and a television.

MEMORIAL UNION RECREATION CENTER:

Memorial Union (MU) Recreation Center, located in the basement of MU, will give you a chance to enjoy some additional entertainment activities. The recreation center has nine pool tables, eight bowling lanes, chess and checker tables, darts, air hockey, foosball games, and more than 25 arcade games. You can bowl, shoot some pool, or do other activities at the MU during the scheduled time for FREE!

RECREATION FIELDS:

If you're in the mood for some fun outdoors, head out to the recreation fields located next to both the Towers Residence Hall and the Maple-Willow-Larch Complex. These fields are made for football, soccer, lacrosse, and many more activities.

AMES FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER:

The Ames Furman Aquatic Center is an outdoor facility that includes a 550-foot lazy river with a cascading waterfall and two water slides. The adjacent 50-meter pool includes a 150-foot drop slide plus one-meter and three-meter diving boards. Don't forget to bring your own towel and sunscreen.

From campus, CyRide Aqua route departs from State Gym and is available Saturday to provide transportation to the aquatic center.

Recreation hours:

SATURDAY, MAY 26:

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – State Gym and Rock Climbing Wall

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. State Gym Pool

Noon to 5 p.m. – Memorial Union Underground

1 p.m. to 8 p.m. – Ames Furman Aquatic Center (don't forget to bring a towel!)

Fireworks Tonight!

Join us as we celebrate Odyssey of the Mind World Finals hosted by Ames and Iowa State University for the 10th time! Immediately following the Awards Ceremony, make your way to the parking lots on the south side of Hilton Coliseum. Pre-Teens and Teens can view the fireworks from their party locations in the Scheman Courtyard.



COU raffle reminder

Creative Opportunities Unlimited is holding a quilt and pin set raffle to raise money for its scholarship fund. Get tickets at both souvenir sites! See the display at the Memorial Union.