

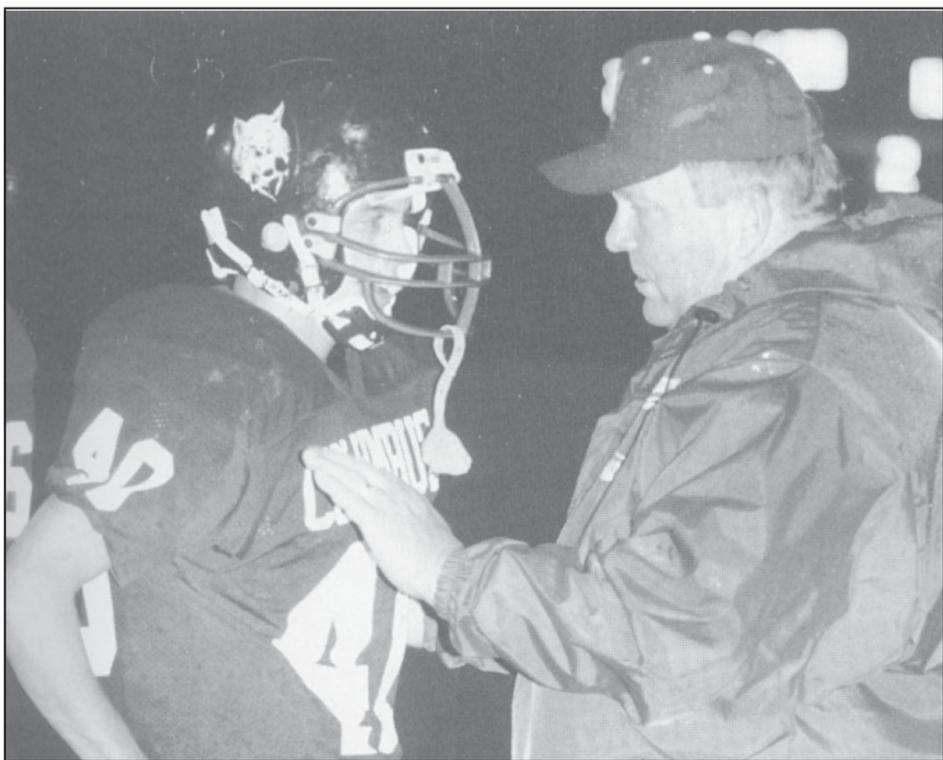
Warren Woepking in Athletic Directors' Hall of Fame

Warren Woepking, a long-time Columbus sports mainstay, was inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association Director's Hall of Fame at their 40th annual convention on March 31st. Warren began his athletic career at Mount Pleasant High School, and is proud to have been a two-way starter on an undefeated, un-scored upon 1963 football team for coach Bob Evans.

He attended the University of Northern Iowa where he was a three-year starter and an all-conference performer for Coach Stan Sheriff. In addition, he was a starter at first base for the baseball team. Along with his bachelor's degree from UNI, Warren earned a masters degree in athletic administration from Truman State.

After graduation Warren taught typing and business administration classes and was an assistant football coach at Decorah High School. Warren then moved to Columbus Junction to begin a twenty-nine year teaching career. Warren taught driver education and served as Athletic Director as well as head football coach at Columbus. His major accomplishments include eight undefeated seasons, nine playoff appearances, thirty-five straight district wins, and a final record of 186-61. Warren served as the Iowa Football Coaches Association president, was the 1989 head South Shrine coach, losing to a north team headed by Kurt Warner, and was inducted into the I.F.C.A. Hall of Fame.

Under Warren's leadership many changes occurred. Warren was one of the leaders in helping to establish



A scene familiar to many Columbus football fans, Warren Woepking discussing strategy with a Wildcat player.

the Southeast Iowa Super Conference comprised of twenty-two schools. He was also involved in helping to raise funds to install an all-weather track in 1988, one of the first in the area. He also managed as many as twenty track meets per season.

Warren served the IHSADA as a junior and senior district director, regularly attended the district and

state conventions, enjoyed three national conventions, and was one of the first to attain the Certified Athletic Administrators designation (CAA). He was selected as the 1990 IHSADSW District Athletic Director of the Year. He also refereed basketball, baseball and softball for twenty years. He coached middle school boys' basketball and track for

fourteen years.

Trish, his wife of nearly forty years, has served as his assistant head coach in charge of their three grown children, five grandkids and the finances. He still enjoys athletics, especially ping-pong, pool, swimming and golf. The competitive drive is still there as Warren is quick to say, "Let's play sometime."

Roundy students take part in Special Olympics

By Deb Bean
Gazette Staff

On Saturday, April 5, Roundy Elementary 3rd grader, Rachel Harris and 1st grader Sofia Valdez took part in the annual district Special Olympics in Eldridge, Iowa. Accompanying the girls to the event was Special Education Teacher, Jennifer Herr and Special Education Associates, Marianne Hunt and Ann Fletcher.

Rachel Harris is the daughter of Terry and Kelly Harris of Columbus Junction and Sofia Valdez is the daughter of Refugio and Rosa Valdez of Columbus City.

The girls had a group of family and friends there supporting them as well.

Pictured back row: Twyla Peters, Ann Fletcher, Jennifer Herr, Marianne Hunt, Terry and Kelly Harris, Ryan Granaman, Melissa Harris, Peg and Chuck Kirby.

Front row is: Roundy Elementary students- Sofia Valdez and Rachel Harris



A sign of the times moves through Louisa County



In response to the increase in energy costs, we are starting to see wind turbines sprout up across the Iowa landscape. But you don't realize how big these turbines are until you get a chance to see a turbine blade up close. Last week Angie Sanders, Executive Director of the Louisa Development Group, happened upon a train full of wind turbine parts heading east. The train was just outside of Cotter. This up close view puts in perspective the tremendous force that these turbines produce when they are in operation. Submitted photo.

Izaak Walton League awarded \$1500 Community Foundation Grant for new clubhouse



The Community Foundation of Louisa County (CFLC) awarded the Louisa County Izaak Walton League \$1500 to go towards its new clubhouse. The clubhouse near Odessa on County Road X-61 provides a natural area for kids to explore and adults to enjoy. Pictured from l-r, Ken Purdy (CFLC), Terry Allen (Ikes), Jeb Grimm (Ikes), Nancy McGill (CFLC) and Rondalyn Weyrick (CFLC). Photo by Vivan Jennings.

Briefly -

Alumni Banquet scheduled

Continuing the custom of holding the Columbus - Cotter - Conesville Alumni Banquet on the second Saturday in June, the 2008 Banquet will be held at Roundy Elementary School on June 14, 2008. Make your plans to attend the banquet and to schedule your class events to coincide with the date.

City Council to meet

The City of Columbus Junction will hold its next regularly scheduled Council meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at the Civic Center/City Hall.

Blood checks at Senior Center

Crystal Brown, R.N. will be at Congregate Meals on Wednesday, April 16th from 10:30 to Noon to take Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar checks.

Fair Queen meeting to be held

Please join us for an informational meeting about the Louisa County Fair Queen and Princess Contests in the Columbus Junction State Bank basement (use east door) at 1 pm on Saturday, May 3rd. Special guests include Jessie (Hutcheson) Henning, former Iowa State Fair Queen; Adair Boysen, Louisa County Fair Queen; and Aubrey Duncan, Louisa County Fair Princess. Applications and complete paperwork will be available on-site for interested young ladies. Fair Queen contestants must be between 16 and 21 years old, live (permanent residence) or attend school in Louisa County. Fair Princess contestants must be between 4 and 8 years old and live (permanent residence) or attend school in Louisa County. The 2008 Louisa County Fair Queen and Princess Contest will be held on Monday, July 21st with an orientation meeting earlier in July for all confirmed contestants. We hope you will join us and learn about this great program for the young women of Louisa County. Questions may be directed to Michelle Hunt, Director, via email: michelle@centraliowakfc.com

Habitat flea market trip set

Louisa County Habitat for Humanity is taking their annual Kane County, Illinois Flea Market trip on Saturday, May 3. The bus will pick up at the Wapello Sale Barn at 7:30 a.m., and the Muscatine Hy-Vee parking lot at 8:00 a.m. The bus will arrive back at Wapello about 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person. Please send checks before April 29 to: Ruth Yakle, 110 N. Pine Street, Wapello, IA 52653. Her phone number is 319-523-2381.

Senior Center program

Harriet Jones will be doing a program on Friday, April 11, 2008 at 1 p.m., regarding some of her exciting adventures. Come and watch a great movie on Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 1 p.m. Don't forget the morning coffee group on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

Internet training class

A free internet training class will be offered to customers of Louisa Communications and Mutual Telephone, to be held Tuesday, May 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Columbus Junction City Hall. There will be three very informing topics covered: Online fraud; ebay - getting started; and digital photography. We ask that you call the office at 319-527-7636 to reserve a spot, or if you have any questions concerning this class.

Conservation Board to meet

The Louisa County Conservation Board will host a meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at the Louisa County Conservation Office, 12635 Co Rd G56, Wapello, Iowa.

Conservation District to meet

The Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will meet April 10, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. at the NRCS Office in Wapello. Topics on the agenda will be an update on cost share projects, discussion on long-range goals and poster contest judging. For more information please contact the office at 260 Mulberry St. STE 2, Wapello, or phone 523-6411.

Little League & T-Ball sign up

Last chance to sign up for T-Ball and summer softball and baseball programs. If you did not receive a form from the school, forms can be picked up at the Roundy and High School offices. They must be returned to the school by Monday, April 14th. Pre-schoolers will be accepted to play T-Ball.

Miss Iowa Princess information

There is still time to become a Miss Iowa princess! The deadline for applications has been extended to April 15. This is a great opportunity for a little girl ages 5 to 12 to become involved with the Miss Iowa Program. So if you know of a girl who might be interested, please see the Miss Iowa website at www.missiowa.com or contact program director Michelle Swieter. The cost for the mentoring program is \$300, sponsors may be acquired for this fee. Michelle Swieter missjoco2005@hotmail.com or call her at 515-681-1827.

Solid Waste Agency to meet

The Louisa Regional Solid Waste Agency will hold their quarterly meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Supervisor's office at the Louisa County Courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

Historical Society program

Sunday, April 13, 2:00 P.M. Barn History, by Michael Harker or Rich Tyler: "Visions of an American Icon." Michael Harker on old barns. Mr. Harker is the photographer of a book on barns. Louisa County Heritage Center, 609 James L. Hodges Ave., Wapello, Iowa

Retired School Personnel to meet

Retired School Personnel will meet at the Community Building, known as the Historical Center, Tuesday, April 15th, at 12:00. Bring a sack lunch, dessert and coffee will be furnished.

Shellbark Club to meet

The Shellbark Club will meet on Thursday, April 17th, at the La Casa Grande (old Captain's Table Restaurant) in Washington, at 11:30 a.m.

Wrestlers to hold can drive

The Columbus wrestlers will be holding a can drive on Sunday, April 20th. If anyone would like to donate, or has questions, please contact any high school wrestler or leave a message at the High School.