



Pen City Current

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HTC's Walker wins state Stockholm award

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Water Environment Federation (WEF) announced Wednesday that Maggie Walker has been selected as Iowa's 2017 state winner of the U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize, the nation's most prestigious youth award for a water-related science project.

Walker, a senior at Holy Trinity Catholic School, is the daughter of Steve and Bridget Link of Fort Madison and Jay and Amy Walker of West Point. Walker's

project, entitled Sodium Polyacrylate Used for Nitrate Runoff Prevention - Phase 2, will now compete in the national finals June 16-17 at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

This is the second time Walker has received the award. As a junior last year she also advanced to the national competition, but didn't finish in the top three so she didn't know where she placed exactly.

"My project last year was the first phase. I didn't win anything at the national event because they only acknowledge the top 3," Walker said.



WALKER

"This year I did a Phase 2 and I made the project grow and expanded the size of the testing. Originally I started with lab work and testing in conical tubes. This year I used a larger form and used a gutter system to create these real field simulations so I could get more accurate results of what the test would be like in the real world."

See **AWARD**, page 2

New LCCD director finding footing

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - A self-proclaimed science nerd is settling in nicely as the next director of the Lee County Conservation District.

Nathan Unsworth was hired in March as the replacement for Tom Buckley, who's retiring in June. Unsworth is the former Parks Director for the city of Newton, but said his passion has always been nature.

From growing up in farm fields of western Illinois and along the bluffs of the Mississippi River, Unsworth, said he was always exploring the timbers and fields of Illinois with his parents and grandparents.

Both sides of his family had farming operations so Unsworth knew from a young age that he wanted to become a naturalist.

"Growing up both sides of my family had farms," Unsworth said. "My mom's farm was on the Mississippi so I would spend summers



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Newly hired Lee County Conservation District Director Nathan Unsworth peers out over the land behind behind the Heron Bend Conservation Center and talks about his first four weeks in the position.

there mushroom hunting and what not. My dad's farm was more the real crop, traditional farmland and we did a lot deer hunting in the fall."

But he says the biggest impact on his life, from a nature perspective, came from his grandfather.

"Probably the biggest impact was my grandpa. I spent a lot of time with my grandma and grandpa growing up and I would go out and chore with him and drive

around the countryside and look at wildlife," he said. "I'd make him go by certain ponds to see what was out there. So that's where the interest was born. Then... I was kind of a science nerd as a kid so that's where it all came from."

Currently in his fourth week on the job, the Iowa State University graduate said he's spending time getting acquainted with the properties in Lee Coun-

ty and the projects the group is working on.

"Lee County has a lot of great things they've been doing over the last couple years and they've made lots of improvements to the campgrounds which is great. I'm big in getting people out to those parks and engaging in the outdoors. There are a lot of options out there and then we have the conser-

See **NATURE**, page 2

Main Street BBQ winners announced

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Results of the 16th annual Main Street BBQ cookoff held last week at Faeth's Cigar Store were released Monday.

Up in Smoke I and II dominated the categories with Up in Smoke I winning the chicken contest followed by Wilson Brothers BBQ and Big River Rib Rats.

Up in Smoke II won the Pork division with Big River Rib Rats and Last Minute Contenders taking 2nd and 3rd place in the judging.

Up in Smoke 1 again won in the beef category followed by Smok(En) BBQ and Big River Rib Rats. In the Open competition, Up in Smoke II won and the KCBS Style Rib title went to Griffin Grillers.

The event was held Saturday as part of the Mayhem in Fort Madison events and followed the Mayhem on the Mississippi 5K challenge run at Rodeo Park.

Lamb making splash at Clarke College

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



LAMB

DUBUQUE - A lot of people go through phases of career choices, but this kid picked a ball and glove and the die was cast.

On May 8, Fort Madison native Jeff Lamb was named Coach of the Year in NAIA Heart of America Athletic Conference with Clarke College in Dubuque.

Lamb, the son of Timm and Kate Lamb of Fort Madison, played for the the Bloodhound baseball team from 1995-2000 culminated by a state title in 2000.

See **CLARKE**, page 4

Advertiser Index

Boulders Inn & Suites Fort Madison.....	P.4	GRRWA.....	P.3
Classifieds.....	Ps.4-5	Hope Associates Real Estate.....	P.5
Farm Bureau Financial Services.....	P.2	IWitnessBullying.org	P.4
Fort Madison Depot Farmers' Market.....	P.2	Pen City Current.....	Ps.2,4-5
Green Oak Development.....	P.4	Public Notices.....	P.4
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center.....	P.5	Your Heat & Air guy.....	P.6

News Index

For the Record.....	P.3
From the front.....	Ps.2,6
Lottery Numbers.....	P.3
Local News.....	P.3
Sports.....	P.6
Weather.....	P.6

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From the Front/Area News

Next up is North Carolina nationals

AWARD - Continued from Page 1

Walker, who plans on attending Loyola University in Chicago, said her mom will travel to North Carolina with her.

Ernie Schiller, who worked part-time this year helping the students prepare their presentations for local and regional competitions, said Walker worked independently on the project and is very deserving of the recognition.

“Kudos to Maggie and her supportive parents,” Schiller said. “Maggie is a wonderful student and a dedicated young lady, involved in HTC life in many aspects. She is a dedicated young scientist working independently, doing her own research and performing above the norm.”

The national winner(s) will receive \$10,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden to represent the United States at the international competition during World Water Week on August 27 to September 1. The international winner(s) will receive \$15,000 presented during a royal ceremony by the prize’s Patron HRH Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Maggie Walker presents her project looking at the effect of sodium polyacrylate on nitrate absorption. Walker won the U.S. Stockholm Water Prize for Iowa and now moves to the national competition in North Carolina.

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize aims to increase students’ interest in water-related issues and research and to raise awareness about global water challenges. The competition is open to projects aimed at improving water quality, water resources management, water protection, and drinking water and wastewater treatment.

“WEF is very proud to shine a spotlight on some of our country’s brightest high school students, who impress us all with their innovative projects that focus on protecting our precious water resources,” said WEF Executive Director Eileen O’Neill. “These students give us great confidence in the future of water science and research.”

In the U.S., WEF and its Member Associations organize the regional, state, and national competitions with support from Xylem Inc., who also sponsors the international competition. The Bjorn von Euler Innovation in Water Scholarship Award, a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Xylem Inc., will be also awarded to the state winner who demonstrates a passion for education, spirit of creativity, and innovation.

For more information on the Stockholm Junior Water Prize and to see the 2017 state winners: www.wef.org/resources/for-the-public/SJWP/.

Unsworth got start exploring farms as a youth

NATURE - Continued from Page 1

vation center so we want to make sure we keep people engaged in the programming here, too.”

Unsworth started with the Jackson County Conservation District as a naturalist and then moved to Newton as a Parks District coordinator. He said that job didn’t offer the same conservation type of work, but did offer him a chance to work with people in an outdoor setting. Unsworth had done some fundraising work with the district to get a dog park built in the city so he was familiar with the workings of the department.

“The people aspect of that job is what I loved the most, but I missed the naturalist work. When this job opened up, I saw an opportunity to move closer to home and get back into the conservation and naturalist work. And that excited me,” he said.

Looking ahead to the future of the program, Unsworth said he’s working with Buckley prior to his retirement to create a vision of each segment of the conservation district.

“I think it’s just kind of with Tom leaving and me stepping in creating that vision of where we’re going and kind of looking at each park to come up with a plan to gauge whether we are doing the best,” he said. “When I took over in Newton there wasn’t a plan and I’m a goal-setter so we had to put together a list of goals and then we started working toward that. Now, I’m just developing a vision so we have a road map of sorts of where we want to be in the next few years.”

Unsworth said he also wanted to maximize the district’s impact on private lands by continuing to keep healthy relationships with landowners and working to keep the Conservation Reserve Program viable as well as continuing to build on relationships with Pheasants Forever, Quails Forever, and other environmental steward programs.

“*Growing up, both sides of my family had farms. My mom’s farm was on the Mississippi so I would spend summers there mushroom hunting...*”
-Nathan Unsworth, LCCD director

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Local News/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police report

05/15/17 - 11:27 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue O.
 05/15/17 - 12:47 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 5200 block of River Valley Road.
 05/15/17 - 1:55 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of 27th Street.
 05/15/17 - 11:30 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Tyler Scoot Hedger, 25, of Fort Madison in the 5400 block of Avenue O on a charge of domestic abuse assault-simple. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

05/16/17 - 10:03 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2001 block of Avenue B.
 05/16/17 - 7:47 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 05/16/17 - 10:30 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1200 block of 40th Street.
 05/16/17 - 4:45 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Wendy Simpson, 37, of Fort Madison at the police station for dog running at large.
 05/16/17 - 7:16 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Robert Eugene Teesdale, 52, of Fort Madison in the 600 block of 22nd Street on a warrants for possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug para-

phernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 05/17/17 - 5:04 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3000 block of Avenue K.
 05/17/17 - 6:12 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1700 block of Avenue J.

Lee County Sheriff's report

05/16/17 - 6:29 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's arrested Christen Mitchell Stark, 31, of Keokuk at the Lee County Jail on a warrant for violation of probation. He was held at the jail. *All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Swarm book signing Thursday

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - FMAAA knows Curt Swarm as a photographer and sculptor. However, Curt's Empty Nest column runs in 20 Iowa newspapers. Curt has penned his first novel and will have a book signing in Ft. Madison at FMAAA gallery at 7 p.m.

He will read excerpts and light refreshments will be pro



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Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 pm
All or Nothing™ - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:45 pm
All or Nothing™ - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:45 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:50 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:50 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:50 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:50 pm



5/17
 4 11 39 45 48
 Powerball: 9
 Power Play: 3



5/17
 6 16 22 34 44
 Hot Ball: 4
 Sizzler: 3



5/17 MID-DAY
 3 4 5 9 12 13
 15 16 17 20 23 24
 5/17 EVENING
 1 4 6 7 8 9
 14 17 18 19 20 21



5/17 MID-DAY
 4 7 4
 5/17 EVENING
 5 9 2



5/17 MID-DAY
 6 1 7 2
 5/17 EVENING
 3 9 3 7

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- Use cloth napkins/towels instead of paper napkins/towels
- Make 2-sided copies whenever possible
- Maintain central files for multiple individuals
- Use electronic mail/communications or a central bulletin board

REUSE

* Reuse products for the same purpose or for a different purpose

It makes economic & environmental sense to reuse products. Sometimes it takes a creative mind to do so.

- Sell or Donate old clothes, appliances, toys & furniture
- Use resealable containers rather than plastic wrap
- Reuse grocery bags or bring your own cloth bags to the store

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 Lee County Board of Supervisors
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 MEETING
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 LOCATION:

Lee County Correctional Center, 2530 255th St., Montrose, IA 52639
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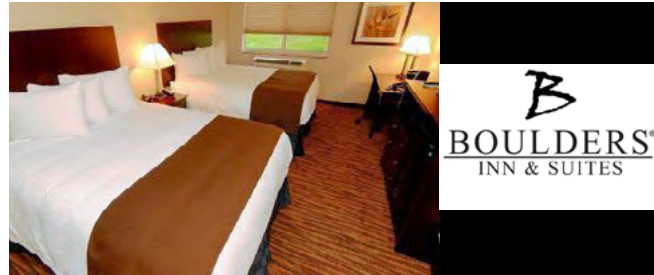
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From the Front/Sports

Fort Madison influences helped shape Lamb's career

CLARKE - Continued from Page 1

He said his junior and senior years on the baseball team were the formative years in determining what he wanted to do with his life. His coaches at the time were Dick Burch and Stan Schmidt and their impact on his game, coupled with the philosophy of his father, who coached track at FHMS, led him to coaching.

"I'll tell you, Dick Burch and Stan Schmidt were my coaches, they had a big impact on me. I hung with Brett Burch, his son, and saw how much they enjoyed it and I knew athletics was something I wanted to do, I just didn't know how. But I knew from that time, I wanted to be a coach."

Lamb, in his fourth season at Clarke, guided the Crusaders to a record-setting 41-12 overall record and a 26-8 mark in league play, just missing the NAIA tournament by one school.

"They take 40 teams to that tournament and we were the 41st team," Lamb said. "Hopefully, in our time here, we can get to the World Series." The NAIA takes 40 schools and narrows the field to 10 teams that compete in a World Series format in Florida.

In 2014, Lamb's first year at Clarke, the Crusaders racked up 21 wins. A year later, the Crusaders compiled a school-record 31 wins, posted a 15-9 record in Midwest Collegiate Conference play, and qualified for the MCC Final Four. The 2015 team broke 16 team season records and set 13 individual season marks.

Lamb came to Clarke from Marshalltown Community College where he served as the Tigers' head softball coach for five years. During his tenure there, Lamb's teams broke over 30 individual and team records.

Lamb served as the head softball coach at Marshalltown High School in 2012 and 2013. Lamb guided the 2012 Bobcats to the program's first state tournament appearance and coached the program's first all-state player in over a decade. Prior to taking the softball reins at Marshalltown, Lamb spent two seasons as the Tigers' assistant baseball coach. He also served as a graduate assistant baseball coach at Georgia College and State University and as a volunteer assistant baseball coach at West Chester.

Lamb played two seasons of collegiate baseball at Marshalltown and was also a member of the baseball programs at Drexel University and West Chester University in Pennsylvania.

He said making the transition from baseball to softball was tough at first, but he quickly found his way.

"I think a lot of what's happening now is more on the

baseball side, what you typically think of baseball," he said. "The swing's not so different. The pitching is the biggest thing and I had to find my way there, but coaching is the same.

"It doesn't matter what the sport is, it's more how you do what you do. It's the people you're around. The transition at first was tough because I was so young. I hadn't found my way and I didn't know of softball as much back then. I realized I was going to have to learn as I go so I just kept asking questions, going places, and watched a lot of softball."

But now he's built of team of power and then relies on pitching and defense to win games and is looking to build on that strategy, including bringing up a Fort Madison talent next year.

"We're not much of a speed team. We hit a lot of home runs. We led the country in home runs per game this year so, for the most part, our lineups are hitters and we look for that," Lamb said.

"Pitching and defense is what we need to win like we did this year. We had one of the best short stops and the best pitchers we've ever had. And Lexi Schmidt coming from Fort Madison. She's very athletic and can do multiple things," he said.

But he carries his roots with him as he builds success year to year in Dubuque.

Lamb married Rachel Courtney from Fort Madison and the two have a daughter Eloise, 6 and a son Calvin, 4.

He said his dad was always throwing with him and his older brothers Kevin and Patrick and coached the older boys when they were in Little League.

"He kind of stepped back when I got into Little League, but we were outside playing all the time. I was one of the younger kids, but they were all really good role models," he said. "Dad taught me most of what you're looking at now, especially the coaching. But he had expectations of us and I found that when I ran track with him. I've kind of meshed into him and now he gets to see the reward of that."

The 2000 state baseball championship run still stands fresh in Lamb's memory.

"I remember Dustin Hennigar hitting a home run to win the game that got us into the state tournament against Fairfield. But I think my biggest memories of that season are we were about 10 games into the season and not playing very well. Stan sat us down for about 15 minutes and just yelled at us. Some people would say that's not a good memory...but it turned us around and



Courtesy photo

Jeff Lamb in action in his college playing days at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Lamb is the head softball coach at Clarke College in Dubuque and was named Conference Coach of the Year.

the state tournament was just incredible. Andy Fuget pitched the third game, I was playing shortstop and Andy Ireland was thrown on at 3rd as freshman. I remember looking over at him and I really thought he was going to throw up."

Lamb said the future will be dictated by the future, but he's in no hurry to go anywhere.

"I heard something this summer," he said. "Make it big where you're at...don't just try to make it big. This community has embraced us, we have some really good kids, we graduated four really good seniors, so we've got some work to do. Clarke is a really nice school and I don't know that I'm going anywhere. But I never planned on coaching softball either."

Lamb received his bachelor of science degree in professional studies from West Chester University, and his master of science degree in education from Iowa State University.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Thu 18 May



Clear Skies
Low - 65.0° F | High - 78.9° F

Fri 19 May



Moderate Rain
Low - 57.0° F | High - 63.2° F

Sat 20 May



Heavy Intensity Rain
Low - 62.1° F | High - 73.9° F

Sun 21 May



Light Rain
Low - 53.6° F | High - 61.2° F

Mon 22 May



Light Rain
Low - 59.3° F | High - 67.7° F

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