

SPORTS



◀ **WATTERS CLOSES ANAMOSA SOFTBALL CAREER WITH YET ANOTHER ALL-STATE HONOR**
PAGE 17A

PAIR OF ORIOLES NAMED TO 1A ALL-STATE SOFTBALL TEAMS
PAGE 17A

WAPSI COUNTRY CLUB MEN'S GOLF



DARYL SCHEPANSKI - STAFF PHOTOS

Al Recker, here teeing off towards the par-3 fourth green at the Wapsi Country Club Saturday, July 29, was a picture of consistency all weekend long winning his first-ever men's club championship with a two-day, 36-hole total of 128 (64-64) that topped the talented field by two-strokes.

Missing piece of the puzzle

Recker wins first Wapsi men's club tournament title

BY DARYL SCHEPANSKI
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ANAMOSA

As a member of numerous Eastern Iowa men's tournament championship teams for the Wapsi Country Club as well as winning a pair of Anamosa City titles of his own, Al Recker's golf resume is secure as one of the icons in this community.

There was just one thing missing.

Amazingly, even though he has always been among the leaders each and every year competing at the Wapsi men's club tournament, Recker had never won the championship.

That was until Sunday, July 30, when Recker was able to add that missing piece to his amazing golf puzzle.

"Finally," said Recker, who carded a siz-

zling score of 128 at the two-day, 36-hole event that finished two-strokes better than Mike Carrier, who tallied a 130 to claim runner-up honors.

"Yes, this is my first-ever Wapsi men's club championship. I've come close a lot of times over the years, but for one reason or another, have never been able to make my way all the way up to the top of the leaderboard. I guess when you play against the kind of golf talent that Wapsi has every summer, winning this tournament isn't exactly easy."

From the very beginning of this year's Wapsi men's club tournament, Recker kept himself in the hunt for the title as his opening-round of two-under par 64 (32-32) was a mere one-stroke behind Carrier, who led after the opening day's play firing a three-under 63 (33-30).

Bret McNamara was also among the top-2 tying Recker for second after Satur-

See **PUZZLE**, page 18A



Mike Ammeter chips his golf ball towards the third pin during first-round action at the Wapsi Country Club's men's tournament Saturday, July 29.

BETWEEN THE LINES



DARYL SCHEPANSKI
Sports Editor

The power of Scott Werling

Beloved Anamosa PA announcer passes away

It didn't take long for me to figure out when I started covering sporting events for the Anamosa Journal-Eureka newspaper back in the mid-1990s, that former Anamosa High School PA announcer Scott Werling was one extremely unique and phenomenally talented individual.



SCOTT WERLING

I also grew to learn he possessed some pretty amazing powers, too.

That gift was taken away from us much too soon however, as Werling passed away recently leaving a lasting legacy at Anamosa High School that may never be equaled.

Scott may have never completely realized this, but I'm sure he had to have been told hundreds and hundreds of times over the years, but he had actually seemed to have effects on the outcomes of the Blue Raider sporting events he announced.

Especially in basketball.

And incredibly, it was all through the sheer power of his voice (and everything else he created running his entertaining three-ring circus each and every night).

At least in my humble opinion anyway.

See **WERLING**, page 18A



DARYL SCHEPANSKI - STAFF PHOTO

Jess Drees watches as her tee shot sails down the fifth fairway at the Wapsi Country Club Saturday, July 29. Drees claimed the women's club tournament title finishing with a round of three-over par 73 (35-38) at the one-day, 18-hole event.

WAPSI COUNTRY CLUB WOMEN'S GOLF

Jess Drees wins at Wapsi

ANAMOSA

All the classic Wapsi Country Club names were there.

Hannah Houska, Cassie Caldwell, Laurie Woods, Jenny Houska, Deb Byers and Debbie Schultz, just to name a few.

All have had successful careers golfing at the Wapsi women's club tournament combining to win numerous championships over the years.

All of them also knew relative newcomer Jess Drees was going to only add to the drama this summer and would be able to compete for a title of

her very own.

Which is exactly what Drees was able to do, topping the talented Wapsi women's club tournament field at the one-day, 18-hole event Saturday, July 29, finishing with a sizzling card of three-over par 73 to hold off Hannah Houska and claim the coveted championship.

Drees, golfing with Hannah Houska, Caldwell and Woods, opened her day firing the low nine-hole score of the tournament coming through with an even-par 35 at the turn, and then kept it going from there

finishing with a three-over 38 on her final nine holes winding through the beautiful Wapsi course.

Drees, who led by three shots over Hannah Houska with three holes to play, did what she needed to do to hold on as Houska made one last-gasp charge as the defending champion finished with a birdie on the last hole while Drees' par was enough to win by a single stroke.

Hannah Houska was her nor-

See **WAPSI**, page 18A