



WATERLOO
Community School District

Engaged in Learning ● Prepared for Success

NEWS

August 19, 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ellen Vanderloo at 433-1920
vanderloo@waterloo.k12.ia.us

Coaches' Compete On and Off the Football Field

Waterloo Competes in First Iowa "Coaches Mentoring Challenge"

WATERLOO-While Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska football coaches are preparing for the 2011 college football season, they are also gearing up for the 2011 Coaches Challenge. For the past three years, Kansas and Nebraska have been competing to determine which state could recruit the most new mentors. Raising the stakes for 2011, Iowa is throwing its hat into the ring. Coach Kirk Ferentz, University of Iowa head football coach, and Coach Paul Rhoads, Iowa State University's head football coach are leading Team Iowa.

"We are all excited to be teaming up for this event," Adam Lounsbury, Executive Director of the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service said. "The coaches are looking to bring home a win for Iowa, a win that will allow our youth to dream bigger and have brighter futures. Mentoring is the way we can make a difference."

The Coaches' Challenge will run from August 1- November 21, 2011. The wager is which state, Iowa, Kansas or Nebraska, can sign up the most new mentors during the college football season. The overall winner will be announced at the Kansas State/Iowa State football game in Manhattan, Kansas on December 3, 2011.

According to the National Mentoring Partnership, there are 15 million children in the nation in need of caring and quality mentors. In Waterloo Community Schools there are almost 200 mentors. However, there is a need for at least twice that many. All new mentors will be included in the Iowa tally.

Local high school athletic directors as well as Troy Dannen, UNI Director of Athletics and Coach Ben Jacobson, UNI men's basketball coach, have all pledged their support of mentoring. They encourage others to volunteer to meet with a student just one hour a week at school.

Help Iowa defeat Kansas and Nebraska by making a difference in a child's life! Take the Coaches Challenge by contacting the Waterloo Community Schools at 433- 1920, or by visiting [www. Waterloo.k12.ia.us](http://www.Waterloo.k12.ia.us) and search "mentor."

-End-