

Register gives high five to local meteorite

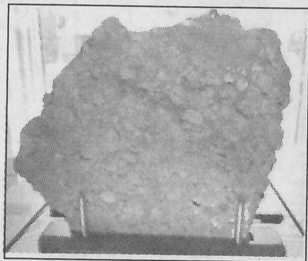
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STAFF WRITER

In Sunday's Des Moines Register, reporter Susan Stapleton shouted out to eight of Iowa's hidden treasures.

Along with a Charles City couple's tribute to the grass tennis courts of Wimbledon, Marshalltown's big tree-house, the round houses in Urbandale, and the Grotto at West Bend, Stapleton reported she was impressed with the fact that pieces of the 455 pound meteorite are on display at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History as well as a natural history museum in Vienna, Austria.

She called the landing three miles north of Estherville in 1879 of the largest meteorite known to fall in North America, "a source of pride."

The meteorite fell three



This portion of the Estherville Meteorite is on display at the meteorite center on Central Avenue in Estherville.

miles north of Estherville on the Sever Lee Farm May 10, 1879.

As Lee seemed indifferent to the meteorite's landing, according to an account on Iowa Gold, eight young local men hired a well digger, George Osborn, to raise it. Commercial efforts attempting to secure ownership and sell the pieces

Turn to **METEORITE**, Page 2