

## **DIVE TEAM MEDIA EVENT**

The Sioux County Dive Team has recently been revitalized; the team is now under the direction of the Sioux County Sheriff. This process began after the disappearance of four year old, Breiton Ackerman on May 22, 2005 in Willow Creek east of Alton, IA. Divers from many area teams participated in the search efforts, along with a few original Sioux County team members.

The Dive Team originated in 1979, and was operated under the Sioux County Civil Defense Department. After many years in existence the team started to drift apart. The Ackerman incident in 2005 started the efforts to revitalize the team. In the summer of 2007 the Sioux County Sheriff agreed to lead the team, providing a more consistent structure.

On Monday, June 11 at 9:00 a.m. the Sheriff held a media event for the team at the Public Safety Complex in Orange City. It was a time to view some of the team's equipment, find out what the needs of the team were, and discuss the goals for the Sioux County Dive Team.

Family members of Breiton Ackerman presented Sheriff Altena with funds that had been donated to help the team.



From left to right: Jackie De Jong, Glenn De Jong, Gloria Vander Plaats, Dennis Vander Plaats, Sheriff Altena, Cassie Ackerman, Sarah Ackerman, Beth Ackerman (standing), Brad Ackerman, Roslyn Ackerman