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The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 7

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 16, 1998

Growth may lead DDA to pursue other downtown needs

••• Those needs could include further parking lot improvements, an extension of Riverwalk, and the acquisition, renovation and resale of the old Hinkley building.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

With the Downtown Development Authority's (DDA) renovation of the downtown just completed, winds off the Flat River have already begun whistling possibilities of an additional bond issue for the Lowell district.

"Increasing tax increment revenues over each of the last five years have increased significantly," said Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale.

Notable: Tax increment revenues have increased 226 percent over the last five years.

Quotable: Increasing tax increment revenues over each of the last five years have increased significantly.

Dave Pasquale

Tax increment revenue increases were based on a 2.5 percent annual growth. A large number of new developments and improvements to parcels of land have equated to ballooning tax increment revenues well in excess of the 2.5 percent annual projection.

In the DDA's first year (1994), the projection was \$67,612. The actual tax increment revenues totaled \$83,169.14.

The projection was \$76,098 for 1998. The actual tax increment revenue was \$271,154.79.

The five-year increase from \$83,169.14 to \$271,154.79 represents a 226 percent increase in tax increment revenues.

ment revenues.

This growth gives the DDA an opportunity to sell another bond (a maximum of \$1.79 million) to pursue other needs for downtown.

The 1999 debt service payment on the downtown renovation bond is \$119,688.

DDA, cont'd. pg. 8

Sounds of the Holiday Season



Pictured above, left to right, are: Angie VanderTuin and Janelle Freed.

Pictured below, left to right, are: Craig Myers and Alyssa Gillikin.



Pictured above, left to right, are: Molly Wisner and Jon Ballema.

Pictured to the left is Amanda Lesky.

Pictured below, left to right, are: Jennifer Wisner and Sandra Sturis.



Thermal imaging camera hot item on community fund grant list



Lowell Area Fire Chief Frank Martin holds the thermal imaging camera recently purchased by the department.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Strengthening and improving an agency's self-sufficiency and other attributes were focal points of the second round of funds made available to Lowell area, non-profit organizations from Harold Englehardt's Lowell Area Community Fund.

There were 14 grants awarded from the Lowell Area Community Fund totaling \$135,670.

"A wide variety of grants were awarded in areas the committee is convinced will make a difference," said Bert Bleke, advisory committee member.

The grants, relatively small in nature, ranged from \$1,000 to \$30,000. They included:

* \$7,260 to the Lowell Police Department toward the purchase of "PC the Patrol Car."

* \$6,620 to the Lowell

Area Fire Department toward the purchase of a thermal im

Grants, cont'd. pg. 8

Inside the Ledger

Directions,
Pages 31-32

Winter
Sports
Supplement,
Pages 13-20

A Mini Mall in a Grocery Store!

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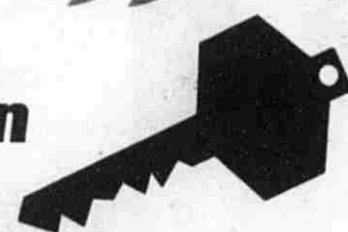
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PLU #726 Limit one per customer, please. Coupon good at Family Fare Lowell Store Only.

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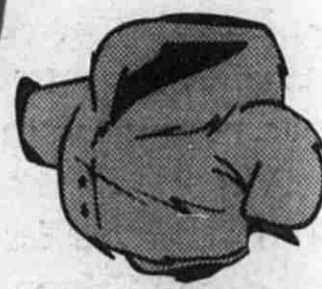
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OBITUARIES

COYT - Paul E. Coyt, aged 74, of Saranac, passed away at the Laurels of Kentin Lowell on December 6, 1998. He was born in Kentucky to the parents of Ben Coyt and Winnie Jones in 1924. He is survived by one brother-in-law John Bos of Grand Rapids, many nieces and nephews. Memorial services will be held Wednesday, December 16, 1998 at the Saranac Housing East Bldg. at 2 p.m. Anyone wishing may make contributions to the Saranac Fire Department. Arrangements by the Lake Funeral Home in Saranac.

EMELANDER - Mary Margaret Emelander, aged 84, of Saranac, passed away Wednesday, December 9, 1998, at Hospice Home of Hope in Grand Rapids. She went to be with her Lord after a courageous struggle with cancer. She was born February 24, 1914 in Salina, Kansas, the daughter of August V. and Maggie Pickering Risser. She was married May 28, 1932 in Indiana to Jacob Emelander and he preceded her in death on June 8, 1968. She was employed as a seamstress for General Motors for 30 years retiring in 1972. She was a past member of Easton United Methodist Church and

Saranac Community Church. She is survived by her daughter Joan and Leo Feuerstein, Belding; two granddaughters Pam and Dave Vroman of Saranac and Penny and Jerry Rosema of Lowell; three great-grandchildren Kirsten and Travis Vroman and Shawn Rosema; two step-great-grandchildren Brad and Tonya Rosema and Greg Rosema; one step-great-grandchild Sierra Rosema. She was preceded in death by her grand-daughter Peggy Feuerstein in 1988 and her brother Andrew Risser. A private memorial service will be held for the immediate family. Interment will be in Easton Cemetery, Easton Township. Memorial contributions may be made to Home of Hope-Hospice of Greater Grand Rapids. Arrangements by Johnson Funeral Home in Belding.

45 years, Marilyn; four children Kris (Peggy) Kropf of Lowell, Ken (Pam) Kropf of MD, Kathy (Scott) Collins of DE, Kurt (Melissa) Kropf of Lowell; five grandchildren Aaron, Jacqueline, Benjamin, Austin and Meredith; sister Marguerite (Noah) Blough of Alto; mother-in-law Irene Nellist of Kentwood; brother-in-law Charles Nellist of CA; sister-in-law Marji Kropf of Lowell; many nieces, nephews and his granddog Mallory. Phil worked in the dairy industry for 43 years, serving Highland Hill Dairy, Sealtest Foods at the General Manager for 21 years, then moved to ICMFA, where he retired after 11 years in 1995. Phil's pride and joy was his family. He leaves them a legacy of living joyfully and giving generously of yourself. He was an active member of the Lowell community for many years, volunteering as Little League coach, performing as an endman on the Lowell Showboat, and serving on the School Board. What little free time he had he enjoyed doing carpentry work. Funeral

services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Mr. Aaron Steffen of Apostolic Christian Church officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Greater Grand Rapids. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

LEE - Gene J. Lee of Keene Township, Saranac, passed away Tuesday, December 8, 1998 at Heartland Health Care in Ionia. He was born May 15, 1917, on the family farm in Keene Township to the parents of Adelbert (Nancy Frost) Lee. He was a member of the Easton United Methodist Church. He married Emma Dell Weeks in Ionia on December 12, 1941, who preceded him in death in 1993. He is survived by one daughter Elva Jean and Eugene Anderson of Saranac and daughter-in-law Marcia Lee of Ionia; four grandchildren: Brian Anderson of Saranac, Christopher and Louise Anderson of Saranac, Jean and Robert Cooper of Ionia and Robert E. Lee of Ionia; five great-grandchildren also survive. He was preceded in death by his son Duane in 1992 and two granddaughters Mary and Donna Lee in 1996. Funeral services were held Friday at the Easton United Methodist Church with Rev. Thomas Reame officiating. Interment Saranac Cemetery. Anyone wishing may make contributions to the Ionia Area Hospice, Helping Hands or Easton United Methodist Church. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home, Saranac.

RANDALL - Darlene A. Randall, aged 40, of Saranac, passed away December 9, 1998, at the University Hospital in Ann Arbor. She was born in Greenville October 3, 1958, to the parents of Tex LaVern Marsch and Charlene Conklin. She married Harold Randall April 8, 1977, in Belding. Besides her husband she is survived by her mother Charlene Bowers of Belding; one son Harold Randall II at home and one daughter Jessica Randall at home; three brothers Dennis and Frances Marsh of Greenville, Donald and Linda Marsh of Belding and Rodney Marsh of Ann Arbor; two sisters Paula Tucker of Ionia and Rhonda Butler of Palo. Funeral services were held Saturday at the Lake Funeral Home in Saranac with Rev. Kenneth Hargac officiating. Interment Easton Cemetery. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home in Saranac.

NOTICE

Pursuant to subsection 25-334 (a) of Article VI of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell and applicable federal regulations, the following industrial user was found to be significantly violating applicable pretreatment standards or other pretreatment requirements of the City's sewer use ordinance during the previous twelve (12) months:

Lighthouse Inc.

Dated: December 11, 1998

CITY OF LOWELL
Mark Mundt, Superintendent
190 Lowell Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

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FOR SALE CITY FLAGS

City Flags are now available at a cost of \$30.00 each. These flags are 3' x 5' nylon with the new City Logo. They can be purchased at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main St., Lowell, Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 21, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Public Library Community Room, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, Michigan.

The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following variance request:

Mark Osburn, 741 Grindle, requests a variance to allow a 33 foot lot width at the front yard setback so that an additional lot can be created. With the property zoned Suburban Residential, a 165 foot width is required, therefore a variance has been requested.

The Lowell City Council will also conduct another public hearing on the following request:

The purpose of said hearing will be to consider vacating the old diagonal section of Bowes Road.

Interested persons may submit comments prior to the meeting at City Hall, 301 E. Main, or appear in person at Englehardt Public Library.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

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Defensive driving techniques make winter roads safe for all

When it comes to winter driving, snowflakes may be the least of your problems. "Flaky" drivers are also a potential hazard, especially during the first snow of the season. That makes defensive driving skills an important commodity when Michigan weather turns nasty, according to AAA Michigan.

The leading cause of traffic crashes on ice-slicked, snow-clogged roads is following the car in front too closely. The driver in front stops; you can't. For this reason, Jerry Basch, AAA Michigan's Community Safety Services Manager, recommends increasing your following distance on slippery roads from the good-road gap of three seconds to six seconds.

A good way to measure the six-second time gap is to pick out a distinct road marking or sign, and then begin counting when the car ahead passes that spot— "one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two..."

"You're tailgating if you get to that spot before counting to six," Basch said. "Too close for safety on slippery roads." According to Basch, stopping distances on melting ice and snow at the 32-degrees freezing point are twice as great as at zero temperatures.

Especially dangerous are shaded areas and bridges, overpasses and intersections... areas where ice is likely to form first or be slipperiest because the shiny ice surface has either been polished by previous traffic, a thin layer of water covers melting ice below or a temperature difference exists.

Basch offers the following tips to help motorists steer clear of winter driving trouble:

- Improve visibility by clearing all snow and ice from the entire car—hood, roof, trunk, turn signals, lights, windows, mirrors, even fender wells.

Also, driving with headlights on low-beam provides better road illumination in snow and fog than using high-beams.

- Remember, posted speed limits are set for ideal road and weather conditions.
- Avoid sudden starts, stops and turns. Accelerate carefully so car wheels don't spin.
- Don't brake hard. The best technique for braking on ice or snow is "threshold" or "squeeze" braking. This is done by applying the brakes firmly to a point just short of lock up, and then easing off the brake pedal slightly. Applying steady pressure is better than "pumping" the brakes. If your vehicle has anti-lock braking, continuous firm braking is usually

recommended. Check the owner's manual for proper procedure.

• In a skid, ease off the accelerator and don't lock up the brakes. Carefully steer in the direction you want the car to go and straighten the wheel as soon as the car begins to go in the desired direction.

• Anticipate potential danger such as ice on bridges, snow-covered lane markings, stalled cars and poor visibility. Adjust speed, increase distance between other cars or change lanes to avoid trouble. Watch for other drivers who may be unprepared for changing road conditions.

Health, cont'd., From Page 5

common in Washington than in Florida.)

Some signs and symptoms which may herald the onset of SAD include:

- Weight gain • A drop in energy level • Fatigue
- A tendency to oversleep • Irritability
- Difficulty concentrating
- Avoidance of social situations

Since it is believed that SAD is influenced by decreased sunlight and darkness, a theory has been established that "light therapy" may be good treatment for SAD of the winter months. Light therapy is used for about 30 minutes each day throughout fall and winter, and can be arranged by your family doctor. If light therapy does not work, medication may be prescribed to treat the depression associated with SAD.

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The Lowell Ledger-Wednesday, December 16, 1998-Page 8



Along Main Street

BLOOD DRIVE
The Lowell Fire Station is sponsoring a Grand Valley Blood Program blood drive on Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station.

DDA, continued.... From Page 1

CITY OF LOWELL DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY		
Fiscal Year	1993 Plan Projection Tax Increments	Total Actual Tax Increments
1994	\$67,612	\$83,169.14*
1995	69,640	127,516.37*
1996	71,729	184,513.08*
1997	73,881	210,461.00*
1998	76,098	271,154.79*

Other needs which have been discussed include further parking lot improvements, an extension of the Riverwalk, an observation deck, and the acquisition, renovation and re-sale of the old Hinkley building at Main and Monroe streets.
DDA board member Ray Quada also suggested that a bridgeway connect both sides of the riverbank.

LIVE NATIVITY
Bowne Center United Methodist Church will hold a drive-thru live nativity on the corner of Alden Nash and 84th Street from 6-9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 19.

LAAC IS SEARCHING FOR A PRODUCER
Lowell Area Arts Council is searching for a producer or co-producers! The play *Blithe Spirit*, a ghostly farce, calls for a cast of seven - five women and two men. Rehearsals are on their way soon. For further information call Director Jim Marron at 897-7880 or the Arts Center at 897-8545.

LOWELL HOCKEY ALUMNI
The Lowell hockey program will host an alumni game at Michigan National Ice Center on Sunday, Dec. 27 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. If you are a former Lowell hockey player and are interested in playing, please contact Paul Whaley, 897-0103.

Grants, continued.... From Page 1

aging camera to help locate fire survivors.
* \$8,510 to Fallsburg Historical Society toward developing a plan to strengthen the organization.
* \$25,000 to the Direction Center toward developing a "Leadership Lowell" training program for Lowell residents and nonprofit leaders.
* \$1,000 to LaLeche League of Michigan to place educational materials at the Englehardt Library.
* \$4,500 to the Lowell Friends of the Library for supplementing the collection of the Englehardt Public Library.
* \$20,000 (over three years) to the Lowell Area Youth Development toward supporting development of healthy, self-motivated youth who contribute back to the community.
Large money items such as a community pool and a Lowell Township park some may find conspicuous in their absence.

Bleke pointed out that both are being worked on, though both are tied up with the development of a recreation authority. "It is our hope that the recreation authority can be finalized over the next two-three months," Bleke explained.
A recreation authority will be charged with running all recreation programs in the community.
"It is a comprehensive plan that takes time and has involved Vergennes and Lowell townships, the city of Lowell, Lowell Area Schools and the YMCA.
In addition, a public survey addressing the community pool issue is scheduled to be distributed to area residents in January/February. The community fund awarded \$8,180 to

or Jim Blair, 897-6436. Bring your skates. There will be a community open skate following the game. Admission is free.

CHRISTMAS CONTINUES IN LOWELL
Pets visit with Santa Thurs., Dec. 17 at the Animal Hospital & Pet Complex, 5-7 p.m. Children visit with Santa, Sat., Dec. 19 at Springgrove Variety, 4-6 p.m. Free carriage rides at the Riverwalk Plaza, Sat., Dec. 19, 3-6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 20, 2-5 p.m.

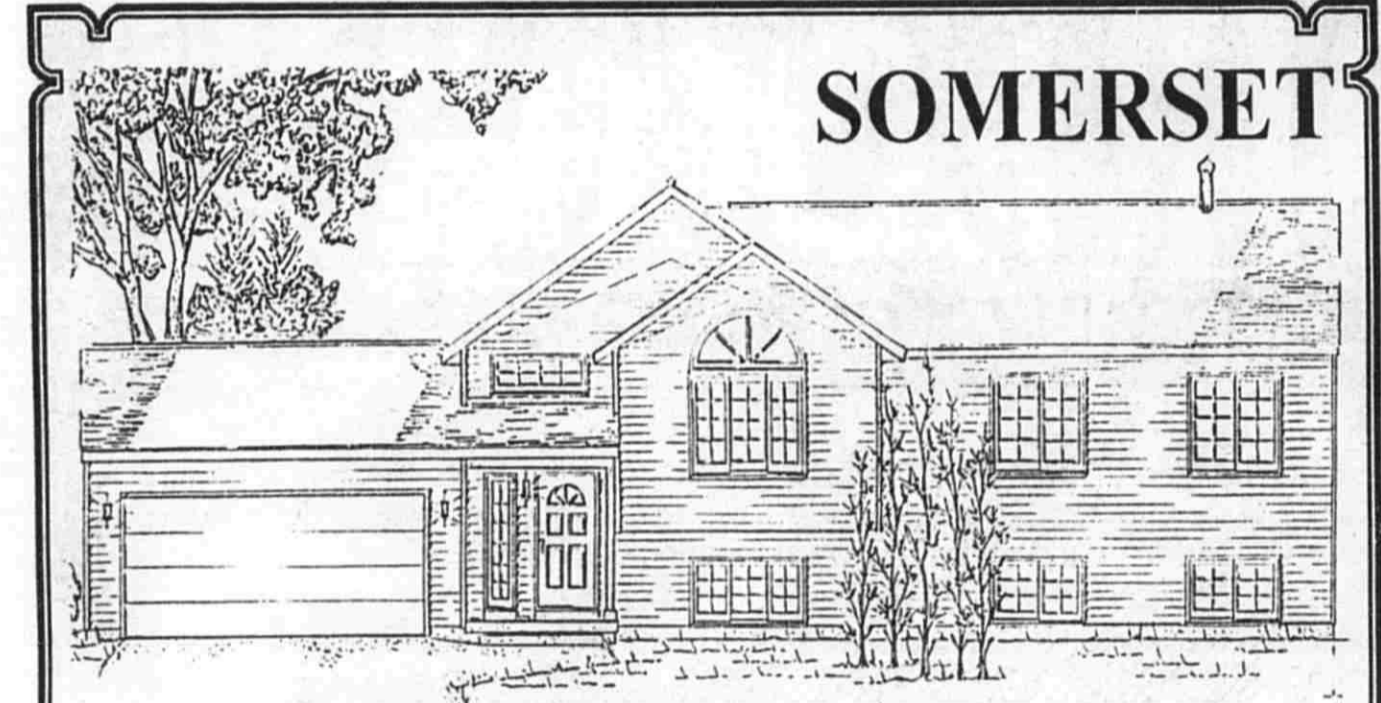
CLASS OF 1989 REUNION
A planning meeting for the Lowell High School class of 1989 reunion will be held Sunday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m. at Barb Roth's house. For info. or address changes, call Debra Duiven at 897-6348 or Barb Roth at 897-6954.

assist in the development, disbursement and collection of the survey to ascertain support for the pool.
Other grants awarded were:
• \$30,000 to the city of Lowell to restore and stabilize the historic buildings in Lowell's downtown district.
• \$10,800 to Lowell Area Schools for developing a character and diversity program for the community.
• \$8,800 (1:1 matching) to Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation to enhance school program and encourage innovative thinking.
• \$3,000 to the city of Lowell toward planting trees and flowers in downtown Lowell.
• \$1,000 to Lowell Area Schools to cover scholarships to allow seniors to attend the Lowell High School senior overnight party.
• \$1,000 to Lowell Area Schools to support "Lowell High School Renaissance," a program that aims to increase the number of students receiving top grades.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, created in 1997 through a \$12.5 million bequest to the Grand Rapids Foundation from the late Harold Englehardt, is now valued at \$14 million.

Live nativity at Bowne United Methodist Church, Dec. 19

The Bowne Center United Methodist Church will have their live nativity on Saturday, Dec. 19 from 6-9 p.m. This will mark the 12th year that the church has held this event.
There are people of all ages participating in the annual event. There are live sheep and a donkey plus a life-like camel. This is a drive thru event but many people do get out of their cars to view it closer.
The Bowne Township Museum will also be open at that time for people to tour. It will be decorated for the Christmas season.
Bowne Center United Methodist Church is located on the corner of 84th Street and Alden Nash (M-50) in Alto.



SOMERSET

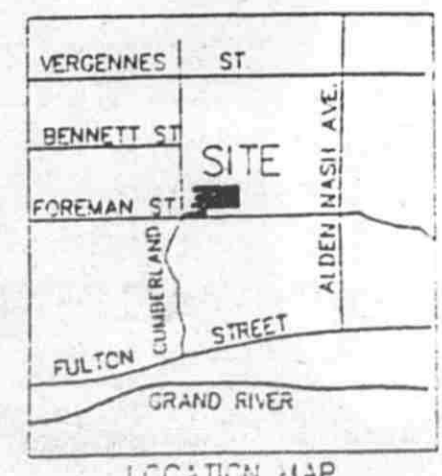
11364 Foreman Farms Court (lot 4)
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An idea isn't responsible for the people who believe in it.
—Don Marquis

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FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18 THRU DECEMBER 24

Singer Elton John is one of the performers in the *Nobel Concert for Peace*, airing Sunday on Fox Family Channel. The event, taped earlier this month in Oslo, Norway, honors Nobel Peace Prize winners John Hume and David Trimble, who won the award for their work in the Northern Ireland peace effort.

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DAYTIME AFTERNOON BROADCAST STATIONS 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

SATURDAY MORNING DECEMBER 19, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY EVENING DECEMBER 18, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

SATURDAY AFTERNOON DECEMBER 19, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

Lowell will be quick to apply pressure on opponents

••• The Red Arrow boys varsity basketball program is poised to put a dismal 1997-98 season behind it. Lowell will be led by seniors Shane Teelander, T.J. Thayer, Bob Jones and Austin Krieg.

Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

If you play basketball in the OK White and you're not big, you'd better be quick.

No one understands that better than Lowell boys basketball coach Pete Bush. The fourth-year coach and his teams have been challenged in the past.

Lowell will still be one of the smaller teams in the OK White, but its overall team quickness is the best it's been in Bush's four-year tenure. How well Lowell can use that quickness to defend and pressure the basketball will determine its success in 1998-99.

"We will rely on our

outworked and that it never let down defensively... that will give us an opportunity to win some games."

The Red Arrows' style will require athletes to execute it. Lowell has a few of those. The list begins with seniors T.J. Thayer and Shane Teelander.

Thayer led the club in assists last year. He averaged 6.2 per game. He was also counted on to play a ton of minutes at the point guard position.

The senior will get some relief from Aaron Alsgaard. The junior worked hard in the off season to improve his game.

Teelander, Lowell's leading scorer, averaged 10.5 points per game. The senior is quick, can shoot and he's strong.

The only other starter returning from last year's team is senior center Bob Jones. He averaged four rebounds a game last year.

Jones should get some help from junior Steve Adams. Bush describes Steve as a tireless worker who gets up and down the floor.

"All three seniors played a ton of minutes last year. Their experience should pay off," Bush said.

Junior Scott Pullen is someone who should provide significant help at the off guard position. Lowell's coach said he could start or be a sixth man coming off the bench.

Senior team captain and guard Austin Krieg should get plenty of playing time as Bush

quickness to defend the post, and in playing a full court man-to-man pressing defense," Bush said. "I believe at the end of the year this team will be able to say it was never



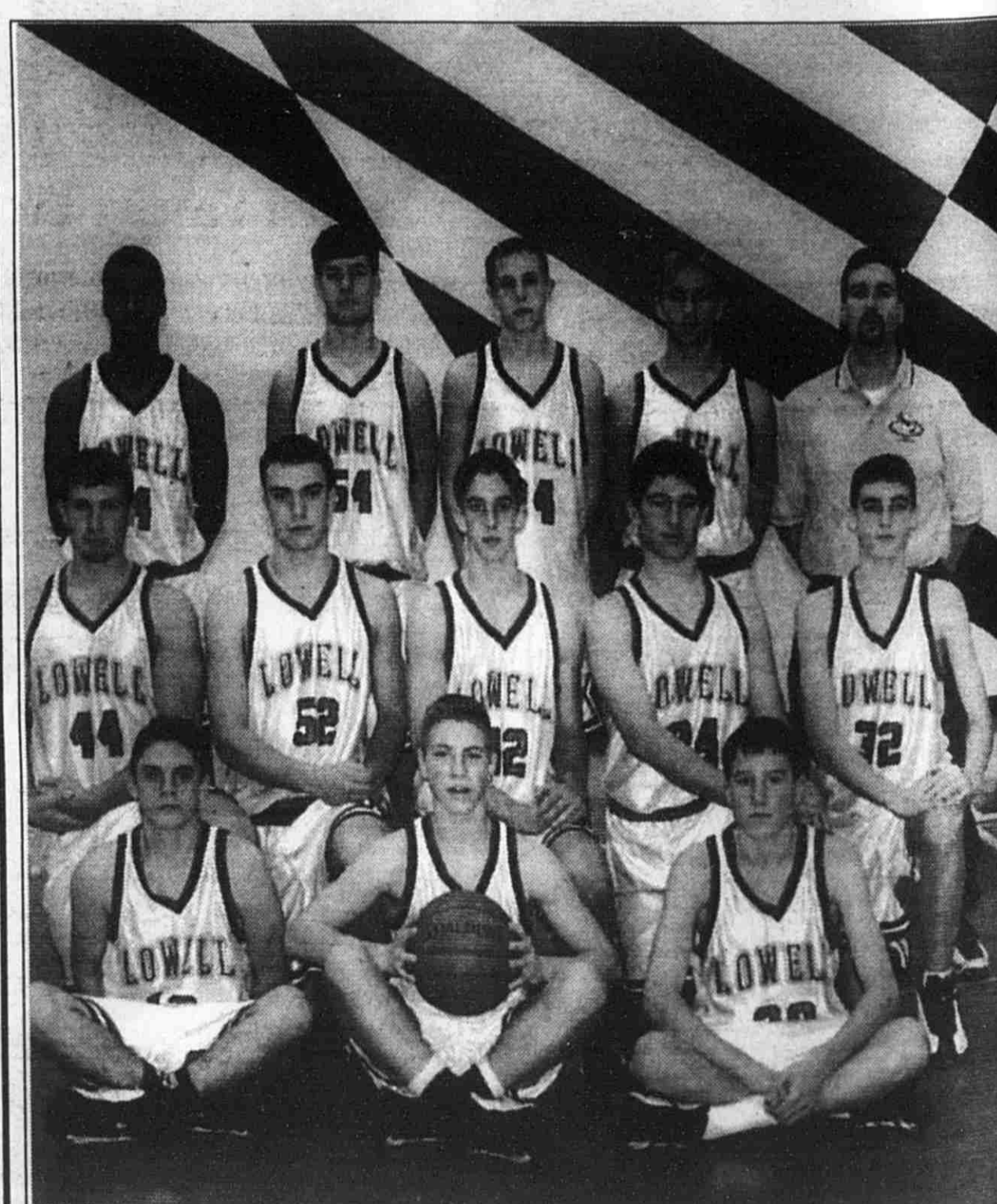
Members of the varsity basketball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: T.J. Thayer, Leto McElveen, Bryce McMahon; middle row, left to right: Shane Teelander, Tim Schutte, Brady Foster, Scott Pullen, Aaron Alsgaard; back row, left to right: Assistant Coach Tim Antel, manager Andy Inbody, Ryan Mix, Bob Jones, Steve Adams, Josh Vrooman, Coach Pete Bush and Assistant Coach Brent Noskey.



Red Arrow Freshman Basketball

Members of the freshman basketball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Chris Cress, Matt Tschaenn, Zach Beachum, Nick Onan and Matt Barry; middle row, left to right: Pat Cavanaugh, Brad Eldridge, Todd Drenth, Bill Harrison, Pat Kaufman and Tyler Hippey; back row, left to right: Manager Eric Koepfel, Brandon Duprey, Jack Whitman, Zach Stauffer, Logan Dykstra, Gary Dykstra and Coach Mark Stedman.

Good Luck Red Arrows!



Lowell Junior Varsity Basketball

Members of the junior varsity basketball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Andy Lamoreaux, Troy Gillan and Ryan Phillips; middle row, left to right: Andy Curtis, Nate Borth, Matt Trierweiler, David Bellechasses and James Bossard; back row, left to right: Jermaine Rhoden, Matt Jackson, David Rozema, Jordan Gallagher and Coach Robb Hurt.

Heavy hearted Lowell grapplers focused on big prize

••• Having suffered a bitter defeat in the state semi-finals last year, the Red Arrows' wrestling team has its sights on a return visit.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejc.

A coach cannot want to win more than the boys he's coaching. Bruce Bittensbender of Stevensville/Lakeshore.

Those were the words of wisdom the Lakeshore wrestling coach shared with his former wrestler and first-year

Sound advice, but it is unlikely that will be a possibility in 1998-99.

This will not be just another wrestling season for the Red Arrows. It is the first season in 39 years that a proud and respected program will not be led by Gary Rivers.

A fact that will not be lost among Lowell coaches, alumnae, fans and, most importantly, the wrestlers.

There will be subtle and visible reminders of their late coach. Players, coaches and mat maids will wear red socks to all wrestling matches (a Coach Rivers' trademark), the new uniforms will be the traditional red and white (something Coach Rivers insisted on even when other Lowell teams added black), the ribbons worn on the uniforms in memory of the Coach will be white with a red "R" printed on them, the Lowell Invitational will be renamed the

Gary Rivers Memorial Wrestling Invitational, and the Lowell wrestling banner hung up at all matches will read "Rivers Runs Through Us."

A strong core of wrestlers will return from last year's state semi-finalist club. It is a focused and determined team.

"The last couple of years the boys got a taste of success and realize that they can be competitive at the state level," Strejc explained. "This year they have set their sights at the next echelon."

Four of those wrestlers competed in the individual state tournament. Three of them medaled.

Bill Stouffer was state runner-up at 215 pounds. "Bill is in great shape and he has set his goals high," Strejc said. "He's quick on his feet, has deceptive strength and is at his strongest when he's on the bottom. Dan can hit a roll from anywhere on the mat."

Sophomore Caleb O'Boyle finished fourth at the individual state meet last year. "Caleb is technically advanced. He always has good positioning and knows what he's going to do. He just has

good instinct... that's something you can't teach."

Mike Arnswald, tri-captain, qualified for the state meet last year but did not medal.

Brent Lyons is the early season favorite at 135 pounds. Greenville transfer, Pat Miller, however, has shown he knows how to wrestle. "I expect he will push someone for a spot," Strejc explains.

Junior Tom Oesch, whose father was Lowell's last state champion wrestler, will wrestle at 140 pounds. "Physically, Tom is strong. He needs to develop technique. If Tom can focus and harness his energy, he's going to be successful," Strejc said.

Sophomores Pete VanLaan and Alan Stiver will battle at 145 pounds.

TJ Forward and Doug Ford will battle for honors at 152 pounds.

At 160 pounds, senior Keith Krebill and sophomores Mike Junewick and Tom Dawson will challenge one another.

Senior tri-captain Steve VanLaan will return at 171 pounds. "Steve's been coming to early morning practices. He's a man on a mission."

Caleb Grummet is expected to be a factor at 189 pounds. Strejc says Grummet has real potential but needs to concentrate on his discipline and attitude.

Senior tri-captain Denny Snuffer and Aaron Plattner will battle for top honors at 119 pounds.

John Mendez and Anthony Saganek will battle at 112 while sophomore John McKay will wrestle at 103 pounds.

"We've got a good core of wrestlers from top to bottom. We'll have to wait and see how they gel," Strejc explains.

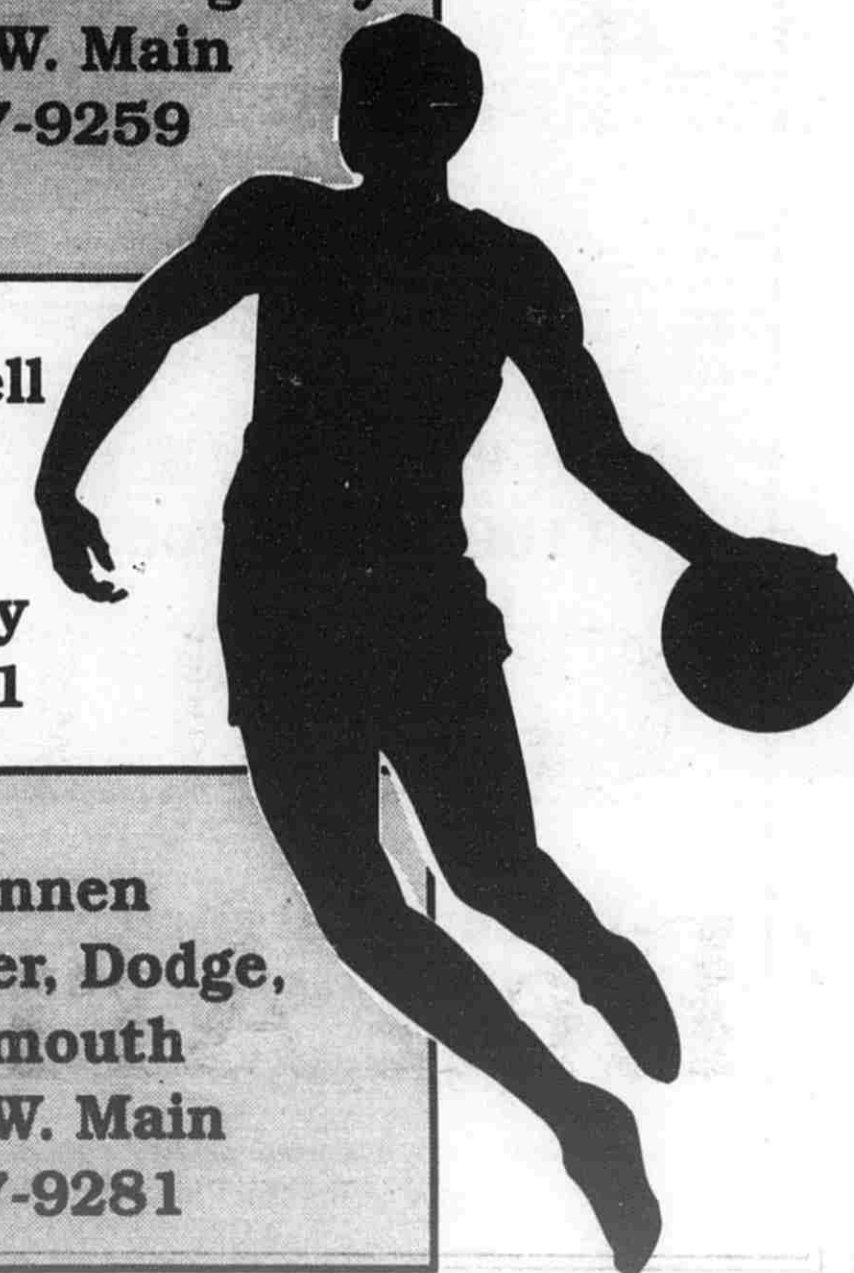
The Lowell coach expects to get a first reading at the emotional home opener against Hastings on Thursday, Dec. 17.



Lowell Varsity Wrestling

Members of the varsity wrestling team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: John McKay, John Mendez, Dan Rottier and Denny Snuffer; middle row, left to right: Brent Lyons, TJ Forward, Keith Krebill, Tom Dawson, Tom Oesch and Caleb O'Boyle; back row, left to right: Manager Joe Rottier, Steve VanLaan, Mike Arnswald, Caleb Grummet, Bill Stouffer, Coach Dave Strejc and Assistant Coach Steve Spicer.

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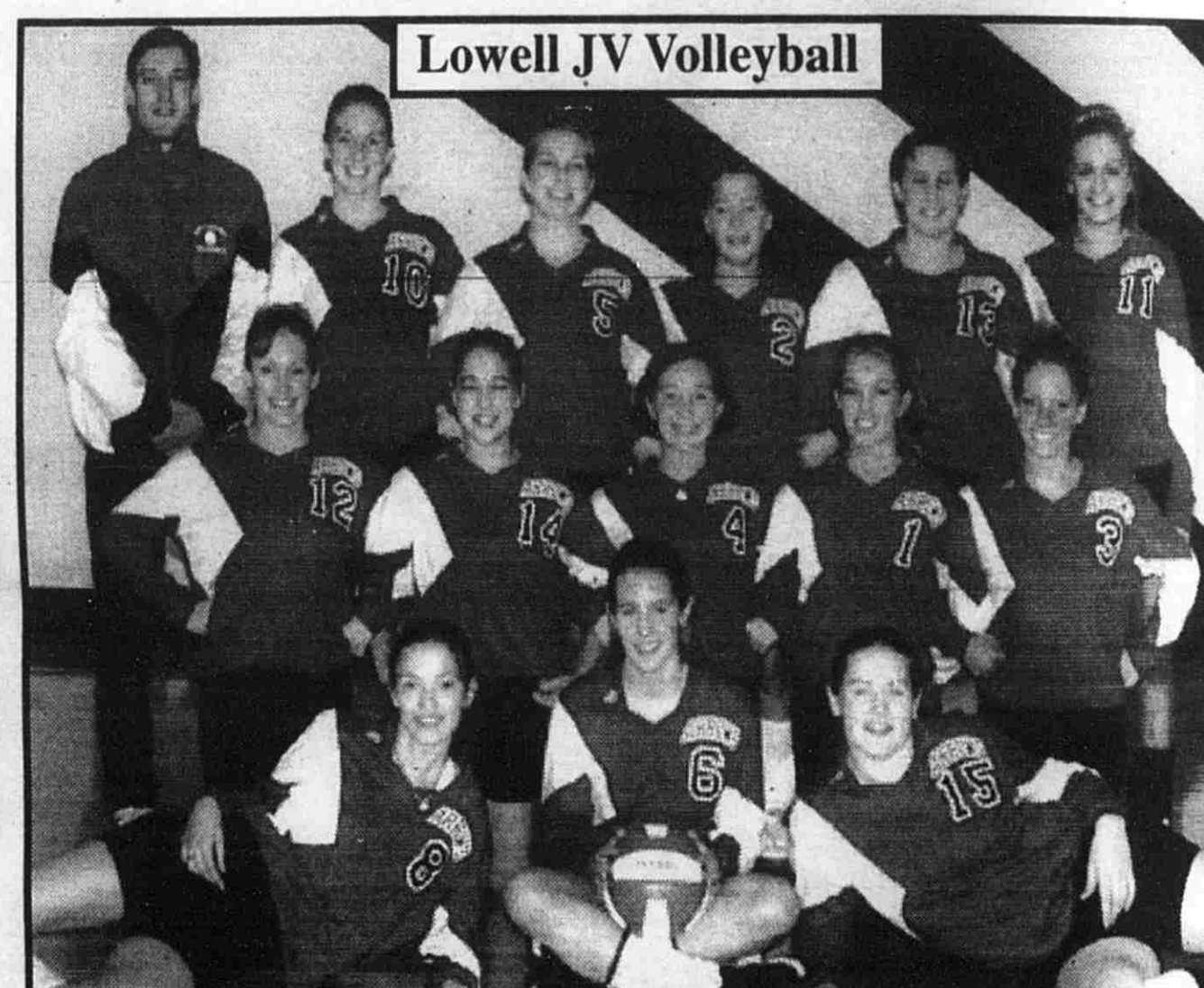
Lowell JV Wrestling

Members of the junior varsity wrestling team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Mark Kimberlin, Jim Kelly, Brad Johnson, Bryan Gannon and Alan Stiver; second row, left to right: Aaron Plattner, Pat Miller, Mike Forward, Roger VanderMeer, Josh Hull and Phillip Moerdyke; third row, left to right: John Hauschild, Dustin Harmon, Pete VanLaan, Mike Scott, Greg VanderWal, Doug Ford, Erik Hays and Ben Fleet; fourth row, left to right: Kevin Rasch, Jason Murray, Ben Vaught, Ken Palkowski, Tim Hill, Bryan Rasch, Mike Junewick, Alex Schloop, Coach Dave Strejc, assistant coach Steve Spicer and manager Shawn Gannon.



Lowell Freshman Volleyball

Members of the freshman volleyball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Sara Meaney, Casey Weber, Amanda Eickhoff and Jenny Wagner; middle row, left to right: Manager Amanda Willits, Amanda VanSpronsen, Laura Horsley, Kelly Fitzpatrick, Kellie Baker and Molly Clark; back row, left to right: Coach Laurie Kuna, Melissa Schloop, Holly Grummet, Theresa Happie, Brittany Huisman and manager Lacey Capen. Missing from photo is Colleen Myers.



Lowell JV Volleyball

Members of the junior varsity volleyball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Charlene DeShane, Nicole Briggs and Jenny Williams; middle row, left to right: Sunny Moyer, Keeley Sadlack, Lisa LaHaye, Abbey Goff and Amanda Brown; back row, left to right: Coach Rick VanderVeer, Mari Rich, Jackie Thuston, Lindsey Thayer, Elizabeth Brander and Kara McMahon.

Freshmen give gymnastics program quite a bounce

Numbers indicate the Lowell summer gymnastics program is working.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's taken four years, but Lowell gymnastics coach Michele DeHaan is finally

reaping the benefits from her YMCA gymnastics program. The benefits are measured not only in numbers, but by the level of skill. There are 13 gymnasts on this year's club (a five-year

high), nine of which are freshmen. Nearly all of the first-year gymnasts have been taught in DeHaan's summer gymnastics program.

fore. For a coach that is rewarding."

The freshmen also have four returning gymnasts from last year's team to learn from.

They are senior Amber O'Boyle; juniors Laura Douglass and Renee Brower; and sophomore Suzanne Swift.

O'Boyle has improved

a natural grace on the beam that is hard to teach," DeHaan said.

Brower enters her third year of high school gymnastics as the picture of steady improvement. "Renee has worked hard at gymnastics," DeHaan said. The junior all-around gymnast comes into the season with an off season

Lowell's coach expects that freshmen Rachel Swift and Katie Blough will have an immediate impact.

Both freshmen have backgrounds filled with gymnastics experience.

Swift strengths are on the vault and bars.

Blough will be an all-around performer.

Bryant, Lindsey Cone Sarah Smith and Amanda Stiver have limited experience but are showing potential.

"I can see in one-two years all these girls being where Renee Brower and Laura Douglass are," DeHaan said.

April Telman has experience from a few years ago, and is expected to compete on the uneven bars, balance beam and vault.

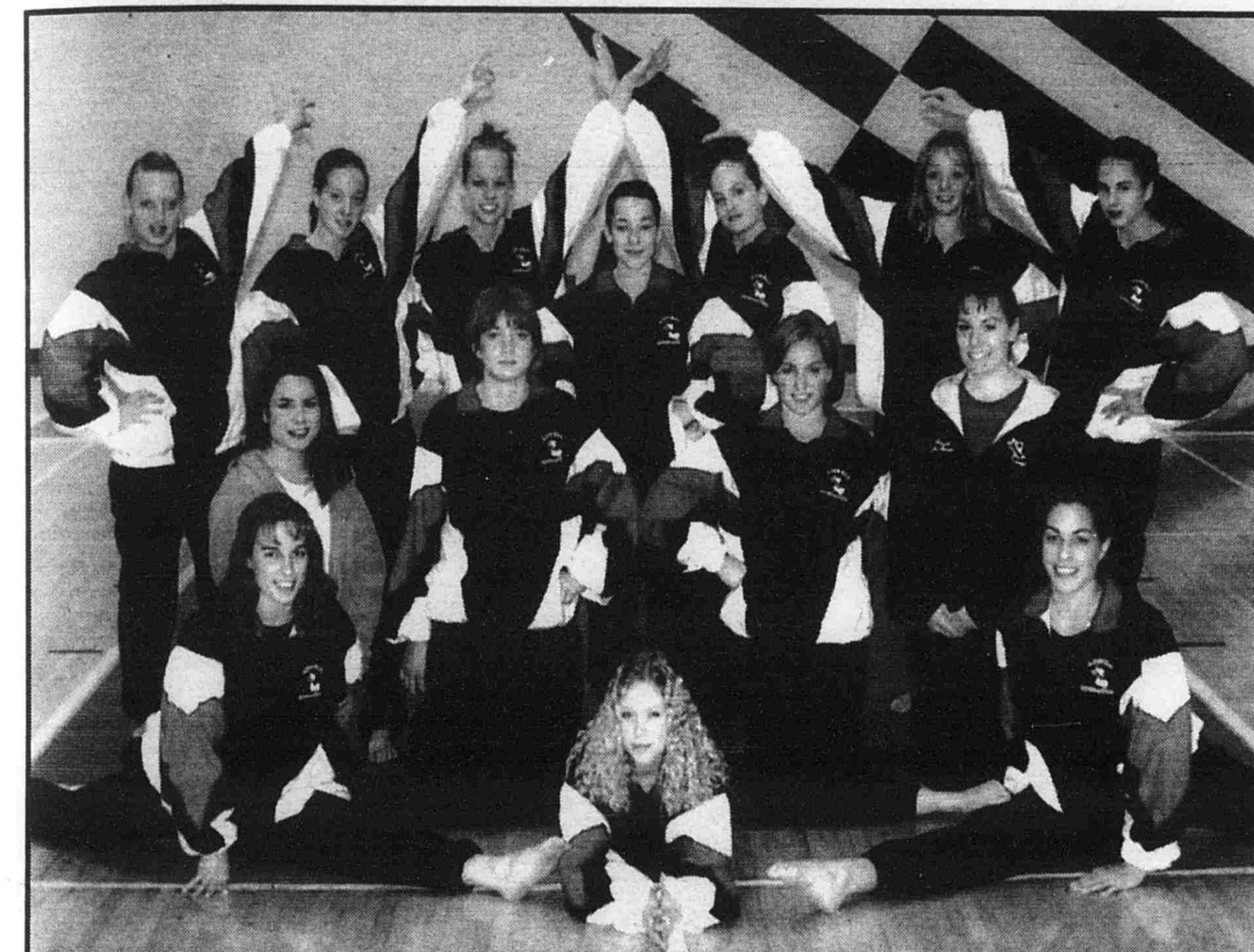
Molly Fitzpatrick does not have a lot of experience but works hard, according to her coach.

"This team gets along with one another and is very supportive and goal oriented," DeHaan says.

Lowell's first meet of the year is Jan. 6 at home against the defending OK Rainbow conference champion, Holland.

The conditioning and hard work these girls have put in are paying off. These kids have amazed me. Every day someone is learning something new that she couldn't do before. For a coach that is rewarding.

Michele DeHaan
Lowell Gymnastics Coach



Red Arrow Gymnastics

Members of the Varsity gymnastics team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Amber O'Boyle, Suzanne Swift, Laura Douglass; second row, left to right: assistant coach Brenda Lacey, Keri Jastifer, Katie Blough and coach Michele DeHaan; back row, left to right: Amanda Stiver, Rachel Swift, April Telman, Tennille Bryant, Molly Fitzpatrick, Lindsey Cone and Sarah Smith. Missing from the picture is Renee Brower.

reaping the benefits from her YMCA gymnastics program.

The benefits are measured not only in numbers, but by the level of skill.

There are 13 gymnasts on this year's club (a five-year

"The conditioning and hard work these girls have put in are paying off," DeHaan explains. "These kids have amazed me. Every day someone is learning something new that she couldn't do be-

her tumbling and is a stronger all-around gymnast than a year ago, according to her coach.

Douglass is at her best on the balance beam. "Laura has

of gymnastics' lessons behind her.

Swift, who also enrolled in lessons over the summer, comes into the 1998-99 season a stronger, more mature gymnast.

"Katie benefits from having so much strength in her upper body and legs. It enables her to do things other freshmen cannot," DeHaan explains.

Keri Jastifer, Tennille

Individual gains could bring better standing in conference

Lowell's Mike Gustafson will lead a growing pack of Forest Hills/Lowell swimmers.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Individual gains could help improve the standing of the Forest Hills/Lowell swim team in 1998-99.

"We're getting more bodies out and that's good," said Forest Hills swim coach Tim Jasperse. "Our goal is to be more competitive and to improve our standing in the conference."

There are 15 boys out for swimming and 11 of them return from a year ago.

This year's captains are Luke Rosenberger and Mike Gustafson from Lowell and Shawn Tornaga and Peter Gillen from Forest Hills Central.

Gustafson, the team's top swimmer, is the club's most versatile swimmer. "Mike is able to do all the strokes and he does all of them well. His strongest event is the 200 individual medley," Jasperse said.

Rosenberger, one of the club's top breaststrokers, will also develop into the individual medley and looks strong in the freestyle.

Tornaga is Forest Hills' top sprint freestylist. Gillen will see action in the sprint freestyle, breast stroke and 50-meter butterfly.

Lowell's Jacob Billingsley returns and has been penciled in for the 50- and 100-meter breast stroke. Jasperse says John Rosenberger will help out in the 50- and 100-meter freestyle and the butterfly.

Lowell's Dan Vosovic and Mike Suman are expected to have an impact in diving.

"Dan has extensive background in gymnastics. I think that will help him a lot in diving," Jasperse explained.

Freshman Tyler Duckett, James Bennett, Mark Kwast and sophomore John Webb are newcomers and will look to develop.

"We're a more versatile club than we've been in a while," Jasperse said. "I think our areas of strength will be in the backstroke and breast stroke."

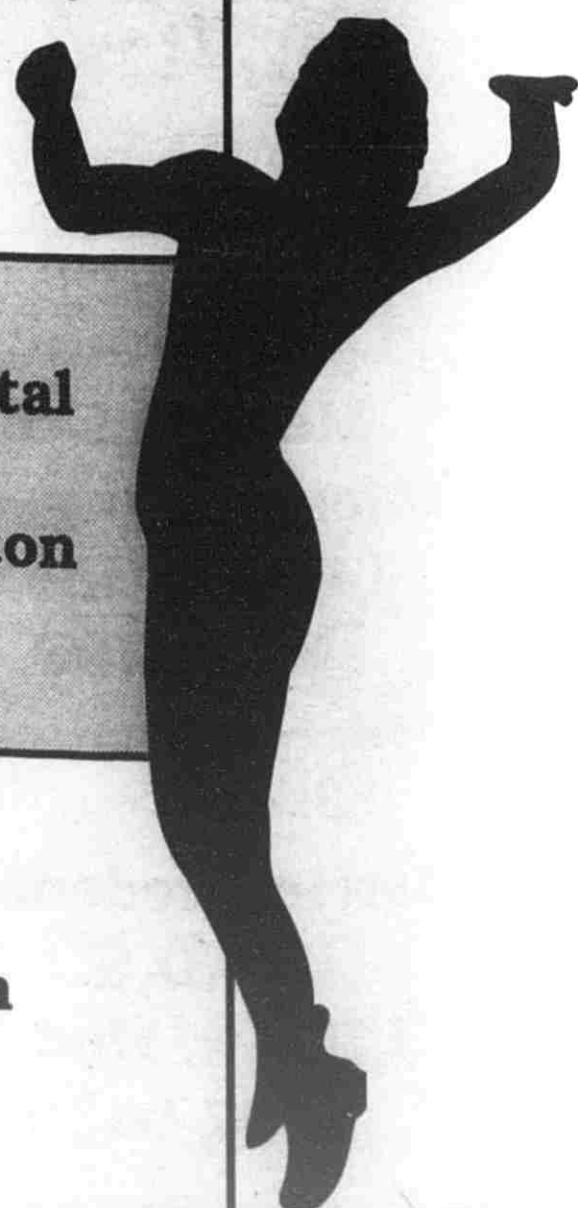
Other swimmers expected to contribute are sophomores Andrew Klipa and Brett Goldberg, and junior Phillip Wegert.

Forest Hills/Lowell swims against Forest Hills Northern on Thursday, Jan 7.

Members of the Forest Hills/Lowell varsity swimming team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Mark Kwast, Jon Webb, Jacob Billingsley, Jim Bennett; middle row, left to right: Derek Harmon, Brett Goldberg, Andrew Klipa, Jon Rosenberger, Mike Gustafson, Tyler Duckett; back row, left to right: Dan Vosovic, Mike Suman, Peter Gillen, Sean Tornaga, Luke Rosenberger and Phillip Wegert.



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Any success in Red Arrow 1998-99 volleyball campaign will begin with defense

•••• First-year volleyball coach Kristen Ference will lead a young Red Arrow club.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell first-year volleyball coach Kristen Ference has an interesting concept.

"I want Lowell volleyball to be viewed as a winter sport and not as an activity to keep athletes in shape between seasons," Ference explains.

She will be coaching a young team that loves the sport and wants to improve its skills.

"I need to establish a year-round program and strongly suggest to the girls, opportunities available to them to improve their skills," Ference said. "To be a successful, high-caliber volleyball program, more time must be put into it."

The first-year coach was pleased that a number of girls on this year's roster focused on conditioning in the off-season.

This year's club is made up of four seniors, nine juniors and one sophomore.

Seniors returning from a year ago are Shelby Williams, Amy Snell and Laura LaHaye.

Williams will assume the role of setter. "She will be our quarterback. Shelby plays smart at the net and has improved her hitting," Ference said.

Snell, possibly Lowell's best front row player, has "great springs" according to her coach. "Amy jumps, hits, and serves well," Ference said. "Her volleyball skills are very good."

LaHaye brings to the table an all-around game. Ference describes her as a "game player."

Andrea Rickert is the



Lowell Varsity Volleyball

Members of the varsity volleyball team for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Jenny McCaul, Sarah Happie, Jody Seif and Laura LaHaye; second row, left to right: Kelly Kemen, Courtney Hedlund, Amy Snell, Becky Brander and Andrea Rickert; back row, left to right: Coach Kristen Ference, Angie Schmidt, Maggie Wisner, Amanda Stoutjesdyk, Katie McPherson and Shelby Williams.

fourth senior although the Red Arrow did not play volleyball last year. Rickert is described as an athlete who wants to learn the game.

Angie Schmidt, who sat out last year with a broken ankle, has shown tremendous potential and should help out in the front row, as will Becky Brander and Maggie Wisner.

Both girls are expected to be a strong presence in the front row.

The lone sophomore on this year's club is Amanda Stoutjesdyk. "Amanda played at the freshman level last year. She just needs playing experience at the higher level. Her height will be an asset," Ference explains.

The back row will be led by the defensive minded Kelly Kemen and Jody Seif. Setting from the back row will be Sarah Happie and Jenny McCaul.

"I think we will be strong defensively. The players are quick and none of them are afraid to hit the floor," Ference said.

How effective a Red Arrow club that lacks height is at blocking and attacking will go a long way in determining its success this season.

"Win or lose, I believe this club will keep a team concept. The makeup of this

group of girls is pretty good," Ference said.

As for Ference, she is organized and has a plan of action for the Lowell volleyball program.

It begins at the lower lev-

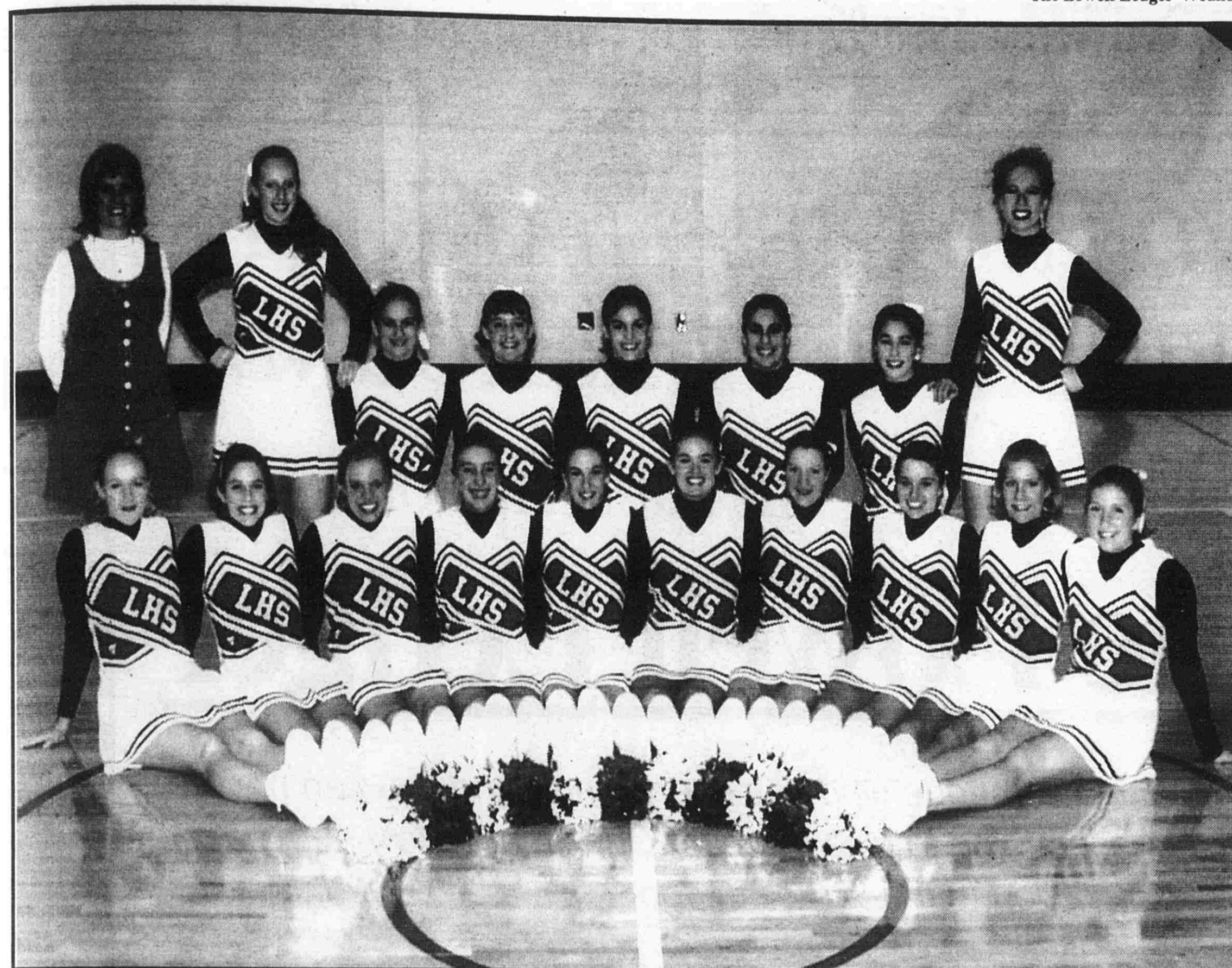
els with 4th- and 6th-grade mini camps and provides year round volleyball opportunities at the high school level.

"I'm here to take the program a step further," Ference concluded.

Good Luck Red Arrows!

Lowell Varsity Winter Cheerleaders

Members of the varsity cheerleading squad for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Stephanie Schulte, Tracy Hugmeyer, Sarah Gruber, Brooke Bennett, Beth Wierenga, Erin Umlauf, Kelly O'Dell, Jamie Wilder, Sarah Debiak and Liz Lonick; back row, left to right: Coach Cari Slot, Ainsley Smit, Kristy Hughes, Jackie Cress, Kristi Ford, Felicia Eshragh, Tina Delamar and Nola Dzwonek.



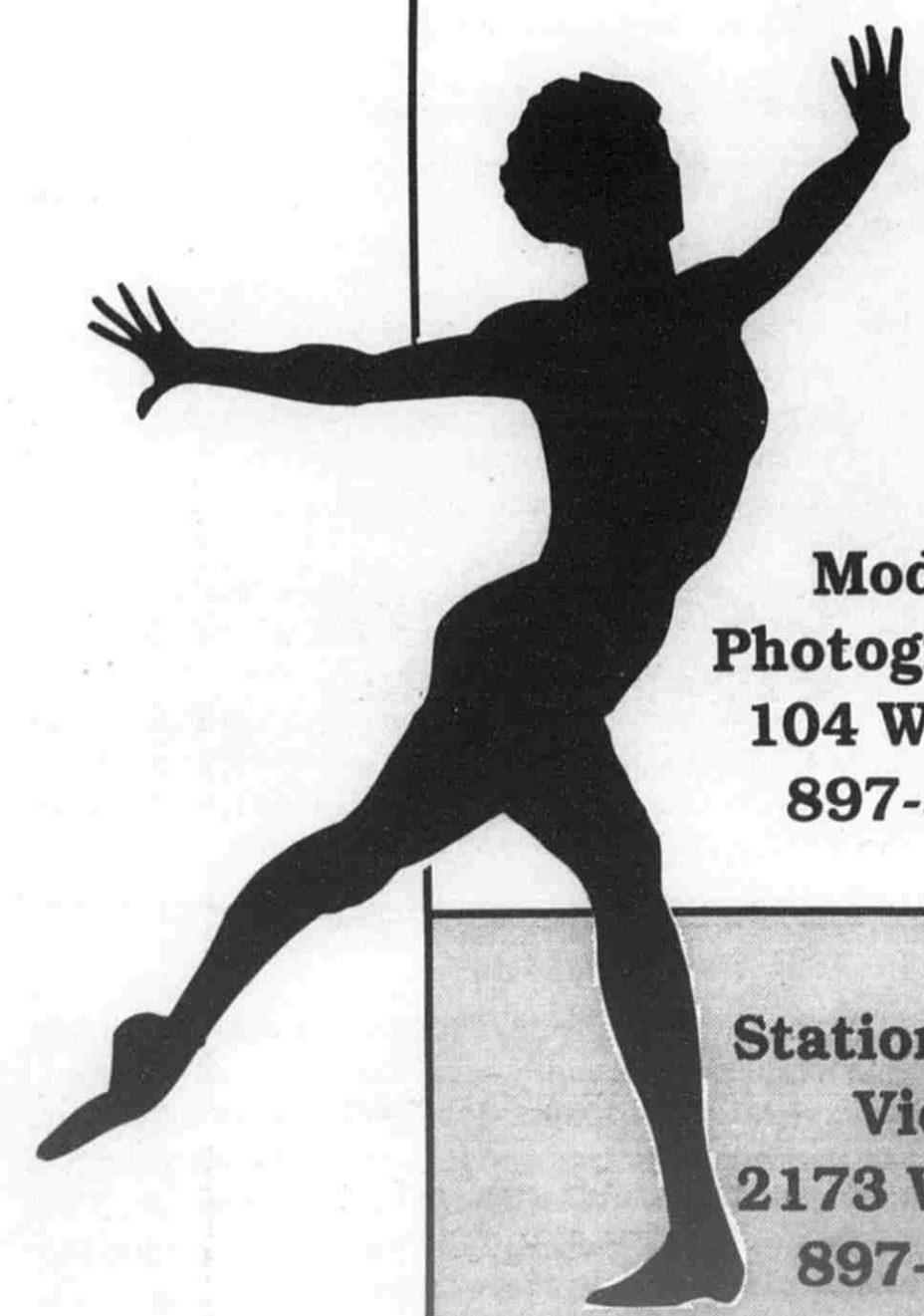
Lowell Junior Varsity Cheerleaders

Members of the junior varsity cheerleading squad for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured, left to right: Jamie Roth, Danielle Corteville, Niki Heacock, Toni Addington, Lori Bessey, Ashley Rickert, Alyssa Gillikin, Jolynn Stalsonburg, Rachelle Becker, Lyndsey Plescher, Becky Trierweiler, Molly Debiak, Treasure McElveen and Melissa Precious.



Lowell Freshman Cheerleaders

Members of the freshman cheerleading squad for the 1998-99 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Janyka Truszkowski, Jaimee Sadlak, Nikki Elliott, Amanda Dykhuis, Shanda Yonker, Stacey Onan and Kristi Anderson; standing, left to right: Sara Noom, Erin Weber and Teresa Leasure.



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MONDAY EVENING DECEMBER 21, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT DECEMBER 21, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations listing late night programs such as Late Show, Nightline, and various comedy and talk shows.

TUESDAY EVENING DECEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT DECEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations listing late night programs such as Late Show, Nightline, and various comedy and talk shows.

WEDNESDAY EVENING DECEMBER 23, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT DECEMBER 23, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations listing late night programs such as Late Show, Nightline, and various comedy and talk shows.

THURSDAY EVENING DECEMBER 24, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, WXXI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, American Red Cross Celebrates Miracles, etc.

THURSDAY LATE NIGHT DECEMBER 24, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, WXXI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing programs like Lessons and Carols, Politically Incorrect, Charlie Rose, etc.

Lowell FFA students attend record-setting national convention

By Thaddeus J. Kraus, Lowell Ledger Editor

The highest honor which can be bestowed on an FFA member went out to Lowell's Kerry Nugent and Shari (Grieser) Ladd at the 71st annual Future Farmers of America Convention in Kansas City.

Nugent and Ladd were the 17th and 18th Lowell FFA members to receive the American FFA degree.

The degree reflects a culmination of leadership and development during four years of high school and two post high school years of supervised agricultural experience.

"It is a difficult degree to get. It recognizes overall accomplishments," said Lowell High School FFA advisor, Pete Siler.

Siler and 15 students attended the record-setting convention which drew 47,000 registrants. It is the largest national youth convention in the U.S.

Lowell's FFA chapter traveled with members from Lake-wood, Ionia, Grant and Dansville.

During their stay (Nov. 9-16) in Kansas City, members participated in a national one-day Project Pals program and attended national leadership seminars.

They also visited the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, the Museum of National History, Shedd Aquarium and the St. Louis Science Center.

Lowell's Katie Balaam and Shannon Finnegan were selected to perform in the National FFA Choir.

Other Lowell students making the trip were Ben Kaeb, Andrea Baker, Aaron Plattner, Tricia Fick, Beth Larabee, Aaron Kaeb, Bill Zook, Brad Jackson, Matt Oesch, Ronnie Oesch, James Bosserd, Courtney Baker and Terra Thurlow.

Administrative guests on the trip were Jim Bosserd and Kurt Kaeb.

This was the last year the convention will be held in Kansas City. The convention is being moved to Louisville, Kentucky, next year.



Lowell Future Farmers of America members attending the 1998 National FFA convention were, front row, left to right: Ben Kaeb, Shannon Finnegan, Andrea Baker, Aaron Plattner, Tricia Fick, Beth Larabee, Aaron Kaeb; back row: Bill Zook, Brad Jackson, Matt Oesch, Ronnie Oesch, James Bosserd, Courtney Baker, Terra Thurlow and Pete Siler.

Mosher landscaping site plans approved

By Amy Briggs, Contributing Writer

ning Commission on Dec. 14.

The plans, which were submitted Dec. 9, contract for a performance bond at the business site of M-21 and Bowes Rd. Improvements to

Site plans for Dan Mosher Landscaping were approved at the regular meeting of Lowell Charter Township Plan-

the property are state mandated for completion by June 30, 1999.

The planning commission approved the plans as submitted stipulating that the company take responsibility for mud and stones transported onto the highway.

"The entrance is gravel, and if someone gets a broken windshield and expects the township to pay, we need to cover ourselves," explained

commission chair Richard Bryan.

Discussion arose about how to control the transport of foreign particles, but the commission declined to advise.

"We are not an enforcing agency," Bryan said. "That responsibility is up to the State Highway Patrol and the Kent County Sheriff's Department."

Root raises 40th St. extension proposal

By Amy Briggs, Contributing Writer

Developer Kevin Root met with Lowell Charter Township officials this week to discuss prospects of extending Timpson Avenue north of 40th Street.

Root, who owns approximately 40 acres of land north of Timpson where it curves into 40th, expressed preliminary interest in developing a nine-site condo project on his property. He noted a desire to pave a private road coming into his property including a cul-de-sac and a road.

Township planning commission chair Richard Bryan met with Root to discuss his intentions at the commission's regular meeting Dec. 14.

Bryan commented that Root, who was not present at the meeting, is not the first person to express desire in developing the land at Timpson and 40th. "The county gets involved with things like this and it can sometimes get sticky," Bryan said.

Since details of the proposed project were vague, discussion was temporarily halted till Root is present at the commission's next regular meeting Jan. 11.

Creative Keepsakes. 485 Pettis, Ada (Just east of Amway) 676-0808. RETAILING SCRAPBOOK SUPPLIES. Scrapbooks, Photo Albums, Punches, Acid Free Stickers, Corner Rounders, Stencils, Acid Free Die-cuts, Acid Free Paper, Other Misc. Items, Scissors, Acid Free Pens, Gift Certificates.

IN THE SERVICE

Air Force Airman 1st Class Meagon I. DeZwaan has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.



In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force. DeZwaan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. DeZwaan of Lowell and is a 1997 graduate of Lowell High School.

While most Americans are celebrating the holiday season at home or with family, Marine Cpl. John B. Sterzick, son of John Sterzick of Lowell, is scheduled to spend the holidays deployed to Iwakuni, Japan, with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121.

Sterzick is one of more than 65,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who are serving our country separated from their families and loved ones this holiday period. Sterzick is working abroad to preserve peace as part of our nation's forward defense forces.

Sterzick is deployed to Iwakuni under the Unit Deployment Program. Under the program, units based in the United States come to Iwakuni for six months to train. From Iwakuni they can deploy to other countries in the Pacific.

Sterzick's squadron flies the F/A-18C Hornet, a twin-engine supersonic strike fighter which features an all-weather intercept, identify, destroy and ground attack capability.

Sterzick is a 1995 graduate of Saranac High School.

FIRESTORM. Premiers on cinemAUX 8PM Friday, December 18. Lowell Cable Television. Call Today To Subscribe 897-8405.

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing prior to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vergennes Township Board on Monday, December 21, 1998, at 6:30 p.m. at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to receive comment on a request for a Liquor License for Beer and Wine from Tom Widerski, owner/operator of Shady Acres, 10336 Bailey Drive, Lowell.

Further information on the request may be obtained at the Vergennes Township offices, located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mari C. Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

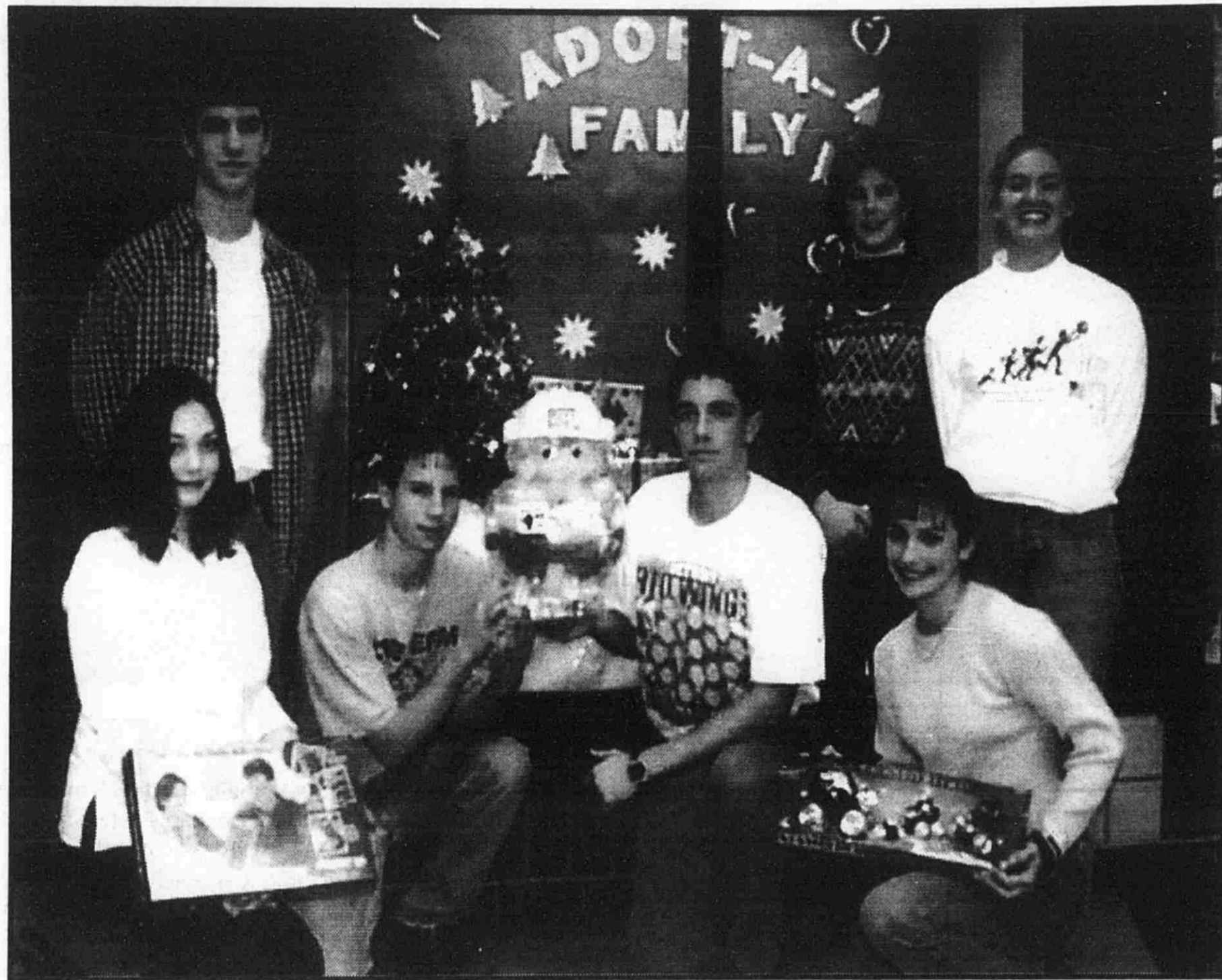
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Mari C. Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk



Lowell High School's Project Pals committee members are, left to right, kneeling: Katie Fleet (International Club), Brent Lyons (LHS football), Keith Valentine (S.A.D.D.) and Beth Larabee (FFA and Project Pal coordinator). Back row, standing, left to right, are: Bob Shindorf (Art and Drama Club), Kim Nyson (staff Adopt a Family representative) and Erin Umlauf (Student Council and National Honor Society).

Lowell High School students and staff "pal up" with area needy families

What do the Future Farmers of America, National Honor Society, International Club, Lowell Student Council, SADD and the Lowell High School varsity football team have in common?

They are all Pals with needy families in West Michigan. In the fifth year of the FFA's Project Pals program, 10 less fortunate families will have their holiday spirits raised through the care and giving of these school organizations.

"It's a lot of work and fun. It's also a good feeling knowing that you're helping families," said Lowell senior and Project Pals coordinator, Beth Larabee.

The organizations purchase clothing, food, household items and toys for their selected families.

The families are identified by Threshold's organization in Grand Rapids. Information sheets on each family are then faxed to the Project Pals organization. The gifts are picked up and distributed by Threshold.

Kent District Library to host New Year's Eve parties

The New Year, 1999, will soon be here. To celebrate this grand occasion, the Kent District Library will be hosting a series of New Year's parties from December 28 to January 2 at various Kent District Library branch locations. These parties are designed for ages 5 and up. Those attending may dress up in evening clothes and enjoy a New Year's party filled with stories, poems, songs, crafts and other activities to start the year off right.

Party hats and noisemakers will be provided as well as a calendar to make and take home. Other activities may include making a noisemaker, playing musical chairs with carpet squares, and sharing favorite books of the past year. Of course, no New Year's party would be complete without a countdown to the New Year.

The Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield, Alto, will be hosting the New Year's party on Tuesday, December 29 at 2 p.m.

The Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, will be hosting the party on Thursday, December 31 at 10:30 a.m.

For more information call the Alto Library at 868-6038, the Englehardt Library at 897-9596 or the Kent District Library at 336-3250.



Red Arrow Cross Country Honors

Recognized with post-season Lowell High School cross country awards, left to right, are: Aaron Plattner, scholar athlete; Brandon Linton, most improved; Amber O'Boyle, scholar athlete, Justin Malone, sportsmanship award; Stacy Anderson, captain; Dan Rottier, captain and all-conference; and Frank Kirsch, Lowell Lions Club most valuable athlete, all-conference and all-regional. Not pictured are Molly Kirsch, Lowell Lions Club most valuable athlete and all conference; Brittany Plescher, most improved; Andrea Baker, sportsmanship award and captain.



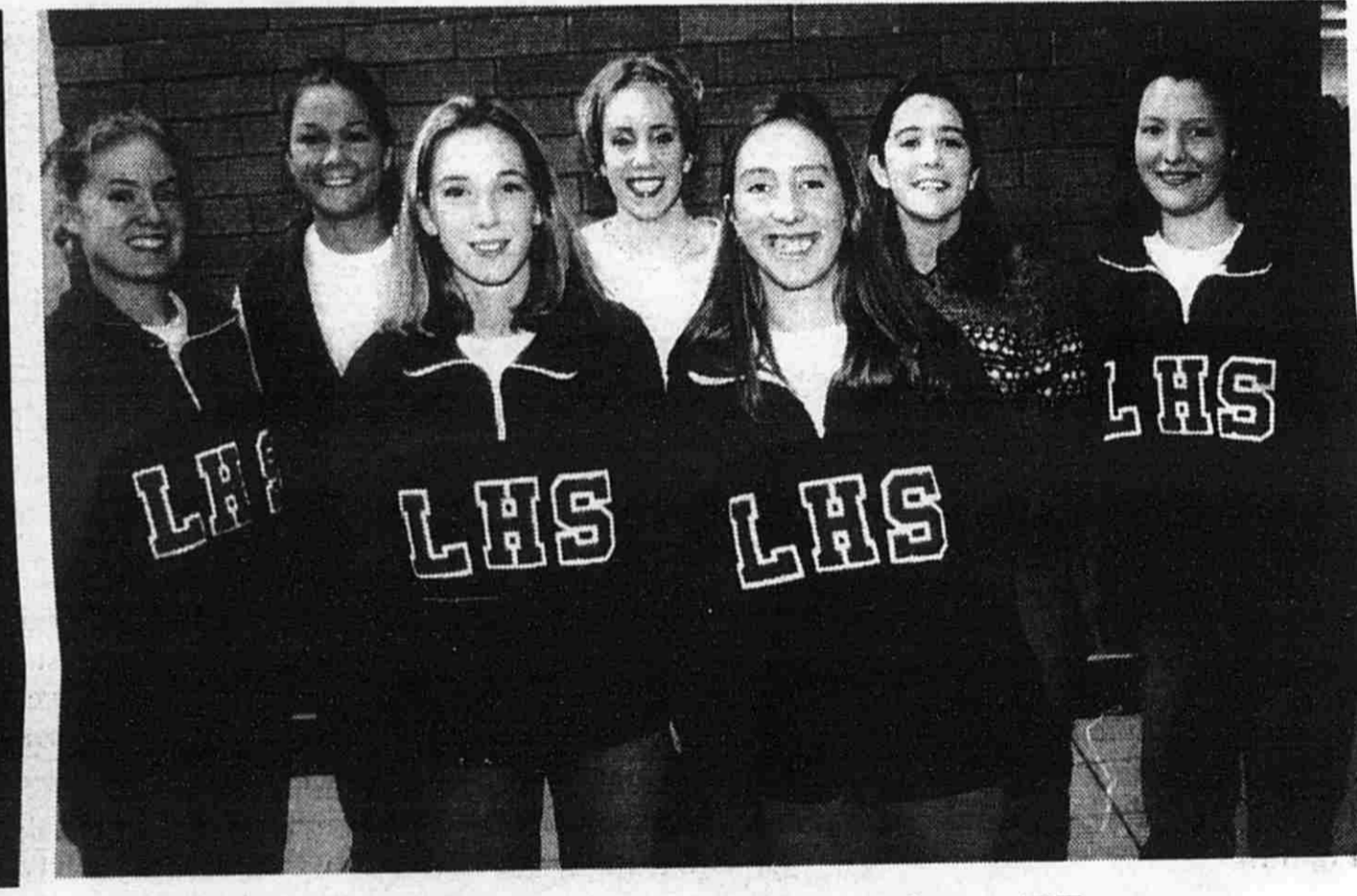
Lowell Girls Basketball Honors

Recognized with post-season Lowell High School girls basketball awards, left to right, are: Rachael Fredline, Lowell Lions Club most valuable Player, scholar athlete, captain, best defensive player and all-conference honorable mention; Kaily Wittenbach, sportsmanship; Katie Akers, scholar athlete, coach's award, captain; Amanda Stoutjesdyk, most improved defensive player and leading rebounder; Beth Fredline, best offensive player; Shelby Williams, most improved; and Laura LaHaye, Davis Award, and most improved offensive player.



Red Arrow Football Honors

Recognized with post-season Lowell High School football awards, left to right, are: Jason Willard, Coach Burch defensive award; Dustin Gless, sportsmanship award, captain, and all-conference defensive back; Bill Stouffer, trench award and all-conference center; Joe Boruta, Coach Burch offensive award; Brady Foster, honorable mention all-league kicker; and Jason Alber, scholar athlete, Lowell Lions Club most valuable defensive player, captain, Coach Christensen Award, and all conference honorable mention tackle. Not pictured are: T. J. Thayer, Lowell Lions Club most valuable player, captain, and all conference quarterback; Andy Graham, captain, all conference receiver; Steve VanLaan, captain, all conference honorable mention runningback; Bob Jones, Coach's award; and Josh Maxim, Coach's award.



Lowell Fall Cheerleading Honors

Recognized with post-season Lowell High School cheerleading awards, left to right, are: Erin Umlauf, scholar athlete and most spirited; Jessica Koopman, most improved; Beth Wierenga, captain; Sarah Bommarito, coach's award; Brooke Bennett, Coach's award and captain; Amy Inman, sportsmanship award; and Kelly O'Dell, captain and Lowell Lions Club most valuable athlete.

Lowell powerlifting club basking in three-year popularity surge

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It is the fastest growing high school club sport in the state of Michigan.

To find evidence of the powerlifting surge, one need not look any further than Lowell High School. In its third year, there are a record number of participants in the program.

There will be 87 non-winter athletes participating in the program which was borne through the coordinating efforts of Noel Dean.

"With the addition of swimming, there are only three winter sports for boys to choose from," Dean explains. "Powerlifting is strictly an athletic program for all students."

The Lowell football coach believes improved strength will make all Lowell High School athletic departments more competitive. "Not to mention what it does for students' self-esteem and health."

In just its second year, the Lowell powerlifting program finished third in the state last year. Lowell also hosted the largest powerlifting state meet. "It is great recognition for the school as is hosting the state cross country and soccer tournaments," Dean explains.

Dean says that is a reflection of the great participation and amount of time students and coaches have put into the program.

"I think the program brings attention to strength training for all athletes," Dean explains. "There are residual benefits

for all (wrestling, track, soccer, baseball and football) from increased strength."

LHS' powerlifting club will be led by returning state champion Andy Graham (145 pound weight class), Jason Alber, Josh Maxim and Damian Omness.

This year there will be eight girls participating in the program. "There are some stereotypes that still need to be broken about girls and weight-lifting. Once people watch the

girls compete, that will help."

Lowell's first powerlifting meet is Dec. 19 at Goodrich High School. The other meets are Jan. 16 at Montrose; Feb. 6 at Lowell (West Michigan Championship); and Feb. 27 at Burton-Bendle. The state meet is in Jenison on March 20.

For the first time, the Lowell program will compete in the national tourney in Killeen, Texas.

Red Arrow hockey club edged by FHN Huskies, 2-1

They won most of the battles but still lost the war is the only way to describe the Lowell junior varsity hockey team's game last Saturday night against the Huskies of Forest Hills Northern. Despite a great effort by the Red Arrows, they were not able to overcome an early 2-goal deficit. It was, however, the closest and most exciting game of the season for Red Arrow hockey fans.

The excitement of the spectators at Saturday's game was infectious and the locker room comments following the game showed that the players truly appreciated the support they got from the Lowell fans.

Forest Hills took a 2-goal lead in the first period but that would be the only goals of the game for the Huskies. From that point on, Lowell's defense played flawlessly and held the Huskies scoreless setting the stage for a possible Red Arrow comeback. Lowell's bid to come from behind was kicked off

with a 2nd period goal by Rhett Kirgis with assists from Chad Rau and Bobby Oliver. Although the third period presented the Red Arrows with numerous scoring opportunities, they were not able to capitalize and when the final horn sounded, the Huskies were the victors by a 2-1 margin.

The Red Arrows will have the opportunity to avenge their loss in their next game on Sunday, Dec. 20, 7:30 a.m. when they will again face Forest Hills Northern at Michigan National Ice Center. They will also be in action at Southside arena on Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 6:30 p.m. against Wayland.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
COUNTY OF KENT

ORDER TO ANSWER
PUBLICATION
CASE NO. 98-09285-CZ

John Brocker
Plaintiff

vs.

Scott Fortier,
Donald W. Swanson II,
and Debra Swanson,
Defendants

At a session of said Court held in the Hall of Justice, in the city of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan, on this 7th day of December, 1998.

Present: The Honorable DAVID SOET, Circuit Court Judge.

On the 3rd day of September, 1998, an action was filed by John Brocker, Plaintiff, against Scott Fortier, Donald W. Swanson II, and Debra Swanson, defendants, in this court to quiet title to real property located in Kent County, Michigan.

Upon hearing and consideration of the verified Motion of Plaintiff, attesting to the fact that the whereabouts of Defendants Donald W. Swanson II and Debra Swanson are unknown, that therefore service upon defendants of the Summons and a copy of the Complaint in this action cannot be otherwise effectuated, and it appearing to the court that the defendants can best be apprised of the pendency of this action by the publication of this Order in a newspaper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendants, Donald W. Swanson II and Debra Swanson, shall serve their answer on John D. Mitus, attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 410 Bridge Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504, answer to take such other action as may be permitted by law on or before the 9th day of February, 1999. Failure to comply with this Order may result in a judgment by default against this defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be published once each week with three consecutive weeks in Kent County.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the first publication of this Order be made within 14 days from the date of entry of this Order and that prior to the date of the last publication of a copy of this Order, a copy of this Order be enclosed in a properly sealed envelope, with postage fully prepaid, bearing the return address of Plaintiff's attorney, and same be deposited in the United States Mail addressed to the Defendant at 1207 15th Street, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310.

DENNIS C. KOLEND A
Circuit Court Judge

Attest a True Copy

JOHN D. MITUS
(P-31244)
Attorney for Plaintiff
410 Bridge Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 774-4001

Karp may break ground in March on new development

By Amy Briggs
Contributing Writer

Victorian Oaks is getting closer and closer to perfect. The proposed site condo project may be ready for developer Tom Karp's anticipated groundbreaking in March...if a few details get ironed out first.

Karp approached the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission with an amended site plan at the commission's regular meeting Dec. 14. After examining the plans for the 70-acre, 60-home development, the commission informed Karp that changes were needed before approval could be granted.

The project, which is in the area of Alden Nash, Foreman, and Cumberland in Lowell Township, will be on hold till Karp submits documentation of details on the engineer's sealed plans. The commission asked for sketches of the private drive entrance into Foreman, driveway maintenance agreements, and septic permits among other items. In addition, roads must be wide enough to accommodate two emergency vehicles side by side.

"We all want to give you a chance to get this project going," commission chair Richard Bryan said to Karp, "but we have to do what it takes to get it done right."

Karp commented that he would make the necessary corrections with his engineer and meet with the commission at their next regular meeting Jan. 11.

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LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

Winter Holiday

Begins at end of school day -
Friday, December 18
Classes resume -
Monday, January 4

PARENTS OF SENIORS

Pictures are needed of your high school seniors for their school video to be available at the Senior All-Night Party.

Baby pictures to Jr. High to present day, funny or serious, individual or group shots may be dropped off at the high school office or media center.
Deadline is Jan. 15, 1999.



The CLASSIFIEDS

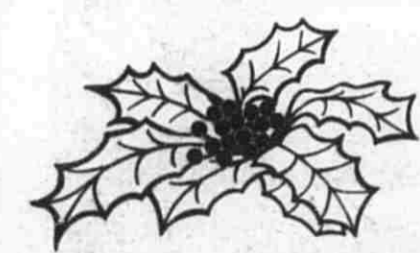
Call The Ledger - 897-9261

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
HELP WANTED

ONE HALF DAY PER WEEK COMPUTER TEACHER - Needed for St. Patrick School & Lowell Area Schools shared time program. Prefer a valid Michigan teaching certificate. Send letter of interest & resume to Connie Gillette, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Personnel, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331. Attention: Computer Teacher. This position will remain open until filled, with an approximate start date of January 4, 1999.

ALL STUDENTS Semester break Work. \$11.35 to start. Flexible full/part. Also 1-5 week work programs. Will secure summer position. Training provided. 245-3882.

LOWELL CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE SEEKS - part-time help, twenty to thirty hours per week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sat. AM. Three long days M, W, F 'til six-thirty or seven with a long lunch break. Off days: Tuesdays, Thursdays, half day Saturday and Sunday. Must be health-oriented. No smokers considered. Office experience necessary. Good working environment and good pay depending on qualifications. Please call Phyllis at 897-4999.



DIETARY AIDES - The Laurels of Kent currently has 2 part-time openings in the dietary department. They both are day positions from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. General duties will include washing dishes, working on tray line, reading tray cards, etc. Qualified candidates should call the Laurels of Kent at 897-8473.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
HELP WANTED

COOK - The Laurels of Kent has an immediate opening for a relief cook. This is a part-time day position requiring general cooking duties & assistance on the tray line. Past experience preferred but not necessary. Please call us at 897-8473.

HELP WANTED - Shipping & receiving clerks wanted. Full time to work in a fast-paced shipping area. Apply in person at Malecki Music, 4500 Broadmoor, Grand Rapids.

HELP WANTED - Sales clerks needed full time to work in music-based sales area. Some music experience preferred but will train. Apply in person at Malecki Music, 4500 Broadmoor, Grand Rapids.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1988 GMC Sierra SLX, shortbox, stepside. New 350, bedliner, Tonneau cover, mag wheels, etc. Cleanest '88 around! Must see! \$6,500 or offer. Call 897-6045 or can be seen at 11310 Bluewater Hwy.

3 YEAR OLD REGISTERED ARABIAN GELDING - sweepstakes nominated, \$800 o.b.o. Call 868-0485.

FOR SALE - 1993 Plymouth Sundance, automatic, 86,000 miles, \$2,700. Call 897-1597 or 897-7389.

FOR SALE - 14 carat gold dinner ring, set w/ 4 carats of cubic zirconia. Paid \$400, will sell for \$100. Call 897-7144.

2 FURNACES - 1 used oil furnace (Ryhem); 1 wood furnace add-on or individual. Each heats up to 31,000 sq. ft. of floor space; 2 pot-bellied stoves - 1 small, 1 large, reasonably priced. Make offer. 891-8221.

FOR SALE - Walk Fit, good condition, \$295 obo. Call 897-6291.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1994 Ford Ranger XLT, sunroof, CD player, excellent condition, \$5,795 obo. Call Jennifer at 897-6171.

FOR SALE - Trundle under bed, \$20; football shoes, size 13, like new, \$20; down filled leather jacket, LL Bean, size large, like new, \$80. Call after 4 p.m. 897-9843.

FOR SALE - 1930-40's vintage dining room set. Walnut table w/2 leaves, 6 chairs, buffet & china cabinet. Very good condition, \$900; 55 gal. aquarium, 8 mos. old & complete w/fish & acc., \$300 firm. 897-5828.

BEANIE BABIES FOR SALE - Curly, Wise & Valentino, \$15 each; Retired Bunnies, Blackie, Inch, Legs, Seaweed, Jolly & Twigs, \$20 each. Many others available. Call for pricing 897-1355.

STOVE & REFRIGERATOR - Jenn-Aire electric. \$600 for pair. Call 676-1144.



EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM
In memory of Lena Peckham who passed away six years ago, December 15. Her heart was like a garden; And in that garden, Birds were always singing. Flowers always in bloom. Since she went away, Birds sing no more, Flowers bloom no more. The birds miss her, The flowers miss her, And we all miss her. Sadly missed by all the Peckham family.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
FOR SALE

AIRLINE TICKETS - at farewar prices. Any city, no fee. Call Carol for details. 957-8964.

STEEL BUILDINGS NEVER PUT UP - 40x30 was \$6,212 will sell for \$3,497; 50x86 was \$17,690 will sell \$8,970. Chuck 1-800-320-2340.

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WOODY'S VACUUM CLEANERS - great deals, Rainbow vacuums \$599 on up. Full warranties. 897-0044.

PRIMESTAR - Mini-satellite system, no equipment to purchase, \$49 installation, lowest price ever. 1-800-459-7357.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT - includes stove, fridge & electric, 415 1/2 W. Main, Lowell. \$500 a month. Showing Thurs. evening 6:30 - 7:30.

STORAGE UNITS - 5 x 5 to 20 x 40, heated units available, household goods, boats, cars...you name it! Rates from \$15 per month. LANDMAN STORAGE CO. 897-8451.

FOR RENT - 3 bedroom house, nice big yard, no pets, \$700 a month plus utilities. Call 897-9357.

WINTER STORAGE - Heated & nonheated. Boats, cars, motorcycles, RV's. Reasonable rates. 897-5474.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
WANTED

WANTED - Aluminum fishing boat, outboard motor, trailer or canoe. Must be reasonable. Cash paid. 676-1913.

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!
BUSINESS SERVICES

ABORTION AFTERMATH - Grieving after an abortion? Struggling with depression, remorse and confusion? Referrals for help in your area. 1-800-800-8284. PROJECT RACHEL Post-Abortion Reconciliation and Healing.

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Be sure to ship your Holiday packages soon to insure delivery in time for Christmas!
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The Lowell Ledger
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Lowell, MI
897-9261 or 897-9555

FOCUS ON OUR SCHOOL

The district building for this issue's "focus" will be Bushnell Elementary, located at 700 Elizabeth Street, three blocks north of Main Street, nestled between Elizabeth and Howard streets within Lowell's city limits.

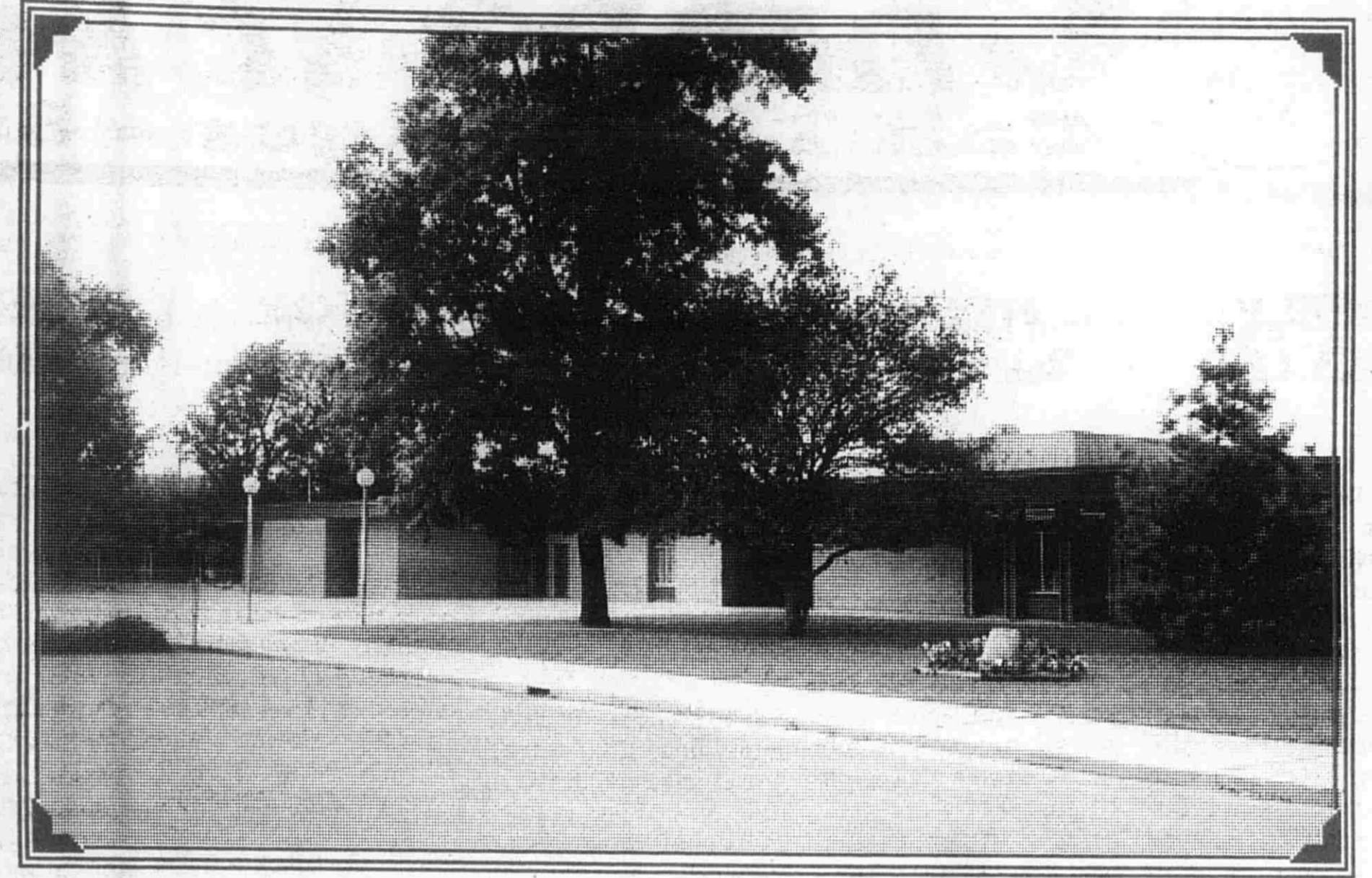
This elementary building, with its strong focus on the whole child, is the only one in the district which houses kindergarten and first graders only. The 432 young students are taught curriculum which is appropriately designed for their age level; they are provided with hands-on learning and individualized instruction; and student progress is celebrated at every opportunity.

Parent involvement at Bushnell Elementary is a vital component to each student's successful school experience. There is strong parent participation, evidenced through attendance at parent-teacher conferences, the Parent meeting held at the beginning of each school year, the visibility of parents each week in the building, family projects, and an active PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization). Communication to parents is ongoing through weekly newsletters and classroom communications sent home via students.

Music, gym, art and computer are considered "essentials" at school, rather than extras. Lots of movement and active participation are provided, which help promote proper development and offer a variety of stimuli to our younger children.

The district's character values of respect, integrity, compassion, honesty and responsibility are taught throughout the year. Assemblies, involving both teachers and students, are a monthly happening at Bushnell, presenting a variety of topics to the building's population.

Bushnell Elementary is a magical place to be, as the staff and parents watch our little ones develop each year. It's wonderful to see the growth (both in knowledge and stature) of each boy and girl from the fall of one year to spring of the next. Come visit us! We'd love to show you around!



BUSHNELL COLLECTS FOR HURRICANE RELIEF
The students and staff of Bushnell Elementary School collected monetary donations for the hurricane victims in the countries of Nicaragua and Honduras.
This act is in keeping with two of our school Character traits of respect and compassion, which the students are taught throughout the year.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS AND THE COMMUNITY VALUE THE FOLLOWING TRAITS:
Respect Integrity Compassion Honesty Responsibility

BAD WEATHER INFORMATION
On any school day, when the weather is bad, school postponement or closing will be broadcast over these radio stations: WCUZ, WGRD, WJFM, WKTH, WLAV, WLHT, and WOOD TV, and WZZM-TV. Every effort will be made to have the notice of school postponement or closing on the air by 6:45a.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The Board of Education meets the second Monday of each month. All interested people are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings which are held in the Administration Building (Rungiman, 300 High St.) beginning at 7:30 p.m.
BOARD MEMBERS
Pete Gustafson.....President
Mark Blanding.....Vice President
Pat Nugent.....Trustee
Ann Mulder.....Secretary
Norm Byrne.....Trustee
Jack Lane.....Treasurer
James Reagan.....Trustee
Erin Umlauf.....H.S. Student Council Rep

Thank You

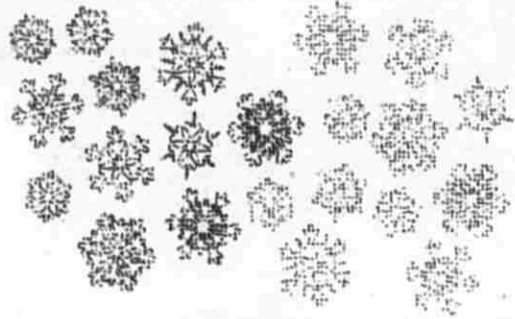
NATURE'S PLACE A COMMUNITY EFFORT

A special note of thanks to the following people for helping us groom and improve Nature's Place at Cherry Creek Elementary School:

- Campfire Kids
- The Bliss Family
- Don Anderson and Luscious Landscapes
- Bob Ford and Hahn Hardware
- Ken Gregersen
- Bill VanStee
- Darl's Deck
- Parent Volunteers

The Pond Committee and representatives appreciate your time and effort very much.





Lowell Area Schools **DIRECTIONS**

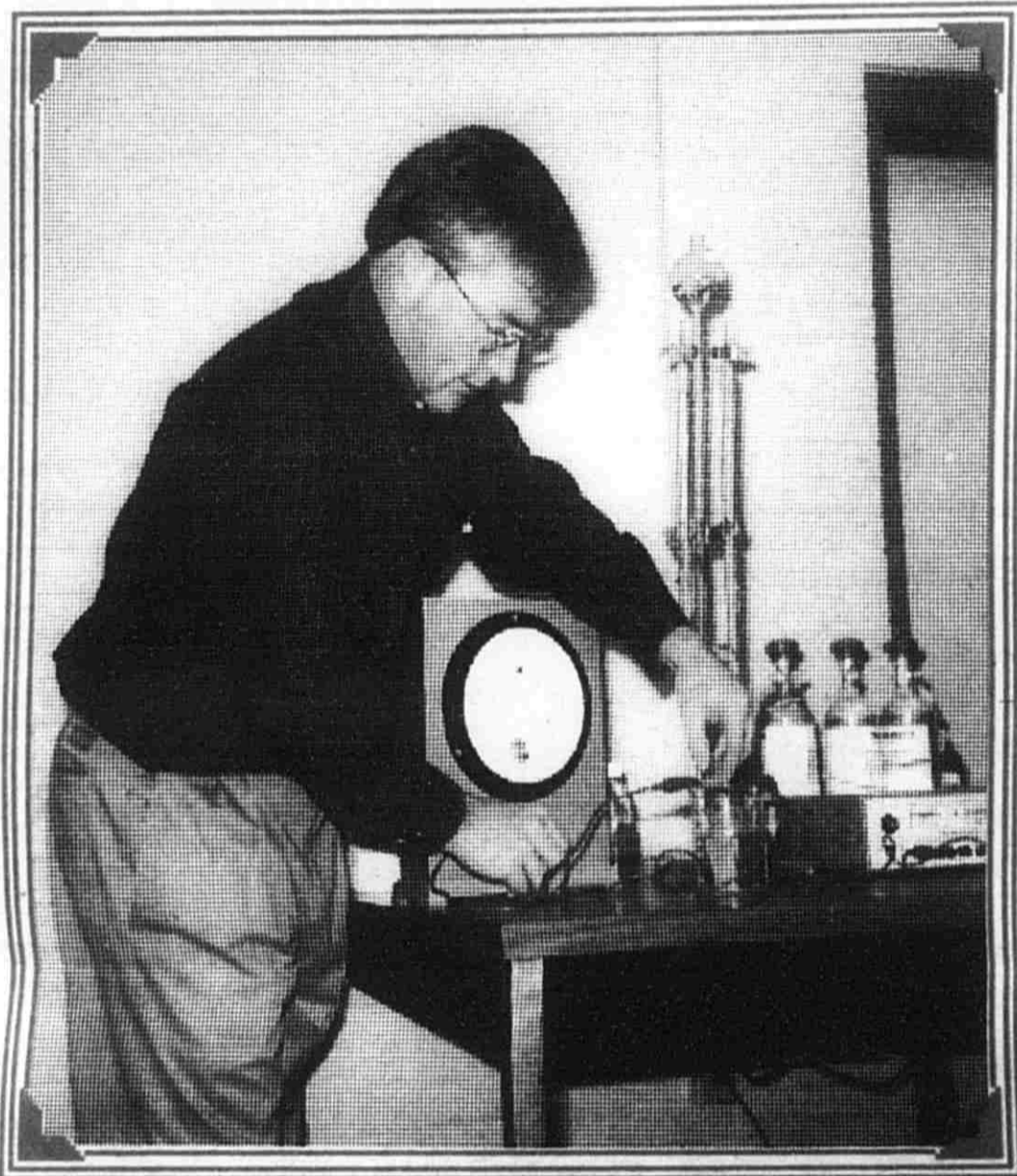
A MONTHLY COMMUNICATION PUBLICATION TO PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

December 1998

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

The entire staff of Lowell Area Schools would like to offer their very best wishes to our community members. Our hope is that your holiday celebration will be memorable and rewarding.

happy  holidays



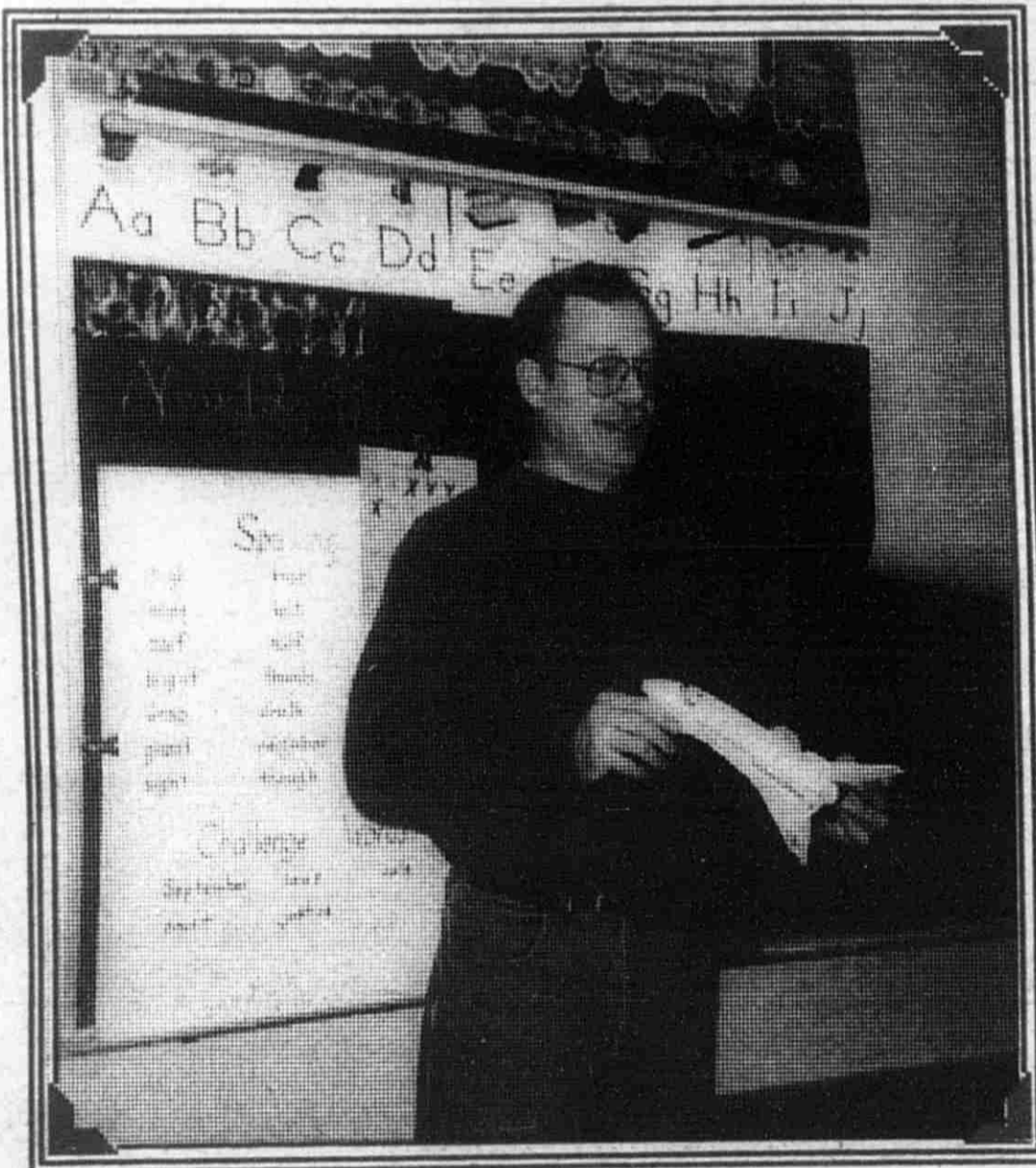
LET'S LEARN TOGETHER

With this issue we will learn how science is taught, enjoyed and experienced at our schools.

Our elementary children have recently had guest speakers to bring science to the forefront in their buildings.

The students at Bushnell had a unique opportunity to take a closer look into the world of science. Mr. Rick White, high school chemistry and physics teacher, a.k.a. "Mr. Wizard" to the students, regularly visits the classrooms and demonstrates science concepts. His expertise and resources offer great enhancement of our current curriculum. In the past two years, he has brought an excitement about science to the students. His demonstrations and experiments have made students' hair stand on end, have shown laser light beams across the room, have had sound waves traveling through a tunnel, and have had chemical reactions bubbling over. When he visits, you can hear, "Ooooohs," "Aaaaahs," "Wow" and "Awesome" coming from the classrooms.

This year Mr. White has added the use of technology through computers to his demonstrations to show kids that you can learn science everywhere and anywhere. His presentations teach students to be scientific observers and he asks them to make predictions. The students always want to know when he will be back. What will "Mr. Wizard" do next time? The students and teachers at Bushnell can't wait to see, because SCIENCE IS COOL at Bushnell Elementary.



Mr. Daniel Slatten was a guest speaker in Mrs. Carol Mandle's third-grade classroom at Cherry Creek one day in November. He spoke to the students about the space shuttle mission. Mr. Slatten worked for a company that was involved in the Space Program that launched and recovered the shuttle. The students listened intently to Mr. Slatten's discussion of his job with the space shuttle mission and looked at pictures of the space shuttle. Following the presentation they went outside to help launch a rocket from the playground at Cherry Creek. The students enjoyed Mr. Slatten's lecture and found it to be a fun wrap-up to their unit on Earth, Moon and Sun.

The Parent-to-Parent group wishes every new family in our school district a very safe and happy holiday season. We hope you are enjoying being part of our community. We're glad you're here!



happy  holidays

Marcia Bieber (Bushnell coordinator/897-6908)
Nancy Hopkins (Cherry Creek coordinator/897-0056)
Nancy Underwood (Alto coordinator/868-7186)

In our next issue
"Let's Learn Together"
about Language Arts!

