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The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 16 Lowell Area Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893 Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Lowell seniors and administration choose Showboat for '99 graduation

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The Lowell senior class can thank its spirit of volunteerism for the recent decision to move the 1999 graduation ceremony back to the Showboat amphitheater.

"Senior class members spent countless hours this summer helping Ivan Blough sprucing up and fixing up the boat," Lowell High School principal Scott Vashaw said.

Members of the 1999 class went to Vashaw following last year's graduation and asked if they would be afforded the same privilege as the 1998 graduating class in choosing their graduation site.

In that initial conversation, several stumbling blocks were defined. The major obstacle was the condition of the Showboat.

Some of the continual peripheral problems with having graduation at the Showboat include seating conditions and lack of parking.

None of those, however, have been enough not to ban graduation at the Showboat. "The Showboat is such a unique setting we've always felt we could overlook those problems for one day," Vashaw said. "The Showboat is unique. We're

fortunate to have two great options. Many people thought last year's ceremony at the stadium was outstanding."

Graduation at the Showboat also maintains a tie to the city. "The school represents the city of Lowell and I think maintaining a relationship with the city is important," Vashaw explained.

The decision was also subject to a class vote. The results of that vote favored moving graduation to the Showboat. "There was a good percentage that wanted it at the stadium. I respect their wishes," said Vashaw.

Aaron Plattner, senior class president, likes the signature Showboat gives Lowell.

"My family moved here from a big city when I was in sixth-grade," Plattner said. "I've always liked the idea that Lowell had a symbol to represent it."

Plattner and approximately 30 other seniors were surprised how much work the Showboat required, but that was only exceeded by its desire to use it as their graduation site.

"The student council didn't see any harm in looking into graduation on the Showboat, but once we got started with all the work, there was no turning back," Plattner said.

Their work was directed by Ivan Blough. "He's a very nice

guy. He got us going. He brought us drinks, invited us over to his place for pizza and a swim in his indoor pool," Plattner explains.

Blough's work has not gone unnoticed. "I am very impressed with Ivan's tenacity to help the students overcome any obstacle that stood in the way of graduating on the boat," Vashaw said. "I am also impressed with the students' desire to take control of a situation by volunteering to solve the problem."

Their work is not done, however. This spring, in cooperation with the Lowell Showboat Board, Students will sell tags in an effort to raise money to improve the condition of the seats.

Tags will be attached to the seat, reflecting who purchased it. Many parents might find having a tag with their daughter's or son's name on it and graduation date attractive.

"It gives the senior class and the community the potential to repair the benches," Vashaw said.

Lowell superintendent Bert Bleke said he is gratified that Lowell High School students continue to give back to the community.

City to hold public hearing on transient merchant ordinance Feb. 16

••• The Lowell City Council will hear arguments for and against keeping the ordinance before making a final decision.

By J. N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

Lowell city residents have just one more chance to voice their opinions about the elimination of the city's transient merchant ordinance before Lowell City Council makes its final decision.

The council has set a public hearing at its 7:30 p.m. meeting on Feb. 16 at the Englehardt Library. After the

Transient Merchant, cont'd, pg. 18

School Lunch - A Healthy Choice

••• Some may be surprised, but approximately 50 percent of high school students make that their daily choice.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

"Be careful out there" is an infamous phrase from the former hit television show Hill Street Blues. It is also a phrase some would apply to student eating habits.

Carroll Harper, Lowell Area Food Service director, knows students face a mine field of poor nutritional choices each day.

"Society likes to talk nutrition, but when tempted by food we don't always make the best decisions," Harper explains.

This has influenced the way Harper does things.

The food service director, unlike her area peers, does not separate the proteins, fruits and vegetables from the a la carte items (e.g. pizza and burgers); instead students find the items all mixed/interpersed throughout the lunch line.

"If you separate the food items, then some students never see the combination of components that make up that day's nutritional meal," Harper explains. "This way all students have to pass by the fruits and vegetables."

Most days students will find three portions of fruits and vegetables available to them as they proceed through the lunch line.

In addition, there is chicken and/or another meat, breads, milk, and salad to se-

lect from.

The results have been encouraging to Harper. "Most students are eating reasonably well," she said.

On an average, 436 high school students eat the school lunch which consists of a combination of components that make up a nutritional meal as defined in the Federal School Lunch Guideline.

It's healthy for students and for the Lowell lunch program. The students are getting the required nutrition and the school gets reimbursed 18 cents for every school meal which is served.

It does not get reimbursed for students who make a la carte selections.

Harper believes there are several reasons students are choosing the school lunch. One - she keeps detailed reports on what students like to eat; two - it is well prepared; and three the cost.

The school lunch costs \$1.50. A hamburger is \$1.25. A hamburger can be purchased as part of a reimbursable school lunch item.

Round pizzas are always sold a la carte for \$1.75. Harper adds that the slice of pizza made by the school is part of the lunch meal rotation.

On a daily average, 130-150 students choose pizza.

"It really depends on the popularity of the school lunch each day," Harper says.

During a typical lunch recently, 403 school meals were served. Selections made within the school lunch guideline included 276 baked potatoes, 230 deli dill pickles, 15 pounds of tossed salad and 201 portions of fruit.

As for beverages, pop is only available to students who purchase a full lunch meal. The only exception is round pizza. "I believe this pizza is a sub-

stantial and nutritious meal. I feel good about students eating it," Harper said.

stantial and nutritious meal. I feel good about students eating it," Harper said. Pop is an additional 50 cents. Students who purchase a token when paying for their school meal can purchase a pop. However, it is not found in the lunch line as are milk, juice and bottled water.

Society likes to talk nutrition, but when tempted by food we don't always make the best decisions.

Carroll Harper
Lowell Area Food Service Director

are sold in the Spirit Store, which is a whole different issue."

In regards to the recent debate about a new vending contract, Harper says a good job was done in the request for proposal to protect school lunch items and with pricing assurances.

"I am also very pleased with the ad hoc health committee that has been organized in the interest of health issues for students," Harper concludes.

It is important to note that on a daily average, 349 stu-

are sold in the Spirit Store, which is a whole different issue."

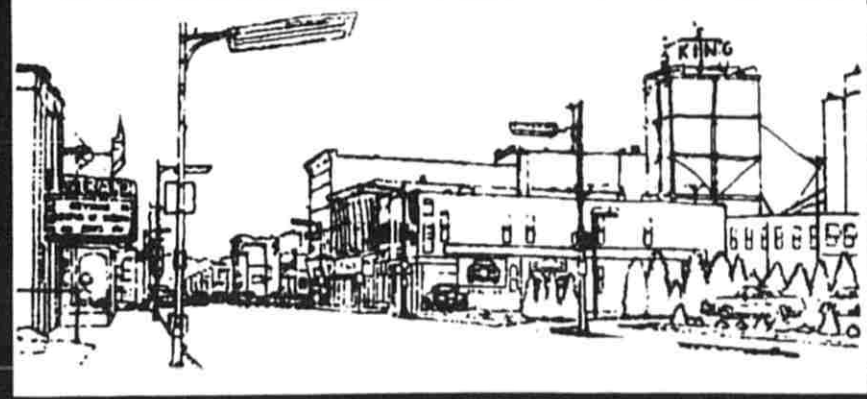
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"I am also very pleased with the ad hoc health committee that has been organized in the interest of health issues for students," Harper concludes.

Inside the Ledger

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Member Wins Trip,
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Along Main Street



LOWELL FREESTYLE WRESTLING SIGNUPS
Signups for Lowell Freestyle Wrestling will be in the Cherry Creek band room on Feb. 10 and 18 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For more information call Barb Carpenter at 897-6566.

KLASSES FOR KIDS

Sandy Bartlett will conduct drawing workshops for children ages 8-12 at the Lowell Art Center.

Classes begin Feb. 17 and 18 for eight weeks. Call 897-8545 to enroll.

LMS PARENT SUPPORT GROUP PRESENTATION

Lowell Middle School Parent Support Group invites all community members to attend an outstanding presentation on Monday, Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Maureen Hart, an advocate for self-esteem in girls and young women, will present. "Staying Sane in a Media Saturated Culture."

OBITUARIES

GARDNER - Mrs. Helen B. Gardner, aged 93, of Bad Axe, MI, formerly of Grand Rapids, went to be with her Lord Tuesday, January 26, 1999. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. William (Burt) Gardner. She served with her husband who was pastor in churches at Alto, Traverse City and Byron Center. Surviving are her children David Gardner of Coperas Cove, TX, James and Vicky Gardner of Bad Axe, MI; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; her sis-

ter Dorothy Stricker of Evansville, IN; several nieces and nephews. The Funeral Service was held Friday with Rev. David Sims officiating. Interment Blain Cemetery. Memorial contributions to the Michigan Christian Home or Baptist Church Planters Mission.

HALE - James E. Hale, aged 26, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly of accidental automobile injuries, February 1, 1999. He is survived by his parents Jerry (Joann) Hale, Joan (Cameron) Hoffman, all

of Lowell; brothers Michael (Mary) Hale of Lowell, Joe (Paula) Hoffman of Clarksville, David (Wendy) Crace of Grand Rapids; sisters Joell Crace, Kristy Crace both of Lowell; grandparents Irving Mulder of Grand Rapids, Ardith Briggs of Lowell, Ralph and Josephine Lescohier of Lowell; nine nieces and nephews; also aunts and uncles. Jim is fondly remembered for his love of life and people. His hobbies were volleyball, coaching and he thoroughly enjoyed all outdoor activities. He was truly one of the gifts of our lives and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Funeral Services will be held Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Pastor Joseph Gerkin officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation Wednesday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to James E. Hale Memorial Fund (Scholarship Fund for Education). Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

RUID - Delbert (Dale) Ruid, aged 62, of Fenwick, formerly of Saranac, went to be with his maker after a long illness. He was born in Allegan, July 24, 1936, to the parents of William (Bessie Lathrop) Ruid. He was a former Boy Scout master in Wichita, Kansas, and an avid outdoorsman. He married Patricia Wilson February 21, 1953, in Muskegon. Besides his wife he is survived by his mother-in-law Dorothy Hibbard of Fenwick, seven children - Thomas K. Ruid of Saranac, Kenneth D. and Pam

David Joel (DJ) Sees; sister Betty Murphy; brothers William (Arlene) Folk and Barton Folk. Funeral services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. George J. Fekete officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

Ruid of Saranac, Michael A. Ruid of Irons, Patricia Ann Ruid of Belding, Ronald E. and Kathy Ruid of Clarksville, Timothy D. and Thrisa Ruid of Fenwick, and Dale A. Ruid of Saranac; brother Jesse and Caroline Van DeCreek of St. Johns; 30 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren George LeRoy Brownell and Christopher Elling Ruid, one brother and two sisters. Cremation has taken place, a memorial service was held Monday at the River of Life Ministries on Church St. in Saranac with Rev. Nate Gibbons officiating. Anyone wishing may make contributions for a family choice. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home in Saranac.

VANSPRONSEN - John VanSpronsen, aged 85,

passed away peacefully Saturday, January 30, 1999. Surviving are his wife Francis of Lowell; five children Neil (Carol) VanSpronsen of Ada, Cliff (Jackie) VanSpronsen of Lowell, John Jr. (Harriet) VanSpronsen of Hudsonville, Karl (Bonnie) VanSpronsen of Lowell and Nancy (Bob) Mulder of Lowell; 18 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. VanSpronsen was an elder at Ada Christian Reformed Church and one of the founders of Ada Christian School. Before his retirement he was a longtime foreman at Dan Vos Construction Company. Funeral services were held Tuesday in the Ada Christian Reformed Church. Interment Bailey Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to Ada Christian School or Pacific Island Ministries. Arrangements by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service.

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MASON - Ms. Ellen L. Mason, aged 65, of Lowell, passed away January 29, 1999. She was preceded in death by her brother-in-law Jim Murphy. She will be remembered by her daughter Vicki (Michael) VanDyk; grandchildren Terri (Matthew) Sherman and Michael VanDyk II; great grandson

Women's Club News and Notes:

The December meeting of the Lowell Women's Club was held December 9, 1998. Pinky McPherson gave a short review on the goals and places of the newly formed Lowell Youth Development.

Joan Cosgrove told of her experiences wrapping Christmas gifts for the Santa Claus Girls the past few years. Erin Koewers and Kelly O'Dell gave a report on the care and disposal of Christmas trees.

They introduced Frank Kirsch, another senior from Lowell High School who lives on his parent's Christmas tree farm. He told how Christmas trees can be used inside and later planted outdoors.

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Molly Wisner and Shannon Finnegan gave the monthly report on school activities.

The main speaker of the day was Dick Leonard from Wild Birds Unlimited. He talked about the different bird feeders and food for all species of birds, which make backyard birding enjoyable.

The January meeting of the Women's club was cancelled due to inclement weather.

 We have all forgot more than we remember.
 -Thomas Fuller

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Early Monday morning accident takes life of 26 year old

A Grand Rapids man was killed early Monday morning when the vehicle he was driving in Easton Township left the road.

James Edward Hale, 26, was driving a 1994 Chevrolet eastbound on Potters Road when his vehicle left the south side of the roadway.

Ionia County Sheriff Sgt. Michael Seinen said the vehicle, after leaving the roadway, struck a small embankment before going airborne for approximately 53 feet. The vehicle proceeded to roll before striking a tree.

Seinen said speed and alcohol are believed to have been factors in the accident. The Sergeant said Hale, not wearing a seatbelt, was thrown from the vehicle. Hale was pronounced dead at the scene.

The accident remains under investigation. Hale is remembered by his family and friends for his love of people and the outdoors.

The 26-year-old loved playing and coaching volleyball in the Kent Recreation Sports league and over the years helped coach volleyball at Kent City High School and Lowell Middle School.

"James had recently made plans to enroll at Aquinas College to work on getting a degree in education," said his father Jerry Hale. "He loved working with kids."

Hale is survived by his parents, Jerry (Joann) Hale, Joan (Cameron) Hoffman all of Lowell; brothers Michael (Mary) Hale of Lowell, Joe (Paula) Hoffman of Clarksville, David (Wendy) Crace of Grand Rapids; sisters Joell Crace, Kristy Crace, both of Lowell; grandparents Irving Mulder of Grand Rapids, Ardith Briggs of Lowell, Ralph and Josephine Lescohier of Lowell; nine nieces and nephews; uncles and aunts.

Funeral services will be held Thursday (Feb. 4) at 1 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Pastor Joseph Gerkin officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery.

Rhythms Music Studio open house Feb. 14

Franciscan Rhythms Music Studio, 596 Ada Drive, Ada, announces and invites everyone to an open house on Sunday, Feb. 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. The event, *For the Love of Music*, celebrates 20 years, 1979-1999, of quality music education and music therapy.

The anniversary is being marked by a composition contest for students of the studio. The winners will be announced at 3 p.m. on the 14th. Live music, refreshments and a souvenir gift will add to the afternoon's festivities. The public is invited. Admission is free.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to James E. Hale Memorial Fund (scholarship fund for education).



James Edward Hale

Book drive's charge to make reading the 'in' thing for children

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

For the past three years, members of the Lowell varsity football program have been reading favorite stories to elementary children.

The "Friday Readers" program has proven to be a popular activity for both the elementary students and Lowell football players.

In conjunction with the Friday Readers program, the football team is looking to take the next step, providing students with books to take home and read themselves or be read to.

This book effort is being organized in anticipation of March which is National Reading Month. In cooperation with the

Lowell Lions Club, new and used books are being collected during the month of February.

The idea of the book drive entitled "Bundling Up Books for Kids" came about after discussions with elementary teachers.

"The football team and the Lowell Lions Club are trying to get books for elementary-age kids, so if there are people out there who have

books on their shelves that they are no longer reading, and if they are adequate for kids from kindergarten

through fifth grade, bring them in," said Lowell football coach Noel Dean.

The Lowell Lions Club is synonymous through its work and fundraising for vision.

"The Lowell Lions Club would like to eventually ex-

tend this to include bringing in the Lions International Vision Mobile whereby students can come and have their eyes checked," said Lowell Lions Club president Thad Kraus.

A goal of collecting 3,000 books has been set. Collection boxes can be found at the Lowell Ledger office, Springgrove Variety, Huntington Banks, Ionia County National Bank, Family Fare and Lowell High School.

"We want every elementary child to have a book they can call their own," Dean said. "We want to make reading the 'in' thing to do."

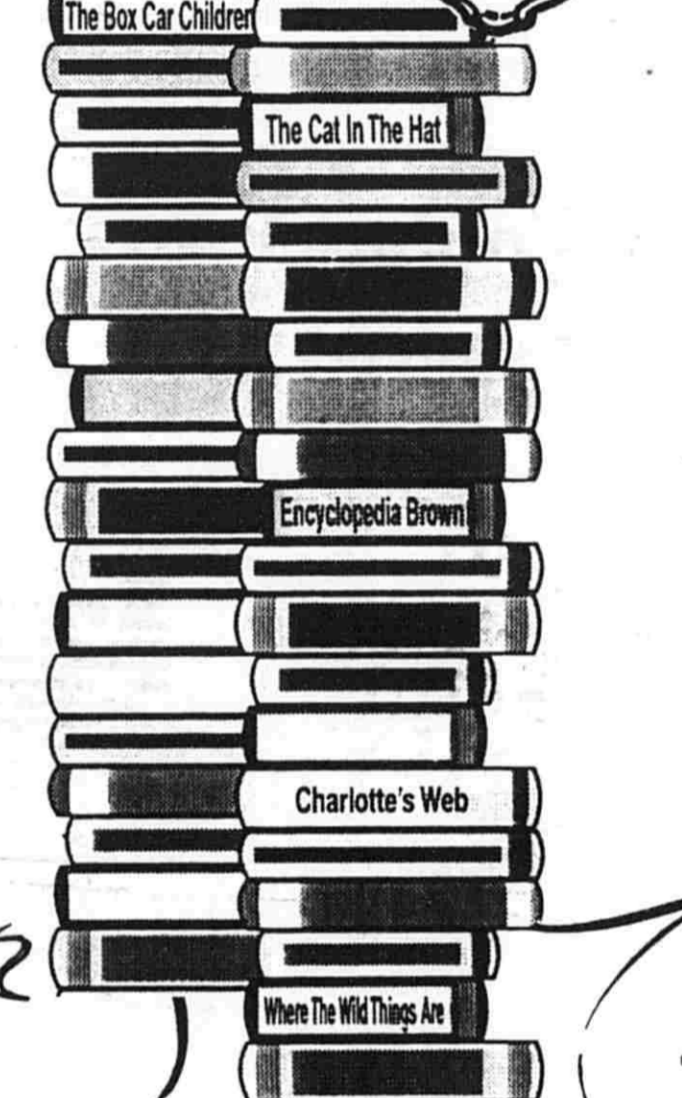
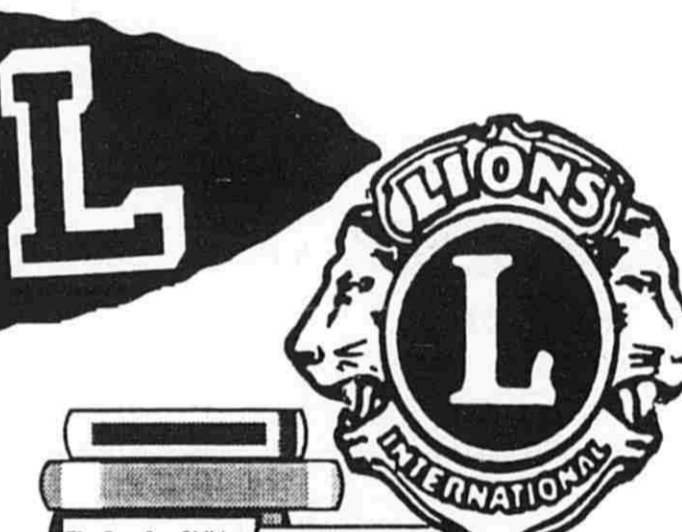
Huddle Up...

Lowell Football & The Lowell Lions Club will be "Bundling Up Books For Kids" during the month of February. New & Used Books will be collected during the month of February and then distributed during the month of March.

Pass on the gift of enlightenment to a child near you!

BOOK DROP-OFF BOXES CAN BE FOUND AT:

- THE LOWELL LEDGER
- HUNTINGTON BANKS
- IONIA COUNTY NATIONAL BANK
- FAMILY FARE
- LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL
- SPRINGROVE VARIETY



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HURRY! Our Deadline is March 1, 1999

Showboat Board News

It's been several months since our last article so here's the latest. We can start with the success of the Showboat renovation project. There were many visitors to the Showboat during the Lowell Christmas parade, and we have heard nothing but positive comments about how great the boat looks and that it was a good idea to have it docked at the Riverwalk. There are still items to complete and spring sprucing up but the major renovation has been completed.

Profits from Fallasburg Festival food booth and the October auction enabled us to set aside money to pay for

insurance, phone and bank loan payments from November through March because no outside source of income was anticipated. We were also able to make two payments to those still owned money.

At our meeting in November, new Showboat board officers were chosen and those individuals are: Karen Hample, president; Helen Kuiper, 1st vice president; Sharon Vosovic, 2nd vice president; Jean Huver, secretary; and Barbara Knauf, treasurer. Other board members include Rose Ennis, John Fox, Laura McCollum, Aaron Plattner, Mike Suman and Matt Weber.

Future plans include a St. Patrick's Day dance scheduled for March 13 at Larkin's Other Place and the Wednesday evening "Showboat on the Riverwalk Plaza" starting in June. The summer entertainment is the combined effort of Ivan Blough, the Showboat Board and the Chamber of Commerce. Drawing people to the downtown area,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 4 - Kelsey Scheider, Jo Hill.
FEBRUARY 5 - Ann Mulder, Kenneth Gregersen Sr., Colleen Myers, Mandy Schneider.
FEBRUARY 6 - Donna Oesch, Reed Stormzand, Norm Johnson, Angie Blough.

FEBRUARY 7 - Margaret Peckham.

FEBRUARY 8 - Clare Krebs, Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse, Nicholas Fonger.

FEBRUARY 9 - Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Inga Weeks, Noah Newhouse, Allee Brenk, David Potter, "AJ" Alvin Davis Brenk II.

FEBRUARY 10 - Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.

when stores will be open late on Wednesday's, was a perfect way to showcase the Showboat.

Entertainment is already being booked for the 7 to 8 p.m. hour so if you are interested in showcasing your talent you can book a Wednesday night through Ivan Blough at 897-9920, Showboat office at 897-8280 or the Chamber at 897-9161. Having teen dances again this summer is another event being planned. The LHS class of 1999 has been a hardworking force behind the Showboat renovation project, and the Showboat Board was pleased to have their hard work recognized by the class as a whole because they voted in favor of holding graduation ceremonies at the Showboat.

We look forward to an exciting 1999 and we'll keep you posted on upcoming Showboat events. Our monthly board meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month and if you have an interest in the Showboat, please feel free to attend. The city of Lowell has such a treasure in the Showboat not only as part of our rich past but as a promotional tool for our future.

Benjamin Morse Society members evaluate sense of place

.... Clements wins trip to Gettysburg with the Benjamin Morse Society through her short story on "personal sense of place."

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

As participants in the Benjamin Morse Society writing contest, Katie Clement, Rebecca Batt, Karis Prill, Leslie Koehn and Robbie Bender invited the reader into their individual worlds.

The short stories they authored were about their "personal sense of place" and how it shaped their lives.

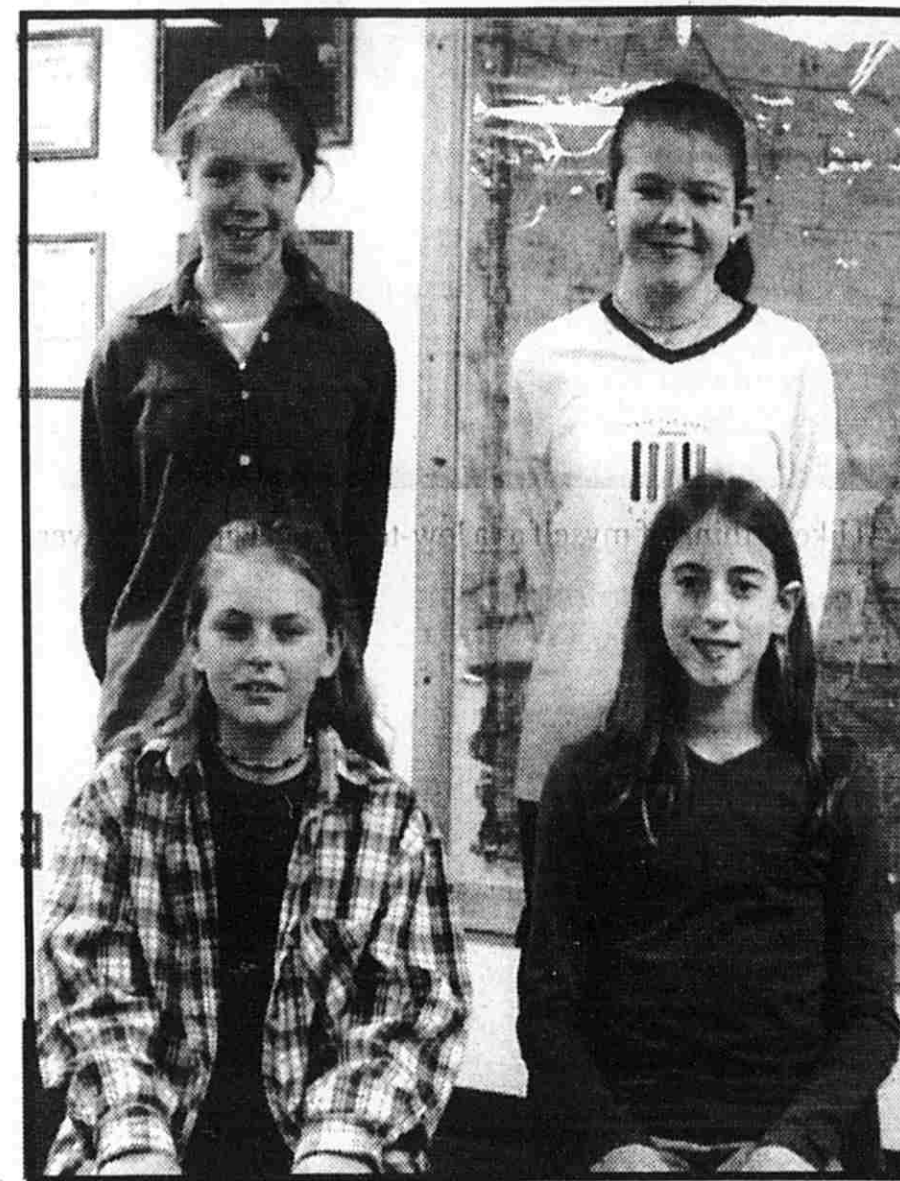
The aforementioned were the winners and will be recognized at a future Lowell Board of Education meeting.

Bender, Koehn, Prill and Batt earned runner-up recognition. Clement was selected as the first-place winner and with it was awarded a trip to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with the Benjamin Morse Society for its 1999 historical tour.

Over 200 Lowell Middle School students who have participated in the club since it began first three years.

The club meets for 12 weeks during the school year's second semester. This year there are 47 students active in the club. "That is about average for our first meeting," said the club's organizer and middle school history teacher Jack Misner. That number usually increases.

To reserve a seat for the 1999 June historical tour to Gettysburg, student members



Pictured above, sitting left to right, are: Rebecca Batt and Leslie Koehn; standing, left to right, are: Katie Clements and Karis Prill.

must attend at least two-thirds of the meetings.

Misner said the club is currently studying the Battle of Gettysburg through reading Michael Schaara's *Killer Angels* and watching the

movie *Gettysburg* which is based on Schaara's book.

In Clement's essay, she writes about how she is a better person for growing up in Lowell, tattending its Morse, cont'd., pg. 8

Conley and Brown exchange vows

Susan M. Conley and James Brown were married January 16, 1999.

The ceremony was performed at Center of Life Fellowship Church by Rev. Dorothy A. Prins.

The bride is the daughter of Clara B. and the late Dale L. Darling of Muir.

Parents of the groom are Clifford and Angeline Brown of Watersmeet, Michigan.

Attending the couple were Mrs. Terry Juarez and Ron Conley, both of Lowell.

Viewpoint . . .



I like to think of myself as a low-tech kinda guy. However, like it or not, this digitized, cyber space, fiber optic, computer driven age we live in has a pretty firm grip on me. I still refuse to be tied to cell phones, voice mail, beepers, ATM cards, lap top computers or a life on the internet.

I get out of the car and stretch my legs to use a pay phone if I need to make a call on the road. My office leaves pink message slips for me. There is nothing important enough about what I do to warrant wearing a beeper on my belt. I always have some walkin' around money. After nearly 30 years in this business, I still hunt and peck to type, so I'd look pretty silly operating a lap top out in public. And, as far as the internet goes, I prefer a real life to a cyber life in front of a monitor. Those are a few of the ways I continue to rebel against technology.

On the other hand, my businesses literally run on computers, fax machines, laser printers, modems, hard drives, software and enough other technology to turn my mind to mush. Technology has invaded everything we do. Think of the grocery store checkout scanner, the computerized systems in your car, your electronic banking, caller I.D., D.S.S. television, etc.

Ten years ago most of this stuff seemed like science fiction...now we take it for granted. A few weeks ago I wrote about seeing and hearing a cyber-life version of my new grandson 2,000 miles away. If we old-timers are beginning to take this sci-fi stuff for granted, I can't help but wonder what a newcomer like my grandson will be dealing with when he's an adult. Scary!!!

If I'm flying my antique airplane over 50 miles from Lowell, I enter the destination airport into the database of my portable global positioning system that will take me right over the windshield. Every airport in North America is in there. This little unit gives me bearing to destination, present course, airspeed, time in route, E.T.A. It will also perform a host of other functions that I'm too stupid to figure out. In other words, the G.P.S. computer is smarter than me.

To me, this seems like a perfect metaphor for what I'm trying to say here. My plane was built less than 40 years after the Wright brothers first flew at Kitty Hawk. Its technology is much, much closer to the Wright flyer than say a Boeing 777. It seems silly to fly an antique airplane using space age navigation. Likewise, it seems silly for an old dog like me to consider the fact I may be buying my groceries over the internet in five years.

Like it or not, this technology growth spurt ain't going to slow down any time soon. I was prompted to write on this subject by a radio show I heard last Friday. I was on my way back from the Florida Keys. It was a beautiful afternoon. I had the windows down, the dogs in the back and was cruising through the Everglades on Highway 41 spotting gators lying on the bank of the canal along the road. Cool.

I had the radio tuned to a National Public Radio station and the host had as her guest the author of a book titled *The Spiritual Machine*. I didn't catch the guy's name, but he had authored other books on computers and technology. Probably not the kinda guy you'd invite along if you happened to get free tickets to a hockey game.

From what I could gather (I tuned in somewhere in the middle of the program), the premise of the book was to ponder whether or not computers will ever gain spirituality. The author pointed out the rapid strides in technology of late. He cited many instances. For example, his writing had progressed in just a few short years from a typewriter, to word processor to more and more sophisticated writing software. He said he'd simply dictated this last book to his computer loaded with voice recognition programming. Now that's just what an old hunt'n pecker like me needs!

The author predicted that computer technology will continue to accelerate at a mind-blowing rate. Among his predictions is that in less than 10 years we'll be able to call anywhere in the world and speak to anyone in any language through digital interpretation. Wow! He had a whole litany of those types of predictions. He was very, very interesting.

All of this built the case for his book. He figures that in about 25 years we will have computers capable of replicating the human mind. His philosophical questions revolve around what that will lead to. Will computers become rational? Will they develop digital souls? Will they be better than us because they can think, reason, rationalize and compute on a par with us, yet be immune from diseases, the aging process, etc.? It was amazing food for thought.

Then they opened up the phone lines. The callers' questions were even more stimulating. One asked if these human

computers would be able to program themselves free of human faults such as greed, lust, dishonesty, etc. Others had questions about how humans would fit in. Someone asked if the race might somehow evolve into some sort of computer-human hybrids. The entire program was nothing, if not incredibly thought provoking.

So, here I was gawking at alligators, one of the earliest creatures to evolve, while listening to a discussion of the evolution of computer-human hybrids. For once I wished I had a cell phone. I wanted to call in a question. I wanted to ask this guy where a crotchety old poop might best hide out from these humanoid critters 25 or 30 years from now. I wanted to ask him if my old 12 gauge double barrel would be sufficient firepower if they came pokin' around. Might as well be ready.

By Priscilla Lussmyer

Ledger Entries

of 125, 100, 75, 50 & 25 Years Ago

125 YEARS AGO IN THE LOWELL WEEKLY JOURNAL - FEBRUARY 2, 1874
"Four twins" were recently born to a couple in Howard City.

The editor sings the praises of Grand Rapids Business College and its Prof. Swensburg.

Thursday night a "small boy" failing to get his father out of a Lowell saloon, unhitched the team and drove home to Grattan.

Gov. Bagley calls the Michigan Legislature into special session for March, to review several amendments to the Constitution, up for vote in the fall.

100 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER - FEBRUARY 2, 1899
Gen. Miles testifies that the "roast beef" furnished to soldiers in the recent Spanish-American war, was what was left over from making beef extract.

The grip, or la grippe, is mentioned in nearly every local column. Lowell is estimated to have 300-400 people sick. Some meetings are postponed for the duration.

West Ward school kids get a half-day off for having the lowest percentage of tardiness in the system.

The Michigan Telephone Co. employs more than 5,000 people.

75 YEARS AGO IN THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO - JANUARY 31, 1924

Snow-covered roads make bus transportation impossible, so the winning Lowell basketball teams, girls and boys, make the trip to Greenville by train. Lowell High School has won every contest this school year: 10 football, 3 debate, 10 basketball and state potato judging.

The T.S. Lally estate on Murray Lake island, has been subdivided into 187 lots by manager Jane Lally.

John Baker was arrested by officer Bowes last Monday for driving his team on the sidewalk.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER - FEBRUARY 3, 1949

George F. Johnson (that's my pop!) "very ably serves as moderator" for a lively PTA discussion of current school problems with a student-teacher-parent group. Concerns vary from: Why is athletics so expensive? to students driving during noon-hours to playground supervision to sex education.

Driver Ed instructor Chas. White graduates the first 10 students this year and expects 100 more, plus 10 adults, by summer.

Congressman Jerry Ford's column predicts a lively week as the first of 2000-bills clear committees and come up for action.

25 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER-SUBURBAN LIFE - JANUARY 31, 1974

Help and furnishings are sought for the new Senior Neighbors Center in the old Rebekah building.

Fifth Congressional District candidate Richard VanderVeen will address the Golden Swingers Monday with his 11-point program for the elderly.

State highway speed limits are lowered to 55 mph to match the rest of the nation.

The gas shortage results in a 55 percent decrease in traffic deaths so far in 1974.

Health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Donette Bishop

HEMORRHOIDS
Hemorrhoids, or piles as they are sometimes called, are dilated veins of the anus and rectum. They are divided into two types: internal hemorrhoids and external hemorrhoids.

External hemorrhoids are categorized by the location and type of skin that occupies the anus. External does not necessarily mean outside of the anus. The skin at the lower outer area of the anus is strong and rich in nerve fibers and, therefore, very sensitive to noxious stimuli. External hemorrhoids are usually asymptomatic as long as the overlying skin is in good condition. However, poor hygiene may cause itching and burning which are symptoms related to the skin, rather than to the hemorrhoids.

Internal hemorrhoids are found further up from the anus, above the area of pain. Internal hemorrhoids are painless. The most common symptom of internal hemorrhoids is bright red rectal bleeding and prolapse with bowel movements. Bleeding can be profuse, seen in the water and sprayed around the sides

of the toilet. It may also be seen on the toilet paper or may stain underwear.

The most common symptoms of hemorrhoidal disease are bleeding, itching, prolapse (protrusion from the anus), pain and thrombosis. Thrombosed hemorrhoids occur with external hemorrhoids when the skin ruptures under pressure, such as with straining, causing the blood to escape into the surrounding tissue forming clots. These are not the types of clots that require blood thinners. This type of hemorrhoid is extremely painful within 24-48 hours after it occurs. The hematoma (clot) stretches the skin firing nerve fibers that illicit pain. If diagnosed within the first 24-48 hours, the clot may be incised and drained, relieving the pain.

Risk factors for developing hemorrhoids include constipation, heavy lifting, prolonged sitting, obesity, pregnancy, liver disease, colon cancer, rectal surgery and straining at stool.

The goal of treatment for hemorrhoidal disease is to eliminate the symptoms, not necessarily to eliminate all of the hemorrhoids. Improving bowel habits is crucial. Prevent constipation and avoid straining with increasing fiber in the diet and the use of stool softeners when needed. To eliminate symptoms, use sitz baths, keep the rectal area clean, and avoid vigorous rubbing with toilet tissue. Witch hazel compresses, suppositories, and topical creams may decrease pain and itching.

If home treatment does not work, your doctor may recommend banding, sclerotherapy or surgery. Banding is a procedure that places a tiny elastic band around the base of the hemorrhoid disrupting the hemorrhoid circulation causing it to dry up and fall off. Sclerotherapy is a treatment where an irritating solution is injected into the hemorrhoid causing scar tissue to form, thereby blocking the circulation of the hemorrhoid. Surgery involves removal of the hemorrhoid.

To The Editor

Dear Editor:
Christmas 1998 will be one of my favorite Christmases for I had the experience of seeing the "true meaning of Christmas" demonstrated.

You see, for the second year, Lowell High School students "sponsored" 10 families who have a child with a developmental disability. The amount of care required for their children can be a difficult challenge on its own. When coupled

with financial difficulties, the holidays can be especially stressful as there is no money for extras. Our high school students recognized a need in the community and responded with unbounded generosity.

Coordination of this project was done by Pete Siler, FFA advisor, and Beth Larabee, student coordinator. Each student group "adopted" a family and gathered gifts of food, clothes, household items and toys. One group was even able to purchase a queen-size mattress for their particular family! Everyone did such an outstanding job that each family's identified needs were met. There were so many gifts that they filled my Yukon twice as well as a pick-up truck!

To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 7

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Join Us In Worship

<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship.....8:30 A.M. Koinonia.....9:30 A.M. Sunday School.....9:50 A.M. Worship.....11:00 A.M. Every Wednesday - Bible study/enrichment.....6:30 P.M.</p> <p>REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EMMAUS LUTHERAN E.L.C.A. New Location: Kettle Lake School Whitneyville Rd at Garbow, Alto just south of 68th St.</p> <p>Bill Brandner - Pastor 897-1584 WORSHIP: Sunday Worship 9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 A.M. Church office 956-6695</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 Nursery for Every Service</p> <p>Robert W. Holmes, Pastor Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: Morning Worship : 10:30 a.m. Sunday Night Alive: 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for All Ages) 7-8 p.m.</p>	<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21</p> <p>www.iserv.net/~goodshp Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Wednesday Evening.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7188 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. Buland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Sun. Worship Service, 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/J.V. Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free A Family Friendly Fellowship</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>TIMOTHY E. HARMON, Minister Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor Louise Weeks.....Interim Christian Ed Director Meghan Culver.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided</p>

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1999.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Thompson and the Clerk called the Roll. Present: Councilmembers Blough, Green, Myers, Shores and Mayor Thompson. Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, Account Clerk Susan Ullery, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Police Chief James Valentine, Light & Power Superintendent Ronald Holcomb, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt, Lowell Light and Power Boardmembers Norman Borgerson, Charles Doyle and Barbara Brown, and Light and Power Office Manager Mary Sawka.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN that the minutes of the January 4, 1999 meeting be approved as written.

YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by MYERS that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.

YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (01/19/99)

GENERAL FUND	\$142,568.08
MAJOR STREET FUND	971.51
LOCAL STREET FUND	31.53
DDA FUND	464.83
WASTEWATER FUND	182,043.59
WATER FUND	960.02
EQUIPMENT FUND	5,513.87
CURRENT TAX	90,489.68
LOOK DALEY FUND	2,543.80

Item #1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - 1999 - 2000 ALLOCATION FUNDS - PUBLIC HEARING. As previously discussed, Kent County has informed the City an estimated \$41,989.60 in Federal Community Development Block Grant funds would be available July 1, 1999. City Manager Pasquale recommended these funds be distributed toward the completion of the West Main Sidewalk Improvements project (\$39,989.60) and the North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders (\$2,000). The remaining funds needed for the sidewalk project would be provided from the Downtown Development Authority and/or the Improvement Fund.

Councilmember Myers stated there has been an increased use of the North Kent Transit program, which he strongly supports.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by GREEN to distribute the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year Federal Community Development Block Grant funds of \$41,989.60 toward the completion of the West Main Sidewalk Improvements project (\$39,989.60) and the North Kent Transit, assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders (\$2,000).
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. VACATION OF OLD DIAGONAL SECTION OF BOWES ROAD - TABLED FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING - UPDATE. In providing an update to Council, City Manager Pasquale explained the concerns of Grand Rapids Gravel regarding the location of City entrance sign within the old diagonal section of Bowes Road. Brad Rahn of Grand Rapids Gravel indicated the company did not want anything to interfere with future development of the property. Department of Public Works Director Dan DesJarden and Dave Austin of Williams and Works have been working to determine the suitable size of the clear vision zone. An agreement will be arranged with Grand Rapids Gravel before returning the issue to the Council.

Pasquale stated he spoke with Sam Lombardo concern-

ing the deeding of his portion to Grand Rapids Gravel of vacated right of way. Lombardo has given his verbal approval, subject to an easement for access. Lombardo mentioned the easterly portion of the property is owned by Maureen Lombardo, his former wife. A letter has been sent to her with the request to deed the right of way also.

The item has been deferred until further information is provided to Council.

Item #3. LITEHOUSE, INC. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECT UPDATE. A meeting was held on January 11, 1999 to review the current and future capacity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There were concerns with Litehouse/Chadalee Farms regarding the issues of high levels of BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) and Suspended Solids discharging into the system.

Wendell Christoff of Litehouse/Chadalee Farms introduced Operations Manager Bill Patrick and Paul Kusche, Operations Manager who have been working on this issue. Christoff apologized concerning the current situation and wished more had been done throughout the previous years. He stated within approximately 30 days the company would be able to determine how long it would take to solve the problem. This is estimated to cost between one to one and a half million dollars.

Claristoff stated the problem appeared to be focused on suspended solids and BOD. Both areas had been exceeding the acceptable level on a regular basis. He noted there has been an improvement within the last few weeks. Christoff indicated Litehouse/Chadalee Farms was hopeful moving a portion of the plant operations to the Florida location would improve the situation.

Mayor Thompson stated Litehouse/Chadalee Farms has been very beneficial to the community. He also noted Lowell Township purchased 18% capacity of the plant, which Litehouse/Chadalee Farms has used in part.

Christoff indicated the company would update the City periodically on the situation.

Councilmember Blough also agreed Litehouse/Chadalee Farms has been very beneficial to the community.

Mayor Thompson stated the issue should be reviewed monthly. He also noted Lowell Township should be included in the discussion. Christoff stated the next status report would be provided for the Council meeting of February 1, 1999.

Item #4. CONSIDERATION IN ADJUSTMENT OF LIGHT AND POWER RATES. Lowell Light and Power Superintendent Ronald Holcomb introduced Mark Beauchamp of Virchow, Krause and Company who had completed a cost study for LL&P. Holcomb explained the study stating charges need to be adjusted.

Beauchamp explained he had been completing a cost study for LL&P since August, 1998. He noted the current revenue rates of residential customers in Lowell is \$586,449. The revenue requirements for this class should be \$710,528. Beauchamp said the rates nationwide have increased 5.5% since 1992, while industrial rates have decreased 6%. He stated utility companies are attempting to eliminate cost subsidization between these classes.

Beauchamp mentioned the recent audit showed LL&P had profited greatly throughout the year. The audit figures were offset by several reasons, including the lower interest rates and the substitution fire replacement. These should not have been included in the total net income cost of \$583,599. Considering these adjustments, LL&P would have a net income cost of \$272,000, which has been the average income over the last few years.

The following rate adjustments were proposed:

Type	Current	1999	2000
Residential Service	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0599	\$0.0600	\$0.0610
Residential Water Heating	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0599	\$0.0600	\$0.0600
kW Charge	\$0.0569	\$0.0570	\$0.0570
General Service Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$16.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0729	\$0.0740	\$0.0740

General Service Demand			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0399	\$0.0370	\$0.0370
kW Charge	\$8.15	\$9.30	\$9.30

General Service Demand Primary Metered			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0399	\$0.0360	\$0.0360
kW Charge	\$8.15	\$9.30	\$9.30

General Service Demand Transformer Ownership			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
kWh Charge	\$0.0399	\$0.0360	\$0.0360
kW Charge	\$8.15	\$9.30	\$9.30

Proposed Rate Adjustments in Percent (%)

Type	March 1, 1999	March 1, 2000
Residential	2.8%	3.9%
Residential Water Heat.	2.8%	3.1%
General Service	1.9%	0%
General Service Demand	1.4%	0%
General Service Demand	-0.6%	0%
General Service Demand	-5.4%	0%

Beauchamp stated a study was also completed showing LL&P rates have been approximately 13% below other utility companies within Michigan.

Mayor Thompson said the users own LL&P. He questioned, why the rate must be increased, if there was a net income of \$272,000. Beauchamp responded the amount to purchase power has been increasing, due to the growth of Lowell. Thompson asked if future upkeep of the plant had been taken into consideration. Holcomb responded many areas of operation need to be updated and addressed, in order to keep the plant running properly.

Councilmember Myers noted the last rate increase was in March, 1991. He stated the study showed there would be no rate increases for commercial customers. Whereas, residential users will be receiving a 3.9% increase, which is higher than inflation rates. Beauchamp responded the high percentage rate is because there had been no increase in the past 8 years.

Holcomb stated commercial customers provide approximately 60% of the revenue for LL&P. If one or two are lost, residential rates would become extremely high.

LL&P Board Chairman Norman Borgerson stated there had been no rate increases in a long time. He mentioned the substitution fire may have been prevented, if certain devices were in place. Borgerson noted the system is old and should be updated.

Mayor Thompson asked why LL&P has proposed a two tier increase. Beauchamp responded this may be more acceptable for the customers. Mayor Thompson added the adjustments may not be as high in the future.

Mayor Thompson asked if a notice would be sent out to customers. Holcomb responded yes.

Pasquale stated before the last increase of 1991, there had been no increase since 1975.

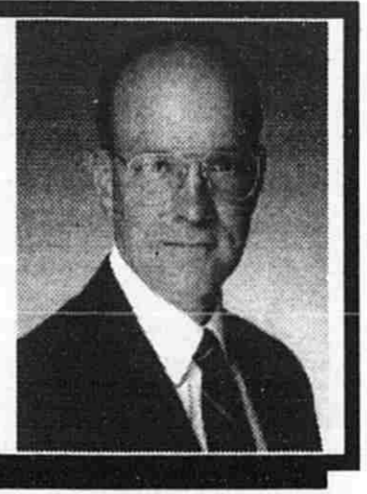
Beauchamp said the average residential customer, paying approximately \$40 a month, would experience an increase of \$1.20 per month.

Councilmember Blough stated LL&P provides excellent service to the community. He mentioned there are many residents who appreciate living in Lowell because of the low utility costs. Blough was concerned not notifying the public when rates are slightly increased. He also wanted more information on the reliability of the utility system and how much the cost would be to update it. Holcomb responded these costs would be available after bids had been received. He noted a 40 year old power transformer needs to be replaced. Holcomb stated within the next six months he would have a report prepared for the Council explaining replacements needed.

LL&P Boardmember Charles Doyle stated LL&P has operated very efficiently for the last 40 years. He believed a rate increase was needed. Councilmember Blough stated the Council needs to ask questions so information can be provided to the community. Doyle commented the City did not inform the community when water rates were increased. City Manager Pasquale stated water increases were discussed during the Council meetings and placed

*Sharing
The Vision*

PETER L. GUSTAFSON
Board of Education President



Impeachment proceedings in Washington, bribery in the Olympic movement, scandal at the Super Bowl. What are we to make of it - and more importantly, what do our children take from this sordid state of affairs?

In his last Vision article, our superintendent Bert Bleke wrote about the role of schools in raising good kids as well as smart kids, and referred to the character traits that we have put in place in our community to reflect the values of good citizenship and moral conduct. They are RICHR-Responsibility, Integrity, Compassion, Honesty and Respect. You will see more of these five character traits throughout Lowell over the coming months. They are not just buzz words. They reflect the shared values of our small but growing community. And like Bert, I hope they will be part of our bulwark against the assault on values coming from so many directions in the modern world.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

in the Lowell Ledger. Mayor Thompson believed the Board has done a remarkable job. He mentioned a goal setting session is scheduled for Saturday, January 30, 1999 to discuss better ways of handling these situations.

Councilmember Green stated the same questions were asked when water and sewer rates were discussed. He noted this helps the public understand the increase.

Councilmember Myers felt the community is fortunate there has not been a rate increase for so long.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to adopt the electric rate adjustments for Lowell effective as of March 1, 1999 and March 1, 2000 for Lowell Light & Power as proposed, noting the March 1, 1999 increase at 2.8% for the residential customers.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Green mentioned although residential costs have been lower in the past, it is important to be competitive with the commercial market. Councilmember Blough believed the leadership with LL&P has been outstanding. However, better communication is needed with the Council.

Item #5. TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING - REVIEW OF BIDS. At the last meeting, DPW Director Dan DesJarden recommended the removal of trees within the right of way located at 417 Howard and 225 S. Jefferson, while pruning a tree in front of 217 1/2 S. Jefferson. The following bids were received:

	Poortenga Tree Service (G.R.)	Popeye Tree Service (Lowell)
417 Howard - remove sugar maple, grind stump	\$590.	\$675.
225 S. Jefferson - remove sugar maple, grind stump	\$330.	\$350.
217 1/2 S. Jefferson - prune sugar maple	\$120.	\$200.
	\$1040.	\$1225.

Councilmember Myers asked if DesJarden could handle tree issues on his own. Pasquale responded years ago it was requested these issues be brought to the Council. By consensus, the Council decided to keep the procedure as is.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by MYERS to award the contract to Poortenga Tree Service for the removal of trees located at 417 Howard and 225 S. Jefferson, as well as pruning a tree located at 217 1/2 S. Jefferson, based on the low bid of \$1040.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #6. MERS RESOLUTION DEFINING HOURS PER MONTH FOR ELIGIBILITY OF RETIREMENT COMPENSATION. City Manager Pasquale stated a resolution before Council would allow employees who work at least 100 hours per month to be eligible for pension through Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS).

Superintendent Bleke is right. Providing our children with a sound education in academic subjects is vitally important, but it is not enough, and we will continue to do more in the Lowell Schools.

Of course, we want our national leaders to be intelligent, but have you heard anyone talking lately about our President's grades in high school or college? Do we really care how "smart" the IOC officials are who took bribes in the selection of host cities for the Olympic games, and sullied the name of one of the most cherished of world institutions? Does it matter what GPA a football player had in school when we reflect on his tawdry shenanigans the night before the Super Bowl?

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

I will not forget the look of pride and excitement on the faces of the students as they carried and carted the gifts they had collected. The enthusiasm demonstrated by all was overwhelming. It was evident they had taken their family's needs to heart and went all out to bring the Spirit of Christmas to their family's home.

On behalf of Thresholds Family Support Staff and the families who benefited by the students' efforts, I extend many thanks to the following student groups and their advisors.

None of us is perfect, least of all this writer. And the Lowell character traits will not solve the world's - or the nation's - problems. But they can be a start for our young people. If RICHR had been followed in the White House, in the International Olympic Committee, and by all members of the Super Bowl teams, just think how different our daily news would be.

It would be well to bring that to the attention of the children of our community when they wonder what's going on among the "adults" of the world. Yes, Lowell is doing a good job educating smart kids, but we intend to continue to focus on educating good kids as well. Let us all join together in this crucial effort on behalf of our young people-and ourselves.

Lowell FFA, advisor Pete Siler and student coordinator Beth Larabee; Lowell football teams, coach Noel Dean; student council, advisors Curt Kaeb, Heather Kohtz and Betsy Maki; art club, advisor Robin White; Lowell High School staff, coordinator Kim Nyson; National Honor Society, advisor Gary Fredline; International Club, advisors Mary Malone, Ingrid Baird and Tammy Denk; Apostolic Christian Church, coordinator Luanne Kaeb; Lowell Youth for Christ, advisor Mike Michaud; SADD - Students Against Drunk Driving.

Councilmember Green asked if the benefit was based on number of years of employment. Pasquale responded an employee must have ten years of credited service before receiving the retirement benefit.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve the resolution defining an employee working at least 100 hours per month to be eligible for retirement compensation under the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS).
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #7. CONSIDERATION TO RESOLVE COMPUTER SOFTWARE ISSUE. After discussing the matter with Creative Microsystems, Inc. (CMI), Dwayne Houghton of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson had determined CMI would reduce their software price by \$4,325 as part of the computer accounting software and hardware package reviewed at the last meeting. Further, Biggs, Hausserman would reduce their fees by \$750, giving an overall savings of \$5,075.

Mayor Thompson asked why Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson was reducing the price by \$750. Houghton responded he should have asked more questions, thus avoiding the problem in the first place.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BLOUGH to accept the software price reduction of \$4,325 through Creative Microsystems, Inc., as well as the Biggs, Hausserman reduction of \$750 involving the computer accounting software and hardware package.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #8. MONTHLY REPORTS. No comments were received.

Item #9. CITIZEN COMMENTS. No comments were received.

Item #10. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Shores congratulated the Department of Public Works for the great job removing snow from the roads recently.

Councilmember Green passed his condolences to Mayor Maatman regarding the loss of his father. He also stated he was disappointed with the premium Showtime cable channel, which was presented to all customers over the weekend. He felt the movies were not appropriate for children.

Mayor Thompson stated the Goal Setting Session would be held on Saturday, January 30, 1999.

Item #11. MANAGER'S REPORT. The following was provided:
1. A pre-work survey should be completed by each Councilmember and Department Head for the January 30, Goal Setting Session. Each response must be faxed by Monday, January 25.
2. A copy of the December 16, 1998 meeting minutes of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce was given to the Council.

3. A snow removal report was prepared by DPW Director Dan DesJarden. Pasquale stated there has been many hours provided for snow removal these past weeks. Mayor Thompson stated the roads have been much better in Lowell than in neighboring communities.

In the report, a total of 257.5 hours covering 2201.8 miles of road have been undertaken to remove snow. The winter maintenance budget is at 44.2% of planned expenditures.

4. The Michigan Municipal League Legislative Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, March 17 at the Lansing Center.

Item #12. APPOINTMENTS. Mayor Thompson mentioned there is a vacant position on the Board of Review which should be considered for appointment.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by GREEN to reappoint James Sowle to the Airport Board for a term expiring January 1, 2002.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by SHORES to reappoint Margaret Hoats to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term expiring January 1, 2002.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by GREEN to reappoint Dave Clark to the Board of Review for a term expiring June 30, 2002.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by MYERS to reappoint Robert Reagan to the Historic District Commission for a term expiring January 1, 2002.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to adjourn into closed session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss property acquisition pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BLOUGH to return to open session at 9:26 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS to adjourn at 9:27 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, February 1, 1999

William F. Thompson, Mayor
David M. Pasquale, City Clerk

Vergennes Planning Commission begins discussions on regulating cell towers

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

With a six-month moratorium on cell towers in place, Vergennes Township Planning Commissioners were busy discussing what regulations might possibly be put into an ordinance.

Commissioner Dean Alger, in providing an information report on cell towers, noted that the township has the right to specify location within a certain area.

"Unless there is a real reason (e.g. airport nearby), it is difficult to stop tower development," Alger said. "The FCC has ruled that local government cannot stop tower constructions."

Vergennes Township, like others, is concerned with the visual impact of a cell tower.

According to some, that can be dealt with. "I have a tower on some of my property in Belding. I can tell you if the companies are dealt with properly, those towers are not an eyesore," said Roger Kropf.

Location and landscaping are key issues in preventing towers from becoming eyesores.

Alger concurred that the compromises can be worked out between the communications companies and the township.

"For the most part, these companies try to work with local governments. However, if governments are unreasonable, they may take action."

Vergennes Township planning consultant Marc Daneman,

in addressing health concerns, said study after study have not shown that to be an issue.

The establishment of cell towers in the township would bring in revenue. Vergennes Township levies a personal property tax to businesses.

Alger explains that if a cellular company or two were to locate in Vergennes Township, they would be required to pay that tax.

"Their equipment is very expensive, hence a reasonable taxable value. This would be a method of bringing revenue into the township that would not be noisy or smelly, and would have a positive effect on our citizens' communications services," Alger said.

Morse, cont'd.... From Page 4

school, and volunteering her time. She also discusses how it is enabling her to become a strong, successful adult.

Batt wrote about how a family trauma has made her a better person.

Prill writes about being the perfect baby, but how she has battled with not being accepted for who she is.

Koehn's essay discusses how moving to Lowell changed her.

Bender speaks of learning independence and acceptance from her large family, friends, religion, teachers, heritage and community.

This summer's four-day trip to Gettysburg will cost individual members between \$200-\$250.

Misner said to keep the trip affordable, at least 37 members need to.

Misner has applied for a \$16,000 grant from McDonald's. The funds would be used to bring Civil War historian Shelby Foote to Lowell. Other names on Misner's wish list are Ken Burns and David McCullough.

Misner spoke with Foote last summer in Ogden, Utah. "He spoke with such wisdom," Misner said with admiration.

Lowell DDA reveals list of items being considered for a possible \$1.7 million bond

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

The extension of the Riverwalk to the amphitheater. Parking lot improvements. The City Hall/Police Station project.

Detroit Lions -vs- Lowell Heroes

WHEN: Thurs., Feb. 25, 1999
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: Lowell High School
COST: \$5.00

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Renovation of downtown buildings. What do all of these topics have in common? They all might just be on a future bond issue in the city of Lowell.

These topics were what the Downtown Development Authority discussed as part of a new bond issue. Lowell City Manager David Pasquale presented these items to the city council at its regularly scheduled meeting Monday night. The DDA could bond for up to \$1.7 million. With that in mind, the organization has been considering future projects.

The items, and the estimated costs, include the following: Extension of the Riverwalk to the amphitheater, \$55,000; King Milling parking lot improvements, \$51,500; Monroe/Avery parking lot improvements, \$86,000; City Hall/Police Station project, \$200,500; purchase, renovation, resale of downtown buildings, \$250,000; extension of street lighting west to city limits with underground service in cooperation with Lowell Light and Power, to be determined; and sidewalks completing the West Main Street area and where needed, \$50,000.

Pasquale said the group also discussed a pavilion where the Lee's Landing building stood and was taken down a couple of years ago. Before the DDA goes ahead with any bond issue, the group will be discussing items with the council. Pasquale noted that the list was not in order of importance, but just items that had been discussed as possibilities.



Thirteen percent of the U.S. population is 65 or older. By the year 2050 that number will be 20 percent.

CITY OF LOWELL SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER

As referenced in the City of Lowell Code of Ordinance, Article II, Section 19-46 Sidewalks and areas to be cleared; (a) no occupant of any premises or owner of premises or property clear of ice and/or snow, so far as to facilitate pedestrian use. Where there are no sidewalks, no such occupant or owner shall fail to clear a path free of snow and ice, when such a path will provide an extension of existing sidewalk on an adjacent property. (b) Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated, it shall be cleared within twenty four (24) hours.

Section 19-47 Discarding snow and ice; (a) No person shall cause snow to be piled or discarded upon another premises or property without permission. (b) No person shall cause snow to be piled or discarded upon any public property, street right-of-way, or sidewalk so as to obstruct its normal use.

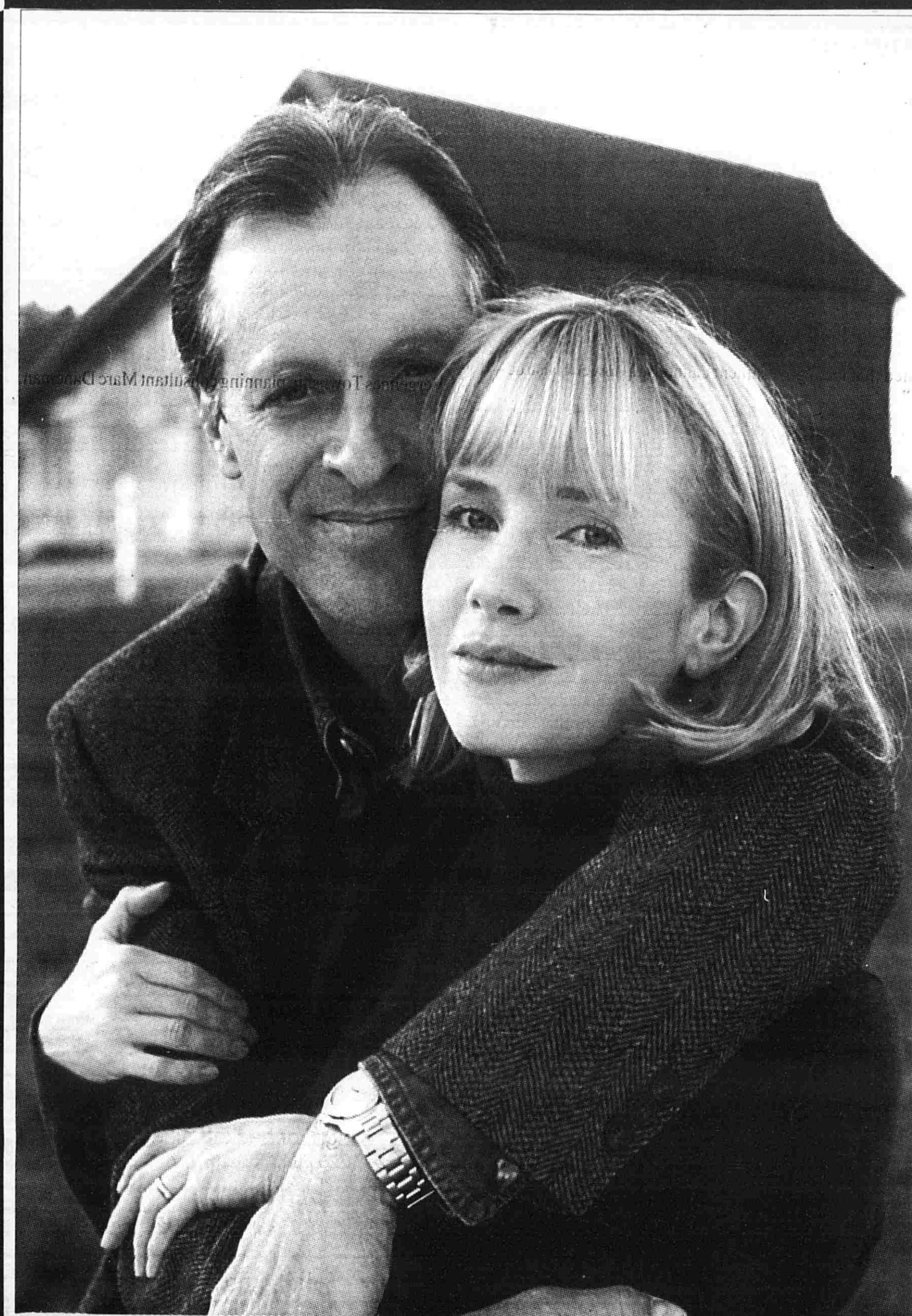
Any occupant or property owner that violates this ordinance will be fined.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE

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2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5	FX
6	WGVU-35
7	WXMI-17
8	WOOD-8
9	WLNS-6
10	WILX-10
11	WTLJ-54
12	WKAR-23
13	WZZM-13
14*	SHOWTIME
15	WSYM-47
16*	HBO
17*	THE MOVIE CHANNEL
18*	C-MAX
19	FAM
20	LOCAL PROG./WEATHER
21	MTV
22	VH-1
23	USA
24	DISCOVERY
25	WGN
26	ESPN
27	CNN
28	HN
29	NICK
30	A&E
31	FOX SPORTS
32	TNT
33	TBS
34	DISNEY
35	TNN
36	TRAVEL
37	LEARNING
38	SCI-FI
39	COMEDY CENTRAL
40	WEATHER
41	HISTORY
42	AMC
43	WZPX-43
44	HOME & GARDEN
45	LIFETIME
46	TOON DISNEY
47	MSNBC
48	C-SPAN
49	EWTN

* Denotes Premium Channels



FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5 THRU FEBRUARY 11

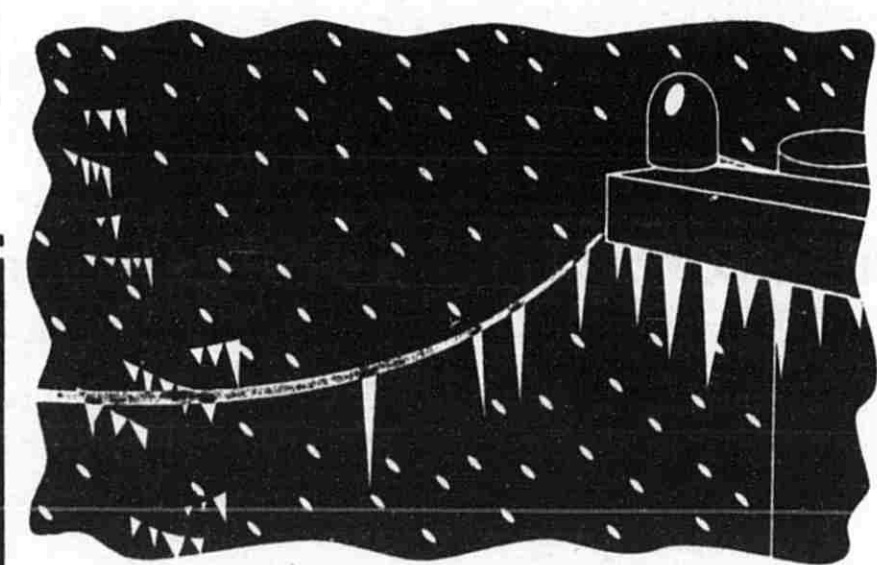
Keith Carradine and Rebecca De Mornay play a husband and wife struggling to cope with the devastating loss of their child in the 200th Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation *Night Ride Home*. The film premieres Sunday on CBS.

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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

FRIDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 5, 1999 BROADCAST STATIONS 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 5, 1999 BROADCAST STATIONS 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 6, 1999 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

SATURDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 6, 1999 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 EVENING FEBRUARY 6, 1999. 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 7, 1999. 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, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 6, 1999. 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 7, 1999. 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

SUNDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 7, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 7, 1999. 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, etc.) listing various programs and movies.

MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 8, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 9, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

MONDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 8, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 10, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 9, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 10, 1999. Broadcast schedule 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, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WZZM, WFX, WAM, WUSA, WDISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

Transient Merchant, cont'd.... From Page 1

public hearing, the council will make its decision as to whether to follow the planning commission's recommendation to eliminate the transient merchant ordinance

Eliminating the ordinance came at the recommendation of a committee put together by the planning commission on the subject of transient merchants. The committee was represented by city officials and business people, including both transient merchants and permanent business owners. All agreed to the removal of the city's transient merchant ordinance and having such businesses apply under the city's open air business, which establishes a permanent business.

City manager David Pasquale said of the two transient merchants in the city right now, one has applied for the open air business special use permit and the other is seeking a retail business.

Along with its recommendation to eliminate the transient

merchant ordinance, the planning commission recommended the establishment of a farmer's market within the city. One possible location could be the 4-H Fairgrounds. Pasquale said at the planning commission meeting, concerns were raised about location, running the market, and enforcement of rules, all items that the city council asked the planning commission to further look into.

The city council also asked Pasquale to make sure that by eliminating the transient merchant ordinance, it would not affect such special events as the Riverwalk Festival which allows crafters and food vendors to come in and sell. Pasquale said he believes that would fall under the special events category and would check on it and report back to the council.

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Central Michigan University's fall semester honors list includes students from Lowell area who earned 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and higher grade point averages.

Included on the list were: Jessica A. Garber, Jennifer L. Haan and Elizabeth A. Krebill, all of Lowell, and Lillian R. Hawkins of Alto.

In all, 2,698 CMU students were named to the honors list and 365 earned straight "As". About 17,300 students attend CMU in Mount Pleasant.

COLLEGE NEWS

Beth A. Hoag, daughter of Patrick and Dorothy Hoag of Lowell, has received recognition on the dean's list for the fall semester at Bradley University in Peoria, IL.

To be eligible for the dean's list, a student must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Brower beams brightly against Rockford

••• Junior Renee Brower earned first-, second-, third- and fifth-place marks against the Rams.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

As a freshman, Lowell's Renee Brower's favorite gymnastics event was the floor exercise.

So when her coach told her that before her four years of competing in high school gymnastics were over that the balance beam would be her best event, the freshman probably gave her coach a funny look, shrugged her shoulders, and with a tone of disbelief said "right!"

Following Lowell's 118.35-106 loss to Rockford Wednesday night, Brower, now a junior, had changed her tone, and admits in a different tone that her coach, Michele DeHaan, was right.

"I've put a lot of time and practice in on the beam," Brower explains. "It has become my favorite event."

DeHaan says she saw some natural talent in Brower. "Renee had a better sense of balance than most. Now she's combining some confidence and talent with that," DeHaan explains. "Some may not remember, but Renee qualified for the regional on the balance beam as a freshman."

Brower recorded her best beam performance of the year against the Rams. She ex-

ecuted all of her cartwheels and showed balance and control in carrying out her handstand.

"You have to have balance and control going up and coming down from a handstand," Brower said. "Once I got up I was thinking about keeping my balance and control coming down."

She did and with it earned a score of 8.1, her best mark of the year.

"I didn't connect my cartwheels as well as I would have liked," Brower explained.

Teammate Katie Blough was fifth overall with a mark of 6.55 followed by Laura Douglass' 6.5 and Suzanne Swift's 6.4.

On the vault, both Brower and Blough penciled in their fourth and final qualifying score needed to compete in the regional.

Brower tied with Rockford's Emily Lewakowski for top honors with a 7.7. Blough was second with a 7.6.

Amber O'Boyle scored a 7.5 and Douglass finished with a 6.95.

"Amber threw her first handspring on the vault," DeHaan said. "Katie, on her second attempt, experimented

with a Yami." Brower, who placed in each event, was third in the floor exercise. She tallied a 7.65. Rockford's Michelle Bainbridge and Lewakowski were the exercise medalists with 8.1.

O'Boyle finished with a 6.9. Douglass had a 6.75 and Blough scored a 6.7.

"Actually Katie wasn't our fourth highest score. There was an error in scoring," DeHaan said. "Freshman April Telman scored a 6.75. She did a real good job with her back handspring. She has good form and shows a lot of potential."

On the uneven bars, Brower was fifth overall with a score of 5.55. O'Boyle finished with a 5.25 and Douglass and Swift scored 5.15 and 4.85 respectively.

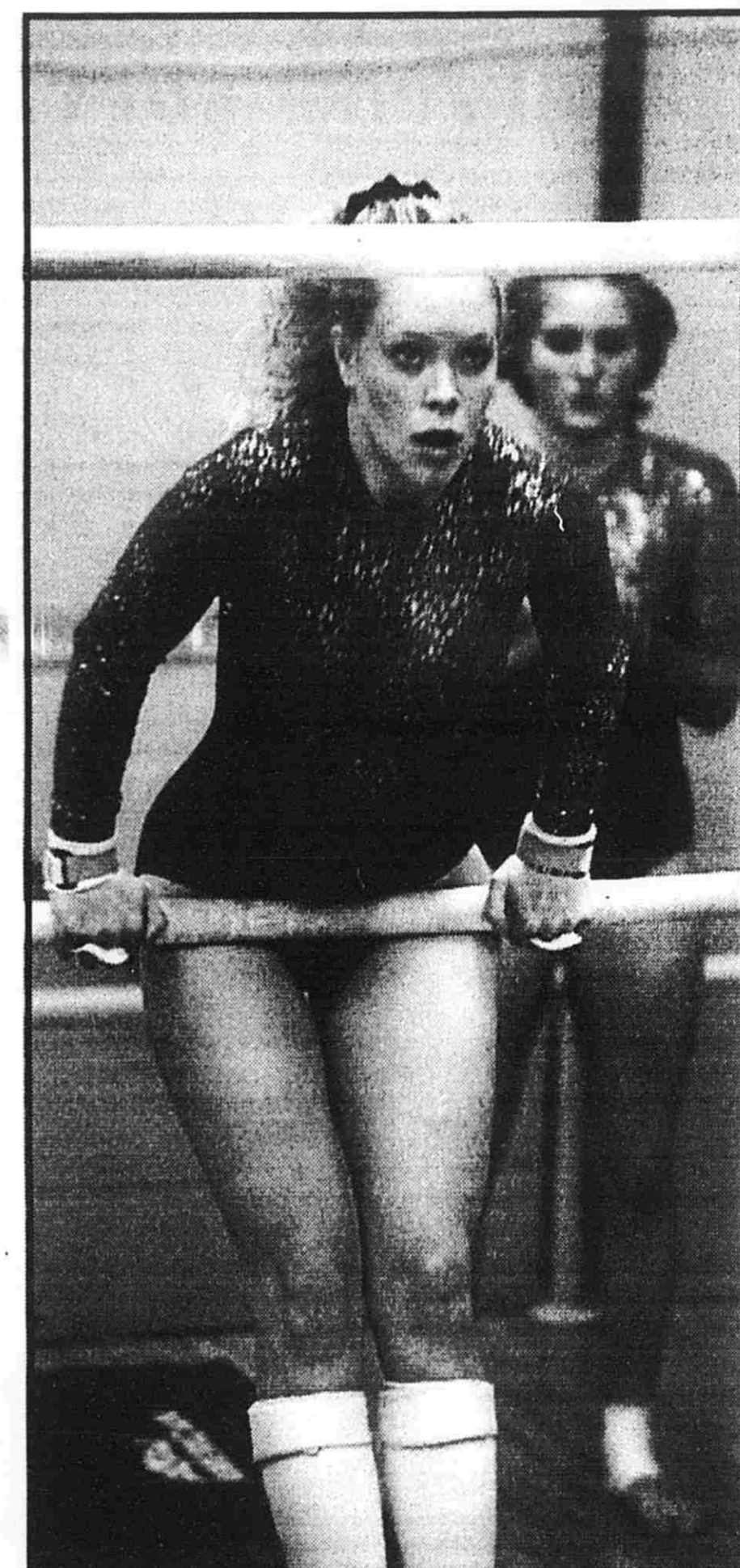
Rockford's Kelly VanderKyle was the medalist in the event with a mark of 8.45.

"It was a good meet. We were able to get some girls in who haven't competed yet this year," said Rockford coach Jill Scheurer. "I was pleased but there is room for improvement."

Lowell's next meet is at East Grand Rapids Wednesday at 7 p.m.



Renee Brower recorded a season's best 8.1 on the balance beam.



Suzanne Swift begins her uneven bar routine in action against Rockford on Wednesday.

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Lowell zones out Creston to win non-conference thriller

By Thaddeus J Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

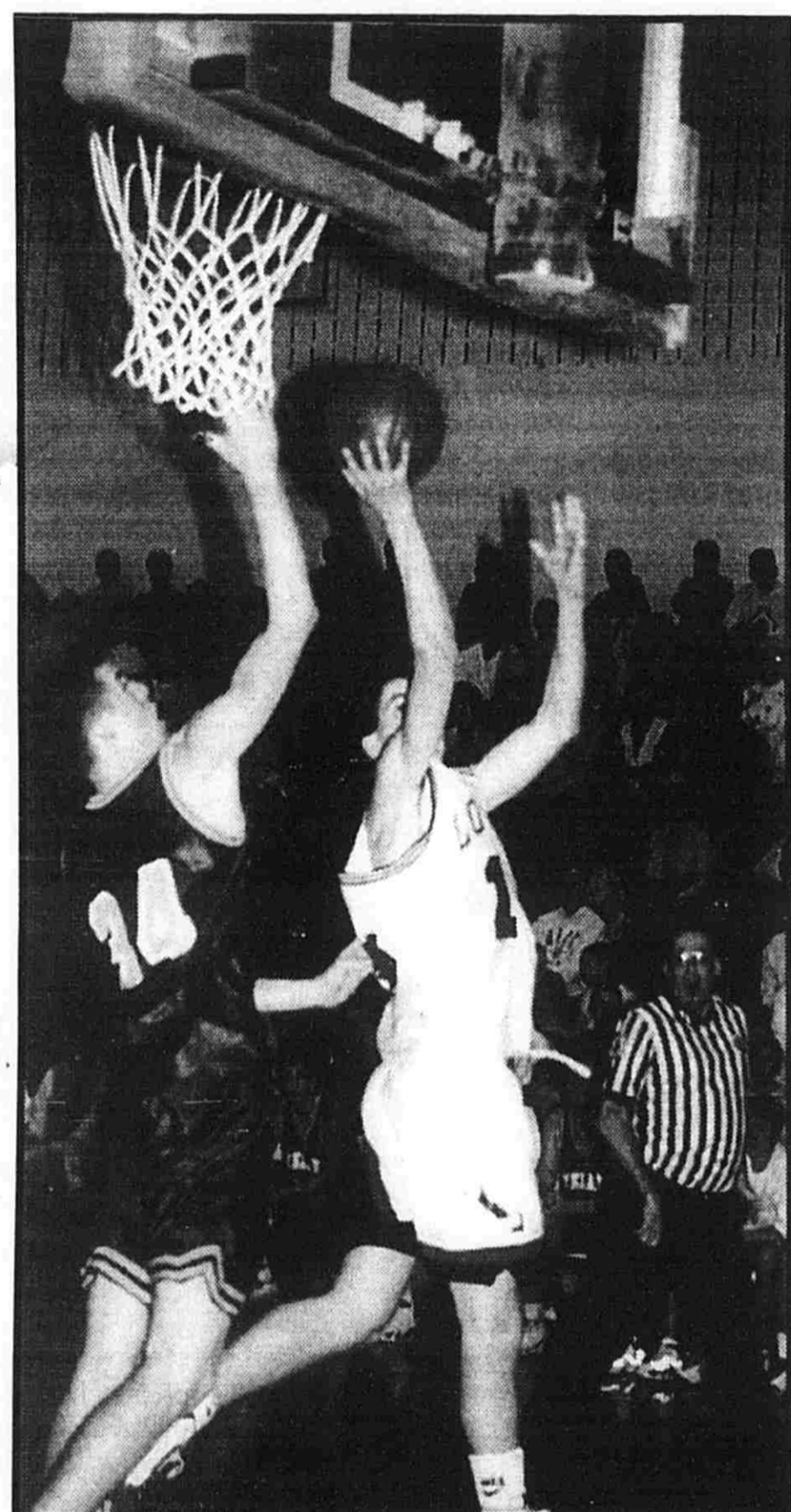
In its 78-76 win over Creston, Lowell basketball coach Pete Bush asked his club to do something it hasn't done all year... play a zone defense.

The Red Arrows trailed the Polar Bears 39-31 at half-time. Creston's guards were dissecting Lowell's half court man-to-man defense with effective penetration.

"We had to do something to negate what Creston was doing," Bush explained. "So I went to something (zone) different."

It worked. Lowell cut the eight-point deficit to one with a 24-17 third-quarter scoring advantage.

The Red Arrows built a



Aaron Alsgaard scores off a break against the Chix.

nine-point advantage in the fourth quarter before Creston turned the final minute into near heartbreak for Lowell.

Creston's Melvin Ward tied the game at 76-76 on a 12-foot jumper with roughly 27 seconds to play.

Lowell's Shane Teelander, who tallied 14 points, netted the game winner with 19 seconds to play. The senior touched one off the glass from about eight feet away.

The Red Arrows then pressured Creston's guards, forcing the Polar Bears to use a timeout with five seconds to play. After getting the ball in-bounds, Creston was not able to get a decent shot off.

Aaron Alsgaard and T.J. Thayer led Lowell with 15 points apiece. Tim Schutte added 10.

Creston (3-9) was led by Justin Freeman with 11. Three other Polar Bears netted 10 points apiece.

Zeeland 86, Lowell 57

The Chix played like a team vying for an OK White conference championship Friday night against the Red Arrows.

The combination of Zeeland's win and Hastings'

fourth-quarter, 15-point come-from-behind win against Wyoming Park set up a league showdown this week, between the two basketball titans.

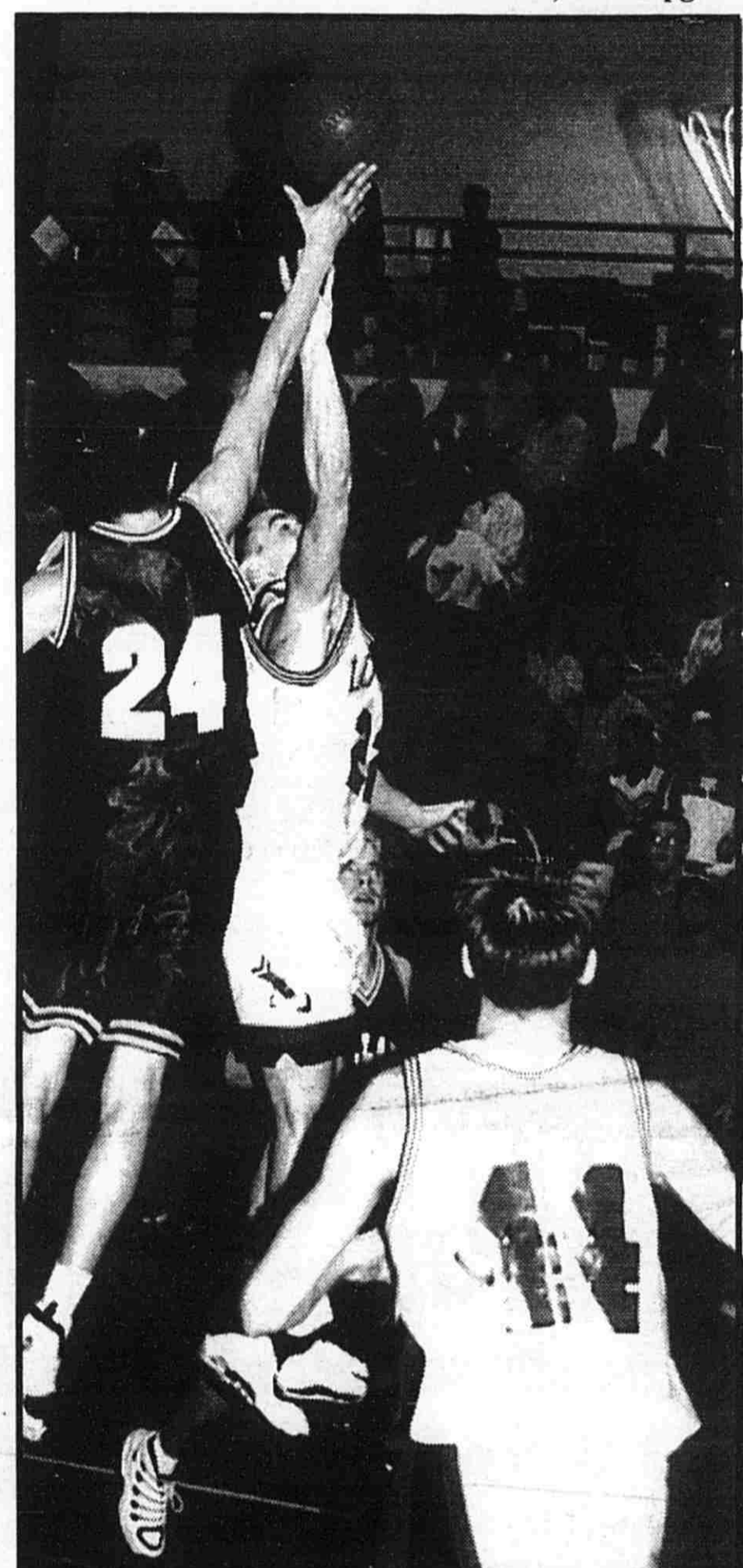
The loss dropped Lowell to 2-5 in the OK White and 4-7 overall.

"Zeeland was focused and came out and played hard right from the outset," Lowell basketball coach Pete Bush ex-

plained. "We haven't played a team all year we didn't feel we could beat. However, I looked up at the clock tonight with one minute to play in the first quarter and we were down 18-8, and I had that feeling."

For a few shining back-to-back Aaron Alsgaard through three-point shots, it looked as though the Red Arrows might

Basketball, cont'd. pg. 21



T.J. Thayer can't quite get the ball above the outstretched hands of his Zeeland defender.

LEGAL NOTICES

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JUDICIAL DISTRICT
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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POSTING AND NOTICE
OF ACTION
CASE NO. 98-12450-DM

MARSHALL TEKLAI
ZEMARIAM
Plaintiff
3438 Northlake Dr., NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

vs.

ASTER
WOLDEMICHAE
ZEMARIAM
Defendant
a/k/a Aster
Woldemichael
Andebrehan. To the
best of the Plaintiff's
knowledge, information
and belief, Defendant is
homeless.

TO: ASTER
WOLDEMICHAE
ZEMARIAM, a/k/a ASTER
WOLDEMICHAE
ANDEBREHAN

IT IS ORDERED:

You are being sued by plaintiff in this court to obtain a divorce. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before March 4, 1999. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

A copy of this order shall be published once each week in The Lowell Ledger for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

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Undermanned Red Arrow grapplers answer the challenges of Middleville and Lakewood

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's not how you start, but it's how you finish.

Lowell wrestling opponents have learned that oftentimes with the Red Arrows, that is one in the same.

Middleville and Lakewood were the latest victims of Lowell's bookend tandems.

It took the bookend tandem of John McKay (103 pounds) and John Mendez (112) less than two minutes to bolt the Red Arrows out to a 12-0 lead against Middleville in a battle of the second- and third-rated teams in Division II.

McKay pinned Jason Austin at 1:05 of the first period and Mendez stuck Brian Bender at 47 seconds of the opening period.

Leading 12-0, Lowell extended its lead to 18-0 following Denny Snuffer's 10-

4 win over Brett Wiersma and Dan Rottier's 3-1 decision against Evan Space.

The Trojans won seven of the next eight matches to battle back and take a 28-21 lead with only two matches to go... enter the second bookend tandem of Bill Stouffer and Mike Arnsward.

Stouffer put Maso Giovan on his back at 3:19 of the second period, pulling Lowell to within one at 28-27.

Arnsward, heavyweight, showed Marc Carter to the mat at 2:51 of the second period and with it gave Lowell a 33-28 win over Middleville.

"It's nice to be solid in the slots at the beginning and the end," Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejc said. "And we're still becoming more solid in the middle."

The Lowell coach said after his club's 35-32 loss to Forest Hills Central, it had more ability to get better in

the middle weights. "We're seeing that and feeling it," Strejc said.

The Red Arrows' only other win came at 135 pounds, where Brent Lyons decided Tom Schwander 14-9.

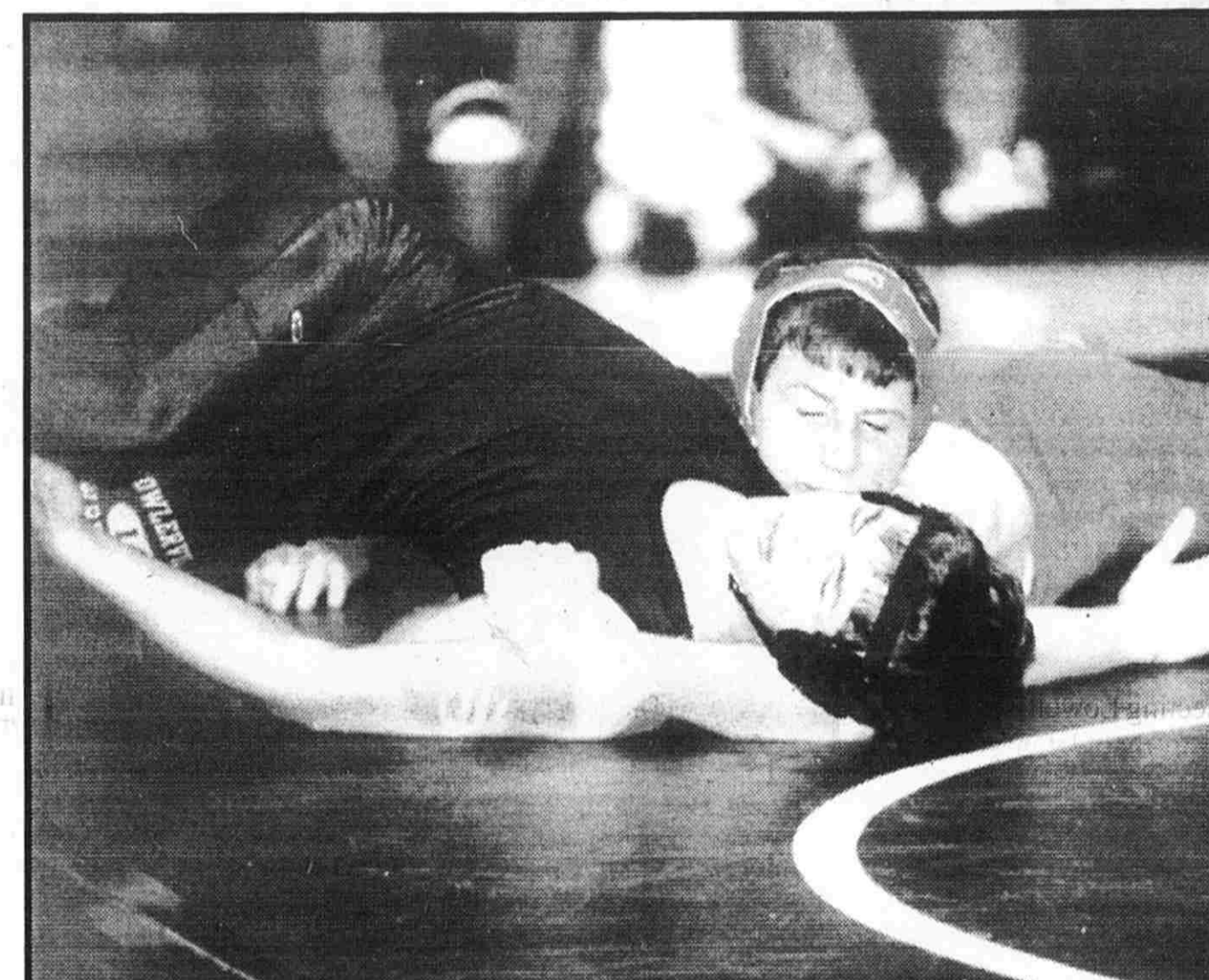
Lowell entered the match minus three of its starters (Caleb O'Boyle, Steve VanLaan and Caleb Grummet) which left its coach with lowered expectations.

"I wasn't sure we'd be able to defeat Middleville," Strejc said. "The boys have respect for Middleville, but they also have tremendous confidence in their own ability."

Lowell was matched up against the Vikings in its first match of the day.

The Red Arrows and Lakewood tied 34-34 with Lowell being declared the winner on the third criteria - most pins.

McKay started Lowell off



Lowell's Brent Lyons won all five of his matches on Saturday at the Lakewood Invitational.

with six points as he pinned Aaron Stahl at 4:40 of the third period.

The lower weight bookend tandem got derailed as Lakewood's Phil Plowman decided Mendez 10-2.

Snuffer decisioned Nathan Boucher 3-1 and Rottier followed with a 7-2

decision against Matt Vandorp, giving the Red Arrows a 12-4 advantage.

The Vikings and Red Arrows split the four matches at 130-145. Lakewood won decisions at 130 and 140.

Lowell's Lyons (135) decisioned Willie Ryan 16-7, and T.J. Forward pinned Jeremiah Thomas at 4:54 of the third period to give Lowell a 22-11 lead.

The Vikings, however won the next four matches, three by way of pin, taking a 34-22 lead going into the final two weight classes.

The tandem of Stouffer and Arnsward rallied the Red Arrows.

Stouffer pinned Andy Roll at 31 seconds of the first period, and Arnsward took out Cory Myers in 1:48 of the first period to knot the score at 34.

The criteria for breaking a tie is sportsmanlike penalties (there were none), number of decisions (both teams had seven) and the deciding one, in this case, pins (Lowell had four and Lakewood tallied three).

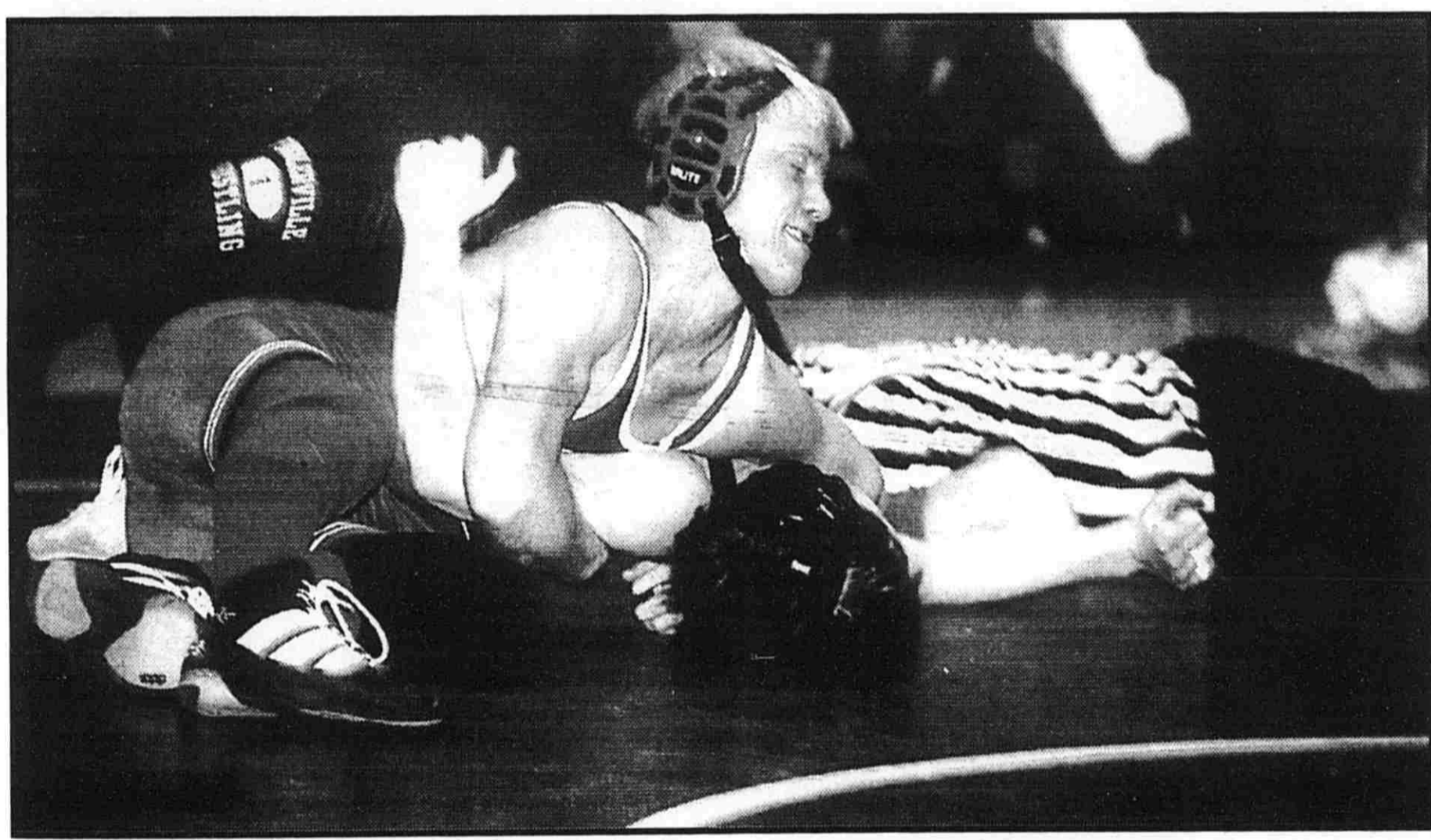
"The good thing is we won with three guys out of our lineup," Strejc said. "We'll probably see these guys at our district. Lakewood is for real. They came out after our heads."

Lowell won all five of its matches Saturday. It also defeated Delton-Kellogg, Saginaw Heritage and Fowlerville.

"Brent Lyons really had himself a day," Strejc said. "He won all five of his matches. He's always had the moves, now he's showing them out on the mat."

Sophomore Dustin Harmon, who filled in for O'Boyle against Fowlerville, suffered a broken elbow in the first period.

"You just hate to see that happen to any kid," Strejc explained. "Dustin is scheduled to have surgery early this week."



Denny Snuffer applies all the leverage in his pin-winning performance against Fowlerville.

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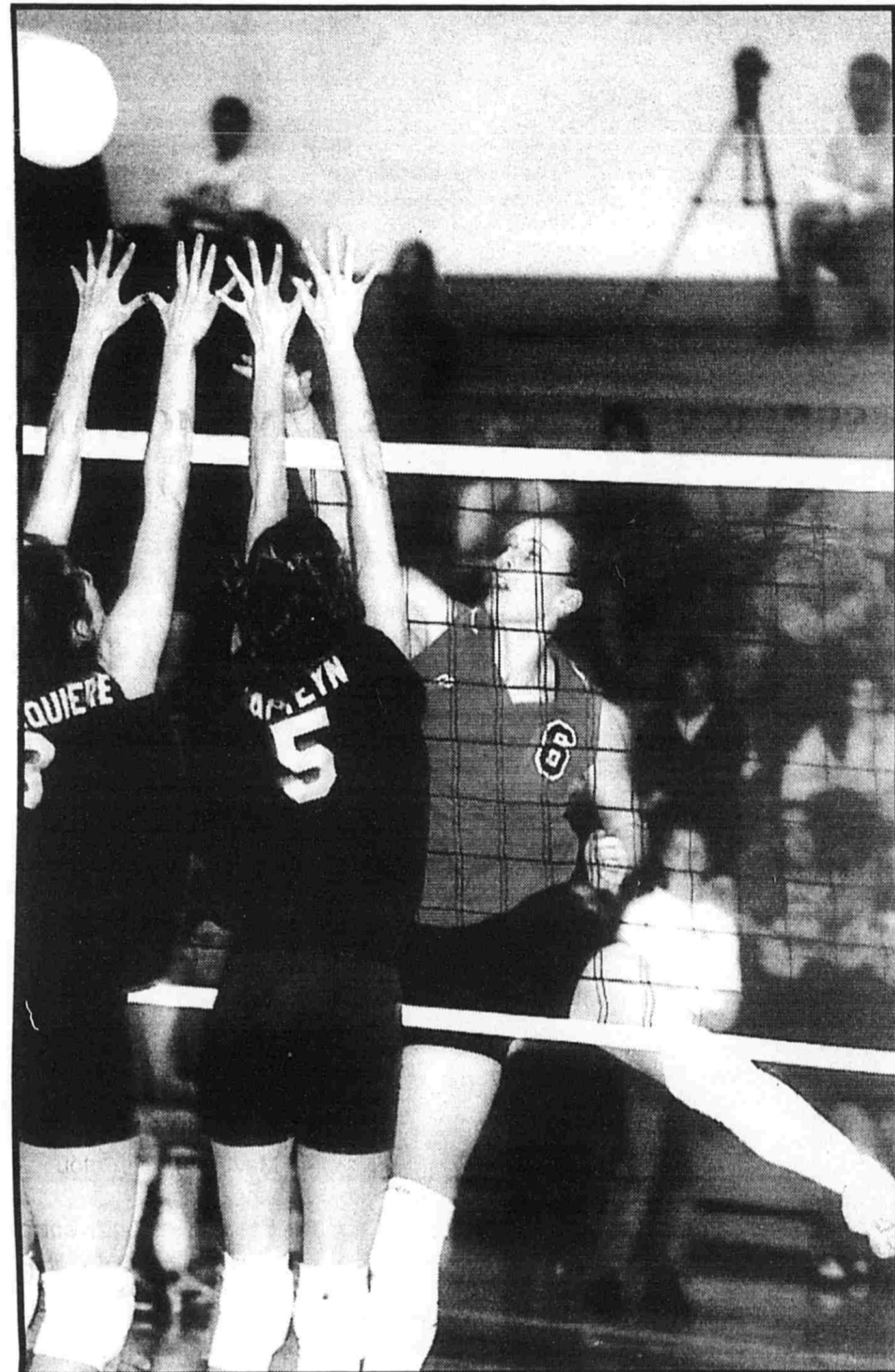
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Eagles' big hitters, big problems for Red Arrow spikers



Amanda Stoutjesdyk hits one off the hands of the Hudsonville defenders.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Smart play from big hitters was a one-two punch Lowell's volleyball team did not have an answer for.

"We couldn't stop Hudsonville's two big hitters," Lowell volleyball coach Kristen Ference said.

Hudsonville outside hitters Jacquie Meyer (eight) and Tauna Blacquiere (seven), both juniors, combined for 15 kills in the Eagles' 15-8, 15-9 win over the Red Arrows Thursday night.

"They were hitting cross-court shots early. We took that away and then they hit the lines," Ference said. "Not only are they big hitters, but they are smart hitters."

The squad of second-year coach Karen Keller came into the game after suffering tough

league losses to Northview and Wyoming Park. "The girls were competitive, but we lost some tough games."

Lowell served well and once again did a good job of picking up tips, dinks and off hits, but Hudsonville's hitters caught the Red Arrow defense out of position.

"We got some good serves in and because of that made some runs of three and four points," Ference said. "I also felt our front row defensive players did a good job."

One of those players was Amanda Stoutjesdyk. "We pushed Amanda a little more to the outside. She was getting a better arm swing and hitting the ball with more power than she did playing in the middle," Ference said. "She's only a sophomore. I think she will be a marvelous player for us over the next two years."

Lowell's first-year coach was most pleased with her club's communication out on the floor and with the support they showed for each other.

"The talking, encouragement and support on the floor was the best I've seen it all year. I'm disappointed we lost, but for the first time I felt the girls played as a team. I think they left the court tonight feeling good about themselves," said Ference.

Shelby Williams led the Red Arrows with 12 assists. Stoutjesdyk had four kills and Becky Brander tallied two aces.

The varsity coach recognized Jodi Seif for her play in the back row. "Jodi is a backcourt demon. She gets to balls that most girls don't," said Ference.

Lowell travels to East Grand Rapids on Thursday.

Strong team performance lifts Forest Hills/Lowell swimmers past Northview

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Tim Jasperse, Forest Hills Central/Lowell swim coach, knew his club's meet with Northview would come down to the relays.

It did, which is why Jasperse' decision to pencil in his best two swimmers in the 200 and 400 freestyle relays was pivotal in the Rangers' 98-88 win over Northview.

"We knew it was going to come down to the last couple

of events (relays). We wanted to make sure Shawn and Mike were available, so we held them out of some individual events," said Ranger assistant swim coach, Heather Heritage.

In the 200-freestyle relay, Shawn Tornga and Mike Gustafson had the third and fourth legs. Tornga ran his split in 23.37 and Gustafson came home in 22.70 for a team time of 1:35.78, besting Northview's time of 1:37.59.

Swimming the first two legs of the race were Andrew Klipa and Peter Gillen.

In the final event, the 400-freestyle relay, the Rangers only needed a second-place finish. The team of Philip Wegert, Brett Goldberg, Tornga and Gustafson won it easily with a time of 3:39.96.

"We were focused and psyched for this meet," Heritage said. "We're in a wonderful position to post our fastest times at the end of the year."

Sandwiched between the two relays was an outstanding effort in the 100 breaststroke.

Forest Hills/Lowell placed three swimmers. The Rangers took first, second and a fifth. "We had fabulous times and all three boys had wonderful swims," Heritage said.

Luke Rosenberger won the event in 1:07.71. Klipa was second at 1:09.46 and Jon Webb came home in fifth

place with a time of 1:20.24.

In the 200 freestyle, Gustafson posted a Class A state qualifying time of 1:47.97 in winning the event. Wegert was fifth in 2:06.45.

Without Gustafson and Tornga, the Rangers stepped up to win the 200 medley relay in a time of 1:50.39.

Klipa (2:18.96) and Luke Rosenberger (2:23.68) placed first and fourth respectively in the 200 IM.

Torng took top honors in the 100 freestyle with a time of 53.12. Goldberg placed third at 54.40.

Goldberg came home in first place at 1:00.72 in the 100 backstroke. Teammate Jacob Billingsley was fourth with a time of 1:07.37.

Gustafson, holding back for the relays, swam a fast enough pace to win the 500 freestyle. He stopped the clock in 5:20.66.

James Bennett picked up a team point with his fifth-place finish. He was clocked at 7:14.09.

In the 50 freestyle, Tornga took top honors with a time of 23.60. Gillen (25.26) and Jon Rosenberger (26.42) were fourth and fifth respectively.

Dan Vosovic earned a first place in the one meter diving event. Vosovic scored 216.60 points. Mike Suman was third with 115.70.

Forest Hills/Lowell travels to Hudsonville on Thursday.

Lowell skates past West Ottawa

When the Lowell junior varsity hockey team traveled to Edge Arena in Holland last Friday night, the memory of the previous Saturday's 3-3 tie with West Ottawa was still fresh in their minds.

The Red Arrows were not willing to settle for a tie this time. Even though West Ottawa outshot the Red Arrows when all the goals were tallied, Lowell was the winner by a 2-1 margin.

Lowell goaltender Jay Blair was a dominating force in the first period. Even though much of the play in the period was on Lowell's end of the ice, every shot that came anywhere near the goal was brushed aside or pounced on by the Lowell gate keeper. Throughout the period, Lowell kept West Ottawa in check and the period ended without either team scoring a goal.

When the teams took the ice for the second period, the momentum began to shift in the Red Arrows' direction. With five minutes gone in the second, Rhet Kirgis pushed the puck past the West Ottawa goaltender with some help from Ben Sevald and Adam Dabaja. Five minutes later, Chad Rau intercepted a puck heading for the neutral zone and made a brilliant pass to a wide open Dabaja who lifted the puck into the net. Suddenly, the Red Arrows were up 2-0.

Reminiscent of the two team's last meeting, West Ottawa narrowed the gap to 2-1 when they were finally able to put the puck past Blair with only 12 seconds remaining in the period. Unlike their last meeting, however, the Red Arrows would not allow West Ottawa to tie the game.

In the third period, the Lowell offense continued to put pressure on West Ottawa and the defense held steady. When West Ottawa pulled their goalie late in the game for a six-man rush, Lowell defenseman Kevin Riley stepped up with a defensive move that kept an almost sure goal from materializing.

Unfortunately the move also caught the eye of an official who called Riley for interference. As a result, the Red Arrows were forced to spend the next 51 seconds shorthanded. They still managed to hold off the six-man West Ottawa offense until the final buzzer ended the game with the Red Arrows' victorious by the 2-1 margin.

In a non-league game against a team from the Grand Rapids Amateur Hockey Association, the Red Arrows skated to a 4-4 tie. Lowell's goals were scored by Andi Larisch, Bryan Posthumus, Oliver's and Mike Hoonhorst.

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Nancy Alice Runnels Fineza.
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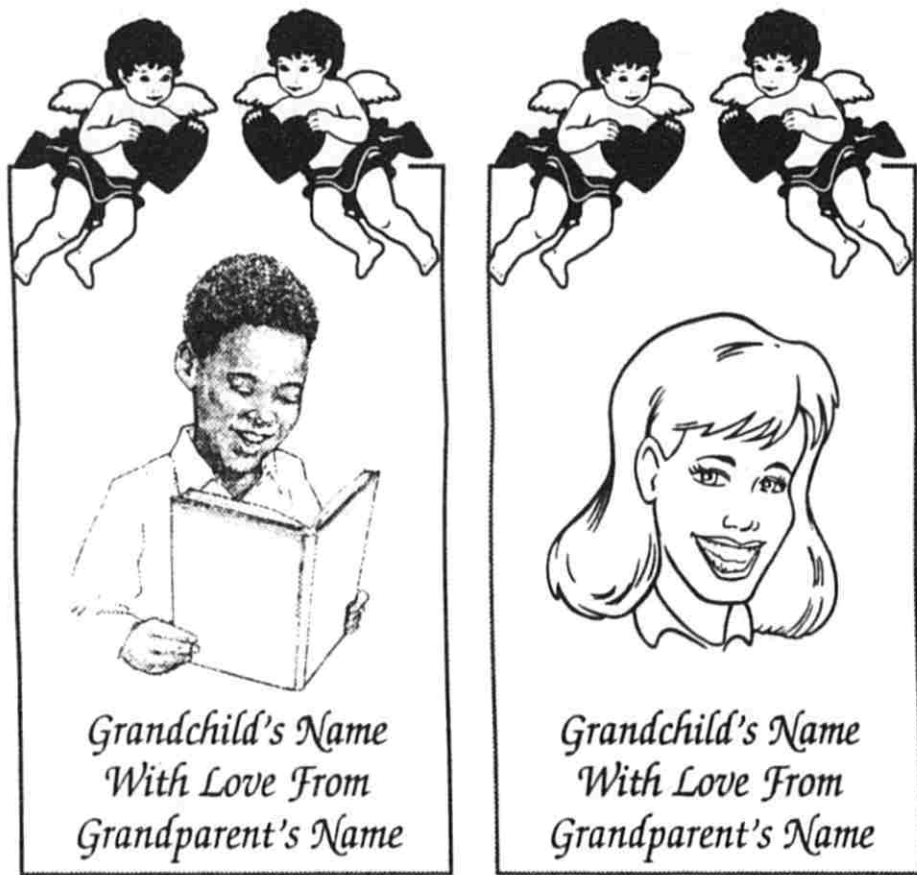
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