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# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 8

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 8, 1999

## Meijer brings mixed bag of challenges and opportunity

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The news that Meijer is coming into a community brings with it concerns for local merchants.

"Meijer has never been the reason why a business has closed up its shop. In fact, many benefit from the increased amount of traffic that Meijer brings into a town," said John Zimmerman, director of community and customer relations. "When a business has that kind of impact (closing down local businesses), it's because it has dropped prices down to kill off the competition."

A most recent example of that is Mason, a town of approximately 8,000. Six months ago Meijer opened the 180,000 square foot facility.

Zimmerman says Meijer has brought a lot of traffic into Mason that was going into Lansing to shop.

"Initially there was concern on the part of some," said Joe Watkins, executive director of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce. "Since Meijer opened its doors, I haven't found any merchant who is upset about it. Meijer has brought increased traffic and all the businesses are reaping rewards from it."

Felpausch, a local grocery store in Mason since 1962, has experienced a 10-25 percent drop in business, but has continued to compete.

"Meijer did have an impact. That's just basic economics... large operations have an impact on retail," said Roger Jones, vice president of public relations. "I think small community businesses need to continue with their focus of the past... one-on-one customer service, community involvement and serving the needs of the consumer. The opening of a Meijer does not mean stores cannot compete and do well."

Van Kerr, owner of Kerr Hardware, concurred that Meijer does bring people into Mason from other towns, who might otherwise not come into the community.

The downside from Kerr's viewpoint is that the quiet and calm homey community now has the hustle and bustle associated with larger cities.

Mason Police Department Sgt. Ed Hughes said there has been an increase in police activity, but it has not been dramatic.

"Nov. 1 through the 8th we've had some incidences of retail fraud (10), false prescriptions (7), hubcap larceny (1)," Hughes explained. "We've also had some parking lot accidents."

Hughes said Lowell can expect a large overflow of traffic that initial week when Meijer opens.

Meijer, cont'd., pg. 8



Rich Bieri, left, of Bieri & Sons Excavating, and Ivan Blough worked with Joel Bieri Monday to level off the sloped bottom of the Flat River in front of the boat launch.

## Showboat Shuffle

Monday's excavating work by Bieri & Sons will enable the Showboat to reside in front of the Riverwalk where it can be viewed more easily by residents and passersby. The Showboat is expected to be moved to its southerly location sometime this week.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

If the wind cooperates, by the time most Lowell residents read the Ledger this week, the Showboat will have not only been moved to the Riverwalk Plaza but will be docked with no noticeable lean.

Because the bottom of the river at the boat launch slopes, when the pontoons were filled and the boat was sunk intentionally last year, it gave the appearance that the Showboat was severely leaning. In fact, some thought it might be in danger of falling over.

Monday, the slope in front of the boat launch was leveled.

Bieri & Sons Excavating dumped and spread 100-150 tons of stone/gravel over a 35 by 130 foot area, giving the Showboat a flat, level bottom on which to sit.

"With the Showboat sitting up near the boat launch,

residents and passersby will be able to view it much more easily," Ivan Blough explained.

The visibility the Showboat enjoys at the Riverwalk Plaza also lessens the likelihood of vandalism.

"Since it's been down at the amphitheatre, there has been some vandalism," Blough reports. "Lights have been broken and items on the boat have been tossed into the river."

The city attained permission from the Department of Environmental Quality to put down the stone/gravel base.

"Ivan (Blough) spearheaded the project which we (City and Chamber of Commerce) have been working on since early this summer," said Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale.

The city manager said the council would review from where the funds for this project should come.

Ivan (Blough) spearheaded the project which we have been working on since early this summer.

Dave Pasquale  
Lowell City Manager

## Council approves stipend for commissioners

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's been a long time in the making and beginning in January, the Lowell Planning Commission will be compensated.

Currently, the Lowell Light and Power board members are paid \$25 per meeting up to \$325 per year. Council members have been compensated at a rate of \$25 per

meeting up to a maximum of \$625 per year while the mayor is paid \$30 per meeting up to \$720 per year.

Monday night, the council approved compensating commissioners \$25 per meeting for up to 13 meetings (11 regular and two special meetings). Lowell has nine commissioners.

In Allegan and Caro, commissioners are paid \$10 per meeting. Sparta pays its commissioners \$25 per meeting

Stipend, cont'd., pg. 8

### INSIDE THE LEDGER



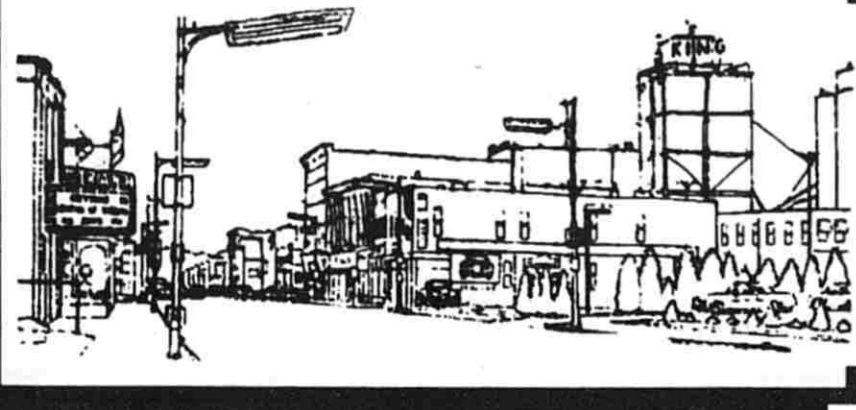
Christmas Parade Pictures and Story, Page 30.







## Along Main Street



### REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR YMCA BASKETBALL EXTENDED

The YMCA will be taking winter basketball signups after the deadline of Dec. 1 for grades 3 - 6. Call the YMCA at 897-8445 or stop by at 323 W. Main St., Lowell.

### LOWELL LITTLE LEAGUE BOARD MEETING

The Lowell Little League Board meeting will be held Thursday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. in the old NAPA building. Agenda includes voting on YMCA proposal.

### Stipend, cont'd.... From Page 1

(none if also serving on the council).  
"The compensation covers incidental costs. It also makes it more palatable for other elements of the community to get involved in public service," said councilman Mike Blough. The council will review commissioners' compensation on an annual basis.

### HELP WANTED RN - PROGRAM NURSES

Community based residential program located in the Lowell area which serves adults with mental illness and developmental disabilities is seeking one FT and one PT (16-24 hours weekly) RN/Program Nurses. Responsibilities include providing nursing services to residents in a specialized residential setting as well as providing initial and on-going training of direct care staff in all health care areas. RN license and the ability to work on a multi-disciplinary team required. Experience in the mental health field preferred. Salary range is \$28,000-\$45,774 for FT Nurse. Pay commensurate with experience. Opportunity for compensated on-call. If you are interested in becoming part of a dynamic team that provides a valuable service to its community, send/fax your resume to:  
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## NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

### BOARD OF REVIEW DECEMBER 14, 1999 NOTICE OF CORRECTED PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT

ACT 14 OF 1985, being Section 211.53(b) of General Property Tax Laws, provides for correction of clerical errors and due to a mutual mistake of fact with respect to assessment roll figures, upon verification of the local assessing officer and approval by the Board of Review at a meeting called for that purpose, on Tuesday following the Second Monday in December at 9:00 a.m.

On December 14, 1999, a meeting will be called for this purpose at 9:00 a.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall to conduct business as provided for in Section 211.53 (b), Michigan Compiled Laws.

Mari Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND HOLIDAY CONCERTS

The middle school band concerts will be held Thursday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. in the middle school gym.

### CLASS OF 2000 BURGER KING NIGHT

The parents of the class of 2000 at Lowell High School are sponsoring a Burger King night on Dec. 10 from 4 to 8 p.m. Come eat and support their efforts to raise money for the senior all-nighter on May 25, 2000. Monies will be used to provide a safe, drug-free class trip.

### HIGH SCHOOL BAND CONCERTS

This Wednesday evening (Dec. 8) at 7 p.m., the Lowell High School bands will be performing in the Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School.

## Meijer, cont'd.... From Page 1

Meijer has a reputation of working with communities and giving back. This is encouraging news for Lowell Charter Township supervisor John Timpson.

While the presence of a Meijer will change the way in which he orders, Springrove Variety owner Mike Sprenger thinks it will be a good addition to the community. "It carries stuff (e.g., belts and pants) you can't find in Lowell. It's also open 24 hours."

The Mason sergeant says there was one robbery, but that it involved two city residents.

Lowell Police Chief James Valentine said Lowell's population growth over the last five years has not resulted in an increase in the criminal element.

"The traffic patterns have changed, but we haven't seen a proportionate increase in crime based on increased growth," Valentine explained.

Sprenger says he will probably cut back in some areas, but he's not sure where. "I'm sure I'll change my purchasing approach a little, but I'm going to keep the dime store niche.

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## NOTICE

### VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Vergennes Township is seeking applications for the following Boards/Commissions:

Planning Commission  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
Construction Board of Appeals

These positions are compensated per diem.

Application forms may be obtained at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. A summary of job descriptions is also available. If you are unable to visit during the office hours, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the above address and a form and job description will be sent.

Mari Stone, Clerk

### BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program on Wednesday, Dec. 22 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station. The station is located at 315 S. Hudson.

### CLOGGING ANYONE?

A class for cloggers is currently being held at the Runciman School, 300 High St., in Lowell, on Monday evenings by the Thunder Floor Cloggers. Instructors are Bob and Lynda Warner of Lake Odessa. For more information, contact them at 616-374-8205.

It's done okay for me."  
Springrove is one of three dime stores Sprenger owns and operates; the other two are in Greenville and Owosso. He is scheduled to open a fourth store in Bad Axe in February.

Many of those communities have a Meijer store. Sprenger says it is easier to open a store in a community where a Meijer already exists than to adjust to one coming into town.

He notes that if a merchant is doing a \$1 million business and Meijer comes in and that total drops to \$600,000, then there are heavy and tough adjustments to make rather than opening a store and making \$600,000 right out of the gate.

Both Sprenger and Jones believe small merchants benefit from customer loyalty.

"That loyalty was evident when the DDA work was completed in the downtown," Sprenger said.

Bob Ford, Hahn Hardware owner, says while Meijer brings competition for everybody, that is not bad.

The seven-year hardware owner says he will gear more toward service. He does some of that now, offering screen and window repair, key cutting and locksmithing (re-keying and installing locks).

"Customers also know when they come into my store, they won't spend 30 minutes getting what they want and getting out," Ford says. "What a customer wants is never more than three aisles away."

## GRATTAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 15, 1999  
at 7:30 p.m.

Grattan Township Hall  
12050 Old Belding Rd.  
AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE  
THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS  
WILL BE HEARD

Anthony & Sandra Lovell - 12352 Abbott, Belding, MI, request a variance from Article 7, Section 7.03 a front yard setback reduced from required 20'-0" to 18' - 0". Property located at 12352 Abbott, Belding, MI. Parcel #41-12-10-176-006.

Doug Nowak - 13175 Strotheide, Belding, MI, requests a variance from Article 3, Section 3.01 B (3) (c) accessory building proposed for front yard location off private road and off Strotheide Road since it configures as a corner lot. Property located at 13175 Strotheide, Belding, MI. South 5 acres of Parcel #41-12-11-100-016.

Written comments concerning these issues should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Al Berry, Grattan Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809.

# New ambulance delivered to Lowell

.... Old vehicles will be used to transport people in the Dominican Republic.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

When a Lowell ambulance can no longer be used to transport, it gets transported to Jarabacoa, 140 miles from Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.

"When an emergency vehicle gets too many miles for our standards, they are shipped to Jarabacoa," said Rockford/Lowell Ambulance general manager, Roger Morgan. "They are then able to use them to transport people to hospitals."

The cost to ship the ambulance to The Dominican Republic is covered by Falcon Bridge, a tin mining company located in Bonao.

The company not only pays to ship the ambulance but pays for accommodations and drivers as well. Paramedics are also sent down to provide training.

The program was created through the cooperative effort of Rockford Ambulance and Rotary, and the Jarabacoa Rotary.

Lowell Ambulance puts approximately 40,000 miles a year on its emergency vehicles. The cost for a new 1999 ambulance is \$60,000.

The funds to pay for the emergency vehicle are equally divided by the Look Memorial Fund, the Lowell Area Community Fund and Lowell Ambulance.

A Lowell ambulance vehicle responds to roughly 700 calls per year. Every 4,000



Paramedic Chuck Premer displays Lowell's newest ambulance.

miles it undergoes a maintenance evaluation. Morgan says the cost of maintenance on a vehicle is 18 cents per mile.

### Book Review, cont'd... From Page 5

jumped a gingerbread baby. And from there on, the adventure begins. Cats and dogs, goats and girls, the farmer and his wagon of animals, a fox, the cheese man with his can of milk, all trying to catch the sassy little gingerbread baby.

Brett often draws on sides of pages to give a clue as to what has happened or what is going to happen in the story. In this book it is in the shape of the gingerbread baby with scenes drawn inside of it.

When I came to the last page, I felt like I had a five-year-old child's worth of joy in me, as I heard myself say, "Oh, Mattie, you are wonderful." I am not going to tell you what sweet toothed surprise is on that page, or what happened to that naughty cookie baby, because I want you and your children or grandchildren to see it for yourselves.

Oh yes, lest I forget, Merry Christmas for 1999 to all of you who love books.



The Friends of the Englehardt Library welcome the Central Michigan Victorian Ladies Society to their annual Christmas Tea held at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17 at the Englehardt Library. This program is intended for adults; both Friends members and nonmembers are invited to attend.  
Rebecca Thompson, a member of the Central Michigan

Victorian Ladies Society, will present a program titled "Victorian Charm." She will explain why this tea is considered a low tea, and discuss the proper etiquette of both low and high teas. Along with other members of the society, she will attend the tea in authentic Victorian costume.

For more information about the Friends of the Englehardt Library's Christmas Tea, call the Englehardt branch of the Kent District Library at 897-9596. The Englehardt Library is located at 200 N. Monroe Street in Lowell.

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The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways. The point, however, is to change it.

—Karl Marx

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# Michigan Duals a precursor to Dec. 16 OK White tilt

••• Lowell finished 4-1 against some of the state's best wrestling programs; however its only loss was league-rival FHC.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Victories over Hesperia, Flint Carman-Ainsworth, Oxford and Dundee were all right, but they paled in comparison to the stinging 35-33 loss to Forest Hills Central in the pool finals of the Michigan Duals Saturday in Bay City.

The Red Arrows posted a 4-1 record against some of the state's elite wrestling programs. A two-point loss spoiled that feeling.

"We did all right, but we're not pleased that we lost to Central in the pool finals," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejc.

The Red Arrow coach had the match a dead heat going in.

However, as Central was able to do in the club's three previous meetings, it found a way.

The two teams will meet again in their conference dual on Thursday, Dec. 16.

"Both coach Strejc and I would have preferred to have been in different pools," said Central wrestling coach Dave Mills.

The Ranger coach said the meeting between the two OK White powers takes away from the freshness of its conference dual meet. "Our matches are always close."

Central won the Division I Michigan Duals championship with a win over Davison. The two teams tied 31-31 with the Rangers winning on criteria.

"It's nice to win the first tourney of the year, but it's the last tourney of the year that really means something," Mills said.

The five matches gave Strejc a chance to evaluate his young freshmen (Jeremy Goff, Nate Luebs, Matt Gingerich,

and J.J. Wilder). "I was pleased with how the new kids handled themselves. They have some work to do, but they have the raw materials. Now, it is just a matter of getting them ready for competition," he said.

Strejc got exactly what he expected from defending state champion Bill Stouffer at 215 pounds. The Red Arrow was 5-0 with three pins and two wins via forfeit.

Matching Stouffer's 5-0 record were T.J. Forward and Caleb O'Boyle.

One of Forward's victories came against Flint Carman-Ainsworth's defending state and national champion.

"T.J. is refining some of his basic wrestling skills to go with his unorthodox style," Strejc said.

The Red Arrows defeated Hesperia 43-30, Flint Carman-Ainsworth 56-22, Oxford 53-15 and Dundee 34-30.

Lowell travels to Howell on Saturday.

# Lowell junior varsity hockey team splits weekend games

It was a series of highs and lows for the Lowell junior varsity hockey team this past weekend as the Red Arrows defeated the Jenison Wildcats by a score of 5-0 and then lost to a powerful Mona Shores team with a score of 1-1.

On Saturday, the Arrows (2-0, 2-3) visited Walker Ice Arena to face off with divisional rival Jenison, a team that Lowell defeated twice during the preseason. Despite recent success, however, the Red Arrows always seem to get off to a slow start against

the Wildcats. Saturday's game was no exception. The Red Arrows pressured the Jenison goalie with numerous shots but were not able to break through until 12:14 of the first period when Eric Austin scored an unassisted goal from the top of the face-off circle.

Lowell's aggressive forechecking finally began to pay off in the second period as the Red Arrows produced numerous scoring opportunities. At the 8:36 mark, right-winger Daniel Woods beat the Jenison goalie to

make the score 2-0 with assists coming from Chad Rau and David Maylone. Later in the same period, Red Arrow defenseman Darrell Cromer, following an excellent open-ice check, took the puck up ice and fired a slap shot into the net from the blue line to put Lowell up 3-0.

The Red Arrows kept up their aggressive play in the third period. Winger Eric Bailey, on an assist from Austin, scored on a rebound at the 12:25 mark and center Andrew Blanchard rounded out the scoring at the 5:32

mark with his first goal of the season on an assist from David Blair.

The defensive pairings, consisting of Tom Fick, Jeremy Hansen, Cromer, Dustin Hofert, Bryan Posthumus, and Chris Rybicki, handled the puck very well in the defensive zone and did a great job of clearing out in front of the net to help goalie Jay Blair get his second shutout of the year.

"I was very happy with the team's performance and it's great to win a divisional game," said head coach, Paul

Jacobus. "Our forwards did a great job of pressuring the puck in the offensive zone and our defenseman played excellent position and really kept the pressure off our goalie."

On Sunday, the Red Arrows traveled to Muskegon to take on the Mona Shores Sailors. Lowell came out playing aggressively, particularly the first few shifts of the game but still had a difficult time matching up with the size and speed of Mona Shores.

Winger Woods opened up the scoring at the 13:24 mark with

a rebound goal on an assist from center Rau. Unfortunately, this would be the only time the Red Arrows would find the back of the net the rest of the game. Mona Shores, an upper division team, was very active in the offensive end and managed to score 11 times throughout the rest of the game.

"Mona Shores is an excellent team and I'm very proud of how our kids played," explained Jacobus. "It's hard to take a loss like this, but we just have to learn from it and come out ready to play the next time."

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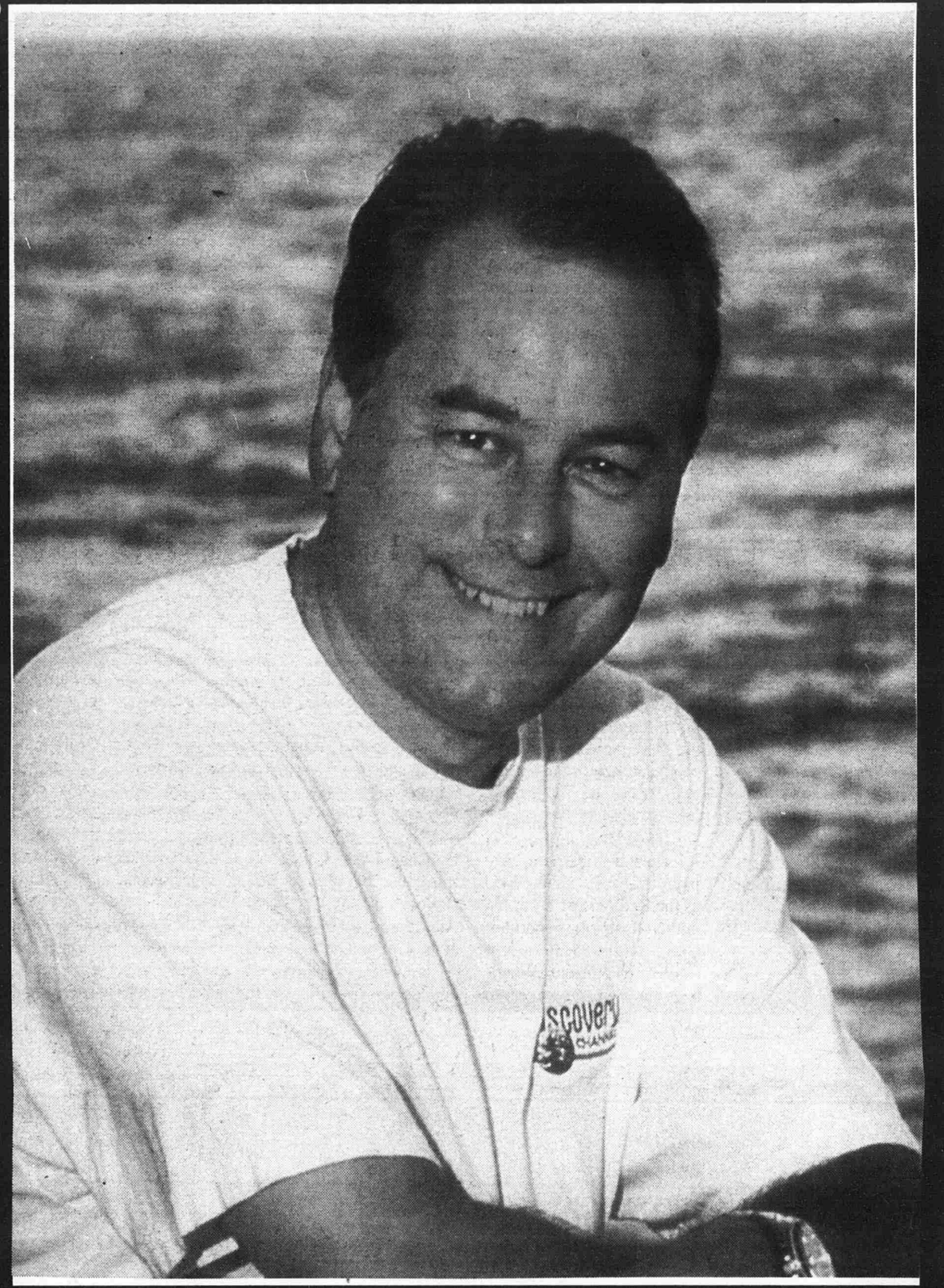
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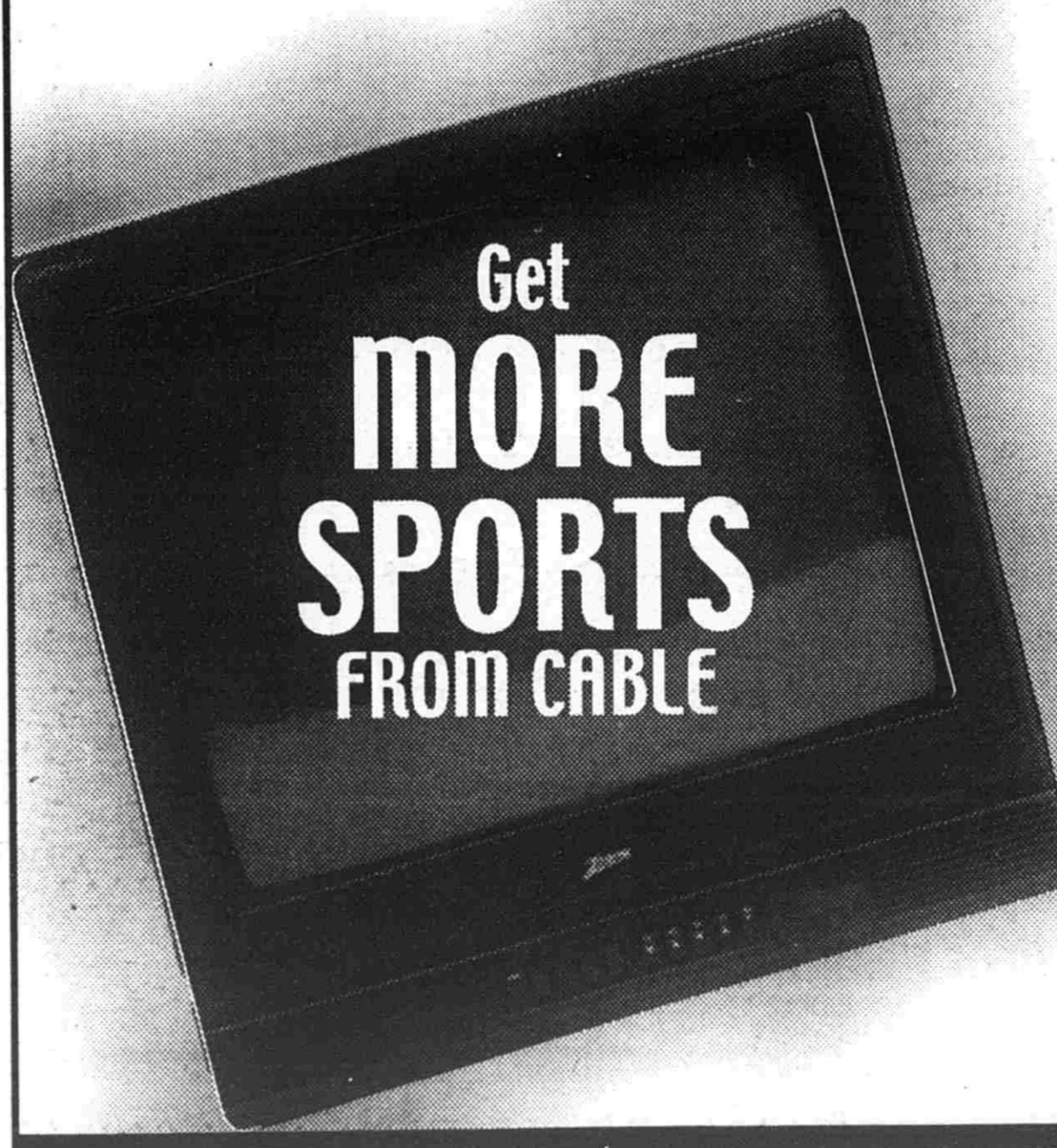
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5	FX
6	WGVU-35
7	WXMI-17
8	WOOD-8
9	WLNS-6
10	WILX-10
11	WTLJ-54
12	WKAR-23
13	WZZM-13
14	SHOWTIME
15	WSYM-47
16	HBO
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19	FAM
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37	LEARNING
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40	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



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MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS DECEMBER 10, 1999 - DECEMBER 16, 1999

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS (5:00-11:30) featuring Broadcast Channels and Cable Channels with program listings for stations like WWTM, WOVY, WGVU, WXTM, WOOD, WLSN, WTLJ, WKAR, WZWM, WSYM, and WZPX.

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS (5:00-11:30) featuring Cable Channels with program listings for stations like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXDT, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TOON D, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTV.

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS (5:00-11:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS DECEMBER 10, 1999 - DECEMBER 16, 1999

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS (12:00-6:30) featuring Broadcast Channels and Cable Channels with program listings for stations like WWTM, WOVY, WGVU, WXTM, WOOD, WLSN, WTLJ, WKAR, WZWM, WSYM, and WZPX.

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS (12:00-6:30) featuring Cable Channels with program listings for stations like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXDT, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TOON D, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTV.

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS (12:00-6:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

Table for MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS (12:00-6:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

FRIDAY EVENING DECEMBER 10, 1999

Table for FRIDAY EVENING (7:00-11:30) featuring Broadcast Channels with program listings for stations like WWTM, WOVY, WGVU, WXTM, WOOD, WLSN, WTLJ, WKAR, WZWM, WSYM, and WZPX.

Table for FRIDAY EVENING (7:00-11:30) featuring Cable Channels with program listings for stations like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXDT, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TOON D, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTV.

Table for FRIDAY EVENING (7:00-11:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

Table for FRIDAY EVENING (7:00-11:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

Table for FRIDAY EVENING (7:00-11:30) featuring Premium Channels with program listings for stations like SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

Advertisement for GM Goodwrench Service featuring a 'LUBE, OIL CHANGE, FILTER' service with a price of \$17.95, including a GM logo and a 'Wilttenbach' logo.

MONDAY - FRIDAY LATENIGHT DECEMBER 10, 1999 - DECEMBER 16, 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 Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SATURDAY MORNING DECEMBER 11, 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 Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

SKATING

FOXDT Fri. 1 p.m. Figure Skating Professional Super Teams Challenge -- Round 1. (Taped)
LIFE Fri. 9 p.m. Figure Skating I.S.U. Trophée Lalique. The Trophée Lalique, from Paris. (Live)
TNN Fri. 9 p.m. Rollerjam Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)
TNN Fri. 10 p.m. Rollerjam Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)
WWT Sat. 8:30 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 8:30 p.m. Figure Skating Stars on Ice. Figure-skating favorites including Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinski and Ekaterina Gordeeva put on all-ages show. (Taped)
WOTV Sun. 2 p.m.; WZZM Sun. 2 p.m. Figure Skating Trophée Lalique. From Paris. (Taped)
TBS Mon. 8:05 p.m. Figure Skating Holiday Festival on Ice. Professional figure skaters showcase their talent and expertise in a holiday themed event. (Taped)
ESP Mon. 9 p.m. Figure Skating Cup of Russia. From St. Petersburg, Russia. (Taped)

TNT Wed. 8 p.m. Figure Skating Canadian Open Championship. Skaters scheduled to compete include Ekaterina Gordeeva, Nicole Bobek, Lu Chen, Elizabeth Manley, Kurt Browning, Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldredge and Brian Orser. (Taped)
TNT Thu. 8 p.m. Figure Skating Canadian Open Championship. Skaters scheduled to compete include Ekaterina Gordeeva, Nicole Bobek, Lu Chen, Elizabeth Manley, Kurt Browning, Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldredge and Brian Orser. (Taped)
WWT Sat. 8:30 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 8:30 p.m. Figure Skating Stars on Ice. Figure-skating favorites including Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinski and Ekaterina Gordeeva put on all-ages show. (Taped)
WOTV Sun. 2 p.m.; WZZM Sun. 2 p.m. Figure Skating Trophée Lalique. From Paris. (Taped)
TBS Mon. 8:05 p.m. Figure Skating Holiday Festival on Ice. Professional figure skaters showcase their talent and expertise in a holiday themed event. (Taped)
ESP Mon. 9 p.m. Figure Skating Cup of Russia. From St. Petersburg, Russia. (Taped)

SOCCER

ESPN Sun. 1 p.m. College Soccer NCAA Division I Final -- Teams to Be Announced. From Charlotte, N.C. (Live)
FOXDT Sun. 12 a.m. English Premier League Soccer Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)

BICYCLING

ESPN Wed. 4 p.m. Cycling Van's Freestyle Motocross. From Las Vegas. (Taped)

BOATING

TNN Sat. 11:30 a.m. Powerboat Racing IHBA Drag Boat Series. From Phoenix. (Taped)

BASKETBALL

TNT Fri. 8 p.m. NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at New York Knicks. From Madison Square Garden in New York. (Live)
ESPN Sat. 12 p.m. College Basketball Stanford at Georgia Tech. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 12:30 p.m. Women's College Basketball Iowa at Iowa State. (Live)
WWT Sat. 2 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 2 p.m. College Basketball Michigan State at Arizona. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 3 p.m. College Basketball Massachusetts at Detroit. (Live)
WWT Sat. 4 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 4 p.m. College Basketball Duke at Michigan. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 5 p.m. College Basketball Gonzaga at UCLA. (Live)
WGN Sat. 7:30 p.m. NBA Basketball Chicago Bulls at Orlando Magic. From Orlando Arena in Orlando, Fla. (Live)
ESPN Sat. 9 p.m. College Basketball Kentucky at Maryland. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 12:30 a.m. College Basketball Utah at Washington State. (Same-day Tape)
FOXDT Mon. 8 p.m. College Basketball Delta Airlines Classic -- Georgia vs. Wake Forest. From Atlanta. (Taped)
FOXDT Mon. 2 a.m. College Basketball Gonzaga at Washington. (Same-day Tape)

HOCKEY

FOXDT Fri. 7:30 p.m. NHL Hockey Los Angeles Kings at Detroit Red Wings. From the Joe Louis Sports Arena in Detroit. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 7 p.m. NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Boston Bruins. From the Fleet Center in Boston. (Live)
FOXDT Sun. 4 p.m. IHL Hockey Milwaukee Admirals at Detroit Vipers. (Live)
ESPN Tue. 8 p.m. NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Buffalo Sabres. From Marine Midland Arena in Buffalo, N.Y. (Live)

OUTDOORS

ESPN Sun. 4 p.m. Timber Series From Oshkosh, Wis. (Taped)

RODEO

ESPN Fri. 12 a.m. Rodeo PRC National Finals -- 8th Round. From Las Vegas. (Same-day Tape)
ESPN Sat. 12 a.m. Rodeo PRC National Finals -- Ninth Round. From Las Vegas. (Same-day Tape)
ESPN Sun. 4:30 p.m. Rodeo PRC National Finals -- Championship Round. From Las Vegas. (Same-day Tape)

BOWLING

ESPN Sat. 5:30 p.m. PBA Bowling Japan Cup. From Tokyo. (Taped)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON DECEMBER 11, 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 Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

Money Tight? STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET! RUN 1 Ad IN THIS SPACE - 4 WEEKS Only \$50!



SATURDAY EVENING / LATE NIGHT DECEMBER 11, 1999

Table of broadcast channels for Saturday evening/late night, including stations like WWTM, WOV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, and WZPX.

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Saturday evening/late night, including channels like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXD, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCI-FI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TON, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTN.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Saturday evening/late night, including SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

SUNDAY MORNING DECEMBER 12, 1999

Table of broadcast channels for Sunday morning, including stations like WWTM, WOV, WXMJ, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, and WZPX.

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday morning, including channels like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXD, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCI-FI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TON, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTN.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday morning, including SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON DECEMBER 12, 1999

Table of broadcast channels for Sunday afternoon, including stations like WWTM, WOV, WXMJ, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, and WZPX.

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday afternoon, including channels like FX, FAM, MTV, VH1, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, CNN2, NICK, A&E, FOXD, TNT, TBS, DISN, TNN, TRAV, TLC, SCI-FI, COM, TWC, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, TON, MSNBC, CSPAN, and EWTN.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday afternoon, including SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX.

Advertisement for 'STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET' featuring a cartoon character and the text 'For Only \$50!'.

Advertisement for 'STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET' featuring a cartoon character and the text 'For Only \$50!'.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-4:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing broadcast programs for Sunday Evening/Late Night on December 12, 1999.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing broadcast programs for Monday Evening on December 13, 1999.

Advertisement for Lowell Water Works featuring a cartoon character and text: 'We have all new state of the art equipment and cleaning products to clean, perfect & dry your vehicle. Our new soft cloth equipment is saturated with soaps and water so your vehicle is gently pampered. LOWELL WATER WORKS 1941 West Main • Lowell, MI 49331'.

Advertisement for Edward Jones featuring a photo of Christopher J. Bouma and text: '401(k) rollovers made easy. Call or stop by today. Which IRA is right for you? Focused on planning for retirement. A traditional IRA or Roth IRA, each offering unique tax advantages, can help you build your retirement nest egg. Need to finance a college education? An Education IRA can help you save for higher education expenses. I can help you choose the IRA that's right for you.'

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 various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) and cable channels (FX, FAM, MTV, etc.).

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 various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) and cable channels (FX, FAM, MTV, etc.).

SPRINGGROVE VARIETY advertisement. Shop in an atmosphere of days gone by! Bulk candy, crafts, fabric, yarn, crochet thread, collectibles, 1/2 price greeting cards, toys, stationery, household & hardware items. Lots more, shop where the customer counts!

Touch of Country advertisement. AFFORDABLE SOLID OAK FURNITURE. 9175 Cherry Valley (M-37) Caledonia, MI 49316. 616-891-0647 • Fax 616-891-0674. 96 W. Main • Lowell, MI 49331 616-897-0329. 10% Off ALL LAMPS. CLIP & SAVE.

THURSDAY EVENING DECEMBER 16, 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 various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, Diagnosis Murder, and Chicago Hope.

COMING EVENTS

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any non-profit organization in the Lowell, And, Alto, and Saranac area. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

EVERY MONTH: The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd. Just east of Montcalm Ave. To check meeting dates and times please call, 897-5015 for a recorded message. Guests are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH: 3:15 to 4:30 p.m., Family Council for the Laurels of Kent Nursing Home. This is a volunteer group formed to enhance the quality of life for all the residents. Interested persons are welcome to meet in the Activity Room, Wing "C."

FIRST MONDAY: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at the High School during lunch periods in the cafeteria for updates on coming events and information.

EVERY SECOND MONDAY: Attention mothers of preschoolers. MOPS meetings are held at Saranac Community Church, 125 S. Bridge St. Cost is \$3 and meetings are from 9:45 a.m. - noon. Everyone is welcome. Come enjoy crafts, food, free child care and new friends. For information call Meghan at 616-642-6748 or Trisha at 616-527-1333.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building located in the former Runciman Elementary, 300 High Street.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society will hold its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash. The meeting is at 7:30 p.m.

FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Lowell V.F.W. Hall, 307 E. Main St. at 8 p.m.

EVERY 1ST MONDAY: V.F.W. Post 8303 meets at the V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St. Lowell at 7:30 p.m.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5th

grade, will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington Street. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For more information call Terry Cavanaugh, 868-6481.

TUESDAYS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M#372 meets every Tuesday evening at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

TUESDAYS: Flat River Woodcarvers are meeting at LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. New members welcome.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsmen's Club meets, 8 p.m., at the Club building, 1400 Foreman Road, Lowell.

EVERY FOURTH TUES.: Showboat Board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Lowell Township office.

EVERY TUES.: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time. Calvary Christian Reformed Church across from Burger King. 10 to 11:15 a.m. For information call 897-6462 or 897-7555.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, South Hudson, Lowell.

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m. For info, call Linda at 874-5662. Forteen group info, call Sarah 281-6588.

EVERY 1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at Calvin College Rm. 206 of the Commons bldg. For information call Connie 942-6887.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club at Calvary Christian Reformed Church. All Girls ages 8 to 13 are welcome. Call 897-8694 for information.

EVERY THURS.: 4H drama club meeting. The club examines theater related topics, creative and

personal development skills. Meetings held once a month at Lowell Middle School choir room. For more information call 897-1502 evenings after 5 p.m.

FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: Alzheimer's Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. at Cumberland Retirement Village. Phone 897-9310 for information.

EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets at noon in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY FOURTH WEDNESDAY: Elderly volunteers needed to participate in the Intergenerational Program with school age children from Lowell in many different seasonal activities. Two times available: 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. or 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, F.S.E. at the Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: DivorceCare meets at 7 p.m. at the Helping Hands Child Care Center, 1188 Lincoln Lake Rd. This support and recovery program is for all adults experiencing divorce or separation. For more information, call (616) 897-6890.

EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY - 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club at Calvary Christian Reformed Church. All girls ages 8 to 13 are welcome. Call 897-8694 for information.

THURSDAYS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M, No. 333. Saranac, meets every Thursday evening at the Saranac Public Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

THURSDAYS: Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m. Registration is a half hour before meetings. New members are invited to join at anytime. Questions? Call 1-800-651-6000.

EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational-help for pregnant women and adolescents at the school. From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and on Mondays from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Phone 897-9393.

FIRST THURSDAY: 4H drama club meeting. The club examines theater related topics, creative and

personal development skills. Meetings held once a month at Lowell Middle School choir room. For more information call 897-1502 evenings after 5 p.m.

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY: The Alto Lions Club meets at Bowne Center Fellowship Hall, corner of 84th & M-50 (Alden Nash) at 7 p.m.

EVERY 2ND THURS.: N.A.R.F.E. meets 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY: Lowell V.F.W. Auxiliary No. 8303 meets at 3:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post, 307 W. Main Street, Lowell.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY: Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children are welcome to attend. Our current location is a church in Ada. Call Janet 897-6845 or Rebecca, 897-6734 for more information.

SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH: The Ada Historical Society meets at the Averil Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley at 7 p.m.

THURSDAYS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M, No. 333. Saranac, meets every Thursday evening at the Saranac Public Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

THURSDAYS: Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m. Registration is a half hour before meetings. New members are invited to join at anytime. Questions? Call 1-800-651-6000.

THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets in individual homes for huddle meetings for fellowship and devotions.

THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets in the high school cafeteria during seminar time for planning sessions for activities.

THURS., DEC. 9: Keenagers will meet at Keisers Kitchen for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at 7 a.m. in high school teachers dining room for a light breakfast. For information concerning FCA call Kris Gallagher at 676-1355 or Linda Johnson at 897-4922.

EVERY SAT. Lowell Amateur Radio Club sponsors the 145.270 - repeater which operates on a 24-hour basis. Also there is a Simplex Frequency 147.420 PL 186.2.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.-Wed., 1-8 p.m.; Tues. & Fri., 1-5 p.m.; Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting is held the third Monday of each month at 8 p.m.

\*\*\* If you keep a thing seven years, you are sure to find a use for it. —Sir Walter Scott

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WEEKLY ACTIVITIES LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949. MON.: 8:30 a.m., Walking, Woodland Mall. THURS.: 9 a.m. Walk and shop Woodland Mall; 9:30 a.m., Crafts; 1 p.m., Euchre. TUES.: 8:30 a.m. Walking, Woodland Mall. FRI.: 8:30 a.m. Walking-Woodland Mall. WED.: 12:45 p.m. Shopping assistance.

Special Events. WED., DEC. 8: Noon, Movie, Second Fiddle. TUES., DEC. 21: 12:40 p.m., Party - Sing-along/gift exchange. THURS., DEC. 9: 4:30 p.m., Christmas light tour. DEC. 23 & 24: Center Closed. THURS., DEC. 9: 12:30-1 p.m., Gerontology - Health & Wellness. SAT., DEC. 25: Merry Christmas! MON., DEC. 13: 4:30 p.m., Dominos in Detroit. WED., DEC. 29: 8 a.m., Women's breakfast. WED., DEC. 15: 9:30 a.m., Advisory Council. FRI., DEC. 31: Center closed. Happy New Year! THURS., DEC. 16: 12:40 p.m., Shopping, Meijers.

Thomet CHEVROLET BUICK. Is Your Source For Top Quality GM Vehicles From: CHEVY TRUCKS. A Great Selection Of Used Cars & Trucks & New Car Trades. Also see us for authorized GM parts & service. 1250 W. Main, Lowell, 897-9294.

(Dinner reservations should be made 3 working days in advance)

# Wrestlers aim: Do one better than last year

•••• We have two goals: a conference championship and a state championship.

**Dave Strejc**  
Lowell Wrestling Coach

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

What do you ask of a team that fell one win short of a state championship a year ago?  
"The boys are in great shape. Now it's attaining that mental state," Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejc explained. "I want them to work harder and to expect more from themselves."  
The comments from the Red Arrows' second-year coach clearly bring into focus the season's big picture.  
"We got to the state championship match last year... now we want to go to the next level," Strejc explained. "We have two goals: a conference championship and a state championship."

Lowell returns six wrestlers who posted 40 or more wins. They are Bill Stouffer, 54; Tom Oesch, 45; John Mendez, 45; Dan Rottier, 43; Caleb O'Boyle, 42 and T.J. Forward with 40. John McKay (39) was on 40's doorstep.  
"A lot will depend on how guys fall into the weight classes and how our wrestlers fill the lower weights," Strejc said.  
Which is why Lowell's coach will use the first few weeks of the season to make adjustments and to work on getting wrestlers where they need to be.  
"I expect the boys to do what it takes to get there," Strejc said.  
The Red Arrows will look to freshmen Nate Luebs and Jeremy Goff at 103 pounds and Matt Gingerich at 112. McKay, who wrestled at 103 last year, will venture onto the mat at 119 pounds. Mendez will strap them up at 125 pounds.  
Freshman J.J. Wilder will wrestle at 130 pounds. He was a free style state champion last year.  
Rottier has been penciled in at 135.  
There is some congestion at the next three weight classes. Both O'Boyle and Brent Lyons start the year at 140. Forward and Oesch both weigh in at 152 pounds.  
Three positions and four wrestlers: all of them made

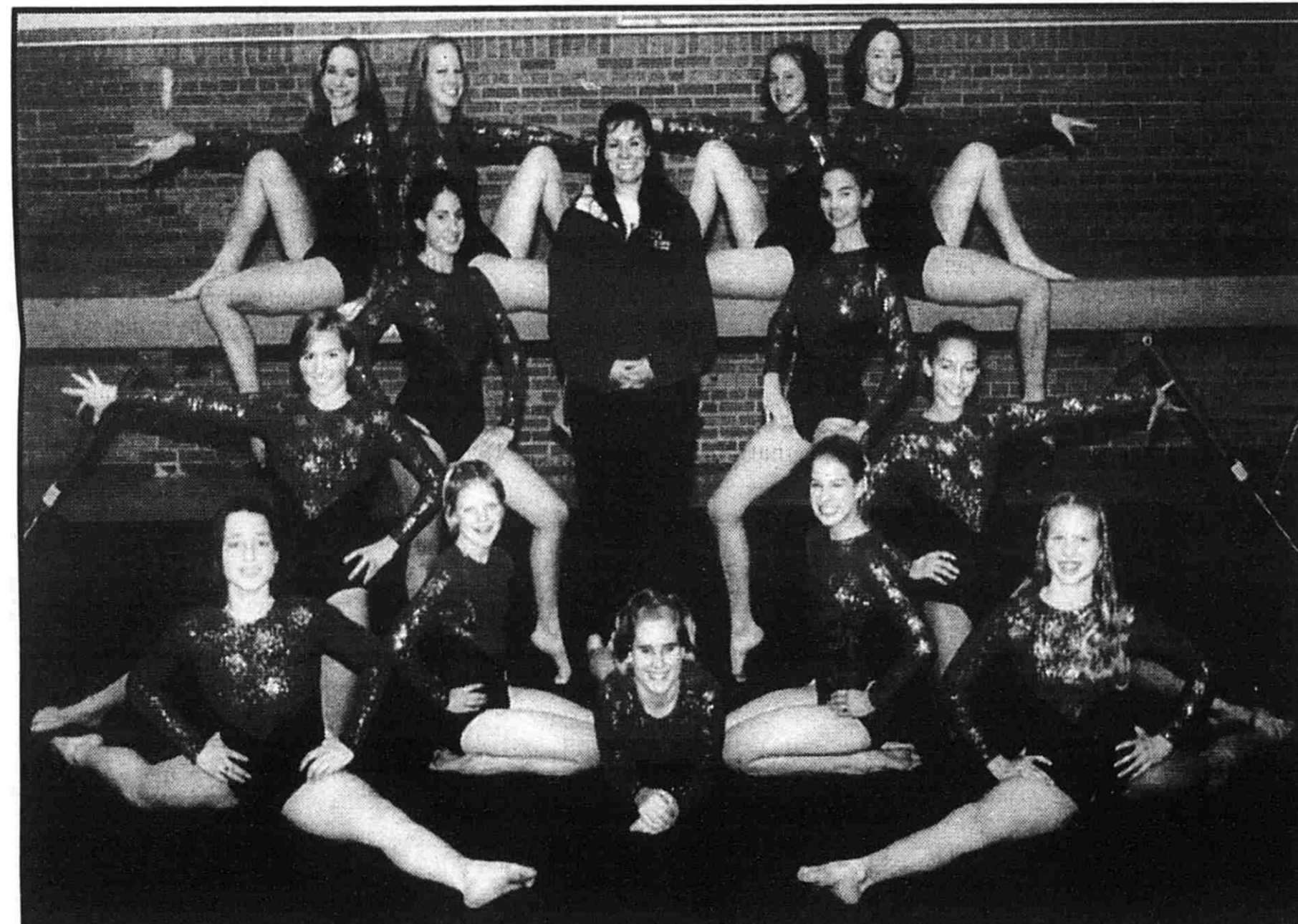
significant contributions last season.  
The jam continues at 160 and 171.  
Doug Ford and Luke Seitz will battle at 160 while Matt Oesch and Tom Dawson will fight it out at 171.  
The final three spots are less complicated. Sophomore Ben Fleet will step in at 189.  
Defending state champion Bill Stouffer will wrestle at 215. The senior was 54-1 last year. In three years, Stouffer has posted a mark of 147-19, with 13 of those losses coming his freshman year.  
Along with last year's state championship, the Red Arrow has one regional, two conference and three district championships. He placed sixth in the state as a freshman and was runner-up as a sophomore.  
Ben Vaught will replace the void left at heavyweight with the graduation of Mike Arnswald.  
As for the conference, things are pretty clear. "It will be business as usual as far as Forest Hills Central is concerned," Strejc said. The Rangers are the three-time defending OK White champions.  
The two teams met in an early-season tournament in Bay City and will battle in a conference confrontation on Dec. 16 at Lowell.

# Gymnastics future bright with strong core of youth

•••• Renee Brower is the lone upperclassman; the rest of the roster is made up of nine freshmen and three sophomores

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

As Red Arrow gymnastics coach Michele DeHaan made her way down Main Street, as a participant in Lowell's Christmas parade, her head and hands did the parade swivel.  
DeHaan was greeted with many smiles and waves from kids who are participants in her YMCA gymnastics class.  
"Having all those kids recognize me makes me feel good," DeHaan said.  
Those smiling faces were a culmination of six years of hard work.  
"To make a program work, a coach has to get out and sell it," DeHaan explained.  
The Lowell coach has done that. The evidence is in this year's varsity roster... nine of the 13 members are freshmen and three are sophomores.  
With few or no exceptions, all are products of her YMCA



Members of the 1999-00 gymnastics team, front row, left to right, are: Tennille Bryant, Holly Plattner, Renee Brower, Krystal White and Kim Seaman; middle row, left to right, are: Katie Blough, Tera Giuliano, coach Michele DeHaan, Carmen Datema and Melissa Neubecker; back row, left to right, are: Kim Hoogewind, April Telman, Carisa Sayer and Tera Cariano.

gymnastics class and/or gymnastics club.  
"We're very young, but there is a lot of talent," DeHaan said. "These girls

are very team-oriented. They are also supportive and encourage each other."  
The only senior (upper classman) on the 1999-00

squad is team-leader Renee Brower.  
The senior is one of Lowell's all-around gymnasts.

"Renee and Katie will be two of our best gymnasts on the uneven bars and beam," DeHaan said.

The Lowell coach says freshman Carisa Sayer will also perform in all four events. "Carisa competes at the club level and has a lot of talent."

The incoming group of freshmen are all strong tumblers. "We have our most depth and strength in the floor exercise," DeHaan said.

Kim Hoogewind and Melissa Neubecker should also provide strong balance beam routines.

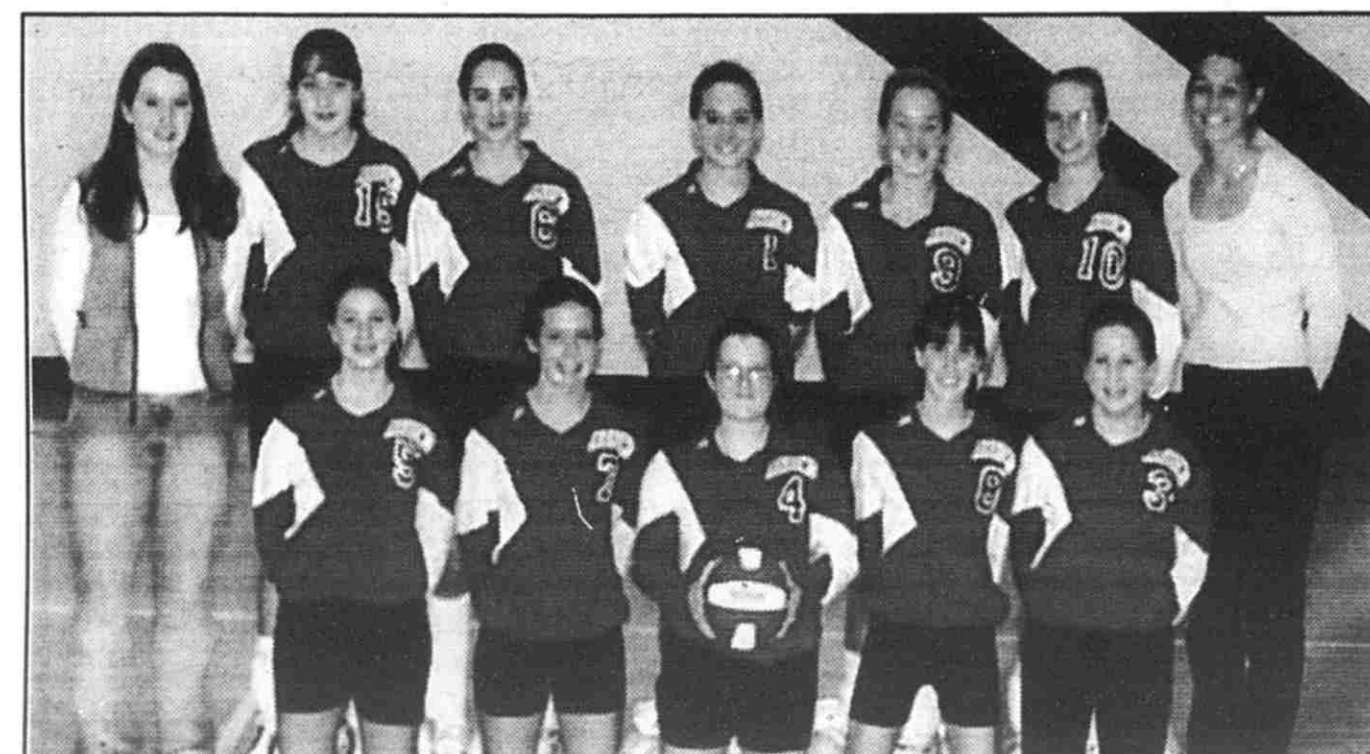
Other gymnasts who are expected to contribute are Carmen Datema, Kim Seaman, Holly Plattner, Kristal White, Tara Cariano and Tera Giuliano.

While pleased with how numbers have grown over the last six years, DeHaan says she is not happy with where the team has been on a competitive level.

"We're not where we need to be," she says.

DeHaan is hoping that this year the wins will be more prevalent.

Helping the Lowell coach will be assistants Brenda Lacey and Dan Vosovic.



## JV Volleyball

Members of the JV volleyball team for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Melissa Schloop, Colleen Myers, Amanda Eickhoff, Jenny Wagner, Molly Clark; back row, left to right: Lisa Seif-Mor, Kelly Fitzpatrick, Kellie Baker, Amanda VanSpronsen, Casey Weber, Theresa Happie, coach Lori Barton.

## Winter softball clinic slated for Jan. and Feb.

The Lowell High School softball coaches will be holding a winter fast pitch clinic for all elementary and middle school girls interested in becoming a softball pitcher. The clinic will be held at Cherry Creek Elementary school gym balcony on Thursdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, and Feb. 3 and 10. Girls in grades 6 and under are asked to report at 6 p.m.; girls in 7-8 report at 7 p.m. Arrangements can be made for another time if needed.  
The cost of the clinic is \$20, which includes the price of a T-shirt. Applications can be picked up at Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek, Alto and Bushnell schools.  
Please call Bob Rodenhouse at 897-4125 school, or at 245-4596, for more information.

# Meeting expectations rest on defense and rebounding

•••• Aaron Alsgaard and Ryan Mix will lead a senior-laden club in 1999-2000

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

This year's seniors were in the eighth-grade when Pete Bush clutched onto the reigns of Lowell's varsity basketball program.

The expectations of the fifth-year coach and his seniors are as lofty as one can expect from a program in which six is the highest number of wins in any one of the prior four seasons.

"This is the best group of basketball players I've coached since coming to Lowell," Bush explained. "We're beginning to see the rewards from believing in a system, doing things a certain way and maintaining the same philosophy."

Six of Lowell's top 10 players, who had significant playing time last year, return in 1999-2000.

Seniors Aaron Alsgaard (11 points per game) and Ryan Mix (10 points per game) are the only players returning who averaged double figures in scoring last year.

Lowell lost much of its perimeter quickness but has gained interior strength.

Defending against oppo-

ners' dribble penetration and rebounding will key Red Arrow success.

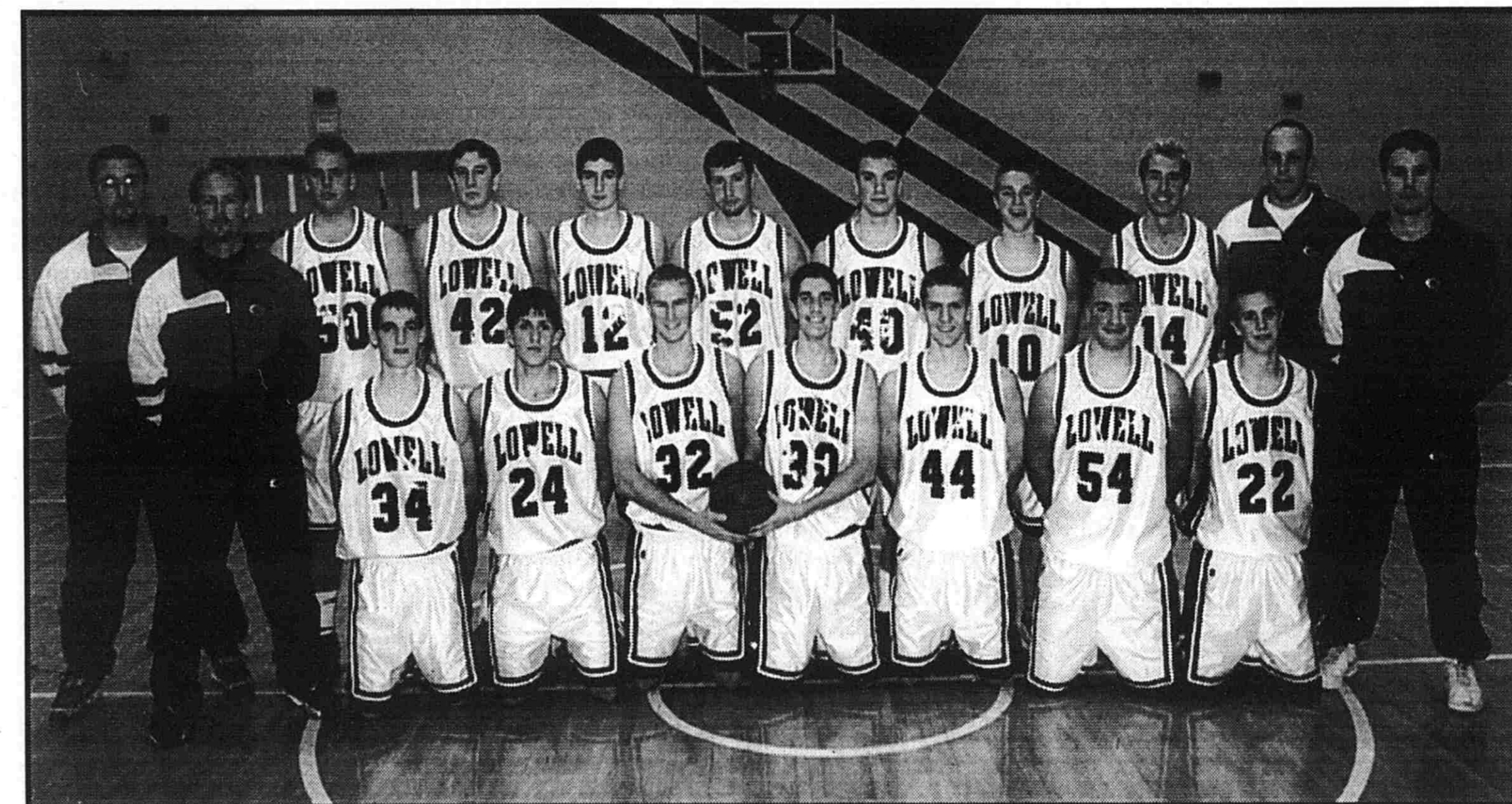
"We're big enough and strong enough to rebound with teams," Bush said. "We must rebound and stop dribble

There will be more of an emphasis on getting the ball inside. Once the pass is made, Bush will count on forwards Keith Valentine, Steve Adams and Mix, and centers Tim Schutte and junior trans-

fer Brad Koetsier to find the net. "I think we will do a better job of getting points from inside the paint," Bush said. There are a couple of unknown factors that Bush

won't have answers to until the season gets underway. Scott Pullen, Lowell's best defensive player, is still recovering from injuries incurred in an automobile accident. The senior could be

lot will depend on how strong his knee is and how it holds up." Bush, not unlike the rest of the OK White coaches, has tabbed East Grand Rapids as the league's best team. "East



Members of the varsity boys basketball team for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: assistant coach Tim Antel, James Bosserd, Brady Foster, Steve Adams, Keith Valentine, Ryan Mix, Brad Koetsier, Dave Rozema, coach Pete Bush; back row, left to right: assistant coach Brent Noskey, Tim Schutte, Scott Pullen, Bryce McMahon, Andy Curtis, Nate Borth, Troy Gillan, Aaron Alsgaard and assistant coach Ryan Conlan.

penetration to stay in games."

Lowell depended mainly on its perimeter game for points a year ago. Alsgaard, Brady Foster, and Mix will be among Lowell's better outside threats this year.

fer Brad Koetsier to find the net.

"I think we will do a better job of getting points from inside the paint," Bush said.

There are a couple of unknown factors that Bush

ready to play as early as January. Bush says it will be late in the season before Pullen is anywhere near 100 percent.

Junior Andy Curtis is also recovering from an ACL injury. "He has the ability to score points," Bush said. "A

pre-season number one in Class B and they return six of their top seven players from a year ago," he explains.

The Lowell coach says Zealand and Wyoming Park will be able to challenge the Pioneers.

will depend on our defense and rebounding.

"Our kids play with confidence when they are relaxed and having fun on the court."

A season-opening win over Lakewood would be a fun way to start the season.

## THANK YOU

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# Red Arrows hope to display best effort every game

◆◆◆ Amanda Stoutjesdyk will anchor Lowell's row of front line hitters.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Building a high school volleyball program is not a sprint. It's a slow and methodical marathon. Lowell High School's second-year volleyball coach Kristen Ference would like her team to be able to run out in front with the elite programs (Zealand and Forest Hills Central), but knows that will only happen in time... and provided the correct steps are put into place. "Slowly and steadily we're going to get there. It will be a while before we can become a high caliber program," Ference explained. The Lowell coach has been busy getting knowledgeable coaches for the middle school program and starting a fourth-

through sixth-grade summer volleyball camp. At the high school level, Ference is also bringing nutrition, weights and conditioning into her volleyball program. "I'm also working with the girls on speed and agility," she explained. "I'm doing some work myself as far as continuing to learn the game." Ference is more at ease, this year, with her job as a varsity coach. "I know now what goes into the job. A varsity coach wears many hats," she says. Her 1999-00 volleyball roster will be dotted with many (eight) seniors. Ference believes they are a better team with more good hitters. Many of her players didn't learn to hit until their sophomore year and that's much too late, according to the coach. "Consistent hitting techniques should be and will be taught at the middle school level," Ference said. Junior Amanda Stoutjesdyk will provide Lowell with a powerful front line presence. She will be used as a middle and outside hitter. "Amanda has good defensive skills and is quick on her

toes," Ference said. Angie Schmidt will be counted on for her middle hitting. She is one of the club's best vertical leapers. Playing with Schmidt and Stoutjesdyk up front will be Jenny Williams. Out of their 6-2 offensive setup, Ference will use two setters, Sarah Happie and Sunny Moyer. Defensively, Lowell will be led by seniors Jody Seif and Becky Brander. "Seif is fast and is quick to react. Brander is a defensive machine. She also has good reaction time," Ference explained. Other players expected to contribute are Abbey Goff, Kelly Kemen, Courtney Hedlund, Jenny McCaul and Maggie Wisner. "Kemen and McCaul are good passers and Hedlund is a consistent player," Ference said. Ference says the league will be led by volleyball powers Zealand and Forest Hills Central. "The girls are working hard and want to walk away from each game feeling as if they gave their best effort," Ference concluded.

Lowell opens its season at the Creston Invitational on Saturday.



Members of the varsity volleyball team for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Becky Brander, Angie Schmidt, Maggie Wisner, Amanda Stoutjesdyk, Jenny Williams, Courtney Hedlund, Sunny Moyer; back row, left to right: coach Kristen Ference, Sarah Happie, Jody Seif, Jenny McCaul, Kelly Kemen, Abbey Goff.

## Varsity Cheerleaders

Members of the varsity cheerleading squad for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Midori Ogihara, Lisa LaHaye, Tina Delamar, Felicia Eshragh, Jackie Cress, Danielle Corteville; middle row, left to right: Katie Stanford, Niki Heacock, Molly Debiak, Treasure McElveen, Lori Bessey, Becky Trierweiler; back row, left to right: Alyssa Gillikin, Krista Ford, Jolynn Stalsonburg, Rachele Becker, Ashley Rickert.

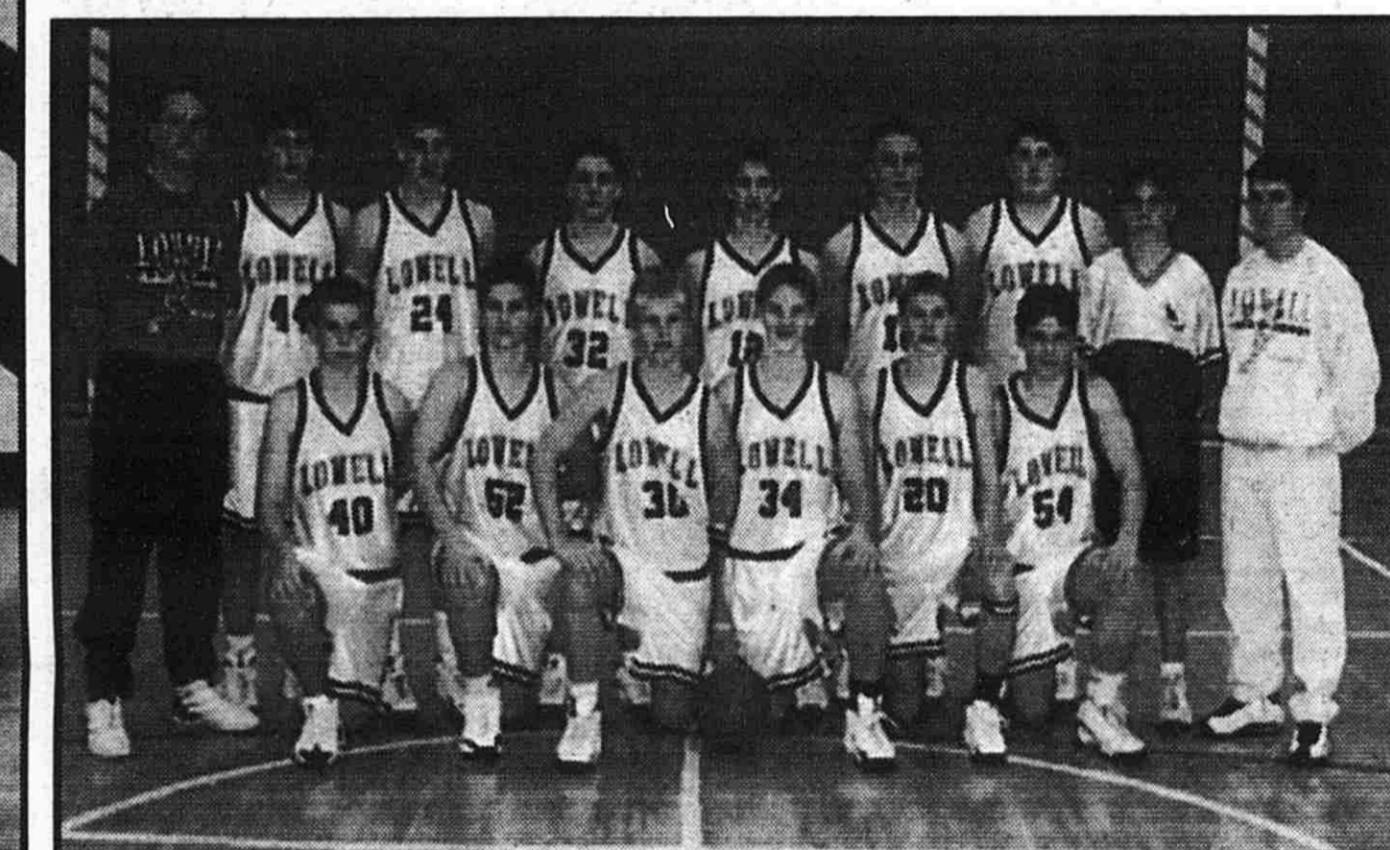
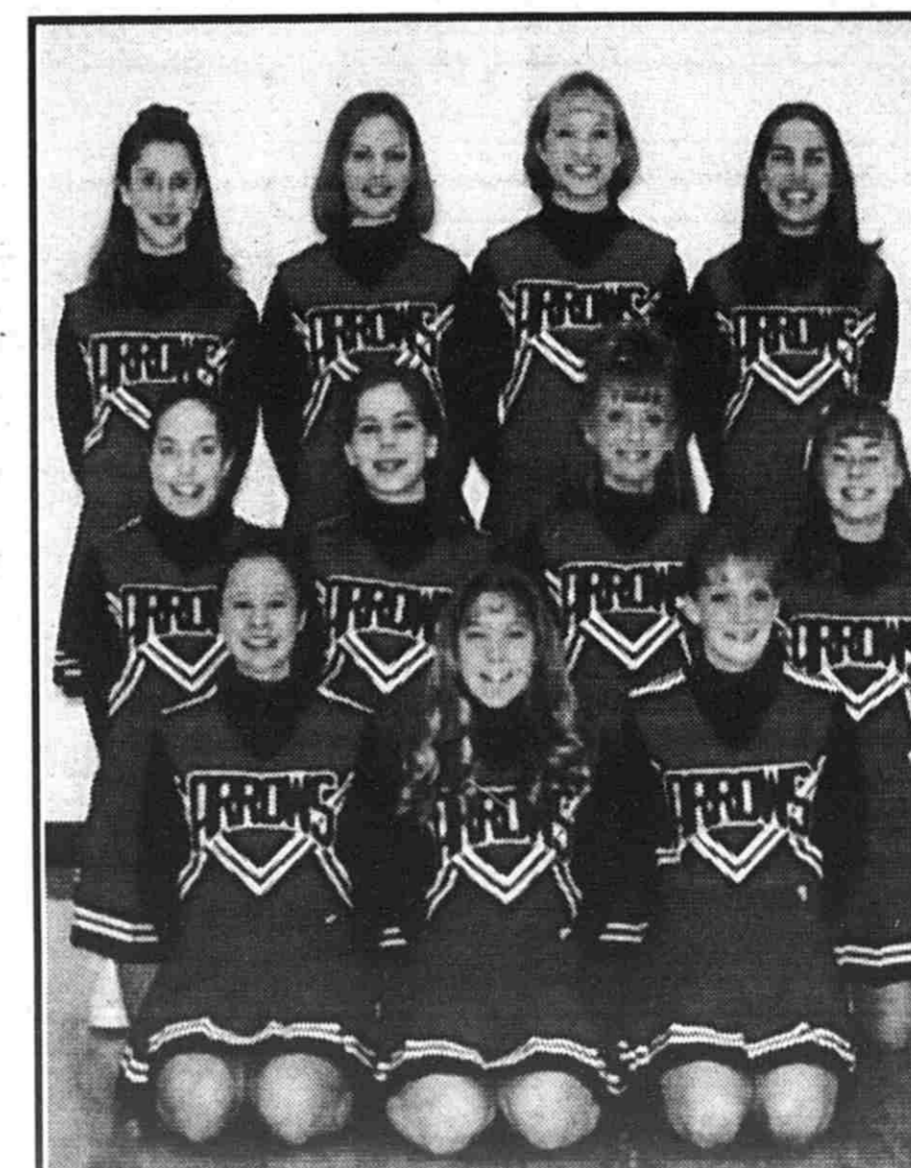


### Freshman Cheerleading

Members of the freshman cheerleading squad for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Audrey Slater, Megan Nyson, Sara Bailey, Christine LaFave; middle row, left to right: Sophia D'Agostino, Sara Schoen, Lena Dhayni, Julie Webb; back row, left to right: Lori Catlin, coach; Aimee Catlin, Erin Riemer, Jennifer Stewart, Alex McMahon.

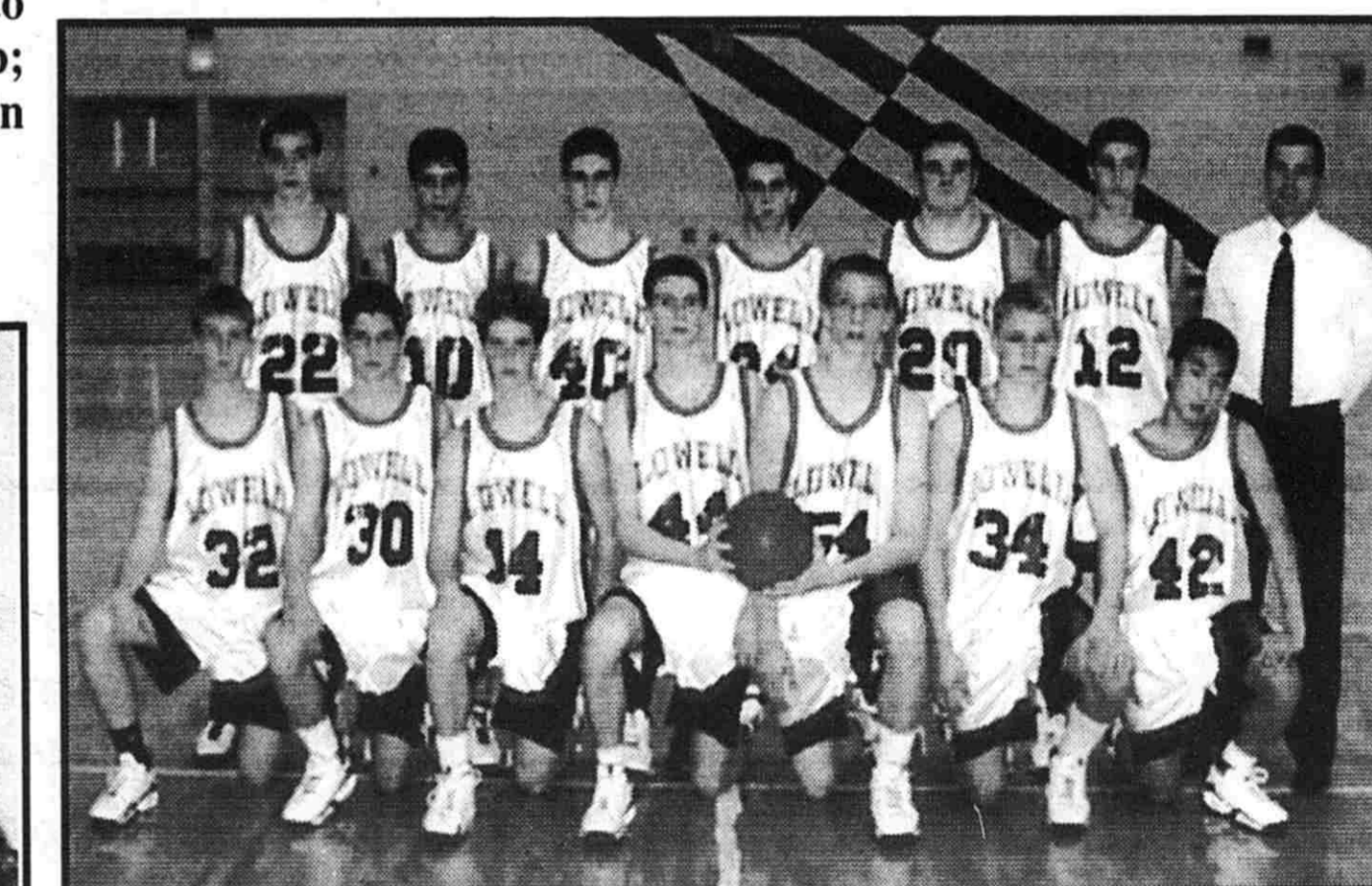
### Junior Varsity Cheerleading

Members of the JV cheerleading squad for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Kristi Anderson, Jaimey Sadlak, Shanda Yonker; middle row, left to right: Stacey Onan, Courtney Perkins, Nikki Elliott, Amanda Dykhuis; back row, left to right: Erin Weber, Kelsey Scheider, Brittany Huisman, Janyka Truszkowski.



### Freshman Basketball

Members of the freshman basketball team for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Andy McQueen, Steve Sper, Mark Biener, Landon Trierweiler, Craig Carpenter, Jordan Moore; back row, left to right: Coach Mark Stedman, Shaun Koning, Michael Fosburg, Neal DeVoid, Travis Gillan, Mark Catlin, Sean Pullen, Paul Despres, manager.



### Junior Varsity Basketball

Members of the JV basketball team for the 1999-00 winter season are pictured front row, left to right: Todd Drenth, Tyler Hippy, Bill Harrison, Zach Stauffer, Logan Dykstra, Gary Dykstra, Pat Cavanaugh; back row, left to right: Chris Cress, Will Nevers, Matt Tschaenn, Nick Onan, Travis DeVoid, Zach Beachum and coach Jeff McDonald.

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# TOWN TALK

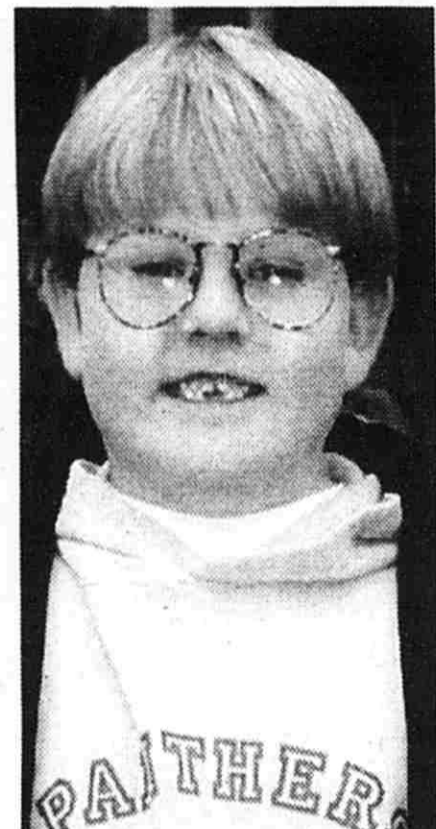
## What do you want for Christmas?



Zachary Andrus  
Lots of videos, Jeff Gordon stuff



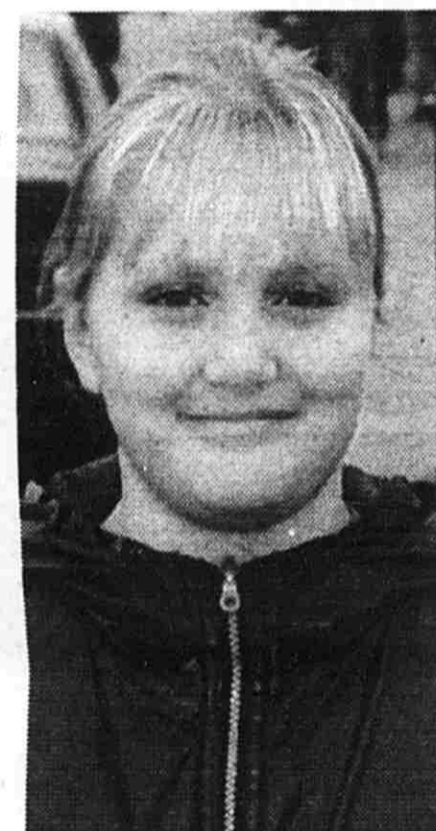
Rachel Lepard  
CDs, toy kittens



Jacob Worthington  
Toy Story, guitar, Woody



Tim Howard  
Mortal Kombat IV, Dreamcast.

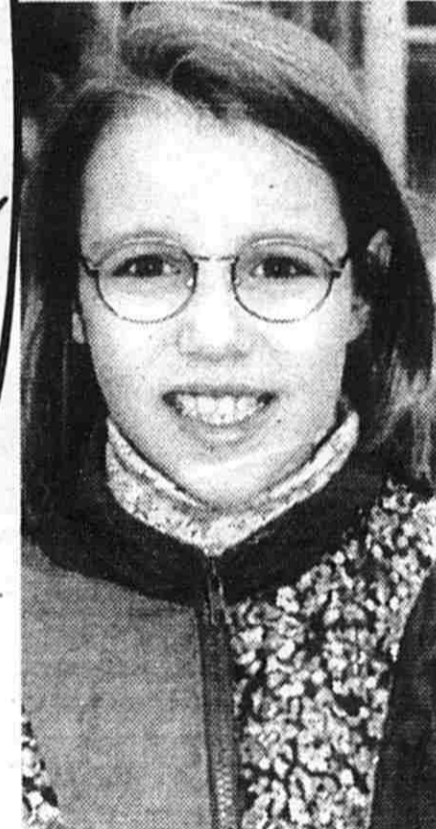


Catherine Howard  
Gameboy, Yellow Version Pokemon



Jessica Kuiper  
Skateboard, Shannon Doll, books

Zachary  
Rachel  
Jacob  
Tim  
Catherine  
Jessica  
Chad  
Reid  
Kennedy  
Sara  
Joshua  
Cassandra  
Andrew  
Charlie  
Jacob



Cassandra Paffhausen  
Toy Story, CD ROM, Barbie



Chad Heydenburg  
Blue horn



Reid Stormzand  
Legos



Kennedy Grace McCreedy  
Pokemon



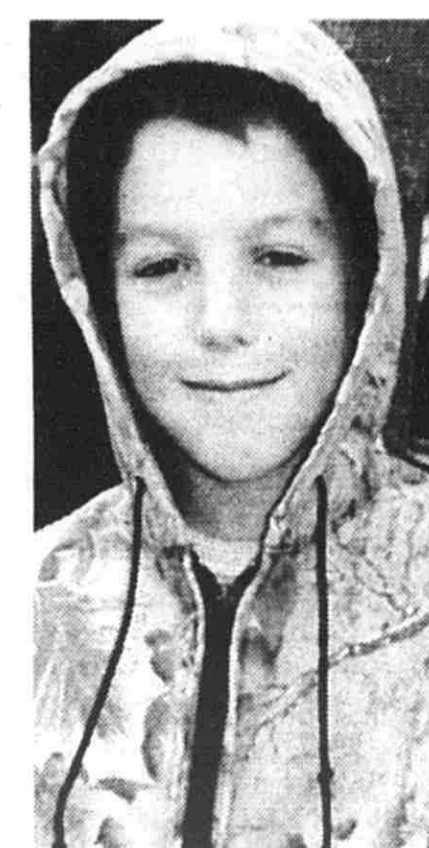
Sara Conklin  
Blues Clues



Joshua Burns  
Dog, house cat, farm animals.



Jacob Seaman  
Shelf speakers, surround sound



Andrew Pfaller  
New bike



Charlie Rogers  
Big Dessert Fox set, Pokemon



## Loan will help to upgrade airport runways

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The city of Lowell will request to borrow \$85,000 from the Michigan Board of Aeronautics for the purpose of improvements to increase safety for pilots and local residents.

The monies would be used to extend runway 12/30 to the northwest by 350 feet and to extend runway 6/24 by filling a low area at the west end of the existing runway.

The improvements would increase the length of runway 6/24 by approximately 1,000 feet. Its final length would be

nearly 2,400 feet. Currently the runway is marked "local use only" by the State for safety reasons.

"The longer the runway, the higher the planes will be when they go over neighboring homes," said Lowell City Airport manager Jim Sowle. "Neither of these improvements will expand the airport boundaries nor have any negative effect on the neighbors."

The city agreed to immediately loan the airport board \$6,000 to expedite the EPA studies to be done by Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber.

The loan is available from the State to airport authorities

to a maximum of \$100,000 for 10 years at six percent simple interest.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2000, the airport will bring in \$2,875 per month in hangar rentals or \$34,500 a year. This will be used to pay back new and old notes.

Currently the airport owes \$5,486 per year in old notes and \$10,650 per year in new notes for a total of \$16,136. This makes the expenditures less than 47 percent of revenues.

The land, on which the airport sits, was donated by C.H. Runciman. The airport was licensed by the State in 1963.

## Tips to driving safely during the winter season

As drivers, we have to plan now for the change in weather that is soon to come. The number one concern for winter accidents is going to be following too close and not able to stop in a safe distance. We need to remind the area drivers to slow down, leave stopping distance, turn on your headlights, and wear your safety belts to help control your vehicle. The following is some information that your readers, listeners and viewers may be reminded of to help them through daily winter safety.

**Lights:** All lights should be working and clean. **Windshield Wipers and Washer:** Blades that streak the glass should be replaced. Washers should be refilled with antifreeze washer fluid.

**Heating and Cooling Engine System:** Should be checked for cracked hoses, damaged belts and proper engine antifreeze level. In Michigan, 30 degrees Fahrenheit should be okay.

**Auto Battery:** Remember your battery grows weaker as

the temperature falls, so make sure that you start the winter with a full charge to the battery.

**Fuel Tank:** It is always a good idea to keep your fuel tank at least one half full. This assures you plenty of fuel in case of traffic delays and it reduces the chances of freezing up.

**Tires:** Remember that tires are the only contact your vehicle has with the roadway. The best tire for winter driving on Michigan roads is the snow tire. Remember to use the correct tire pressure for proper traction. Snow tires often hold more tire pressure than a summer highway tire. Snow tires are used on all four wheels of four wheel drive, and front wheel drive vehicles. If chains are used for heavy snow conditions, keep your speed slow for control and the chains for a front wheel drive vehicle must be used on all four wheels.

**Exhaust System:** Check for proper operation. Repair trouble areas. Remember, carbon monoxide gas is odorless and deadly.

A possible list of equipment to carry in your vehicle for the winter driving season:

Tire chains, cell phone, small shovel, sunglasses, warm clothing, high-energy food source, traction mats, blankets, ice scraper and brush, flashlight, booster cables and instructions, flares.

We, as drivers, must adopt a winter driving safety attitude. This means to relax, slow down, increase stopping distances, and anticipate problems ahead. Use your driving lights during all low light weather days. Light colored vehicles, especially white, can be difficult to see because of the surrounding snow. We have to be seen and we must be able to see other vehicles. Clean off all snow from vehicle: hood, all windows, trunk, and all lights. This can be done as the auto warms up.

Remember, to get started on the snow and ice, that traction is greatest just before the wheels spin, so accelerate easily. When braking, do not allow your wheels to lock up. Use slow break pressure or squeeze braking, working your brakes to the edge of lock up. Vehicles equipped with ABS braking systems, learn about this advanced system from the owner's manual or dealer classes.

On slippery surfaced roads, following distances should be increased to about six or more seconds, looking ahead to a distance of about 15 seconds.

If your vehicle goes in a skid, take your foot off the accelerator, turn slightly into the direction of the skid and prepare to recover the steering into proper direction again. Front wheel drive and four-wheel drive vehicles perform well on snow covered roads when traveling straight ahead. However, for the average driver, they do not turn or stop better than cars with rear wheel drive system. The message is, front wheel drive and four-wheel drive will not help you if you drive too fast for road conditions.

Remember that seat belts with shoulder restraints must be worn to keep the driver behind the steering wheel and in control of the automobile.

## In Memory of Lester E. Stauffer

March 15, 1912 - December 7, 1994

Dear Dad,

I miss you. It's been five years since that bitter cold December day. I can still hear the mourning of the taps as the final notes of respect played out.

I miss your smile and your blue eyes. I miss your humor and your common sense.

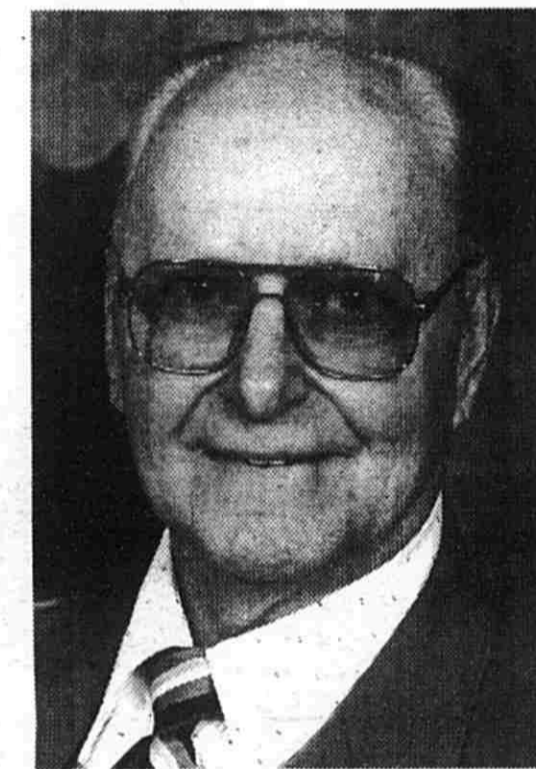
You walk now with the angels. I love you Dad.

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Feliz Y Suenos Dad, Sweet Dreams.

The Stauffer Family



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### Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...



It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper.

All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc.

Photos will no longer be accepted if faces are too dark.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone in the Lowell community for all the help since Josh's accident. The support and love that have been shown to our family, as well as to Denny Snuffer and his family, have been a great comfort and a wonderful tribute to Josh.

Thank you for all the food, visits, cards, flowers, donations and many, many prayers. Thank you to all of our friends, Michele's friends and Josh's friends. We couldn't have made it through these weeks without you.

And to his friends - Learn from this and never forget Josh. Keep him with you always in choices that you make.

We love him and miss him each day. Again, thank you to everyone. God Bless

- The Family of Josh Ford

# Blue Nile trial and tribulations

Editor's Note: This is the third in a four-part series on Kate Dermocoeur's journey down the Blue Nile. The Vergennes Township resident spent five weeks rafting through 475 miles of the Blue Nile River

**Sunday, October 3 (River Day #14):** A woman we met on the way into the village today needed some medical assistance. Three nights ago, she fell asleep by her fire and was awakened when her clothing was set ablaze. Although she was not burned, she tripped running out of her house, and punctured her shin on some bamboo. I think she may have either broken or sprained her ankle. Her leg is incredibly painful and very swollen. Translation is a real challenge. She speaks to Melesse in Oromo, who translates into Amharic for Zelalem, who translates into English for me. Who knows what anyone is really saying? Anyway, I treated her with Tylenol, antibiotics, a wing and a prayer. There is no way to know the outcome. There is also no way to know whether the girl in labor who I examined yesterday will deliver a healthy baby. Likewise, there is no way to know how our orphan, Abush, with his infected dog bites, has fared...

**Monday, October 4 (River Day #15):** We had a group meeting last night to clarify the "mission" of this trip. What it takes to get the National Geographic story, which was obvious to Nevada and Ginny, has now become more clear to me. We cannot miss any opportunity to engage local people. This has been at some cross-purposes at times with Mike Speaks' sense of responsibility for our gear [borrowed from a river-guide colleague], for being in Bamburi on October 13<sup>th</sup>, and for our personal safety. Bruce said he wants us to get what we all came for and leave as friends. That can be difficult on a trip of this length. I chimed in, pleading for balance and that everyone has to yield sometimes. I think things were more settled when the meeting broke up.

**Tuesday, October 5 (River Day #16):** I was sick in the night, and feel head-achy and a little "swirly" today, but not laid out. Today I think caring for my physical body will be the focus.

As it gets lighter, the camp evolves into activity — fire is started, people drift casually by with the shovel to go relieve themselves. There's a code of privacy that if you're in your tent you will be left alone, and no one will even peek in. The same goes for bathing, where we might be within 50 feet of each other along a stream, and no one will watch you. I had a delicious bath yesterday in the middle of the Nile! There were some midstream rocks that had caught some large, deep pools of rainwater, and I was blocked by some rocks from the others, who were pumping rainwater from another spot. I also washed two shirts, my towel, my night-shirt, pillow case and socks! Huge laundry success. Then I became a floating clothesline, riding the river with stuff draped over me (which also helps against the sun) until dry. These small things become huge treats out here!

I feel a strong measure of support, and actually a shift to a measure of admiration from the group, and I'm having a ball. The river run yesterday added 48 km to our journey, and was smooth and quick. The river remains a constant roar outside my tent — and the fireflies in the bamboo above us on the bank last night were as twinkly as a string of white Christmas lights...

**Tuesday, October 5 (River Day #15):** Very mellow day of wild river — wild-est "feel" so far, actually. Tons of crocs — 19 by my count. The river today was completely void of people, or signs of them. It remains incredible to me how little use is made of the river. All the commerce is conducted in the highlands above us, away from the malaria.

The beauty of the universal nature of a smile is so evident here. When we meet people, they all want to touch, shake hands, with heartfelt eye contact with a "salaam!" or in this area, in Oromo, "Akam! Akam!" and the eyes meet and the faces smile. A spark of connection occurs. Our faces are so different! Our eyes, our hands and arms, our hair, everything — except the smile. It is a wonderful universal tool. People are very thrilled to be part of our adventure. They are beside themselves when we stop the rafts...

Yesterday was the first time a child was obviously terrified by us. There were two. I eventually made contact with each of them. It was very gratifying to indicate to the adults that there was no hurry. We all just ignored the kids until they finally felt OK to come forward for a touch.

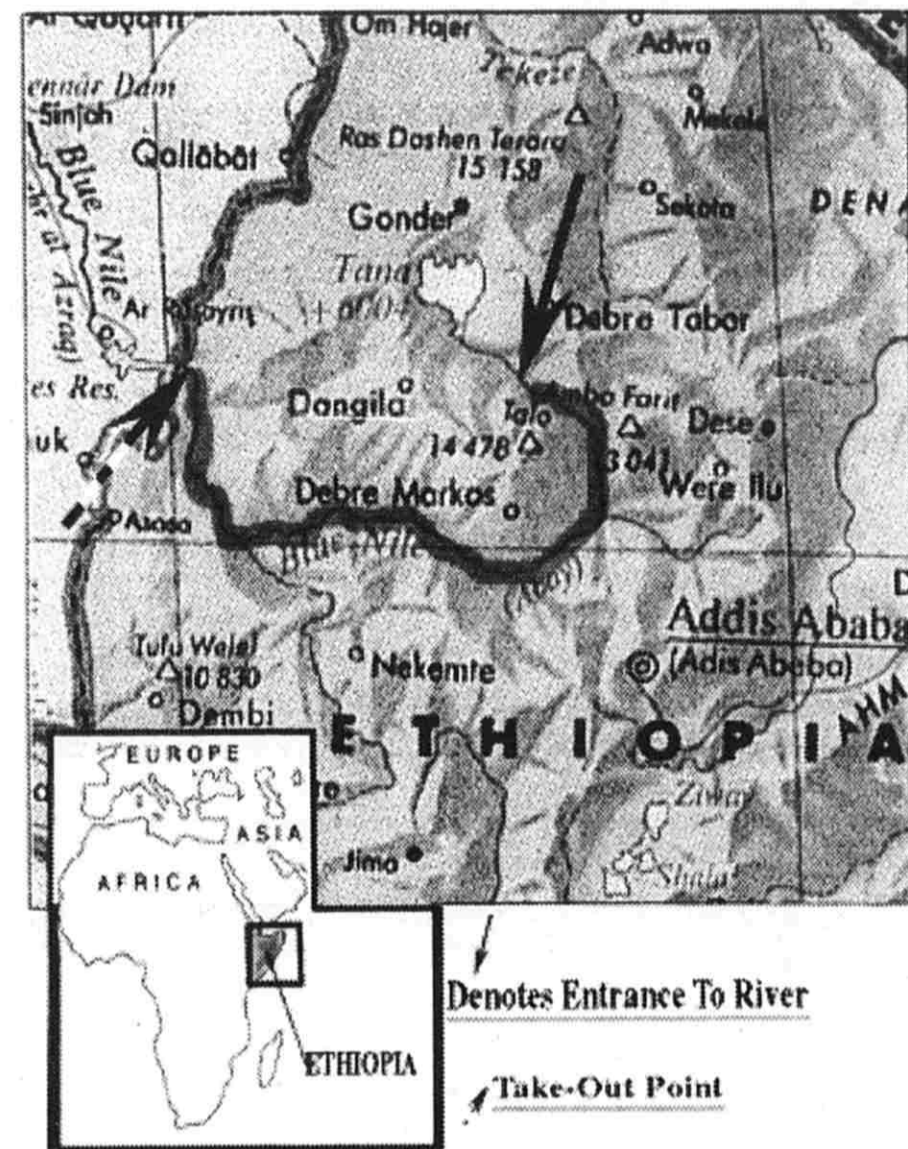
Take out at Bamburi will be one week from tomorrow. To be within a week of the end is a jolt. Of course, then there will be the drive to Addis and the journey home...so it's not at all over yet.

**Wednesday, October 6 (River Day #17):** Up, feeling fine (yay!). Still a few little medical things — but pretty healthy group overall. We came across a fabulous clear waterfall today. I was first in — but of course we were again sweaty, sticky, and splashed by the brown Blue Nile soon enough...

**Thursday, October 7 (River Day #18):** We are camped on a high bank with just enough width that you have to walk close to the tents to avoid falling off the 10-foot straight-down bank. This is probably the last unpeopled frontier — from here on out, we think we'll be amongst more people. I've loved the remote lands, the animals, the quiet, the utter absence of any sign of mankind — not even airplanes overhead or debris in the river. No power lines, and only 2 vehicle bridges the whole way.

**Friday, October 8 (River Day #19):** Visited a village, and had coffee in one of the homes. The women put on shirts, but reluctantly — the government mandated that they wear clothes four years ago. Someone played a song on the krar [a stringed instrument] which thanked the river for rising and giving water for the crops, and then, as it goes back down, giving more land for more crops.

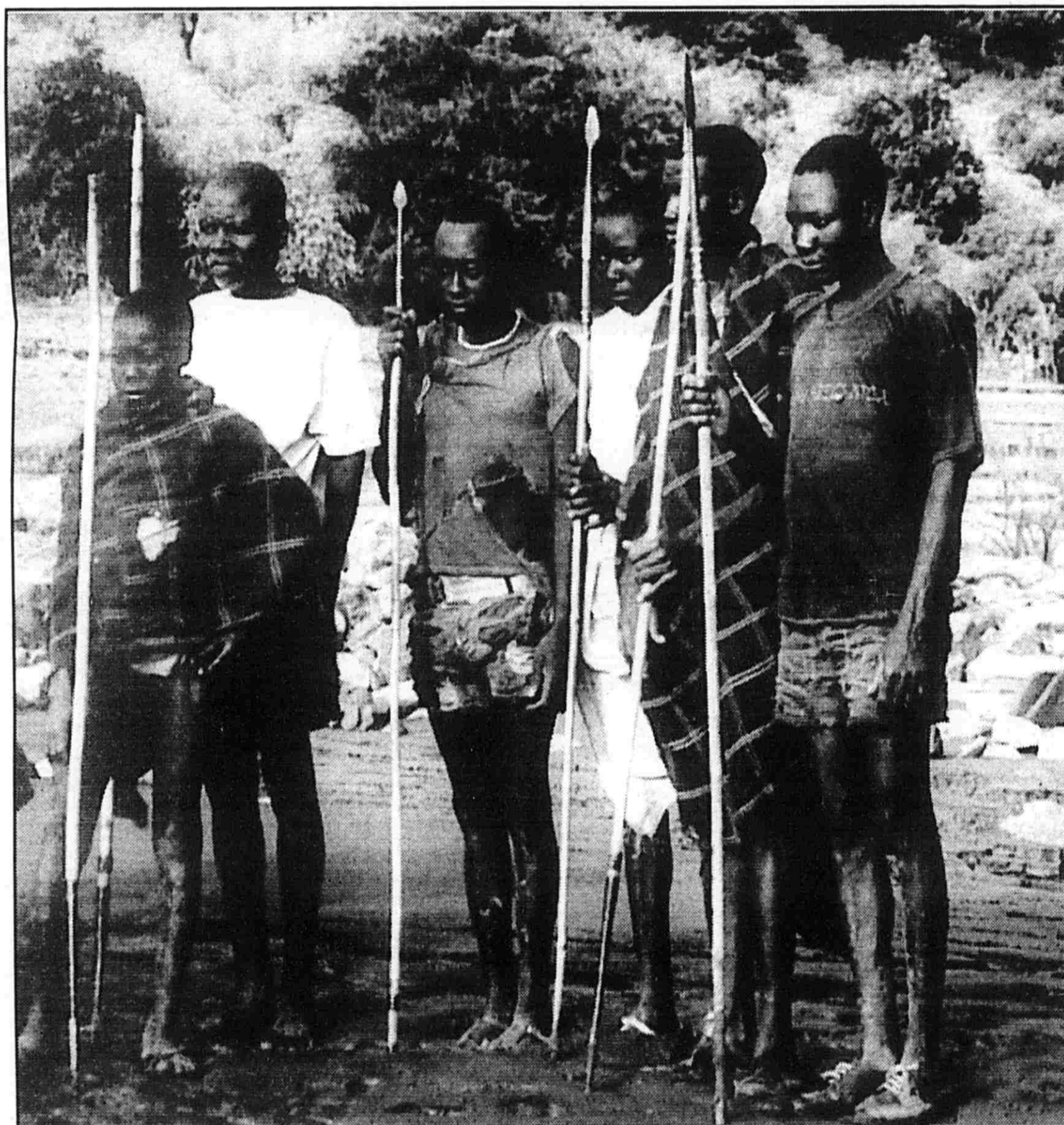
We stopped at a Norwegian Lutheran mission today. They had heard of our expedition and some of the trouble we've had



our adventure was turning out a bit tame. I think the others have also been a tad disappointed, secretly. But that all changed in no time... First, Bruce punctured his boat on some volcanic rock just as we were pulling into camp. He had been feeling punk all day, and spiraled directly into bed with a high fever (so Mike Borcik checked the raft). Then, we got word after our scheduled check-in satellite phone call to Mauritio that Conrad [our chief of reconnaissance and the original trip leader, who had been diagnosed with cancer in June] died yesterday. Conrad was not only Zelalem's employer, but was like a father to him as well... A huge pall hung over the expedition.

**Sunday, October 10 (River Day #21):** As we left camp yesterday, we stopped on a nearby sandy beach to rig the flotilla [we tied the three rafts together and motored the rest of the way, to gain flexibility for the journalists and to give Bruce a chance to recuperate]. Two large groups of militia had gathered across the river. Some had been there all night. We were summoned over there once the rafts were lashed together. As we went across, it began to pour

**We were met on the Riverbank by curious Ethiopians who, although always armed with guns or spears, were never threatening to us.**



with the militia. They said they have been praying for us! The mission was a 25-minute walk from the river, and they have a clinic and two real buildings with concrete floors and rooms with walls and doors — and a Landrover out front! It was very odd to see... They cautioned us about bilharzia [a waterborne disease] and urged us to be tested when we get home. One missionary who is about to go home after four years said this area is burned black in the dry season. It must be such a different place. I wonder if I'd have it in me to live a full year — not to mention four years! — in a place like this... Bruce is hot and achy today.

**Saturday, October 9 (River Day #20):** As we left the mission yesterday, I was for the first time beginning to think

rain...I was left holding the boats while Mike Speaks and the translators stood under an umbrella and showed them our papers, and the journalists documented the situation. It was quite chaotic, and at first it wasn't clear how friendly the proceedings were... Finally, after 45 minutes, we were allowed to go. As I was helping push off, three of the militia men clamored over me, onto the boat [to ride downstream and give the "OK" to militia down there]. As a result, suddenly I found myself in waist-deep water — and then I was in the river, being pulled along, hanging on, yelling for help in the chaos, trying to pull myself into the boat and not be left behind! Between the rain, the wind, and the wetness, I got downright chilled. Others were in an active shiver. Cold! At the equator! Who would have guessed?

# Classifieds

- HELP WANTED
- HELP WANTED
- FOR SALE
- FOR SALE
- FOR SALE
- SERVICES

**REAL ESTATE SALES** - We have a limited number of opportunities for new Business Partners. We provide complete training, from licensing thru career development & are certified trainers & distributors for Top Producer real estate management software to ensure your future success. Business partners enjoy the finest technology & management support. Call Rick Seese at 974-4250.

**29 PEOPLE WANTED** - To lose weight & earn extra money. Call 616-752-7016.

**1989 CHEVY ASTRO VAN** - \$1,000 or best offer. Call 897-6132.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** - 3 bedroom, 1 bath, extra large garage w/workshop & 220 electric. Vinyl sided, new windows, family room w/fireplace, new paint & carpet throughout. Lowell schools. \$104,000. 987-9063.

**FOR SALE** - 1984 Pontiac 6000, \$475 obo. High miles, runs good. Call 897-5070.

**CHILD CARE & PRE-SCHOOL OPENINGS** - for 3-6 year-olds at Big Steps Little Feet Christian Child Care in Ada. 682-8300.

**HOME MAILERS NEEDED** - Earn \$635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. Call 1-800-520-4638 ext. 3300 24 hours.

**HELP WANTED** - Earn extra cash by helping deliver the Grand Rapids Press. We are in need of 3 reliable students or adults in the Lowell area: Openings in Key Heights Park, near Lowell Middle School & in the N. Washington & N. Jefferson St. areas. Call 897-5793 for information or leave message.

**TANDEM AXLE CAR HAULER/TRAILER FOR SALE** - Electric brakes. \$800 obo. Call 940-1856.

**LOWELL COUNTRY LIVING** - 3+ acres in area of beautiful new homes. \$31,500. Call 897-0719.

**FOR SALE** - 1989 Ford Escort GT, hatchback, 5 speed, excellent condition. \$1,500 obo. Call 642-0625 evs.

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**THE LOWELL YMCA** - Child Development Center has openings in the Preschool and Toddler rooms. Enroll full time and receive a YMCA youth membership free. Call Penny at 897-8445.

**GREAT CAR** - '97 Ford Aspire, red, 4 dr, manual, AM/FM cassette, air, dual air bags, 40K hwy miles, 42 hwy. mpg. Ex. cond., \$5,950. 897-4272.

**TRUSSES** - 9 used 14 ft., \$100; 1966 Olds convertible, \$5,950. Call 897-8213 mornings.

**DIRECTV** - mini-satellite dish. \$59 - lowest price ever! This week only! 1-800-459-7357, K-D.

**SNOWMOBILE SUIT** - Arctic Cat Tech 10, leather, excellent condition, men's XL, \$250. 868-7452.

**DAYCARE OPENINGS AT HEATHER'S HOUSE** - 2 full-time openings, new built home on 2 1/2 acres. Structured fun. Big fun playroom, 11 years of experience. Call Heather at 897-5554.

**HELP WANTED** - Due to a large increase in business, local company must expand operations & fill 13 full-time permanent positions to start at \$540/week. Since there are several positions to fill, company will train the inexperienced: job description, hours, pay scales, profit sharing, benefits, etc. will be discussed at a 1 on 1 interview. No third shift! For appointment call 616-243-9131.

Be sure to check out the school lunch menu in this issue of the Ledger.

**WORK FROM HOME** - Earn an extra \$500-\$2000 by Christmas! Full training provided. Call today 616-248-5094.

**FOR SALE**

**'97 DODGE DAKOTA** - 4x4, Club cab, dk. grn., power windows/locks, auto, V-8, 38K mi., looks new, \$15,500. 868-6910.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** - in Lowell, \$86,000, large yard, hardwood floors, garage, much updating done. Immediate possession, well-maintained, vinyl siding, newer windows. Call 987-9063.

**FOR SALE** - 1990 Chrysler Imperial, white, immaculate w/burgundy leather interior. \$3,200. 897-7662 after 5 p.m.

**HAWAII** - Lowest price from GR. Package includes hotels. Call Carol for details. 957-8964.

**FOR RENT OR SALE** - 2 story walkout, 3+ bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths on 5 1/2 acres, near Fallsburg Park. \$750/month + utilities. 897-6921.

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to advertise daycare or babysitting, the State requires a license number on file at the newspaper. If you do not have a daycare license, we cannot place an ad for you. If you are a teenager willing to do babysitting, you can run an ad, but must state you are a teenager. Thank you, Lowell Ledger Buyers Guide

**ATTN: WORK FROM HOME** - Our children come to the office everyday. Earn an extra \$500-\$1,500 per month p/t, \$2,000-\$7,000 f/t. 752-8346. www.cashmailbox.com. Code#101290.

**FOR SALE** - Great Christmas gift! Flashy diamond dinner ring, 1 carat total weight. \$1,000 value for \$300. Call 897-6220.

**FOR SALE** - 1990 Pontiac 6000, \$475 obo. High miles, runs good. Call 897-5070.

**FOR SALE** - 1989 Ford Escort GT, hatchback, 5 speed, excellent condition. \$1,500 obo. Call 642-0625 evs.

**FOR RENT** - 1 bedroom. Includes stove, refrigerator, electric, water & sewer. Off street parking, \$450/month + \$450 deposit. Credit check required. 698-5062, pager 630-9824.

**NEED A NEW YEAR'S EVE BABYSITTER?** - Licensed daycare is having an all-night slumber party for children located on Vergennes. Call Kathy for details, 897-7359.

**CHECK OUT THE MONEY-SAVING ADS IN THE LOWELL LEDGER TV MAGAZINE**



# SEASON'S GREETINGS



By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Many may not have thought it was possible, but Lowell's Christmas Parade actually grew in size and length from last year.

It took approximately 65 entries a little over an hour to parade through Lowell's downtown as residents lined the streets from Hudson to Division.

Following the parade, patrons had the opportunity to vote on their favorite decorated Christmas tree, take a carriage ride, watch ice sculptors from Grand Rap-

ids Community College, visit Santa or take in a cup of hot chocolate.

Christmas parade (sponsored by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce) entry winners were Lowell Christian Life Center, first place, \$150 gift certificate to shop Lowell; Cheer America/Bonnie Blue Bells, second place, \$100 gift certificate to shop Lowell; and The Shorebird Gallery & Gifts, third place, \$75 gift certificate to shop Lowell.

Christmas coloring contest winners were Nick Weaver, four; Austin

Kempker, six; Kelly Walker, 10; and Annie Beenan, 15. They all received a \$25 gift certificate to shop Lowell.

The coloring contest was sponsored by the Lowell Area Arts Council and the Lowell Ledger/Buyers Guide.

The winning pictures will be on display at the art gallery until Dec. 19. Pictures can be picked up at the Arts Council (149 S. Hudson).

Seven homes received gift certificates for their Christmas decorations.

The Joshua Milley family, 10801 Woodbushe, was first in the spectacular residential category. It won a \$50 gift certificate. Andrew



Milley, 1415 Baywicke, second place, won a \$35 gift certificate; and Dale Reed, 813 Avery St., third place, won a \$25 gift certificate.

Gary and Sharon Pieroni, 329 N. Washington, earned

top honors in the traditional category. They won a \$50 gift certificate. Marvin Dietz, 10882 Deerwood, second place, won a \$35 gift certificate; and Kurt Beimers, 10946 Woodbushe, third place, won

a \$25 gift certificate. James Austin, 14115 Grand River Dr., was honorable mention.

In the Spirit of Christmas category, Kelly Bishop, 328 Jefferson, was the winner, earning a \$50 gift certificate.

The plaque for the best decorated business went to Back Door Antiques, 221 W. Main.

Honorable mentions were handed out to Rupert's Drop, Cousin's Hallmark, Dream Pieces and Chapman State Farm Insurance.

The Riverwalk Christmas tree winners were St. Mary's Catholic Girls Club, first place, winning \$215.

Women of the Moose Chapter #1388, second place, won \$152.30.

LASSO, third place, won \$93.58.

A total of \$844.19 was raised by the nonprofit organizations which participated.

