

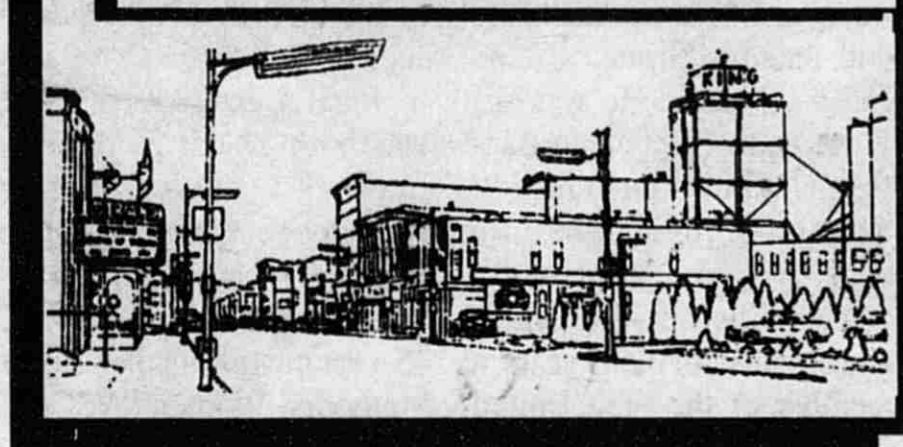
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 14

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 10, 2001

Along Main Street



FINANCIAL AID NIGHT AT LHS

Lowell High School counseling staff is sponsoring a financial aid night on Thursday, Jan. 11 for juniors and seniors planning to attend college. Parents are invited to attend this informative meeting held in the Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.

SIGN-UP FOR SENIOR CLASS OVERNIGHTER

Attention Seniors: There will be a sign-up on Thursday, Jan. 25 and Friday, the 26th for the overnighiter during all 4 lunch periods. For those who have signed up, a \$25 payment is needed.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

If you care to recycle your Christmas tree, there are two locations nearby: Drop-off at designated location in Ada Township Park and a drop-off site at Cascade Township Park now until Jan. 20.

JUNIOR SPORTFISHING GROUP TO FORM

The Wittenbach Agriscience Center will be hosting, in partnership with MSU sportfishing and Trout Unlimited, a kickoff event for a junior sportfishing group on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 6 - 9 p.m.

The workshop on flytying and tackle-making is free but all interested students and parents should pre-register no later than Jan. 18 by calling Tammy DeBaar, center director, at 987-1002.

WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL COMPETITION

Entry forms for the 15th annual West Michigan Regional Competition held at the Lowell Area Arts Council are available by calling 897-8545. The exhibition, which includes prizes and awards, will run from Feb. 25 - March 31.

SENIOR PICTURES NEEDED

Parents: Pictures are needed by the end of January of your son or daughter for the Senior video. Put name and tel. # on the back of the pictures along with a SASE and drop them off in the drop box in the high school office.

WINTER ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

The Lowell Area Arts Council winter arts classes begin Jan. 29. Offerings for ages 8-14 include acting, watercolor painting, woodcarving, clay creations, drawing, and book illustration and design. Ages 14 and up are offered oil painting, pastel painting, drawing, clay sculptures, waterpainting and mixed media. Call 897-8545 for more information.

LOWELL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS' EXHIBITION

On display at the Lowell Area Arts Council (149 S. Hudson St.) now thru Jan. 27 are two- and three-dimensional artworks created by students from Bushnell, Alto and Cherry Creek Elementary schools. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 12 - 5 p.m.; Thursday from 12 - 7 p.m. and Saturday from 1-4 p.m.

LHS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEETING

The Lowell High School Athletic Boosters will hold their regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. in the high school staff lounge.

HOMAGE - TRIBUTE TO LORETTA SAILORS

The Lowell Area Arts Council will present a student exhibition as a tribute to watercolor instructor, Loretta Sailors. The display is at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St. now thru Feb. 6 during regular business hours. For more information call the LAAC at 897-8545.

SRO program may land officer back in school

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Once political, local and financial support are in place, the commencement of the School Resource Officer (SRO) program will begin.

The program will position an officer at the high school and middle school on a part-time basis.

SRO is an extension of the community policing program. Its purpose is multi-fold:

- The officer will serve as a liaison between the police department and the student population.

- The officer will work at all district grade levels and buildings to present safety related training and programs on a regular basis.

- The positions will serve as one of security and a deterrent to extreme acts of violence.

- The officer, over time, will develop a rapport and trust with students.

- The officer will handle any criminal matters that occur during the high school day.

"It is our belief, that through gaining students' trust, the officer will become privileged to information and tips from students, as well as information that will be preventative in nature," Lowell police chief, James Valentine explained.

The program is the trend of the police world as a means to address school violence.

The cost to fill this part-time position is expected to be between \$22-23,000.

Valentine said the department has already begun seeking state and federal funds for future years.

Funds to pay for the first year are being sought from the Lowell Area Community Fund with Lowell Area School Administrator's support.

If successful and if Valentine receives the cooperation from the city and school, the program could start as early as the second semester. Support was received from the city at the Jan. 2 city council meeting.

SRO, cont'd pg. 8



ICICLES APLENTY

The Ledger scouted Lowell and came back with a camera's eye full of icicles. More pictures, page 20.

Computer for every teacher

••• The intent of the Governor's Teacher Technology Initiative program would arm all teachers who qualify with a computer. In order to qualify, teachers must fill out a survey prior to Jan. 19.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It sounds like a grand New Year's resolution - to provide every teacher with a computer.

The Michigan Virtual University Teacher Technology Initiative (TTI) has been established to do just that.

To be eligible, teachers must comply with all conditions and terms set forth by TTI, which calls for teachers to:

- Demonstrate a minimum of computer-related technology competencies.

- Describe how they plan to use the computer to enhance their own professional growth and teaching in the classroom.

- Agree in writing to comply with the TTI fair use policy.

- Agree to take a follow-up web-based self-assessment within one year of receiving a computer.

All teachers interested in participating are required to fill out a survey prior to Jan. 19 answering such questions as who

Computers, cont'd. pg. 8



GYMNASTS HIT THEIR MARK

The Lowell gymnastics team opened their season at home with a win over Kenowa Hills. Above, Krystal White works on the balance beam. More pictures and story, page 16.

Inside The Ledger

Open Space
Meeting - Details,
Page 9

OBITUARIES

BOERSMA - Calvin Eugene Boersma, aged 67 years, of Lowell, passed away January 3, 2001. He is preceded in death by his son Richard and sister Ruth. Calvin is survived by his wife Candi; children Doug and Christine VanderBand, Dale and Susan DeWitt, Steve and Karen Boersma, Duane and Daniel; brothers and sisters Ronald and Dorothy Boersma, Larry and Eleanor Boersma, Janice Quiggle, Gerald and Senetta Veldman, Douglas, Eric and Debra Junke; 10 grandchildren. Memorial services were held Saturday at First Baptist Church of Lowell, Rev. Burland Margesson officiating. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to United Leukodystrophy, 2304 Highland Dr., Sycamore, IL 60178-9970.

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CARPENTER - Lettie M. Carpenter, aged 94, of Saranac, passed away January 6, 2001 in Ionia. She was born July 7, 1906 in Goshen, Indiana, the daughter of Emanuel and Dora (Hollinger) Moyer. She married Roy Carpenter on August 31, 1928, who preceded her in death in 1994. She was a member of the Saranac Community Church. She worked for McCarty Communication for many years and owned and operated Saranac Hardware & Bottled Gas from 1945-1958. She is survived by her son Ronald and Betty Carpenter of Woodland; six grandchildren and many great-grandchildren; several step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, daughter Janet, five sisters and one brother. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 11 a.m. at Saranac Community Church with Rev. Nate Gibbons and Bruce Chadwick officiating. Anyone wishing may make contributions to Saranac Community Church. Envelopes available at Lake Funeral Home in Saranac www.lakefuneralhomes.com

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Pictured are Showboat Garden Club members (sitting left to right: Ruby Christiansen and Dee Gabriion. Standing are Lowell Schools' superintendent Bert Bleke, garden club president Dave Thompson and Wittenbach Nature Center director Tammy DeBaar. Thompson presented DeBaar and Bleke with a check for \$1,000.

Showboat Garden Club donation offers students growth opportunity

The Lowell Showboat Garden Club has provided 52 years of dedicated service to the Lowell community. It has been involved in many projects, two of which are planting of the flowering trees along Main Street and the annual planting of tulips and other plants in the YMCA raised flower bed. On Friday (Jan. 5), Showboat Garden Club president, Dave Thompson along with founding member, Ruby Christiansen and past president, Dee Gabriion presented Wittenbach Nature Center director, Tammy DeBaar and

Lowell Schools' superintendent, Bert Bleke with a check for \$1,000 in support of the center. "Since much of the money in our savings account was earned over the years, we thought it would be fitting that a couple of our seasoned members be a part of the presentation," Thompson said. "Instead of doing a member gift exchange this year, the club donated that money and a supplemental amount from the treasury to the center in the club's name." DeBaar said the garden club donation would be used toward the fourth grade's harvest of a Michigan garden.

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Pictured are Showboat Garden Club members (sitting) left to right: Ruby Christiansen and Dee Gabrion. Standing are Lowell Schools' superintendent Bert Bleke, garden club president Dave Thompson and Wittenbach Nature Center director Tammy DeBaar. Thompson presented DeBaar and Bleke with a check for \$1,000.

Showboat Garden Club donation offers students growth opportunity

The Lowell Showboat Garden Club has provided 52 years of dedicated service to the Lowell community.

It has been involved in many projects, two of which are planting of the flowering trees along Main Street and the annual planting of tulips and other plants in the YMCA raised flower bed.

On Friday (Jan. 5), Showboat Garden Club president, Dave Thompson along with founding member, Ruby Christiansen and past president, Dee Gabrion presented Wittenbach Nature Center director, Tammy DeBaar and

Lowell Schools' superintendent, Bert Bleke with a check for \$1,000 in support of the center.

"Since much of the money in our savings account was earned over the years, we thought it would be fitting that a couple of our seasoned members be a part of the presentation," Thompson said. "Instead of doing a member gift exchange this year, the club donated that money and a supplemental amount from the treasury to the center in the club's name."

DeBaar said the garden club donation would be used toward the fourth grade's harvest of a Michigan garden.

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Council extends deadline for river water main project

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The completion date for the water main river crossing project has been extended. The \$1,000 a day late completion clause is still part of the contract. "We won't make Nagle Construction liable for missing the Dec. 30 deadline, but it is liable if the Jan. 31 extension deadline is not met," said Lowell city councilman, Don Green.

Arnie Morrin, president of Nagel Construction, said the late start with severe weather has been a problem.

Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale noted that Nagel Construction would be responsible for all new engineering expenses incurred during the extension period.

As estimated by Steve Nichols of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, this cost would run between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

The need for an extension occurred after drilling a hole

under the Flat River with approximately a two-inch steel pipe. A reamer, 18 inches in diameter, was then used to drill a hole similar to a small tunnel across the river.

The contractor reached approximately 360 feet across the river when a blockage was encountered.

Discussion of going back through and trying to ream the hole again has been considered. Another option is to drill a new pilot hole and have a second location in which they could cross the river.

Financial aid night scheduled for Jan. 11

The Lowell High School counseling staff is sponsoring a financial aid night for students planning to attend college next fall. Juniors, seniors and their parents will be guided through the process of filing for and receiving financial assistance.

JoAnn Litton, assistant director of financial aid at Grand Valley State University, will simplify the sometimes confusing process of filling out the Free Application for Federal

Student Aid (FAFSA) applying for grants, scholarships and certain low interest loans. The FAFSA is the cornerstone upon which all financial aid is granted.

This application is based upon both parents' and student incomes, and must arrive at the processor by Feb. 20.

Plan to attend this informative meeting Thursday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. in the LPAC at Lowell High School.

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Residents reminded to check filters, intakes and vents

With the amount of snowfall the Lowell area has received in December, it is highly recommended to check furnace and water heater exhaust vents for ice buildup and blockage by

snow. In particular, the vents for high efficiency furnace models that are located in the sidewall of the house and close to the ground.

In addition to this, it is also good to check fresh-air

intakes and dryer vents.

For mobile homes, the roof exhaust vents need to be checked due to the close distance to the roof line.

Check and/or replace furnace filters on a monthly ba-

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SRO, continued.... From Page 1

"The school district agrees in principal to try the program. However, we must still make out the details (e.g., finances, responsibility and board support)," said Lowell superintendent, Bert Bleke.

The superintendent believes such a program would increase safety, contribute to an on-going effort to better the

relationship between school, community, child and the Lowell Police Department.

Police officer Steve Bukala has been selected to serve as the school resource officer. He attended a 40-hour SRO training program at Central Michigan University last June.

"To start, officer Bukala would wear a uniform so that he

is immediately identified as an officer. Once a trust and bond is developed, then a business, more casual attire would be worn," Valentine said.

Bukala would spend 80 percent of his time at the middle school and high school. "Those are the students our department interacts with most on a regular basis," Valentine explained.

Computers, cont'd.... From Page 1

they are, where they work, how they would utilize a computer in their classroom and how a computer would enhance learning and development.

The program empowers building-level staff and administrators to determine how program funds will be used in compliance with program rules and guidelines.

The use of the technology must fit under the district technology plan.

Computers purchased or leased through the program will be placed on long-term

loan (three years) to eligible teachers. The computers remain property of the school district.

Vendors from which the computers are purchased or leased must be approved through the competitive bid process used by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget.

The only drawback will be the support, help and upkeep needed when you add an additional 150-200 comput-

ers to a district," concluded Jim White, Lowell assistant superintendent to instruction and curriculum.

The program is geared to provide every full-time K-12 teacher with a maximum of \$1,200 toward the purchase of a computer.

Once teachers have completed their on-line survey by the January deadline, the certification as to who is eligible will be sent into the state.

Funds for each eligible teacher will be included in the district's state aid payment. The technology will then be ordered from the statewide bid selections.

"The intent of the Governor is to get a computer (portable) in the hands of every teacher who doesn't have one," White said. "It's a great opportunity. We hope and expect that every teacher will participate."

Lowell grapplers beat up on Pioneers

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Improved technique helped Lowell's wrestling team in its 73-6 mastery over East Grand Rapids.

"I thought our technique was better, especially at the upper weights," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejcek. The Red Arrows pinned in nine of their 13 wins against the Pioneers.

David Kropf, 103 pounds, pinned Johnny Strait in 22 seconds of the first period.

Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds, pinned Daniel Goodstein in 26 seconds of the first period.

Ian DeRath, 125, pinned Michael Kerstein in 51 seconds of the first period.

John Mendez, 130, pinned Colin Jarrell in 2:26 of the second period.

Bobby Gingerich, 135, pinned Travis McNamara in 1:26 of the first period.

Caleb O'Boyle, 140, pinned Jay Shimko in 44 seconds of the first period.

J.J. Wilder, 152, pinned Rob Elliot in 1:11 of the first period.

B.J. Frasier, 189, pinned Tim Malnor in 25 seconds of the first period.

Ben Fleet, 215, pinned Casey Turmelle in 5:25 of the third period.

Ben Vaught, HWT, pinned Pat Duffy in 34 seconds of the first period.

Earning decisions were Jayme DeLiefde, 119, 11-4; and Pete VanLaan, 160, 11-3.

Beau Wilder, 140, won via forfeit.

Matt Oesch, 171, was pinned by Pioneer Andy Boynton at 1:30 of the first period.

Lowell travels to Forest Hills Northern on Thursday.

Open Space - "How's and Why's"

Open space meeting on Jan. 24 to give residents a chance to change course of development in their home town.

By Kate Dernocouer

Anyone interested in preserving open space in the Lowell area is encouraged to participate in an information-intensive evening with land preservation experts.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 24 from 6:15 - 9:00 p.m. at the Wittenbach Center, located on Vergennes Road across from the Lowell High School.

Touted as a chance to change the course of development in their own home towns, the evening highlights seven speakers who will address various "how's and why's" of maintaining open space.

The program, created by the Open Space Committee of Vergennes Township, is

intended to provide ideas for creating a "win-win-win" situation for landowners, their fellow citizens and future generations. With the rural character of this area being inevitably impacted by the trend toward development, any chance to preserve open space will benefit wild animals, dark night skies, and the peace and quiet of the countryside.

The goal of the evening is to provide an opportunity to understand some of the tools which can yield return on real estate investment along with preservation of open space.

Speakers at the program and their topics are:

- Legal Considerations Regarding Land Preservation, by attorneys Rich Vander Veen and Catherine Metzler,

Miller, Johnson, Snell and Comiskey, PLC

• Purchase of Development Rights: The County Program, by Richard Harlow, program manager of Farmland & Open Space Preservation for the Michigan Department of Agriculture

• Trends in Conservation Design, by Kendra Gunter, project coordinator for United

Growth of Kent County/MSU Extension

• Role of Land Conservation, by Julie Stoneman, executive director, Land Conservancy of West Michigan

• Estate Planning and Land Preservation, by Tom Purdy, MSU district farm management agent

• Transfer of Develop-

ment Rights: One Township's Experience, by Cynthia Heinbeck, Alpine Township supervisor

A question and answer session will follow the speakers' 20-minute presentations. Follow-up, in-depth classes on various topics may be arranged if there is enough interest.

Encouraged to attend are landowners, realtors, developers, and elected/appointed township officials, as well as anyone with an interest in open space preservation. For further information or to register, call Mari Stone, Vergennes Township clerk at 897-5671 (leave a message).

What's happening at Cherry Creek Family Resource Center

Helping your child with homework can be a stressful undertaking.

A Cherry Creek Elementary parenting group will discuss helping your child with homework on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at the Cherry Creek Resource Center from 10-11:30 a.m.

The meeting will enable parents to discuss shared problems and solutions, meet other parents in the community and learn more about Cherry Creek Elementary.

Ann Nichols, Cherry Creek Elementary Family Resource director, will also

ask parents to give input on future topics.

Parents with children ages 4-14 can register now for an active parenting class which will share fun, supportive and creative ways to help their children learn.

Topics will include learning styles and habits, social skills, organization and positive encouragement.

The class will run three Wednesdays on Jan. 24, 31

and Feb. 7 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the family resource center.

To register call Nichols at 897-9257.

There is no fee for either program.

The Elementary Family Links Parent Group for Cherry Creek and Bushnell Elementary schools will hold its January meeting at Cherry Creek Elementary Family Resource Center on Tuesday,

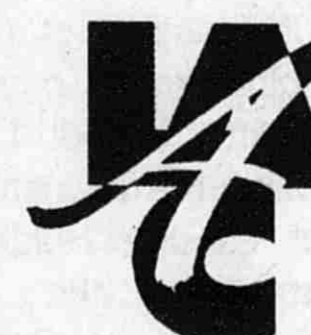
Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Sue Beute will conduct a family math night. Parents will learn about the elementary math curriculum and make and play math games they can take home.

These games can reinforce math fact computation and other skills such as money exchange, logic, geometric intuition and calculator skills.

Drop in anytime at the family center to check out resources and meet with other parents, or volunteer.

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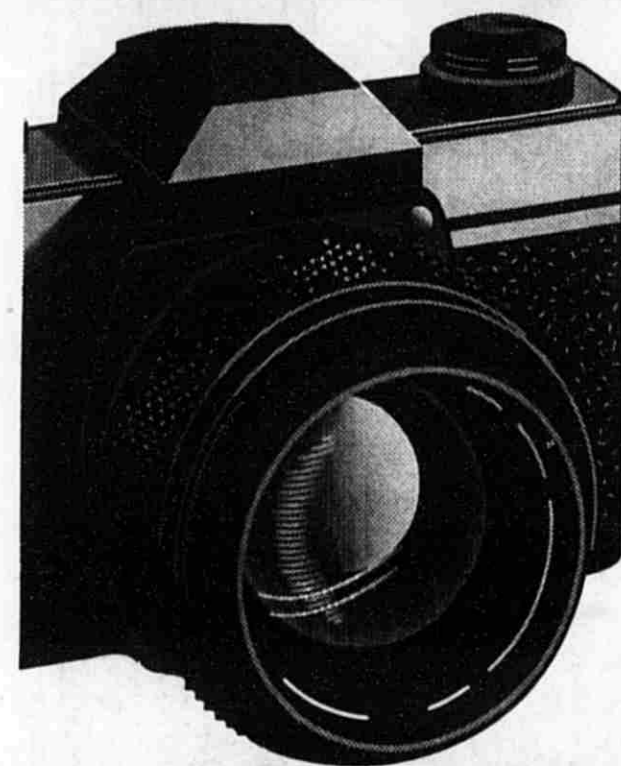
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Financial Focus

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"Chat Rooms" Can Be Hazardous

Without question, you can get a lot of valuable material

from the Internet. But when it comes to investment information, you may want to ask a lot of questions about what you see online—especially in the so-called "chat rooms."

The potential danger of following Internet investment tips was made clear by the recent arrest of a 15-year-old boy who made almost \$300,000 by hyping obscure stocks in a chat room. The boy was not a financial prodigy, but he was smart enough to know that if he aggressively talked up the "merits" of lightly traded stocks—which he owned—he could help drive their prices up.

Although the boy was caught, many others are not. The fact is that chat rooms are largely unregulated—and they're open to contributions from just about anyone who cares to submit his or her ideas.

Why do people follow chat room "tips"? Part of the reason may be the perceived benefits of getting "breaking news" or "inside information." Many investors are looking for that extra edge that can lead to instant riches.

The truth is that hot tips and inside scoops may sound glamorous, but they're often misleading. And they can be devastating to overeager, but unwary, investors.

Does that mean you should never venture into an investment chat room? Not necessarily. Chat rooms can actually be used to exchange useful investment information, and most contributors are honest people who share a common interest in investing. If you visit one of these rooms, you may get some

camaraderie and some substance. But you need to keep one cardinal rule in mind: Never make an investment based solely on what you learn from a chat room.

When you're in a chat room, how can you tell the difference between legitimate ideas and self-motivated scams? To begin with, look for telltale words or phrases such as "risk-free returns," "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" and "you must act now." And be suspicious of tips that come from anonymous or first-time participants.

If a chat room contributor does recommend a particular stock, and you are interested, how can you check it out? Do your homework. Conduct some research on the stock. Find out what the company does, who manages it and what its prospects are. Pay special attention to how actively the stock is traded; thinly traded stocks are easier to manipulate.

Remember, there is no substitute for professional investment advice. Most reputable financial services firms also have Web sites that provide reliable financial information. Just keep in mind that you can't rush investment success. You need to establish a long-term strategy, and you need the discipline to stick with it.

So, feel free to visit the investment chat rooms—but be prepared to close the door when you leave.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LOWELL'S PROPOSED USE OF 2001-2002 KENT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

A public hearing will be conducted by the Lowell City Council on Tuesday, January 16, 2001, at 7:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Public Library Community Room, 200 N. Monroe Street, Lowell, Michigan.

Public comments will be received during the hearing, orally or in writing, regarding the City of Lowell's proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Funds for the following projects:

- Bowes Road Sidewalk southside from S. Hudson to Pleasant (1180 lineal feet to complete all walks extending to Valley Vista)
North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders
Graham Building - assistance for barrier free accessibility

The County of Kent has allocated approximately \$25,000 of its 2001-2002 federal entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to the City of Lowell. The primary objective of the federal CDBG Entitlement Program "is the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income."

Interested persons may submit written comments to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 or appear in person.

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk 616-897-8457

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 15, 2001 at 7:00 p.m., the Planning Commission of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing at the Grattan Academy Charter School, 12047 Old Belding Road, N.E., within the Township, concerning the application of Landon Holdings, Inc. for an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Grattan so as to rezone the following described lands in Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan, from the A Agricultural District to the MHC Manufactured Housing Community District:

Parcel 1: The West 490 feet of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, except the South 148.5 feet of the East 275.5 feet and except that part of the remainder lying Southerly of the Northerly line of Highway M-44 relocated.

Parcel 2: The Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, except the East 120.5 feet of the West 610.5 feet of the South 148.5 feet and except the West 490 feet thereof.

Parcel 3: That part of the Southwest fractional 1/4 of Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner; thence North 89 degrees 53'52" East along the East and West 1/4 line 1239.80 feet; thence South 1 degree 34 minutes 35 seconds East 349.0 feet; thence North 89 degrees 53 minutes 52 seconds East to the East line of the West fractional 1/2, Southwest fractional 1/4; thence Southerly along said East line to the North line of Belding Road (130 feet wide) thence West along said North line to East line of West 1003 feet of Southwest fractional 1/4; thence North along said East line to North line of South 260 feet of Southwest fractional 1/4; thence West along said North line to East line of West 695 feet of Southwest fractional 1/4; thence South

parallel with West section line to the North line of said road; thence Westerly along said North line to West section line; thence North to beginning.

Parcel 4: The West 660 feet of the South 2310 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West.

Parcel 5: The West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest fractional 1/4 of Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, except the North 349.0 feet thereof. Also the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest fractional 1/4 and also the South 3/4 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 7, Town 8 North, Range 9 West.

Parcel 6: That part of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 18, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, lying Northerly of the Northerly line of Highway M-44 relocated.

Parcel 7: The North 394 feet of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 18, Town 8 North, Range 9 West; also that part of the West 100 feet of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said section, lying Northerly of the Northerly line of Highway M-44 relocated, except the North 394 feet.

The proposed text of the amending ordinance is on file and may be examined at the offices of the Grattan Township Clerk, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan 48809. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and be heard concerning the proposed amending ordinance.

Dated: December 13, 2000

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

City manager proposes allocating CDBG funds toward Graham Building renovation

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

The city of Lowell will borrow ahead from its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds so it can meet its established needs.

The Kent County Community Development depart-

ment informed the city that an estimated \$25,881.97 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds are available for various community projects beginning July 1, 2001.

The city will borrow that plus an additional \$14,119

from the 2002 funds available so monies can be distributed toward the Bowes Road sidewalk project, North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders, and assistance for barrier-free accessibility at the Graham building (Lowell Area Historical Museum - LAHM).

A public hearing has been set for Jan. 16 so the city can officially allocate the funds before the Feb. 5 deadline.

City manager Dave Pasquale has proposed that \$15,000 be distributed toward the Graham building; \$4,000 to North Kent Transit, and \$21,000 to the Bowes Road project from S. Hudson to

Pleasant. An additional \$3,750 will be allocated from the sidewalk budget in the general fund so that all walks extending to Valley Vista may be completed.

LAHM will also receive \$13,000 from Lowell Charter

Township in CDBG funds toward the renovation of the Graham building.

Vergennes Township is scheduled to discuss how it will allocate funds at its January township board meeting.

Registration now being taken for KDL's Cover to Cover Cafe

Kent District Library invites teens to the Cover to Cover Cafe where they can get creative while enjoying cafe refreshments with friends, at many KDL branches this winter. The program, for ages 11 and up, will teach participants how to make books that fly, fold, hide, pop up, twist or turn. Registration is required, and participation is limited to 30.

In addition to making a book of their own, young adults can share some of their writing in a relaxed atmosphere and learn some interesting book trivia. Participants are encouraged to bring a friend, a poem or some photos from childhood as well as their creativity and enthusiasm.

The program is at the Alto Library (868-6038) on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 4 p.m. and at the Englehardt Library (897-9596) on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call Kent District Library at 336-3250.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT KENT COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 01-170771-GD

In the matter of AUTUMN RAE MORSE to Dawn Finkler (Morse) whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

NOTICE: A hearing will be held on February 13, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. in the

courtroom, 320 Ottawa N.W., Grand Rapids, MI before Judge JANET A. HAYNES on the petition of Ivan and Karleen Morse for appointment of a guardian for AUTUMN RAE MORSE.

KAREN S. McFADDEN P-57043 403 W. Main Belding, MI 48809 (616) 794-1220

IVAN AND KARLEEN MORSE 7704 17 Mile Rd. Cedar Springs, MI 49319

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 01-170,770 DE

Estate of MARY A. WALSWORTH, a.k.a. MARY ANN WALSWORTH Social Security #363-42-3408

TO ALL CREDITORS: 1/3/01

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, MARY A. WALSWORTH, a.k.a. MARY ANN WALSWORTH, who lived at 1313 Hallmark Lane S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49546 died 4/3/93. Creditors of the decedent

are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to WILLIAM J. TEUNESSEN, JR., named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 572 Fero, Lowell, MI 49331 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

CRAIG AVERY 3875 West River Dr. Comstock Park, MI 49321 784-5080

WILLIAM J. TEUNESSEN, JR. 572 Fero Lowell, MI 49331 897-8669

SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD DECEMBER 18, 2000 - 7:00 P.M.

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Minutes of November 20, 2000 regular meeting
Treasurer's Report/Invoices
Motion to approve Phase I, Bieri Industrial Park, with contingencies
Motion to approve application for a Planned Unit Development - Headwaters
Motion to approve Industrial Facility Tax Abatement for 12 years to LaBoite, Co.
Motion to appoint Kerry Tap to Construction Board of Appeals
Motions to appoint Rick Gillett, Jerry Richmond and Tom Read to Planning Commission
Motion to appoint Bob Humphries, Bill Schreuer, Jr., and Kerry Tap to Zoning Board of Appeals
Motion to appoint Bob Meyers, Gordon Edwards and Bill Johnson to the Board of Review
Motion to approve open space committee application to Lowell Area Community Fund for purpose of sponsoring an Open Space Preservation Seminar to be held January 24, 2000, 6:15 to 9:00 p.m. at the Wittenbach Center on Vergennes St.
Motion to approve 2001 meeting schedule
Motion to approve collection of millage on the Summer Tax Bill for LAS, GRCC and KISD
Motion to accept revised burial fee agreement from Ken Wittenbach
Motion to adopt revisions to Sections I. and II. of the Fee Schedule
Motion to contribute up to \$3,000 toward the purchase of a water rescue vehicle by Lowell Fire Department
Motion to approve additional Community Development Grant Funds in the amount of \$2,374 to Fallsburg Historical Society for completion of Tower House Project.
Motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting January 15, 2001 Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

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These children achieved DENTAL HYGIENE EXCELLENCE For The Month of December 2000 DR. J.E. REAGAN 207 W. Main - Lowell 897-7179 Christopher Barlow/Hofman Hannah Boon Lisa Brown Michael Brown Derrick Delnick Gabriel Delnick Brittany Essich Heather Essich Ian Essich Taroh Essich John Fleet Christopher Fuller Cody Grim Alex Heffron Lyndsay Huver Kristin Johnson Lisa Johnson DENTISTRY: HEALTH CARE THAT WORKS! REMEMBER: One ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. ARE YOU DUE FOR YOUR SIX-MONTH CLEANING? Abbot Kastanek Jenna Mitchell Megan Racine Wayne Racine Jr. Ashley Soyka Nicholas Stiles Jace Thomas

COMING EVENTS

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto, and Saranac areas. 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 call 897-5015 for a recorded message. Guests are welcome.

SECOND SUN. 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 residents. Interested persons meet in the Activity Room, Wing "C."

EVERY MON.: Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. See poster in high school cafeteria or call 676-1355 for details.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society holds its monthly board meeting in the meeting room of Englehardt Library at 7 p.m. Public invited.

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

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society holds its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

MON. OR TUES.: Cub Scouts for boys in 1st-5th grades, in Alto or in Lowell. Contact Terry Amidon at 897-8751 for more information.

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 MON.: V.F.W. Post #8303 meets at V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St., Lowell, 7:30 p.m.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 10210, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5th grade, meet 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end

of N. Washington St. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For info call Terry Cavanaugh, 868-6481.

TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. New members welcome.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. No cost. All welcome. For info, call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

1ST TUES.: WINGS Parent Group meetings from 7:30 to 9 p.m., usually in Board Room at 300 High St. Business meetings are on odd months & program meetings on even months. Open to any interested parents.

EVERY SECOND TUES.: Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. All Masons are welcome.

EVERY TUES.: Women's Community Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time from 10 to 11:15 a.m. & women only at 7:30 p.m. Calvary Chr. Ref. Church across from Burger King. For information call 897-7060 or 897-7555.

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

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (& E. Bellline) at 7 p.m. For info, call Linda at 874-5662. For teen 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 - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

EVERY WED.: Pioneer Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood Dr. Children ages 4 thru 7th grade. Call 897-5894 for details.

EVERY WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON meets at Lowell Congregational Church basement.

EVERY WED.: Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple.

EVERY SECOND WED.: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets at 12 p.m. in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY FOURTH WED.: 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 WED.: Overeaters Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, 7495 Cascade Rd. (at 36th St.) No fees, no dues, no weigh-ins.

EVERY THURS.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI, No. 333, Saranac, meets at the Saranac Public Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

THURS.: Weight Watchers meets at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m. Registration is 1/2 hour before meetings. New members are invited to join at any time. 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.; on Mondays from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Phone 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club examines theater-related topics, creative and personal development skills. Meetings held at Lowell Middle School choir room. For information call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

FIRST AND THIRD THURS.: 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 THURS.: Lowell V.F.W.

Auxiliary #8303 meets at 3:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post, 307 W. Main St., Lowell.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents is a support group at Franciscan Life Process Center offering a variety of topics and discussion geared to parents of children all ages. Call 897-7842 for time.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: 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 THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing; 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. Please call 752-7524 for more information.

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

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

FOURTH THURS. OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at 7 a.m. in high school teachers' dining room for light breakfast. For information, 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.

THURS., FRI., SAT. & SUN.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley open 1 to 4 p.m.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. - Wed., Noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Open Tues.,

Wed. & Fri. noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs., noon - 7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson.

MON., JAN. 15: Lowell High School Athletic Boosters meeting at 7 p.m. in high school staff lounge.

SAT., JAN. 20: 3 dimensional paper-making workshop w/Alice Breese at Franciscan Life Process Center; 9:30 - 4 p.m. \$50 per person. Call John Knight at 897-7842 to register or for information.

THURS., JAN. 25: Commodities will be distributed from 8 a.m. - ? at Moose Recreational Bldg. Com-

modities include apricots - cans, black eyed peas, corn syrup, cranapple juice, milk-instant, rice, tomato soup.

THURS., JAN. 25 & FRI., JAN. 26: During all 4 lunch periods, a sign-up sheet is available to seniors for the overnighter; also a \$25 payment is needed for those who have signed up.

SAT., FEB. 3 - Franciscan Life Process Center's Winter Day Camp from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. for children 7-12 years old. Contact 897-7842 to register for the cooking, art, nature and music experiences of the day.

HORIZONS OF MICHIGAN NEEDS YOU!!

Positions are available working with the Adult Mentally Ill as a Resident Advocate at our West Lake facility located in Lowell: This is a great career for those interested in Mental Health.

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WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

MON.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

TUES.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 10:40 a.m. Armchair Exercise.

WED.: 12:30 p.m. Shop at Family Fare.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WED., JAN. 10: 12 p.m. Movie.

MON., JAN. 15: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Meijer.

TUES., JAN. 16: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Sam's Club.

WED., JAN. 17: 10 a.m. Advisory Council.

THURS., JAN. 18: 12:00 p.m. Dance, West Side Complex.

TUES., JAN. 23: 1:30 p.m. Tour of Lowell Middle School.

FRI., JAN. 26: 12:40 p.m. Grocery Bingo.

WED., JAN. 31: 8 a.m. Women's breakfast.



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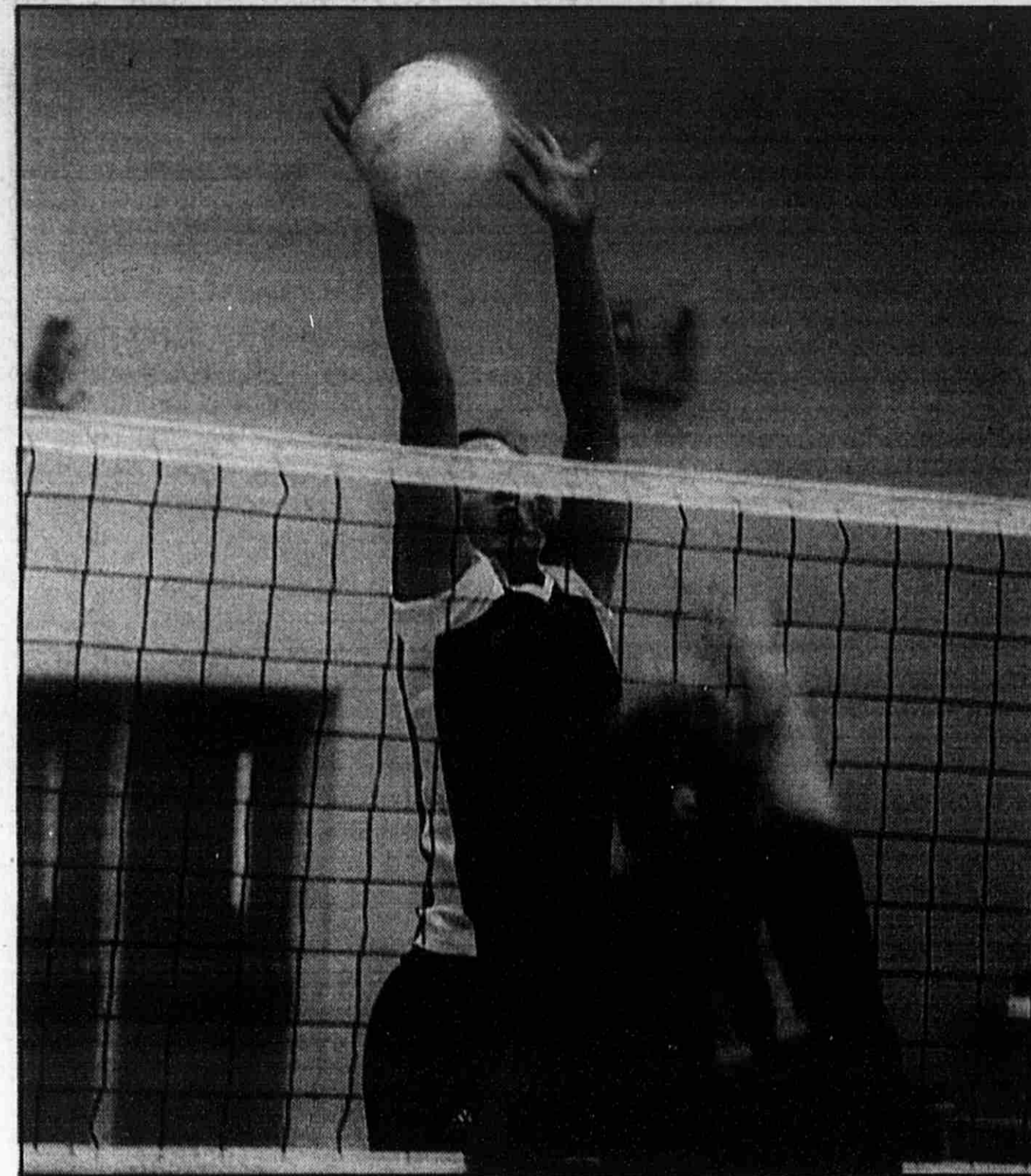
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Red Arrow spikers unable to close out game one; lose in two to Pioneers

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell girls volleyball team was battling on two fronts in Thursday's loss to East Grand Rapids.

Leading 14-12 in game one, the Red Arrows had two opportunities to serve for the win but failed to break through the Pioneer defense.

The other front was an inner battle with anxiety. "The girls have so much anxiety, some still haven't relaxed," said first-year coach, Connie Black.

Unable to put away EGR at 14-12, the Pioneers rallied for a 16-14 win in game one and then cruised to a 15-8 win in game two.

"Our girls never lost their desire to play, but we've got to work on being more consistent," Black explained. "I'm disappointed for them; they communicated and went to the ball better tonight and their play was more aggressive in nature."

Mysels, whose club improved to 4-7 and 1-0 in the league, said his club's offensive play was down.

"Most of the night we were just putting the ball into play and missing the court. It's okay to miss the court on a full swing. If all you're trying to do is put the ball in

play, well, then you'd better do that," Mysels said.

The loss dropped Lowell to 7-18.

Bulldog Invitational
At the Bulldog Invitational in Byron Center over the weekend, Lowell failed to advance out of pool play.

The Red Arrows lost twice to Orchard View 12-15, 12-15; split with Rogers 15-7, 13-15; and in their final match of the day lost to Belding 10-15, 9-15.

Mona Shores won the tournament, defeating West Catholic in the championship 15-5, 15-4.

Lowell's Amanda Stoutjesdyk elevates to block a Pioneer hit.

"Winning game one the way we did was definitely a momentum boost for us," said East volleyball coach, Ray Mysels. "It's tough to lose a game like that and then come out two minutes later and play again."

It was obvious from the start that Lowell's loss in game one had an impact on the Red Arrows' play in game two.

East, leading 4-3, ran off nine straight points behind the serving of Kara Flemming to take a commanding 13-3 advantage before eventually winning by seven.

Former Lowell standouts earn All-America honors

Former Lowell High School football standouts T.J. Thayer and Andy Graham earned USAFootball.com honorable mention all-America honors for their performances in the 2000 season at Kalamazoo College. Thayer was named to the sophomore team and Graham to the freshman team. Both players are wide receivers.

Thayer was the team's quarterback during his freshman season. This year, Thayer excelled as both a receiver and a return specialist. He caught a team-high 53 catches for 551 yards and one touchdown. He returned 21 kicks for 527 yards for an average of 25.1 yards per return. He also had 15 punt returns for 120 yards (8.0 avg.).

Graham had a team-high three touchdown receptions. He had 28 catches for 389 yards (13.9 yds./catch). He also returned 11 kicks for 210 yards (19.1 avg.) and 4 punts for 27 yards (6.8 avg.).

Kalamazoo College is a national liberal arts college and creator and home of the K-Plan. Kalamazoo College students shape elements of the K-Plan, which include rigorous academics, career internships, study abroad, and a senior individualized project, into a valuable learning experience that fits their talents and aspirations.

Wilson, Wildcats stay perfect in league with win over Red Arrows

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Northview senior guard Ross Wilson is adept at creating, distributing and execut-

ing when the game is on the line.

The Wildcat scored eight of his game-high 20 points in the fourth quarter as he led Northview to a 62-56 O-K

White win over Lowell Friday night.

"Ross is a four-year varsity basketball player. He creates a lot for us, distributes the basketball and hits open

shots," said Northview coach, Mike Kapustka.

Northview, over a four-minute span covering the end of the third quarter and beginning of the fourth quarter, outscored Lowell 13-4, rallying the Wildcats from a one-point deficit to an eight-point advantage. The Red Arrows never got any closer than five points of the Wildcats the rest of the way.

"Nothing against our kids, but Northview's prime time players came through for them in the clutch," Lowell

coach, Pete Bush said afterwards. "We're disappointed. We'd played okay, and lost another close game. We're pretty sick of this."

Lowell led 17-14 after one quarter of play and trailed 34-32 at halftime.

The Red Arrows were up 41-40 with less than two minutes to play in the third stanza, before a Northview 5-0 run ended the quarter.

The loss overshadowed a solid performance from Red Arrow senior, Brad Koetsier. The forward netted eight of his team-leading 14 points in the fourth quarter.

"I believe Brad played his best varsity game tonight," Bush explained. "We also got a solid performance from Andy (Curtis). He plays with

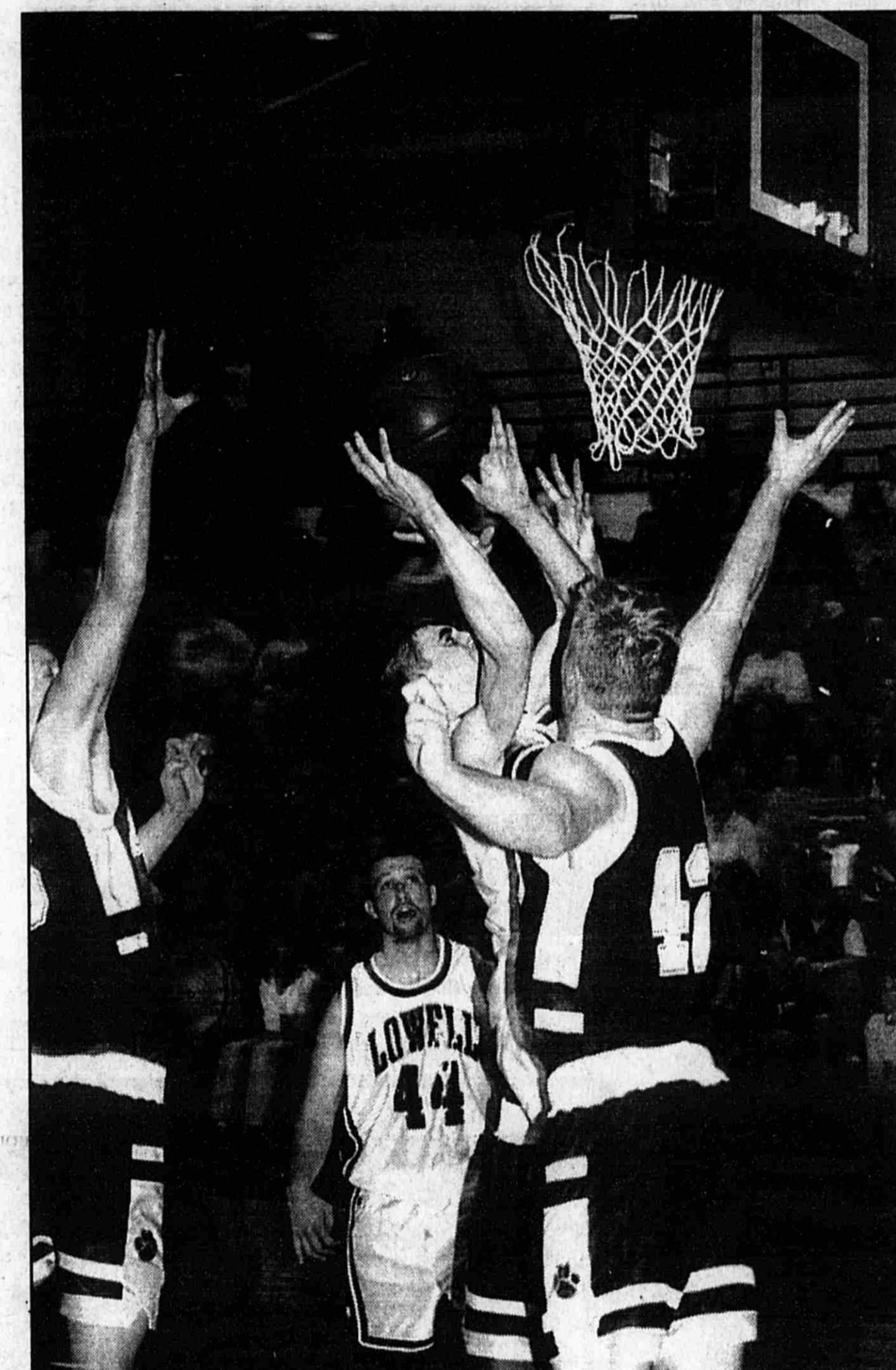
such heart. Down the stretch I thought these two guys played well together."

Curtis netted 12 points and was a force on the boards. James Bosserd added nine and Bill Harrison contributed with eight.

The win improved Northview's league-leading record to 3-0. "We are very pleased to be 3-0. We knew this would be a tough game. Lowell battled all the way and this is always a tough place to play at," Kapustka said.

The Wildcat coach credited his club's second half success to patience and spacing.

The Red Arrows travel to Forest Hills Central (2-2, 4-3) Friday.



Lowell's James Bosserd goes up strong against a contingent of Wildcats.

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MISS CONGENIALITY (PG-13)
12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40
CASTAWAY (PG-13)
12:50, 3:40, 6:30, 9:20
EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G)
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Metro Health Lowell Plaza Open House:

- DATE: Thursday - January 25, 2001
- TIME: 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

The Vergennes Township Board will meet the third Monday of every month at the Township Hall located at 10381 Bailey Dr. at 7:00 p.m. Phone 897-5671 for further information.

THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2001 ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

January 15	July 16
February 19	August 20
March 19	September 17
April 16	October 15
May 21	November 19
June 18	December 17

THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR 2001 ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

January 8	July 9
February 5	August 6
March 5	September 10
April 2	October 1
May 7	November 5
June 4	December 3

All Planning Commission meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets as required or requested.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

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Thursday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Neubecker's floor routine propels Lowell past Kenowa Hills

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

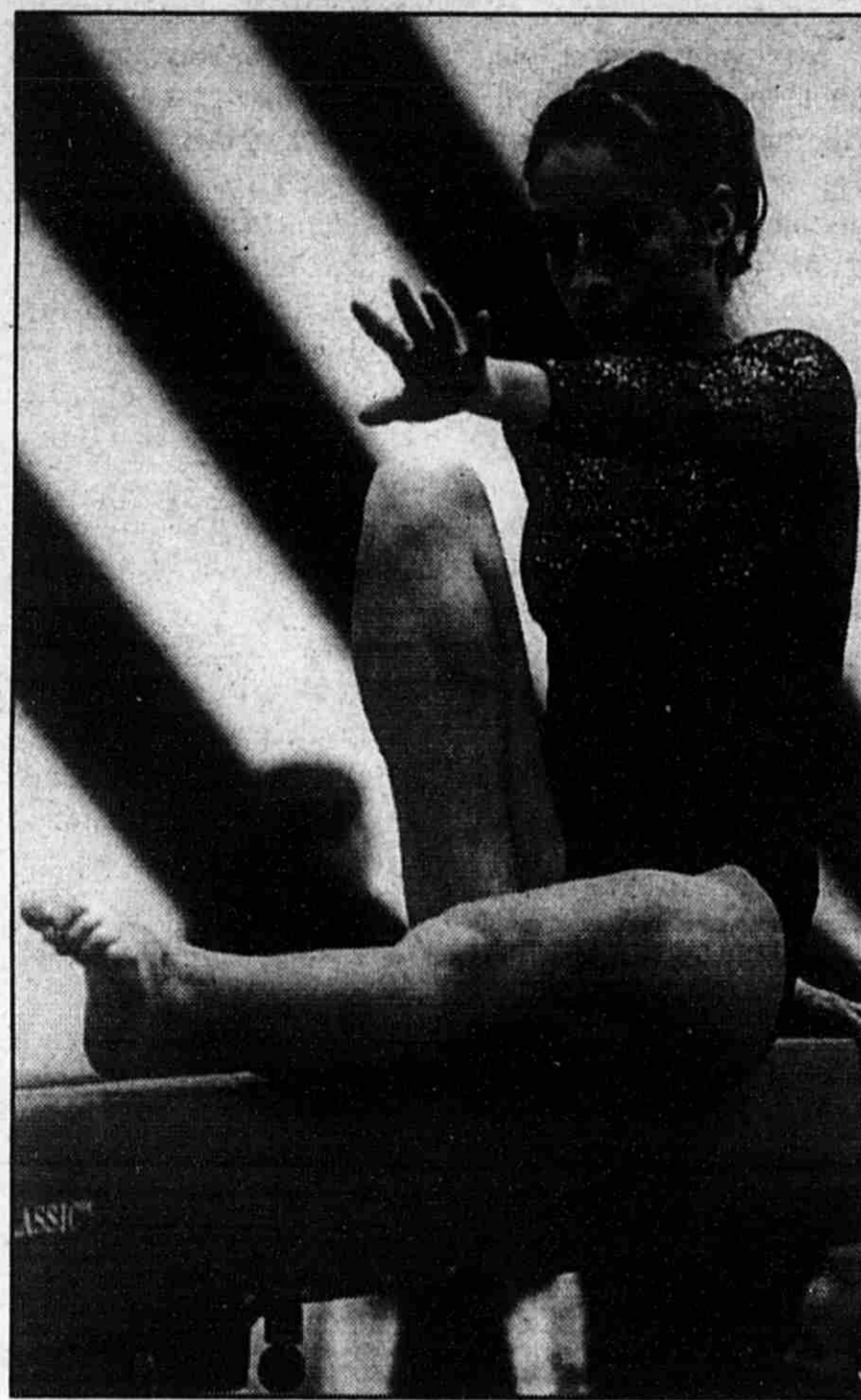
Melissa Neubecker's well executed front hand-spring may have been what separated Lowell gymnasts from Kenowa Hills in the Red Arrows' season-opening dual meet.

The Red Arrows trailed by 2.35 points entering the meet's final rotation. Lowell, just off the balance beam, went to the floor exercise and the Knights - the floor to the beam.

"Trailing going into the floor exercise made me a little nervous," Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan admitted afterward.

Some coaching advice and four personal best performances were enough to overcome the deficit and propel Lowell to a 129.40-126.40 victory.

Neubecker added a half twist/full tuck to her floor exercise for the 2001 season. Not having perfected it yet, and knowing that her club needed the points, DeHaan asked Neubecker to replace



Judges gave Lowell's Melissa Neubecker an 8.1 for her beam routine.

it with a front handspring. "I knew Melissa would hit the front handspring and remove any chance for a fall," the coach said.

The sophomore came through and posted a personal best mark of 8.85.

Sophomore Krystal White recorded her first varsity 9.0 in the floor exercise, trailing only her teammate Holly Plattner and the Knights' Ashley Teat.

Plattner was platinum as she posted a meet/personal best mark of 9.3. Teat was terrific in tallying a 9.2.

Lowell's fourth personal best in the floor exercise was handed in by junior Katie Blough, who came off the mat with a mark of 8.6.

"I'm obviously pleased with how well the girls did in the floor exercise," DeHaan said. "It's nice to start the season with a win. It was a good first meet."

The Red Arrows tallied 32.7 points on the vault. Plattner led the way with an 8.6; White 8.2; Blough 8.0; and Carmen Datema 7.9.

On the uneven bars, Lowell finished with a team score of 29.8. Plattner, again, led the way with a 7.85. White scored a 7.4, followed by Blough's 7.35 and Neubecker's 7.2.

On the balance beam, Lowell tallied a 31.15. White was the team medalist with an 8.25 and Neubecker posted an 8.1. April Telman and Datema came off the beam with marks of 7.4.

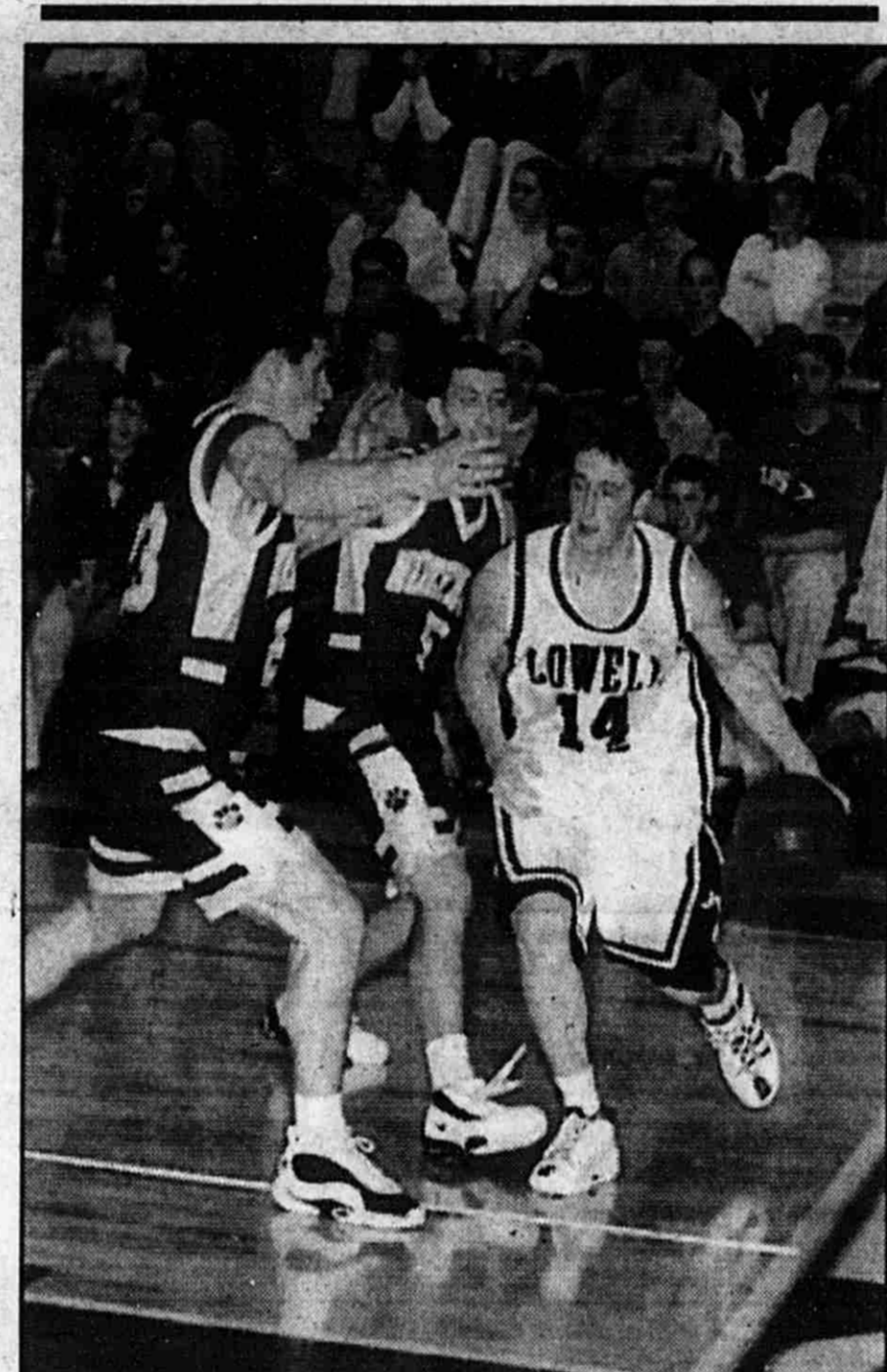
White finished with 32.85 points to garner the all-around medalist honors.

Teat, who brings years of

club experience to the meets, led the Knights on the vault (8.8); balance beam (8.65) and in the floor exercise.

meet for us. It's difficult to finish on the beam. I thought

Gymnastics, cont'd pg. 19



Red Arrow Bill Harrison finds room along the baseline against his Northview defender.



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Coffee Break
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Starts Tuesday, January 9, 2001
10:00-11:15 am women & children
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LEGAL EASE
By Jonathan David



DEAR JONATHAN: My husband died several weeks ago. Last year we took the time and spent the money to have fairly involved estate plans created. Our objectives included avoiding probate and taking full advantage of the unified credit amounts each of us are entitled to which I believe is \$675,000 this year. Since our joint estate is valued in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000, there was a substantial tax savings to us in setting up the plans the way we did. Those plans included the creation of revocable living trusts for each of us, with each trust being split into a marital trust and family trust on death. At the time we signed our documents, I remember our lawyer telling us that the next step was for us to move assets into each of our trusts for the purpose of probate avoidance and for the further purpose of taking advantage of each of our unified credit amounts. Unfortunately, we never got around to making those transfers before my husband died. Since everything was titled in joint names, there is no probate that I have to deal with regarding my husband's estate and I now own everything in my name alone. Can I still take advantage of this credit amount?

JONATHAN SAYS: Your question underscores the importance of following through with the funding process of a trust after the trust is created. Unfortunately, your situation is not all that uncommon. Many people go through the time and expense of setting up trusts and then fail to go through the process of funding their trusts.

Since you now own all of the assets outright, upon your death the full \$2,000,000 will be taxed in your estate less the unified credit (\$675,000) which is equivalent to a credit against the federal estate taxes incurred of \$220,550. You

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
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Full day for students
Grades 6-12
Half day for students (exams)
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19
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should consult with a lawyer, however, about the possibility of making a qualified disclaimer as to your interest in some of those joint assets. If this works, then as a result of your disclaimer those assets that were disclaimed will end up in your husband's probate estate and upon the completion of probate, those assets will pass according to his will, or if there is no will, to his heirs at law. I assume, however, that you did have last will and testaments prepared and that your husband's will named his trust as the residuary beneficiary of the probate assets. If my assumption is correct, then upon the completion of probate, those assets which were disclaimed will flow into your husband's trust. In this event, you should be able to preserve your husband's credit amount, at least to the extent of the value of the assets that flow into the trust.

You really need to consult with an estate planning attorney to determine whether you have the ability to make a qualified disclaimer as to any of those joint assets and what needs to be done to make that disclaimer effective. Since there are time constraints for the preparation of a qualified disclaimer, you should not delay in meeting with estate planning counsel.

DEAR JONATHAN: What is a qualified disclaimer?
JONATHAN SAYS: A disclaimer is a refusal by one

party to accept a gift or the benefits he or she would receive through a will or by operation of law. Disclaiming assets, however, will be treated the same as if the disclaiming party had made a gift of those assets, unless the disclaimer is a qualified disclaimer. A qualified disclaimer allows one to disclaim a gift or benefits without any tax consequences to the disclaiming party. In other words, it is as if the disclaiming party never had any interest in or ownership of the asset he or she disclaimed.

Pursuant to IRS Code Section 2518, the requirements to make a disclaimer qualified are as follows:

1. The refusal must be in writing;
2. The writing must be delivered within nine (9) months of the later of the date the interest is created or the date when the disclaimant turns age 21;
3. The disclaiming party must not have accepted the interest or any of its benefits before making the disclaimer; and
4. The interest must pass to a person other than the disclaiming party without any direction on the part of the disclaiming party.

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*At Christmas I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled mirth;
But like of each thing that in season grows.*

*William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616),
Love's Labour Lost*

