

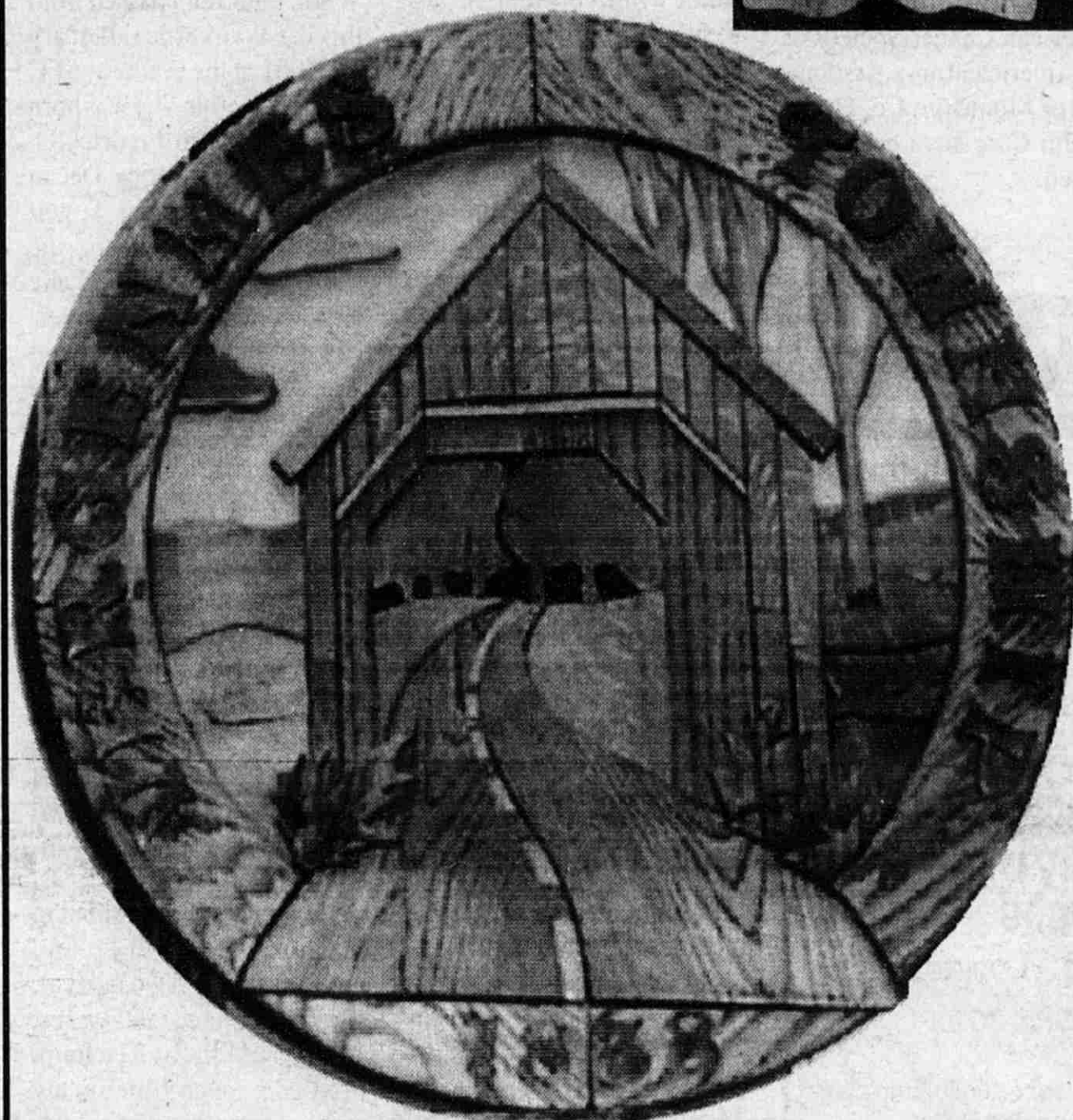
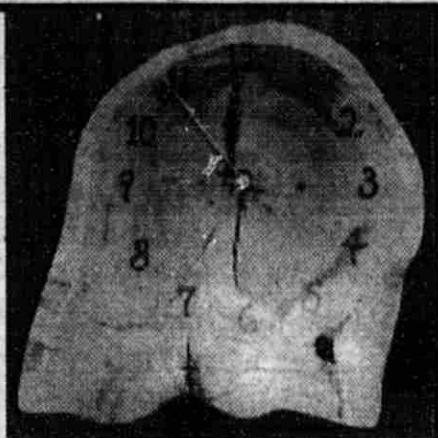
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 15

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 17, 2001

Standing the Test of Time



Intarsia artist, Charles Bowman unveiled a Vergennes Township logo created from the mighty oak tree which was cut down roughly two years ago. The tree was estimated to be 146 years old. It stood at the corner of Bailey and Parnell. Bowman cut, shaped, sanded and finished 92 pieces from that oak tree to create this unique wooden logo. The township saved wood from the tree so Bowman could create the logo and so Craig Convissor, formerly of Alto, could create a clock, pictured top right, for the township hall. Bowman will also create a second piece of work from the oak tree within the next year. From concept to completion, it took Bowman over a year to complete the logo, pictured above.



Charles Bowman

Grant money may enable Township to finish Riverfront Park project earlier than anticipated

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Charter Township's Grand River Riverfront Park was one of six West Michigan parks which received grants from the state's Clean Michigan Initiative program.

Township supervisor, John Timpson announced that the township's grant was for \$199,655.

The money will be combined with \$112,305 of local money to pay for a restroom, playground, two picnic shelters, observation/fishing deck, running and cross country ski trail, four grills, a septic system, electric service and engineering cost.

The total cost for these projects is \$311,960.

"We believe we will be able to squeeze all of phase II & III out of these funds," Timpson said. "The township won't receive the funds until the legislature gives its approval - that will probably be mid-summer. The main thing is the kids like the park and are using it. That makes me happy."

Lowell Township started the park project a little over two years ago. "Our goal was to work at it until we got enough funds to pay for it," Timpson said. The supervisor believes it now has enough funds to finish the project.

Over the last two years,

the township also received \$150,000 in grant money from the Lowell Area Community Fund (Englehardt).

Other West Michigan parks receiving Clean Michigan Initiative grants were Millennium Park, \$749,000; Holland Township's Helder Park, \$300,000; Walker's Alpine Estates Park, \$280,244; Rockford's Memorial Park \$95,200; Allegan County's Salem Township for park development, \$65,412.

Department of Public Works grant coordinator, Janae Reneaud said 48 Michigan communities received funds this year, totaling over \$12 million. The program commenced in 1998.

WMGS program to help residents recognize family pioneers and early residents

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Western Michigan Genealogical Society (WMGS) is offering area residents a vehicle by which to honor their pioneer forefathers.

WMGS, in cooperation with the Secchia Millennium Commission, is promoting a

Pioneer Certificate program.

The charge of the program is:

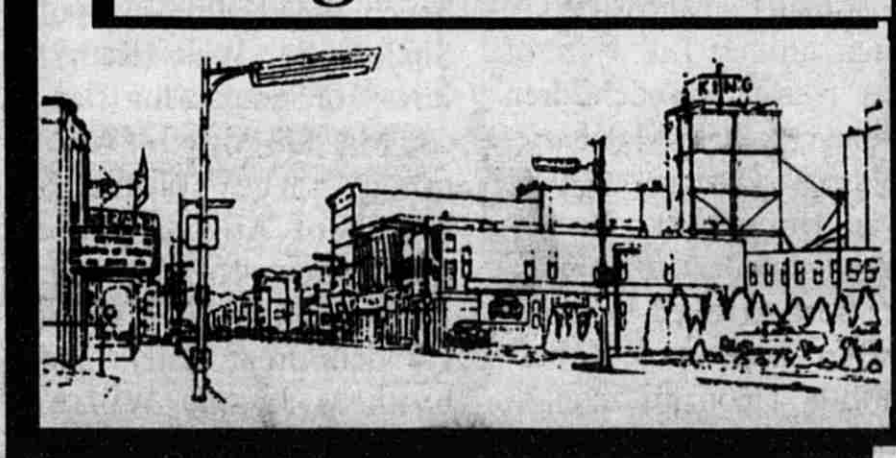
- To recognize pioneers and early residents who otherwise would go unnoticed in Kent County's history.
 - To encourage a basic knowledge of genealogical research by asking any direct descendant to put together their family history and apply for a certificate.
 - To record information which will become a valuable addition to the history of early Kent County citizens providing a source of genealogical information for future research.
- The Pioneer Certificate workshop is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 27 at Lowell's Englehardt Library from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

To qualify for a Pioneer Certificate, an applicant must be directly descended from an ancestor who settled in Kent County.

Each ancestor in the direct line must be proven. Anyone may apply. Applicants need not have ever been residents of Kent County. After proof of direct descent has been submitted and eligibility has been determined, the appropriate certificate will be mailed to the applicant. The fee for each application is \$10.

Document copies submitted as proofs will be kept in the Michigan Room of Grand Rapids Public Library and available to help others' family history researchers. Documents pertaining to living relatives will be noted and returned.

Along Main Street



Vergennes Township allocates \$15,000 in CDBG funds

••• \$3,000 allocated for new fencing at Fallasburg Cemetery.

Lowell Area Historical Museum (LAHM) was one of four projects which was allocated funds from the federally funded Community Development Block Grant by the Vergennes Township Board Monday night.

The township has \$19,442 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds available for various community projects beginning July 1.

Vergennes Township Board voted to allocate \$8,000 toward the handicap ramp project at the Lowell Area Historical Museum; \$3,000 to the Rockford Ambulance for a mobile transport stretcher; \$3,000 for fencing at the Fallasburg Cemetery; and \$1,000 to the North Kent Transit Service.

In all, the township allocated \$15,000 to be spent, with \$4,442 being carried over until next year.

USED PHONE BOOK DROP-OFF CENTER

For the 5th year Lowell First United Methodist Church will be collecting used phone books for production of insulation for Habitat For Humanity. The trailer is located in the parking lot behind the church at 621 E. Main. Deadline is Feb. 15. ONLY phone books PLEASE.

POWERLIFTING MEETING

There will be a parent/volunteer powerlifting meeting on Monday, Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria in regards to the State tournament on March 10 and March 17 in Lowell and the Nationals at Fort Hood, Texas, on March 29.

COMMODITIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED

The Lowell Recreation Building at 1320 E. Main will distribute commodities on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 8 a.m. - 3

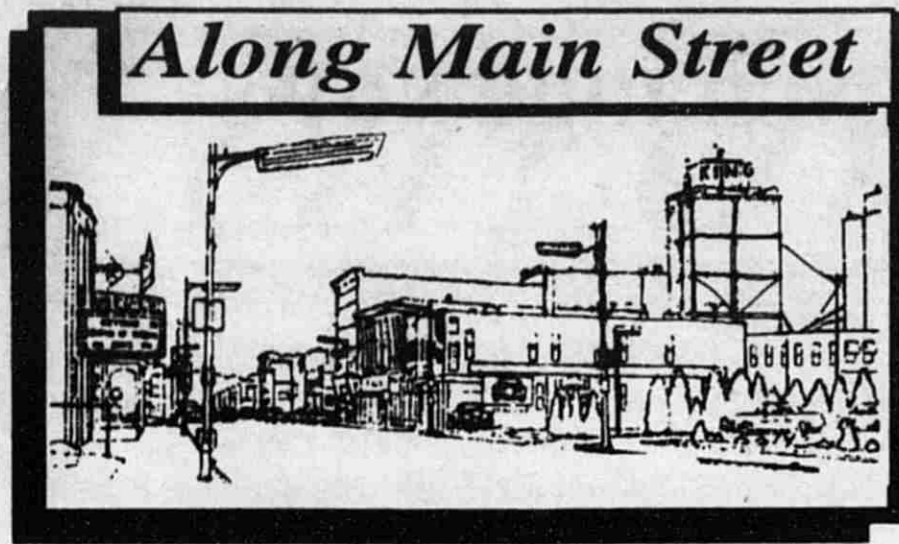
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Inside The Ledger

YMCA

Memberships

Growing, Page 17



p.m.; also on Friday, Jan. 26 from noon to 3 p.m. Commodities include apricots - cans, black eyed peas, corn syrup, cranapple juice, milk - instant, rice and tomato soup.

Y The Lowell YMCA is looking for fun-loving, self-motivated individuals to join our Child Care Team.

- *Full-time lead teacher - 2 1/2 - 3 year olds
- *Full-time lead teacher - 3 - 4 year olds

Lead Teacher positions require a minimum two-year degree in Child Development.

* Part-time Teacher Aides and Substitute Teachers - Infant thru School-Age

- ***Flexible hours (Centers open Mon. thru Fri. 6 AM-6PM)
- ***Full-time Benefits
- ***Free YMCA Family Membership for full-time employees
- ***Free YMCA Individual Membership for part-time employees

APPLY IN PERSON AT:
 Lowell Branch YMCA
 323 W. Main Street
 Lowell, MI 49331

SIGN-UP FOR SENIOR CLASS OVERNIGHTER
 There will be a sign-up on Thursday, Jan. 25 and Friday, the 26th for the Senior class overnighter during all 4 lunch periods. For those who have signed up, a \$25 payment is needed.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING
 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.

ATHLETIC POLICY REVIEW MEETING
 An athletic policy review meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. in room A202 to look at current policies and practices. Topics to be discussed include athletic code, title IX, fundraising, academic eligibility & character expectations. All persons with a concern or interest are welcome to attend.

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.

Great Lakes Paving hopes to start construction in February

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

John Allen received a shovel from his wife for their 24th wedding anniversary. It wasn't just any shovel. Its handle and spade were spray-painted a Notre Dame gold. The gift is in anticipation of the groundbreaking of the new 5,046 square foot building which will house Allen's eight-year-old business, Great Lakes Paving.

The new business site will be located in the O.E. Bieri Industrial Park, located northwest of the Lowell bus garage in Vergennes Township on Godfrey Street.

Allen's site plan received approval from the Vergennes Township Planning Commission. Because Great Lakes Paving was not listed as an acceptable use for the Bieri Industrial park site, a public hearing needs to be held.

"Great Lakes Paving does not produce asphalt. The company just lays asphalt. Two-thirds of our business is

LOWELL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS' EXHIBITION
 On display at the Lowell Area Arts Council (149 S. Hudson St.) 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.

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. thru Feb. 6 during business hours.

PARENT WORKSHOP
 A parent workshop will be held on Monday, Feb. 5 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Lowell Board of Education meeting room at the administration offices, 300 High St. Randy Flood, a clinical psychologist from Grand Rapids, will be speaking on "Emotional Intelligence in Children: K-8th." To register, call 897-8415, ext. 214 or ext. 216. This workshop will help parents better understand that having a high emotional quotient is a better predictor of success than having a high intelligent quotient.

commercial contracts with the rest being driveways and parking lots," Allen said.

The Bieri site was developed for light industrial uses such as fabricating, warehousing, storage, offices, electrical an tooling.

The new Great Lakes Paving site will be four-five times bigger than the existing one.

"We keep growing and running out of space," said Allen in explaining the need to relocate. Great Lakes Paving is currently located in Ada.

Allen said construction would start in February with the move-in target date set for May.

The O.E. Bieri Industrial Park currently has 14, two-acre sites developed. Great Lakes Paving is the first company to purchase a site in the industrial park.

The park's proposed second phase will add an additional 11 sites.

Oil Painting, Watercolor, Pottery, Sculpture, Pastel Painting, Acting

Book Illustration, Beg. and Adv. Drawing

Lowell Area Arts Council
WINTER ARTS CLASSES
 Children & Adults
 8 weeks beginning January 29

Explorations, Woodcarving, Drawing Basics

Waterpainting, Gouache, Mixed Media, Oil Painting, Clay Clay Clay

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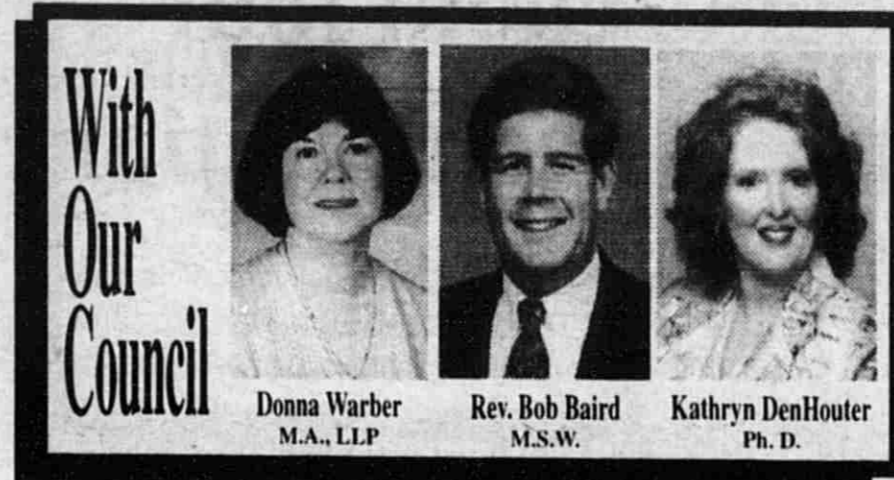
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DECEMBER SMILE OF THE MONTH:

NAME:.....Tony Larkin
AGE:.....9 years old
BIRTHDAY:.....8/19/91
HOBBIES:.....Ice skating, playing video games
He receives a prize for his great checkup.

December "No Cavities" Club Members

Linzzy Zylstra	Melissa Bourcier	Nicole Cummings
Delainey Ferguson	Chad Coulson	Tony Larkin
Joseph Sadlak	Molly Lundquist	Jerry Wenger
Lauren Ferguson		Vinny Larkin
Kait Cummings		Kayla Irwin

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DEPRESSION, THE HIDDEN DISORDER

By Rev. Bob Baird, M.S.W.

When you have depression, you may not know what's wrong, but you know that you just don't feel like your usual self. Things you used to enjoy just don't give you very much enjoyment anymore. Depression is not something that's "all in your head" - it's a very real medical disorder that affects about 15 million people in the United States each year. It is one of the more treatable disorders, but it is commonly misunderstood and not recognized.

Super Science Saturday continues at KDL

Kent District Library offers kids a super way to spend a Saturday - exploring the fascinating world of science with Super Science Saturdays. This fun-filled hour of science, for ages six and up, features hands-on experiments, informative presentations and take-home projects.

Super Science Saturdays go hand in hand with the Science Safari Centers at Kent District Library branches. These hands-on learning centers, each with a different scientific theme, rotate among the KDL branches on a two-month basis. The Science Safari Centers were funded by a donation from the Carol Ann Fleet estate and a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

Super Science Saturdays are scheduled for the Alto branch on Saturday, Jan. 27 at 10 a.m. and for the Englehardt branch on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 10:30 a.m.

If you have any questions about Super Science Saturdays, please call Kent District Library at 336-3250.

Lowell's Adams to study in Mexico

Rebecca Adams, a junior, is one of 10 Kalamazoo College students departing for study abroad in January. Adams will study in Oaxaca, Mexico, until late March. Adams is a graduate of Lowell High School.

This year marks the 42nd anniversary of the study abroad program. Since the first organized groups of students left for study abroad in France, Germany and Spain in the summer of 1958, Kalamazoo College has sought to provide its students with opportunities to understand how people in other cultures live and to attend excellent academic institutions in other countries.

More than 80 percent of Kalamazoo graduates have participated in the college's study abroad program. This degree of participation, as well as the variety of programs and length of experience make Kalamazoo College's study abroad program unique in American higher education.

Some myths about depression are: an individual should try to "handle it on their own, or being depressed is a sign of personal failure." Because of these misconceptions, many people don't even report it to their doctor because they feel it is not really important. On the contrary, it is very important to remember that it isn't a sign of personal failure and you don't have to "handle it on your own," because there are effective medical treatments and counseling available. After your physician and your counselor work together to help you through your depression, you will understand yourself better, and thereby gain a more realistic outlook on life.

- You have depression when you have five or more of these symptoms longer than two weeks:
- I feel sad and/or irritable.
 - I don't enjoy things that once gave me pleasure (e.g., job, hobbies, sports, friends, sex)
 - My appetite and/or weight has changed.
 - My sleep patterns have changed, and I now sleep too much or not enough.
 - I am tired all the time and have no energy.
 - I feel guilty, hopeless, or worthless.
 - I can't concentrate, remember things, or make decisions.
 - My friends have noticed that I am restless or that my activity has decreased.
 - I often think about death, or have even tried to commit suicide.

One factor found in research on depression is that depres-

sion is a chemical imbalance. An antidepressant is sometimes prescribed to increase the brain's own supply of a chemical messenger (neurotransmitter). Each individual has a unique cluster of symptoms. Some people suffer from depression only once in their lifetime, but others may experience it again and again. Also, the length of the depression varies from individual to individual (some have it for months; some for years). Without treatment, however, there's a chance you could suffer repeated episodes.

If you think you might be suffering from depression, your first step is talking to your doctor. Your doctor will recommend a counselor and possibly prescribe an antidepressant when appropriate. Most importantly, you don't need to feel depressed because it can be successfully treated. You need to take the first step.

Resolve to Be Energy-Wise and Save

New Year's resolutions are a tradition. This year, resolve to become energy-wise.

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NOTICE
GRATTAN TOWNSHIP'S NEW OFFICE HOURS AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2001

OFFICE HOURS
 Effective as of the week of January 22, 2001, Grattan Township office hours will be changed. Our new office hours will be as follows:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday hours will be 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and closed for lunch from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday office hours will be 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

2001 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
 Grattan Township offices will be closed on the following holidays:

February 19	President's Day
May 28	Memorial Day
July 3 and 4	Independence Day
September 3	Labor Day
November 23	Thanksgiving
December 24-January 2	Christmas/New Years

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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.
- **LOCATION:** 2550 W. Main Street Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 252-5600
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SHOWS GOOD 1/17-1/18
 FAMILY MAN (PG-13)
 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:10
 WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG-13)
 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG-13) 9:00
 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)
 1:00, 2:45, 4:25, 7:00

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Front row, left to right: Ashley Rickert, Gina Blough, Jaclyn Batt and Courtney Perkins; second row, left to right: Katie Moore, Matthew Oesch, Emily Myers, Heather Canfield, Jana Young, and Jessica Doyle; third row, left to right: Zach Bruursma, David Walker, Leslie Crowley, Andy Hansen, Zach Harris, and DJ Armstrong. Missing from photo: Heidi Hefner, Joe Nugent, and Nate Boyce.

Lowell students claim four firsts in business competition

Approximately 800 secondary students from the Grand Rapids area participated in Business Professionals of America's Regional Leadership Conference and Business Competitions.

Business Professionals of America acts as a cohesive agent in the nationwide networking of education, business and industry, and is contributing to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizen, academic, and technological skills. Deanne Crowley and Christine Beachler, the local Business Professionals of America chapter advisors, accompanied the students.

Davenport University generously hosted the competitions.

In only their second year as a BPA chapter, the Lowell students did very well in the competitions; the following students placed in their events:

Emily Myers: 1st place in Business Spelling; 2nd in International Business; 6th in Business Law

D.J. Armstrong: 1st in Financial Math and Analysis; 4th in Fundamental Accounting;

Leslie Crowley: 1st in Spreadsheet Applications

Heidi Hefner: 1st in International Business

Jessica Doyle: 2nd in

Computer-Aided Graphics

Katie Moore: 2nd in Computerized Accounting

Heather Canfield: 2nd in Parliamentary Procedure Team

Courtney Perkins: 3rd in Legal Concepts; 2nd in Parliamentary Procedure Team

Matt Oesch: 2nd in Parliamentary Procedure Team; 4th in Computerized Accounting

Jana Young: 2nd in Parliamentary Procedure Team

Andy Hansen: 3rd in International Business; 6th in Network Concepts

Business, cont'd. pg. 11

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Financial Focus

With Christopher J. Bouma

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TIME TO CONSIDER "CATCH-UP" INVESTMENT STRATEGIES?

The earlier you start investing, the better. Putting time on your side clearly gives your money a better chance to grow. So, what do you do if you're in your 30s and you haven't done much saving or investing? Are you already doomed to struggle during your retirement years?

Fortunately, the answer is no. Even if you've done very little saving or investing, it's not too late to turn things around. In fact, even if you're in your 50s, you can take steps to dramatically improve your retirement outlook.

But let's first look at what a 30-something can do to start socking away retirement funds. To begin with, look at your 401(k) or other retirement plan that you have at work.

Are you "maxing out" on it? With tax-deferred earnings and pretax contributions, a 401(k) is a great vehicle to build retirement savings. But it's still not enough by itself. That's why you also should think about setting up a tax-deductible IRA or, if you qualify, a Roth IRA, whose earnings can grow tax-free.

There are other things you can do to play "catch-up." If you get an annual raise at work, consider putting the majority of it into savings. After that, look for some "common sense" ways of saving money: take less expensive vacations, cut down on dinners out, etc. If you can convert these actions into just \$20 per week in savings, you could amass \$50,000 over 25 years, assuming you earned a modest 5 percent annual return.

Now, let's shift chronological gears. If you're in your 50s, and you haven't done much saving or investing, you're not alone. Nearly half of all U.S. workers age 55 or older have saved less than \$150,000 for retirement, according to a survey done by the American Savings Education Council.

If you're in this group, take heart: You can change the

course of events. Just like your younger counterparts, you can load up your 401(k) contributions. And if you work for a nonprofit or government agency, your 403(b) or 457 plan allows you to contribute more than the annual maximum for a few years before retirement if you didn't max out in prior years.

Still, you can't just count on your retirement plan at work. You're also going to have to evaluate your investment portfolio. If it's heavily weighted toward fixed-income vehicles, such as CDs, you won't achieve the growth you need. To get that growth, you'll need to be much more aggressive. At the

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same time, you don't need to take undue risks, because you can find plenty of high quality growth stocks and mutual funds. And since you're only in your 50s, you still have time to put them to work.

As a late starter in the serious savings -and-investment arena, you also may have to forget any thoughts of taking an early retirement. By working more years, you can earn more income and put more away in your company's retirement plan. And when you finally do retire, you'll be able to enjoy the fruits of your labors.

Church and Township begin fundraiser drive for Whaley

Vergennes Township agreed to post signs in support of collecting funds for Sharon Whaley in order that she be able to build a house on Alden Nash.

Whaley sold her property on M-21 to Meijer. She contracted with a Rockford builder. According to township officials, the builder went out of business. Whaley is now without money and a home.

According to Evergreen Missionary Church pastor, Rev. Glen Marks, an attorney has donated time to file legal papers; an excavator has offered to backfill and hook up the septic at charge; a church patron has offered to run a line to the house; a company has offered to sell concrete for the basement at a much reduced cost; a wholesale heating company has donated a furnace and other supplies; and many people have offered to donate labor.

Tax deductible contributions may be made to the Ever-

green Missionary Church, Deacon's Fund, Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331.

For further information, call Judy Rosenburger or Heidi Barber at Huntington Bank (616) 897-3220. Or call Rev. Marks at 897-9110.

Business, cont'd... From Page 10

Ashley Rickert: 3rd in Computerized Accounting
Jaclyn Batt: 5th in Fundamental Accounting
Gina Blough: 5th in Computerized Accounting
Zach Bruursma: 5th in Web Site Development
Zach Harris: 5th in Web Site Development
Nate Boyce: 5th in Web Site Development
David Walker: 7th in Payroll Accounting
Joe Nugent: 8th in Spreadsheet Applications

Students placing in the top eight in their competition are eligible to now compete at the state level. The State Leadership Conference is being held March 22-25 at the Renaissance Center in Detroit.

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Abstract may bring abandoned railway discussions to a halt

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Negotiations between Lowell Charter Township and RailAmerica over a segment of abandoned railroad right-of-way may be headed for a derailment.

A township resident whose property is adjacent to the land in question claims that if the land is abandoned by RailAmerica, it averts to an adjoining property owner, according to the abstract.

Township supervisor John Timpson who has applied for a grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund (Englehardt) said that would be a moot point if RailAmerica does not have a title or proof which shows ownership.

"The township cannot purchase land property from RailAmerica if it is not theirs," Timpson said.

The township had offered \$30,000 (\$500 an acre) for the right-of-way located between Mile Post 105.5 (near Lowell)

and Mile Post 110.5 (at Elmdale).

The township, in coordination with the North Country Trail Association, has proposed turning the property into a linear park with one side used for hiking and the other side of

the property used for biking.

"Right now we're waiting for a proof of property title from RailAmerica," Timpson concluded.

Sunday, Jan. 28 more than just football

For the eighth consecutive year, Super Bowl Sunday (Jan. 28) will include more than taking in a football game.

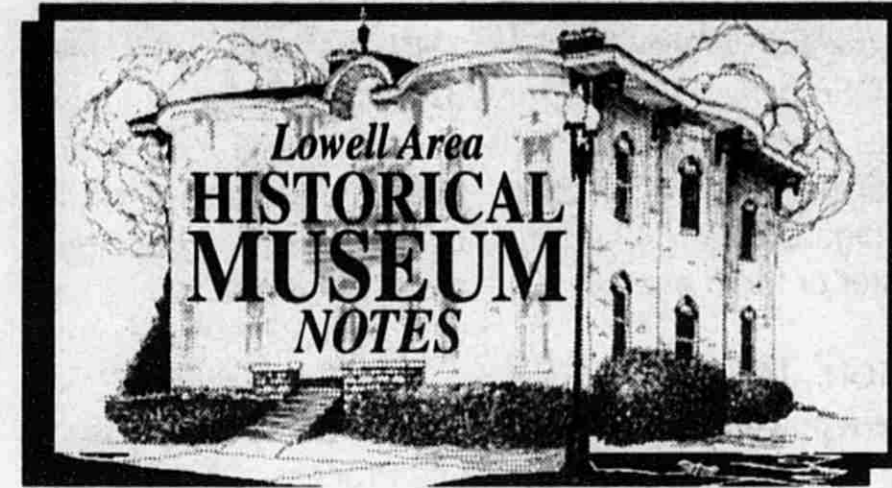
The Flat River Outreach Ministries, through its Emergency Financial Services, will collect money Super Bowl Sunday to help families in Lowell, Ada, Alto, Saranac and Ionia with gas, rent, fuel oil, and emergency housing.

Nationwide, roughly 11,200 churches, schools and busi-

nesses will participate in the eighth annual "Souper Bowl of Caring."

Lowell residents are being asked to put a donation in soup buckets displayed in their church sanctuary and business exits. The national event raised \$3.1 million last year.

Locally, 89 families were helped by this event in the year 2000.



"The Capital Campaign continues to move along very well," says board member, Judy Straub. "We are so pleased with the enthusiastic support we have received from the community. To date, we have received pledges and contributions of \$160,275. The entire museum project is moving along on schedule. The exhibit designs are in the final stages and exhibit construction will soon begin. One of the really exciting exhibits that will be featured in the Industry and Retailing room is a computerized virtual tour of Main Street at the turn of the 20th century. Dan Pipe, Jr. is developing this wonderful exhibit for the museum.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is fortunate to have an abundance of photographs, letters, and other documents that can give a historian a rare glimpse into Lowell's past. To

make these materials accessible and meaningful to the public, the museum is working to create an interactive presentation, complete with a three-dimensional computer model of Lowell at the turn of the century (the twentieth century, that is!). The tour of "virtual turn of the century Lowell" will use photographs of the town, its citizens, narration and even music to bring the past to life.

Ongoing research has focused on the period between 1890 and 1915. Photographs of Main Street in this period reveal a number of buildings, now gone, and the original appearance of many that have been damaged, remodeled or rebuilt. Using these photos, along with insurance survey maps, a reconstruction of Main Street circa 1900 is well underway. Newspaper articles and advertisements allow us to "shop" in Lowell's past. The personal letters or recollections of citizens give a glimpse into daily life and attitudes of the late Progressive Era. One of our prize finds is the memoirs of Thelma Peckham Hahn. A photograph of her sophomore class at Lowell High School in 1916, together with her descriptions of growing up at the turn of the century, make the past vivid and alive.

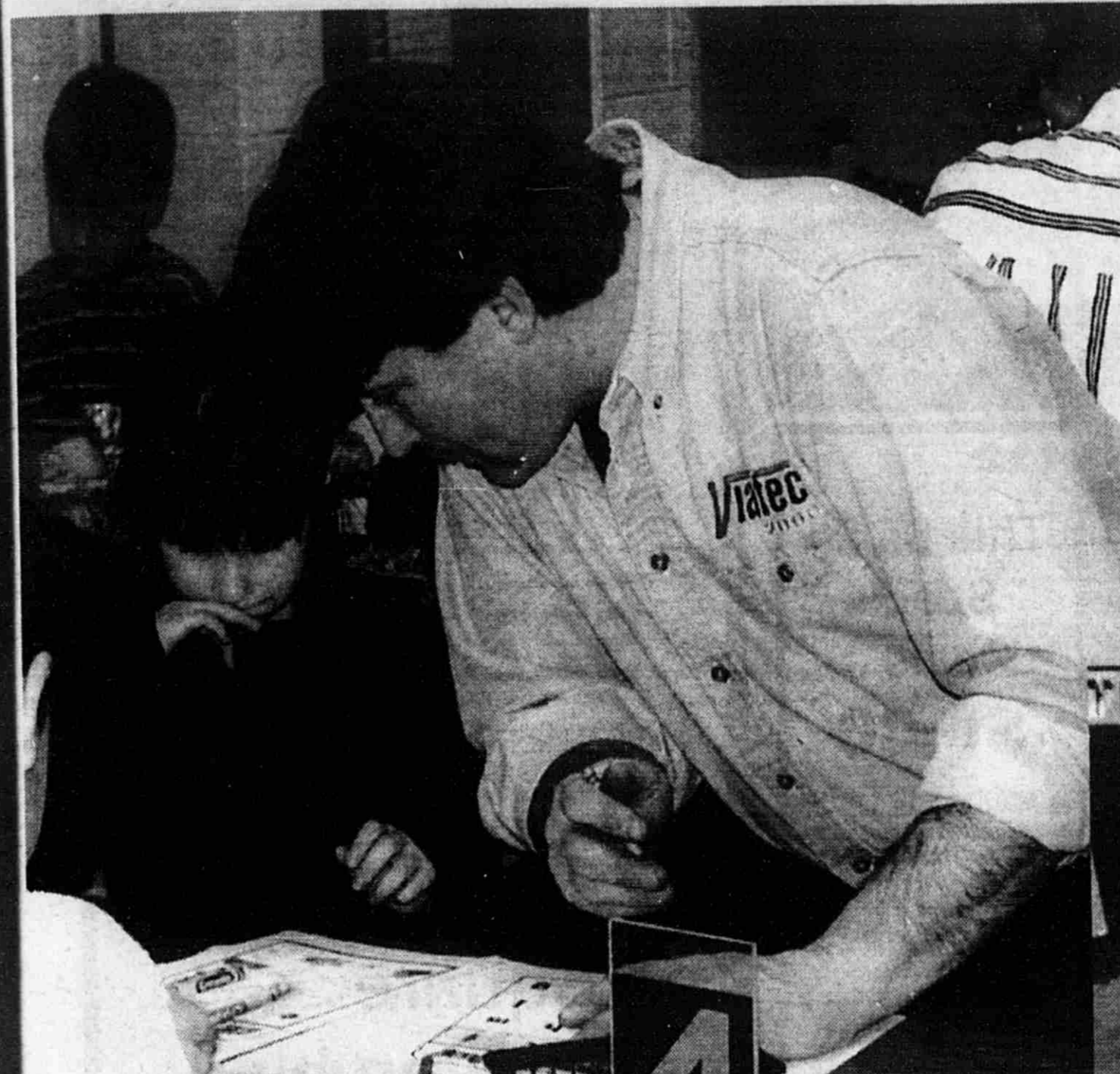
All of this material, together with the computer model, will be used to create an interactive multimedia tour. Computer animation will reveal Lowell as it appeared 100 years ago. Whenever possible, photographs of the original structures, their builders, owners and shopkeepers will also be

used. These will be combined with period music and narration, including voices from the past, to give the presentation as much depth and realism as possible.

When the museum opens next fall, visitors will be able to take a tour of the "Island City" in the ragtime era at a touch screen monitor through this interactive presentation. Portions of the presentation may also appear on the museum's website. Much of the research into the appearance of Main Street in this period will also be used to benefit the Lowell Historic District and their efforts to preserve the architectural heritage of our community.

While research continues, you may be able to help further this project in any number of ways. Your personal collections may contain old letters, documents, photographs, or other materials from the period of 1890 to 1915 that the museum does not currently have access to. Photographs of prominent citizens or anyone whose portrait can be paired with their own words in letters are of particular interest. We are also looking for information about the activities of Lowell's many fraternal organizations, such as the Masons or the Women's Christian Temperance Union. We could also use help with the research through issues of the Lowell Ledger on microfilm at the Englehardt Library. If you have any materials you think might be of help or would like to volunteer, contact Dan Pipe at 897-6423 or e-mail him at ruperts_drop@gnet.com.

Make It - Take It Day at Bushnell Elementary



Pictured above is Jim Kruskowski and his daughter Megan Cruz.



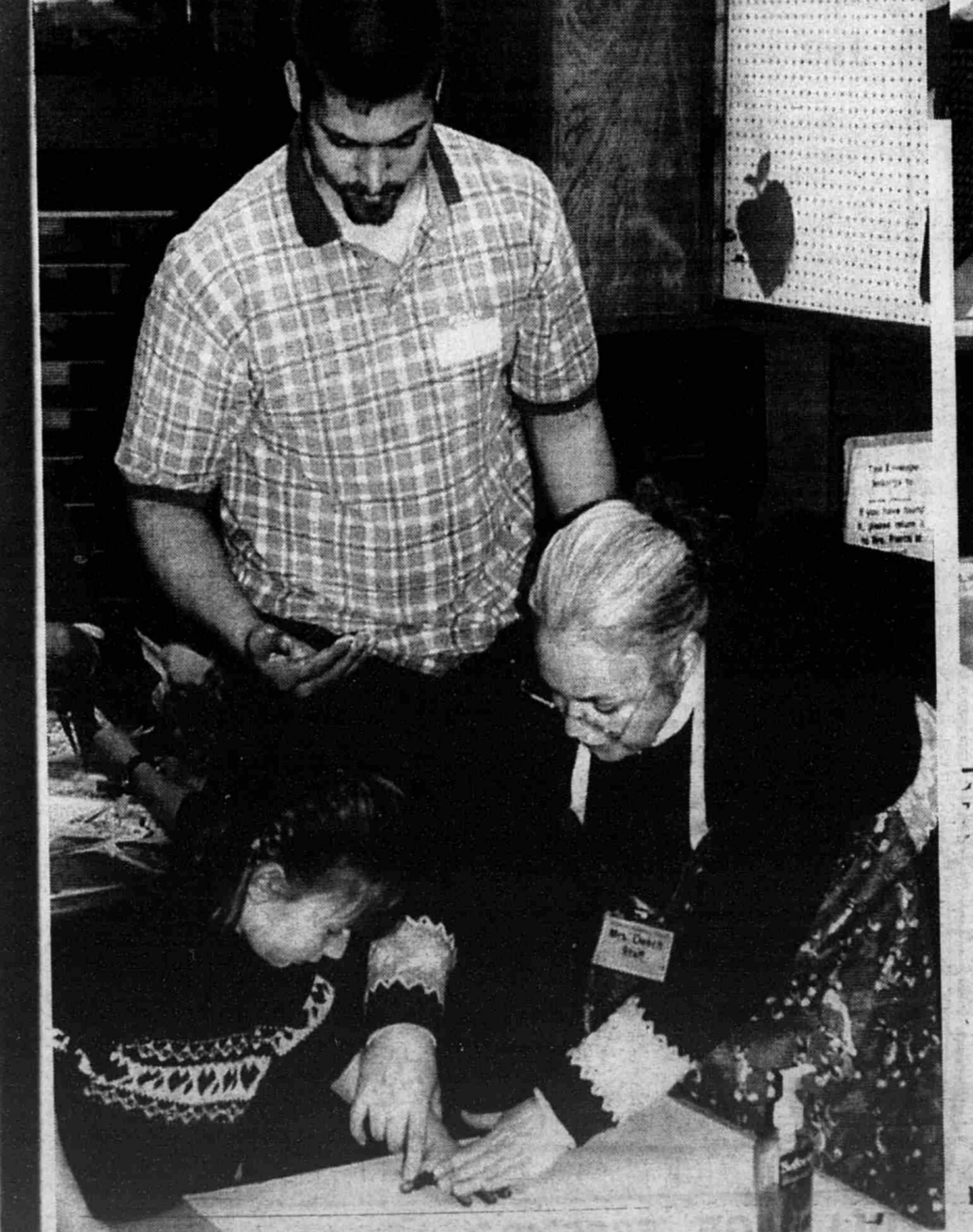
Pictured above, left to right, are: Dave Race, Quinton Dunn, Glenna Lunn and Hunter Race. Bushnell kindergarten students and parents made Super Spin games.



Pictured to the left are Steve Fudge and his five-year-old daughter Kaylee Fudge.



Dakota Miller with his father Scott.



Donna Oesch and Curston Blough work on hand prints as Curston's father Barry looks on.

"Preserving Our River of History"

Capital Campaign To Establish The Lowell Area Historical Museum

CONTRIBUTORS TO DATE

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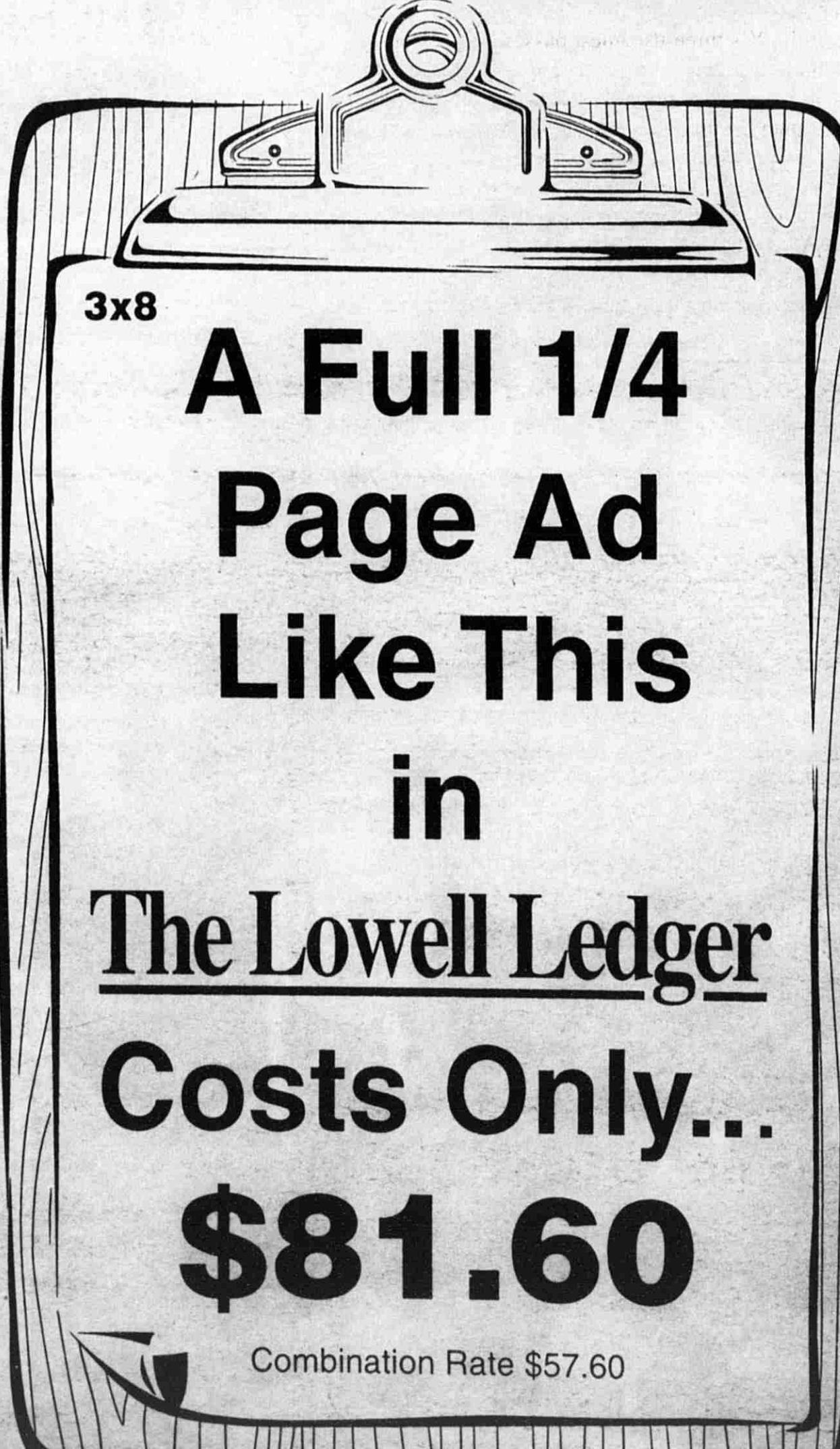
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Lowell's YMCA membership campaign and area residents shaping up

With a goal of 145 memberships by the end of January, The Lowell YMCA has signed up 107 memberships as of Monday.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Through its Leaders Club and basketball program, Kevin Brown has served in a volunteer capacity with the YMCA since the age of 14.

He kept with the YMCA because it was fun. Brown, now a YMCA instructor for the Lowell Wellness Center, 1335 W. Main St., encourages those he instructs to make working out fun.

"I tell everyone to come in with the idea of having fun as opposed to wanting to lose 10 pounds," Brown explains.

Just as the Y's Leaders Club and basketball program worked for him, Brown's personal touch and attention seems to be working for those he's helping.

"We've received a lot of good feedback about the personal attention he and other fitness center employees are providing patrons," said YMCA's community development director, Andy Retberg.

Brown, Retberg and others are helping a broad range of area residents set up a fitness routine. "It is really neat to see so many different community members coming in to use the facility," Retberg said.

The Y has hired 21 staff to help operate and run the wellness center and teen center. Three are former Leaders Club kids.

"That's what's really nice. We're now able to hire and provide job skills for the kids who have been involved with our programs," Lowell YMCA executive director, Will Welsh said.

The Lowell YMCA set a goal of signing up 145 memberships by the end of January. As of Monday, the YMCA had sold 107.

Welsh noted there are roughly 120 people who are taking advantage of the Y's three-use guest passes.

The wellness center features cybex strenght, training equipment, treadmills, elliptical trainers, recumbent bikes, total body trainers, upright bikes, cardio theater, airdynes, supervised kids gym/drop-in nursery and locker rooms.

Lowell's Kathleen Duma, who came in on her lunch hour Monday, is one of the 120. "I'm using my guest pass, but I plan on purchasing a membership," Duma said. "This facility is great. It's got me back into exercising. Before, I was using the Forest Hills facility, but this is more convenient for me."

Most who are using a guest pass or have purchased a membership agree the wellness center is grander than they imagined.

"This was much needed - for a long time. It's nicer than I envisioned," said Lowell's Jeanne Palowski.

Teens purchase a membership for \$25 and then pay a monthly fee of \$15. It provides them access to the wellness center and the teen center. "That comes out to \$165 a year or 50 cents a day," Welsh explains. "Assistance (up to 75 percent of the cost) may also be attained through YMCA scholarships."

A family membership cost \$50 a month with a one time joinin fee of \$100.

The Lowell YMCA signed a contract on Oct. 27 to have Parks Construction begin work on the teen and fitness centers. Both were opened to the public on Jan. 1. "The time frame is the most amazing part of all of this. Parks Construction really did us well," said Welsh.

He adds that it is not the building that will make the venture successful. "It's the relationships that the YMCA forges every single day and the direct impact it has on people's lives. The buildings are just tools that allow us to have more of an impact," the YMCA director concluded.



Youth Give Back

Nazarene Church pastor, Dave Stevens and its youth church group presented Andy Retberg, YMCA community development director, with a check for \$159.15. The money was raised selling food and drinks at summer softball games. The money will be used by the Y for operation/maintenance at the Teen Center.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
 PROBATE COURT
 COUNTY OF KENT

STATE OF MICHIGAN
 PROBATE COURT
 COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Decedent's Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 01-170,796-DE

FILE NO. 00-170,224-DE

Estate of
 ELEANOR CATALANO
 SSN: 366-16-6618

Estate of
 Robert T. Posthumus
 Date of Birth:
 January 22, 1917

TO ALL CREDITORS:

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
 The decedent,
 ELEANOR CATALANO,
 who lived at 3974 Whispering Way, S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan died 01/01/01.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
 The decedent, ROBERT T. POSTHUMUS, who lived at 4923 Madison S.E., Kentwood, Michigan died September 9, 2000.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to PHILLIP CATALANO and ALPHONSO CATALANO, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 320 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to RUSSELL POSTHUMUS, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 320 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 8, 2001

January 4, 2001

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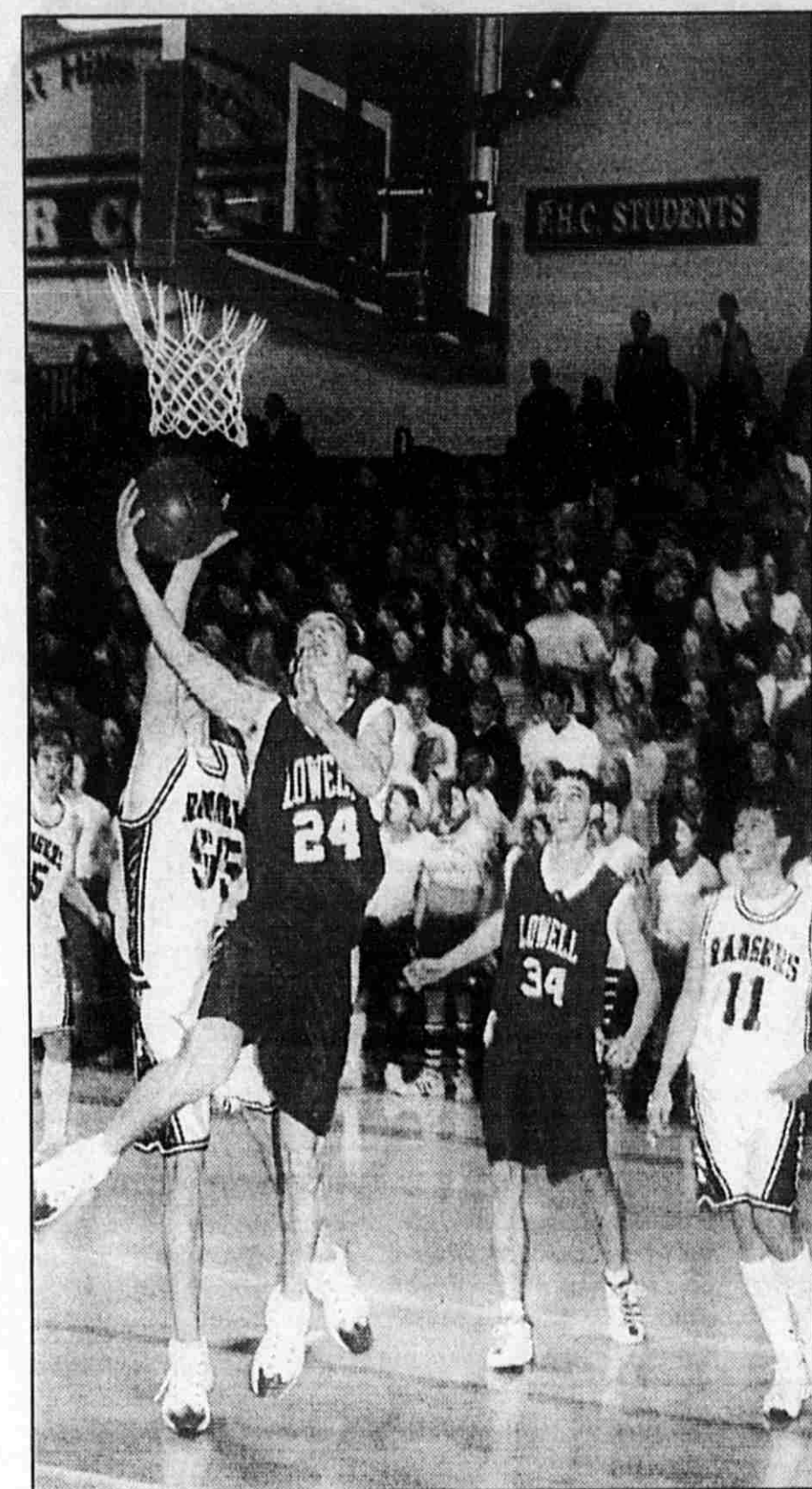
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Motion to approve a resolution to ratify a resolution that was passed December 21, 2000 regarding signing of final resolution

Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
 Colleen Smith, recording secretary



Lowell's Sam Oberlin sneaks past a Ranger defender for a reverse layup.

Late first-half surge helps Rangers blast past Red Arrows

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Pete Bush looked up at the clock and saw there was a little over two minutes to play in the half, and his club was leading the home-standing Rangers 21-19.

"I thought about pulling it out and holding for a final shot," the Lowell basketball coach recalled. "However, we were playing pretty well so I decided to play it out."

Wrong decision. Forest Hills Central outscored the Red Arrows 8-0 and took a 27-21 halftime lead... on its way to a 59-48 win.

"I thought Carhart's (Kyle) three to end the half broke their back," said Central coach, Ken George.

The Rangers built on that momentum early in the second half, forcing some Lowell turnovers and building a 36-23 advantage.

"We're playing better but we're still up and down," George explained. "We got into the game a little more to

start the third quarter. The boys showed a little more excitement."

After falling behind 9-4 to start the game, Lowell battled back to pull to within two at 14-12.

"We played pretty good for about 14 minutes," Bush said. "We're making way too many mistakes (turnovers). Many times it's not even because of being pressured."

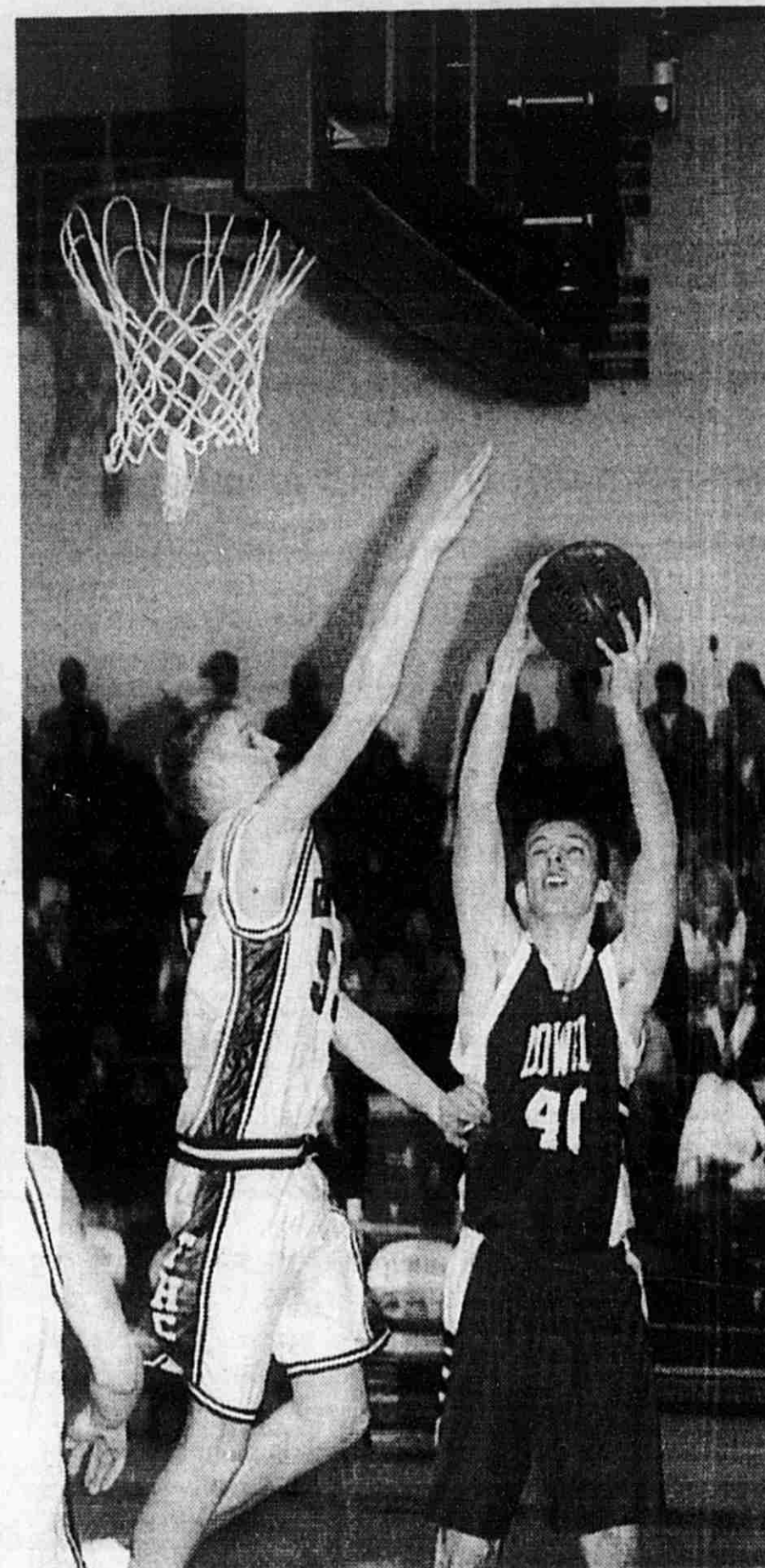
The win improved Central's overall record to 7-3 and its OK White mark to 3-2.

"We're kind of excited that we're not playing our best basketball but still winning," George said.

Lowell, 1-7, 0-5, gets ready for trips to Greenville (undefeated) and Zeeland.

Dave Rozema and Brad Koetsier led the Red Arrows in scoring with 11 points each. Sam Oberlin tallied 10 and Bill Harrison netted seven.

FHC got a game-leading 19 points from James Telman. Carhart netted 16 and Kevin Murphy added 13.



Red Arrow Logan Dykstra attempts a short baseline jump shot.

Red Arrow bowlers league headpins

Six weeks into the season, both the Lowell boys and girls bowling teams appear on their way to a Southeastern Bowling Conference championship.

The Lowell boys team leads the league with a 151-

19 mark. The girls are atop the conference at 124-56. Their latest victim was Wayland.

The boys won 25-5 while the girls posted a 23-7 victory.

Over the weekend, Low-

ell boys finished second to Wyoming Park (387-370) in the Creston High School Tourney at Westgate Lanes.

"This is the third year for the club and our teams have made great strides," said Mike Horian, who coaches the

boys' team while Dave Adriane coaches the girls' team.

The Red Arrow boys' roster is filled by Jason Roth (183 average); Jim DeWit (175); Nathan Clark (178); Nathan Sloan (170); John Stuckey Jr. (173); and D.J. Armstrong (181).

Lowell girls' team consists of Jamie Roth (151 average); Rachel Nawrocki (142); Tara Kuipers (141); Eva Geldersma (164); Amanda Eickhoff (141); Shawna Austin (119); and Andrea Vickers (106).

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL BOWLING SCORES				
•• LOWELL 25 • WAYLAND 5 ••				
PLAYER (BOYS)	GAME #1	GAME #2	GAME #3	TOTAL
Jason Roth	186	140	212	538
Jim DeWit	146	X	185	331
D.J. Armstrong	178	135	X	313
John Stuckey	172	179	174	525
Nate Clark	178	190	145	513
Nate Sloan	X	173	208	381
TOTAL SCORE	860	817	924	2601
•• LOWELL 23 • WAYLAND 7 ••				
PLAYER (GIRLS)	GAME #1	GAME #2	GAME #3	TOTAL
Amanda Eickhoff	160	156	144	460
Shawna Austin	X	X	88	88
Tara Kuipers	147	113	X	260
Eva Geldersma	147	158	194	499
Jamie Roth	154	151	148	453
Rachel Nawrocki	174	117	126	417
TOTAL SCORE	782	693	700	2175

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LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

Meeting of January 8, 2001

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Matt Trierweiler, Student Council President and Representative to the Board, reported that the holiday dance sponsored by the council netted \$300 for the Flat River Outreach Ministries. The council was also involved with Toys for Tots and they also adopted a family for Christmas. The Men's Club also raised \$525 in a bachelor auction with proceeds also going to the Flat River Outreach Ministries.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION - To honor the board members for their dedication in serving the Lowell Area Schools, Bert Bleke presented each member with a framed 8x10 photo of the board.

WITTENBACH - WEGE UPDATE - Tammy DeBaar, Wittenbach Agriscience Center director, along with Kay Wisner, Alto kindergarten teacher, and student Tara Propst, gave an update on the activities taking place at the Wittenbach Agriscience Center and Wege Natural Area.

ACTION ITEMS - Accepted the following gifts:
• Jane Gillespie donation of computer and printer valued at \$200 to be used by the Lowell Middle School.
• Scott Vashaw donation of telescope and books valued at

\$300 to be used by the Lowell High School meteorology class.
Adopted a resolution authorizing allowing eligible teachers to receive computers from the State of Michigan.

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved were:
• The minutes for the November 27, 2000 workshop meeting and the December 13, 2000 regular meeting.

• The following payment of bills:
GENERAL FUND \$858,982.86
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund \$67,429.56
B. Athletic Fund \$11,961.03
2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$63,598.77
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$15,762.29

PARAEDUCATOR PROGRAM - Pam Thomas, Nan Zeeuw, and Irene Willmarth explained a new paraeducator certification program that Lowell Area Schools has recently established in an effort to better prepare paraprofessionals in their roles as paraeducators.

MATH UPDATE - Sue Beute, Kris Kropf, and Mike Michaud reported on how the Chicago Math program is being integrated into the curriculum at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels.

BOND FOLLOW-UP - Jim White reported that the high school is receiving a phone upgrade, bids have gone out for the new Alto Elementary gymnasium, and the new elementary school drawings are being shared with staff and board members.

RENEWAL OF 18 MILLS - Connie Gillette explained that the 18 mills levied on non-homestead property will expire in June. At the annual election the community will have to vote to reinstate the 18 mill levy.

BOARD POLICY BOOK - The board discussed the newly revised board policy book with the item being brought back to the February board meeting for adoption.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Bert Bleke reported that the board will receive reports at the February board meeting dealing with state accreditation and school evaluation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:
Regular Board Meeting - Monday, February 12, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
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Red Arrow skaters edged by Ottawa Hills and Jenison

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Two evenly matched hockey teams were only separated by a second-period goal.

Lowell's hockey team, 4-10-1, lost 1-0 to Ottawa Hills on Friday.

"It was a game that could have gone either way," said Lowell coach, Paul Jacobus. "We struggled a bit in the offensive zone. We weren't able to put anything together. Give Ottawa Hills some credit for that."

Ottawa Hills scored on a breakaway early in the second period.

The Indians were turned back on two other breakaways by Lowell goalie, Jay Blair. "Jay played well in the net for us," Jacobus said.

Defensively, Lowell shut down the Indians in their offensive zone.

"Our positioning continues to improve. The boys are starting to play better together defensively," said Lowell's coach.

The loss marked the fourth time this year the young Red Arrow squad has lost a game by one goal.

Jenison 5
Lowell 4

The Red Arrows lost to the Wildcats 9-0 earlier in the season.

This time, things played out differently. The two teams were tied at 1-1 after one. Lowell scored on an unassisted goal by Josh Baker.

Jenison took a 3-2 lead in the second period. Lowell's goal was scored by Chad Rau at the 7:35 mark with an assist to Ryan Hopkins.

Both squads creased the net twice in the final period.

JV skaters drop a pair

The Lowell junior varsity hockey team lost to Lumen Christi 3-1. On an assist by Jordan Schaefer, Brandon John scored Lowell's only goal of the game.

On Sunday, the Red Arrow skaters were shutout 6-0 by Rockford. Lowell plays West Ottawa on Saturday (7 p.m.) at the Edge Arena in Holland and Forest Hills Northern on Sunday (7 p.m.) at the Michigan National Ice Center.

Jenison scored its goals early in the period and Lowell tallied two late in the period. The Red Arrows' goals were recorded by Brad Maxlow with an assist to Eric Austin, and Matt Horan scored with the aid of an assist from Jordan Terrell.

"Jenison had a double minor penalty, giving us a man advantage. We scored to make it 5-4. We pulled our goalie with roughly a minute to play and got a couple scoring chances but couldn't finish," Jacobus concludes.

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Lowell gymnasts upend defending state champion; Rangers are next

Red Arrow Carmen Datema continues a season of stark turn-around on the balance beam.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Finding success on the balance beam has been as much an emotional challenge for Carmen Datema as a physical one.

"I'm just more confident. I am now able to realize what I'm doing wrong and then go out and correct it," Datema said.

In Lowell's three opening meets, Datema has recorded three regional qualifying scores on the balance beam. The most recent one was Wednesday night at East Kentwood. Datema scored a personal best 8.45 in Lowell's 129.03-93.8 win over the defending state champion Falcons.

Practicing harder and attending the Michigan State University summer camp have also aided Datema's performance. "The camp made me stronger emotionally and helped me overcome my fears," the sophomore said.

Lowell's win against East Kentwood improved its OK Rainbow record to 3-0 and sets up a duel with Forest Hills Central, also undefeated in the league.

"Central's team scores have been a little higher than ours, but I think it will be a good meet," gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan said.

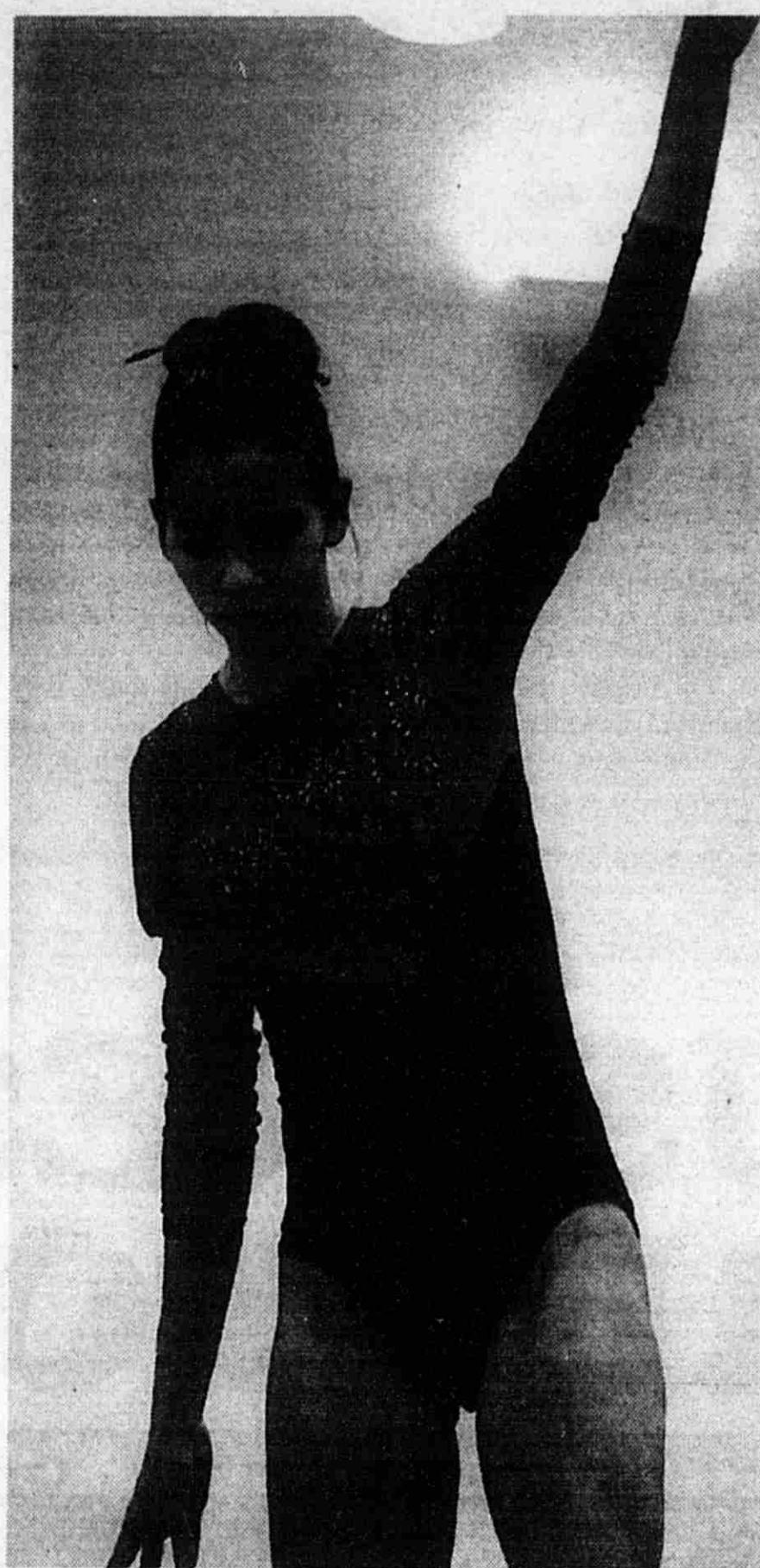
Datema and Krystal White led Lowell on the beam with 8.45's and placed second. Holly Plattner was fourth overall with a mark of 8.35 while Carisa Sayer was sixth with a score of 7.5.

"It was a much better beam day for the girls," said a relieved DeHaan.

On the vault, Lowell placed four gymnasts in the top five. Plattner tied for first with a score of 8.45 followed by White, third, 8.1; Katie Blough, fourth, 8.05; and Melissa Neubecker fifth at 7.95.

The Red Arrows gave their best team performance of the year on the uneven bars. "It's the best we've done in a long time," DeHaan added.

Plattner recorded a personal best with a mark of 8.3 and



Carmen Datema on the balance beam in the Kenowa Hills meet.

finished second. Neubecker, third, scored a personal best 8.1. Sayer was fourth at 7.95 and White and Blough both tallied scores of 7.4.

In the floor exercise, Plattner, coming off a school record performance against Kenowa Hills where she scored a 9.3, finished with an 8.75 against the Falcons, placing her second.

White was third with an 8.55 followed by Datema, fourth, 8.05 and Blough and Neubecker fifth with marks of 7.65.

"I think the girls were nervous at first because Kentwood is the defending state champion, but once they got going they realized they could compete," DeHaan said.

Holt Invitational

Resting some of her top gymnasts, Lowell coach Michele DeHaan gave others an opportunity to post some regional qualifying scores at Holt on Saturday.

"We have a big match coming up against Central. I wanted our top girls to be rested and healthy," said the Lowell coach.

The Red Arrows were eighth in a 14-team field with 127.95 points. Rochester Adams won the invitational with 145.17 points.

Holly Plattner placed first in the only event she participated in. Plattner tallied an 8.7 on the vault. Krystal White finished with an 8.45 and Katie Blough and Carisa Sayer scored 8.4 and 7.9 respectively.

On the uneven bars, Sayer was the team leader with a mark of 8.1. She was followed by Melissa Neubecker 7.95; White and Blough both finished with scores of 7.7.

Sayer also led the Red Arrows on the beam. She tallied an 8.0 despite two falls. Carmen Datema finished with a 7.8 while Kim Seaman and April Telman scored 7.4 and 7.35 respectively.

"Carisa and Kim had great routines," DeHaan said.

In the floor exercise, it was Neubecker leading the way with an 8.4, followed by Datema 8.3; Sayer 7.9; and Telman 7.9.

"We scored 127 points without all of our top gymnasts. That's pretty good," DeHaan concluded.

Lowell hosts rival Forest Hills Central on Wednesday (Jan. 17) at 7 p.m.

Gustafson sets school record in 100 butterfly; FHC/Lowell third at Creston Invitational

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's a school record Mike Gustafson has been in pursuit of for three years.

The chase is now over. Gustafson secured a new school record in the 100 breaststroke against Rockford at the Forest Hills Aquatic Center. Rockford won the meet 125-60 over Forest Hills/Lowell.

Gustafson set a new school record with a time of 1:01.06. "Mike had a fantastic race. His stroke looked right on - strong and fast. He has been focused on getting the record for quite a while. I think he will swim it even faster before the year is out," said Forest Hills/Lowell boys swimming coach, Heather Heritage.

The senior also won the 200 freestyle. He tapped the wall at 1:49.93.

Gustafson teamed with Andrew Klipa, John Webb and Mark Kwast in winning the 400 freestyle relay. The Ranger foursome stopped the clock in 3:45.

Gustafson, Kwast, Klipa and Jake Billingsley came home with a second in the medley relay. They finished in a time of 1:49.32. Kwast claimed a second

place finish in the 500 freestyle. He hit the wall in 5:58.2.

Klipa came home in second in the 100 freestyle with a time of 53.99.

Earning third-place finishes were Eric Cherba in the 200 IM, 2:24.83 and 100 butterfly, 1:07.78; Billingsley, 100 backstroke, 1:11.86; Jacob Baker was third in diving with 196.90 points.

The relay team of Baker, Billingsley, Webb and Cherba placed third in the 200 freestyle in a time of 1:45.15.

"We swam people around in different events since it was a non-league meet," Heritage explained. "Kwast and Cherba swam some surprising personal bests."

Creston Invitational

Forest Hills/Lowell finished third at the invitational over the weekend.

Northview won the event with 192 points. Ludington finished with 130 and FHC/Lowell had 120.

Each event had three heats. All three heats were scored, so the fastest swimmer from the third heat could score as many points as the faster swimmer from the first heat.

"We were missing some people. They might have helped us get second. All in all, I am happy with our performances. We had some great individual performances," said FHC/Lowell boys swimming coach, Heather Heritage.

Medley Relay: 1st - Jake Billingsley, Andrew Klipa, Mike Gustafson and Mark Kwast.

200 Freestyle: 3rd - Eric Cherba, 2:06.45.

200 IM: 1st - Gustafson, 1:58.52 (new meet record); 3rd - John Webb, 2:34.27; 3rd - Matt Trierweiler, 2:49.93.

50 Freestyle: 2nd - Billingsley, 26.23; 3rd - Jake Baker, 28.30.

Diving: 2nd - Baker; 3rd - Mac Russell.

100 Butterfly: 1st - Gustafson, 54.63 (new meet record); 1st - Kwast, 1:03.19; 2nd - Luke Baker, 1:17.66.

100 Freestyle: 3rd - Klipa, 53.85.

500 Freestyle: 3rd - Cherba, 5:44.50.

100 Backstroke: 3rd - Billingsley, 1:11.06.

100 Breaststroke: 1st - Klipa 1:07.34.

400 Freestyle Relay: 2nd - Gustafson, Klipa, Kwast, Webb, 3:39.58.

Red Arrow wrestling team bounces Northern; awaits arrival of Wildcats

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Forest Hills Northern wrestling coach had a sobering opinion for Lowell's next two conference opponents (Northview and Forest Hills Central) following his club's 57-15 loss to the Red Arrows Thursday night.

"We opened league play against Central, Northview and now Lowell. We were in the matches against FHC and Northview. We were never in the match against Lowell," said Huskie coach, Tim Maczinski. "We've seen some good wrestling teams this year, but Lowell is definitely one of the best in Division II. I was very impressed."

The Red Arrow highlight for the evening was John Mendez's pin against Dan Gonzalez at 38 seconds of the first period. It was the senior's 100th career win. He is the 21st Lowell wrestler to join the 100 win club.

"Coming back from a collarbone injury last year, I wasn't sure how much I'd be wrestling," Mendez said. "With this being my senior year, I wanted to reach 100 wins, be a captain, work hard and set an example for the team."

Northern enjoyed a short-lived lead after Joe Carrel, 103 pounds, turned Lowell's David Kropf to his back at 2:59 of the second period, giving the Huskies a 6-0 lead.

Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds, major decisioned Joroen Hayward 17-3; Ian DeRath, 119, decisioned David Carrel 14-13; John McKay, 125, won via forfeit. Mendez's pin gave Lowell a 19-6 lead.

Lowell extended its lead to 45-6 following Bobby Gingerich's win via forfeit at 135 pounds; Caleb O'Boyle's 22-7 technical fall over Ben Jackson (140); J.J. Wilder's pin at 33 seconds of the first period against Brian Pugh (145); Pete VanLaan's 6-4 overtime decision against Dan Carrel (152) and Matt Oesch's win via injury default against Adam Trompen (160).

Lowell's B.J. Frasier (189) and Ben Fleet (215) posted back-to-back pins against Northern's Tony Huver (41 seconds) and Andrew Hall (1:54) respectively.

Red Arrow Mike Forward lost a 5-4 decision to Clayton Fisher at 171 pounds while Ben Barle (HWT) was pinned by Steve Thornell at 51 seconds of the first period.

"It was a weird evening. Everything seemed a little off to me," Lowell coach Dave Strejc explained. "Mendez was sharp. He's been sharp all year. O'Boyle is a natural; he has such great balance. I also thought Oesch was very focused in his win against a tough opponent."

Lowell hosts Northview on Thursday. Both teams are undefeated in league play.

Dave Elliott Invitational

Lowell's wrestling team shored up some leaks in its technique and along the way earned seven individual firsts at the invitational in Clinton on Saturday.

By the way, the Red Arrows' 257 points were more than enough in winning the 26th annual Dave Elliott Invitational. Finishing second behind Lowell in the 14-team field were Carson City-Crystal 177.5 points; Springport, third, 163.5; and Montrose fourth, with 142.

"I had no idea that we'd come out of this with seven champions," said Lowell coach, Dave Strejc. "This tournament has a lot of tough wrestlers. Our boys dominated some tough competition."

The win helps prepare Lowell for a 10-day stretch which will include Northview, the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament and Forest Hills Central.

Winning individual championships on Saturday were Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds; Ian DeRath, 119; John McKay, 125; John Mendez, 130; Caleb O'Boyle, 140; J.J. Wilder, 145; and Matt Oesch, 160 pounds.

Third place honors were earned by Ben Vaught, HWT; and Ben Fleet, 215 pounds; and Mike Forward was fourth in the 171-pound weight class.

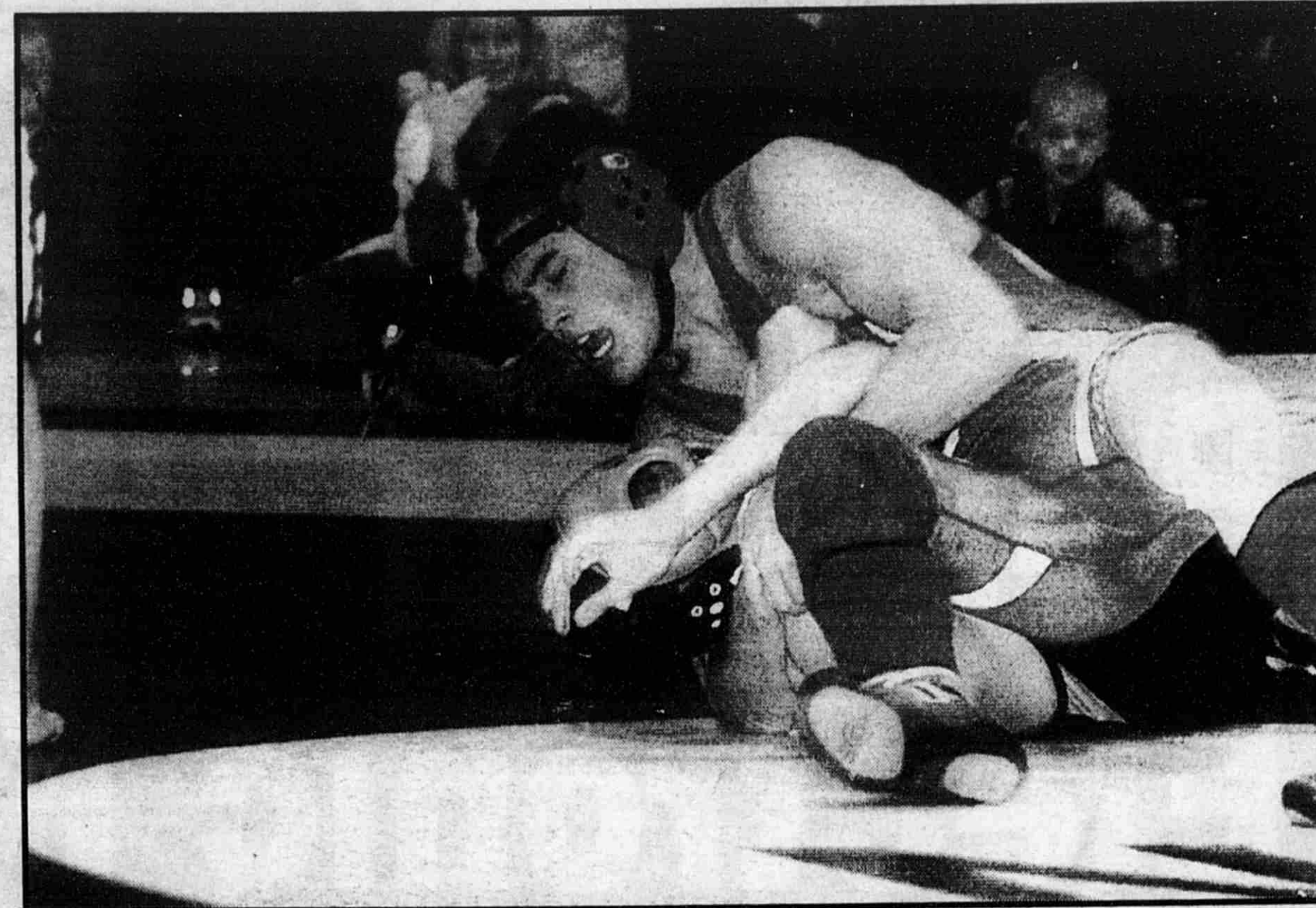
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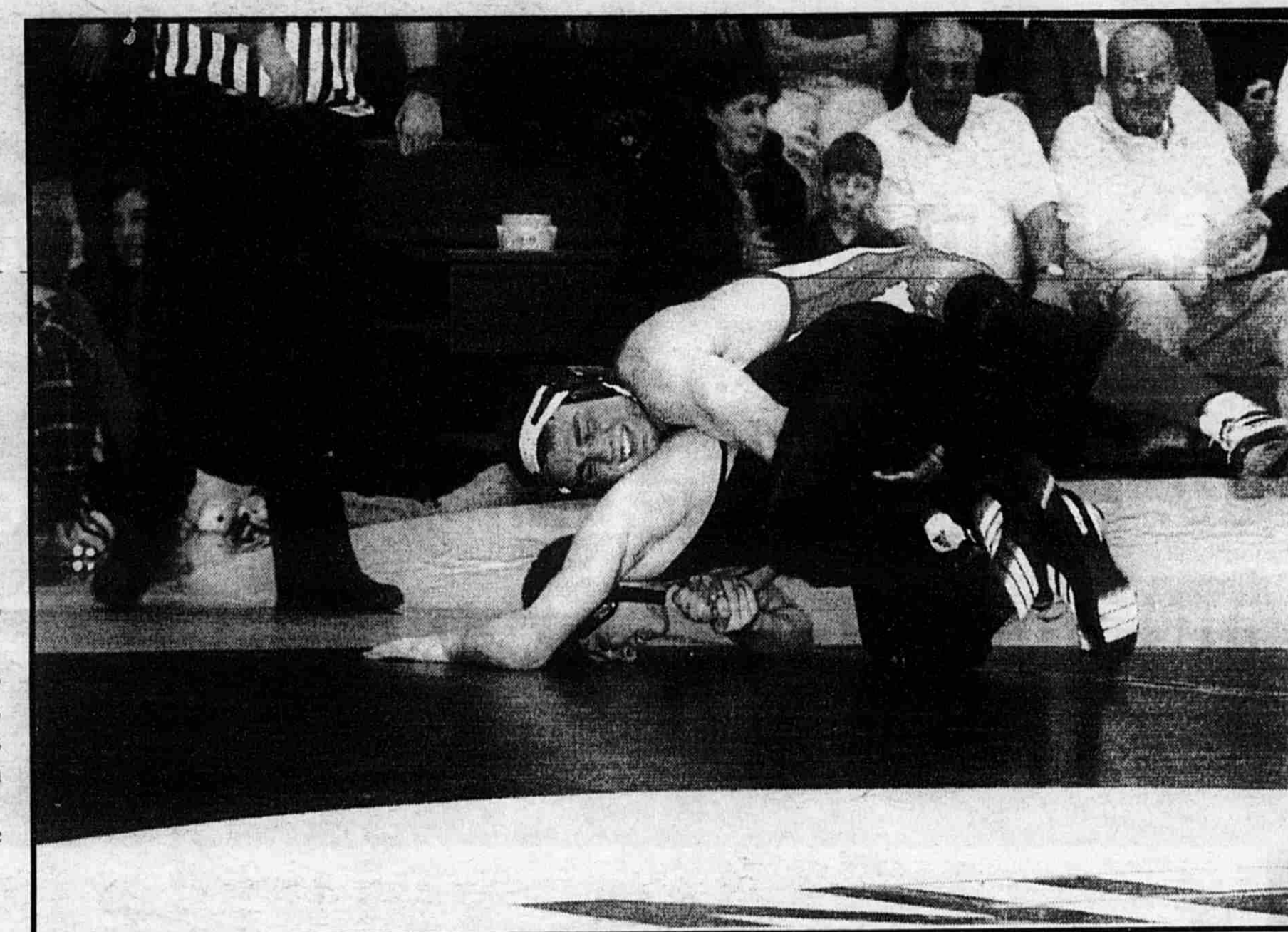
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John Mendez picked up a first period pin at Forest Hills Northern Thursday night in Lowell's 57-15 win.



Caleb O'Boyle posted a 22-7 technical fall against the Huskies' Ben Jackson.

Lowell spikers fall short against Huskies

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's volleyball team had a message sent to it in its 15-12, 15-8 loss to Forest Hills Northern.

"This should give the girls some confidence that they can play with teams in the conference," Red Arrow volleyball coach Connie Black explained. "Actually, I feel that this is a game we could have won."

Lowell played well for most of the game, but was hurt by some timid play at crucial points against the state ranked Huskies.

"The girls have to learn to play with pressure. They play not to lose when the game is tight, instead of playing to win," Black explained. "They have to be willing to step up and take a swing at it."

One area in which the Red Arrows did step up was serving. In 40 attempts, Lowell

committed just four serving errors.

"Studies show that the team that scores the game's first three points has a psychological advantage over its opponent," Black explains.

The Red Arrows recorded 16 kills. Amanda Stoutjesdyk was responsible for 10 of them. The senior also posted five of Lowell's 10 blocks. Every starter had at least one block.

Portland Invitational

Lowell split with every team it played in its pool Saturday, before bowing out in the semifinals against Fowlerville.

The Red Arrows split with Saranac 15-1, 10-15; Ionia 15-13, 2-15; and Bath 15-2, 2-15.

"The mind controls the body. To win 15-1 and then

lose the next game shows the girls are not focusing on what they've just done or what they need to do next," Black said.

"Good teams, athletes, players know how to control that. Our girls are still learning."

Connie Black Lowell Girls Volleyball Coach

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We would like to thank Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Alton Bible Church and our friends throughout the community for their support during this difficult time. Your concern, prayers, and caring spirit have helped to make this very hard time more bearable. The outpouring of love has been a blessing and a tribute to a person who will be greatly missed by all. The Family of Karon O. Ford.

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