

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 18

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

A Home at Last

◆◆◆ Sharon Whaley finally got the house she paid for last summer. The modular was supposed to be delivered in September. After enduring a stunning set of events, it was delivered last Thursday.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Sharon Whaley has been guided by the principle that people are basically good.

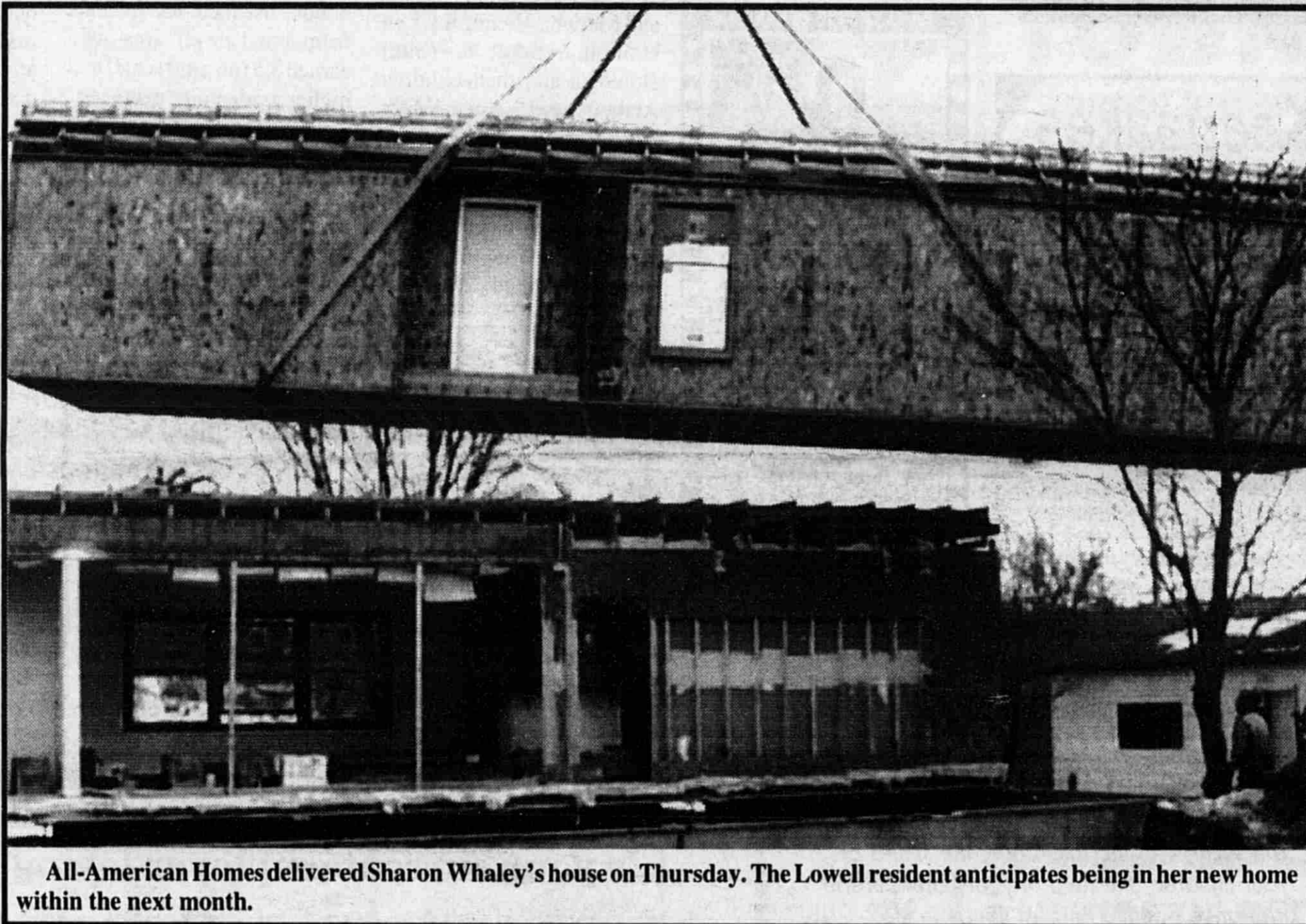
A stunning turn of events shook that belief to its foundation and then restored her faith in that basic principle.

Whaley was one of roughly a half dozen property owners who sold their homes on East Fulton. Their sales and subsequent departure made way for the Meijer construction project.

"With that money (\$101,000) I purchased a modular home," Whaley explained. By paying the entire amount up front, Whaley was told her home would move to the front of the production line.

"My contractor (R&D) Loveless Builders of Rockford told me the home would be delivered by Sept. 1," Whaley said. That was later changed to mid-October, and then mid-November.

With that last change came a meeting. "The contractor told me that he put my money back into his business and that he had no money and no house for me," Whaley explained. "I was stunned."



All-American Homes delivered Sharon Whaley's house on Thursday. The Lowell resident anticipates being in her new home within the next month.

The Lowell resident had no money and no home, and due to a disability is unable to work; therefore she is unable to afford rent or a house payment.

"That's why I gave the contractor all the money up front. That and my belief all people are basically good," Whaley said.

Whaley shared her dilemma with her close friend, John

Whaley. He immediately shared the distressing story with the attorney general, who told Whaley to report the fraud to the Kent County Sheriff's Department.

Her friend didn't stop there. Looking to shed a brighter light on the incident, he contacted Henry Erb from the WOOD-TV 8 news department.

"The decision to do this story was pretty easy based on the condition, her health and the disappearance of the money," Erb said. "There was also hard evidence. Sharon had a tape recording of a meeting she and her attorney had with Dave Loveless, R&D Loveless Construction, where he admitted spending her money."

The story had a human face to it. "Those are the stories that get community response. How do you not react to a story like this. Oftentimes it's bad stuff that provokes good," Erb said.

Erb's story spawned a multitude of phone calls from lawyers, plumbers, other builders, electricians, landscapers and others volunteering their services. Whaley was offered the use of a mobile home to live in

until she got her house.

"The number of people who volunteered to help was so refreshing and very heart touching," said an emotional Whaley.

All of their efforts culminated in the delivery of her home on Thursday to Whaley's new address on Alden Nash.

"I couldn't believe it was here," Whaley said. "I don't

Home Delivered, cont'd. pg. 9

Results from Winfield study support Y's new facility effort

◆◆◆ The study indicates the Lowell community could support a 27-30,000 square foot facility with the primary focus being an indoor recreation pool.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Favorable results from a market research study on opportunities for a new Lowell area YMCA indicate the community has a strong interest in having the YMCA expand the programs and services it can offer the community.

The Winfield Consulting Group, Inc., Atlanta, GA, was contracted roughly three months ago by the Lowell YMCA to conduct the survey (400 area residents). The cost was \$30,000, half of which was funded through the Englehardt Lowell Area Community Fund.

"The results indicate there is strong support for a new YMCA facility," said YMCA executive director, Will Welsh.

A new YMCA facility would include an indoor pool, aerobics and multipurpose exercise studio, kids gym area, teen center and a multipurpose activity area.

It also suggests there is a strong desire for outdoor educational programs (e.g., canoeing, kayaking, repelling and overnight camping).

The survey indicates Lowell could support a 27-30,000 square foot facility with the primary focus being an indoor recreation pool.

Study findings reveal that a total of 5.6 percent of all area households expressed a great deal of interest in joining a new Lowell area YMCA. This is above and beyond the 2.2 percent of area households that already belong to other YMCAs in the area. The study, therefore, yields a forecast of 1,408 achievable memberships at a new YMCA. That translates into approximately \$900,000 in achievable revenues.

Three possible locations for the new YMCA site were tested in the study. Respondents with a great deal of interest in joining the new YMCA (99 percent) said a downtown location within five miles of the intersection of Main and

Hudson streets was preferable. Similarly, 92 percent favored the location between Bushnell Elementary and Lowell Middle School. Stoney Lakeside Park placed a distant third with only

New Facility, cont'd. pg. 8

Inside The Ledger

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Gymnasts Surprise
Rockford, Story
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OBITUARIES

DELLS (nee Miner) - Mrs. Laura Beth Dells, aged 90, of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 3, 2001. She was a member of North Park Presbyterian Church and the Ruth Circle at the church.

Often-times serving as a leader, she was very active in the Girl Scouts and the Cub Scouts. Mrs. Dells loved her children - they were her life. Besides raising her own, she also cared for others. She loved sewing, gardening and

Dean Lake where she lived for many years. She is survived by her children Audrey and Roy Trainer, Merrie and Bob Endres all of Grand Rapids, Janet and Cork Milewski and Thomas and Caryn Dells all of Rockford. Glenn and Beverly Dells of Lowell, Betty Mason of Kentwood and Jerry and Linda Norton of Schoolcraft; 22 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; sister Barbara Jester of Grand Rapids; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Arthur in April of 1968. The service for Mrs. Dells was Monday at North Park Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Helen Havlik officiating. Interment in Fairplains Cemetery.

HEFFERAN - Terrance James Hefferan, aged 60, of Grand Rapids, passed away January 28, 2001. He is survived by his children: Patrick, Steven and Jennifer, all of Raleigh, NC; brothers Patrick Hefferan of Milford and Timothy Hefferan of White Lake. A memorial mass was held Saturday at St. Patrick's Church, Rev. Ron Hutchinson Celebrant. Interment St. Patrick Cemetery.

HOMOLKA - Milton Melvin Homolka, of Grand Rapids, formerly of Lowell, died after a brief and courageous battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his parents Mary and James, and brother Kenneth Homolka. He was a longtime administrator at the Kelloggsville school system. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Beverly (nee Loizzi); children Gay Lyn (Robert) Pfaller and their children Jeffrey, Brian and Mariana Vieira; Joy Lyn Homolka; Scott K. (Sue) Homolka and their children Anthony and Lauren; Mark Allen Homolka and Lynn Ann Homolka and Maddie. Funeral services were held Saturday at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Rev. Gordie Barry of the First United Methodist

Church of Lowell officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice Unit at Breton Manor, 2589 44th St., Kentwood, MI 49512, American Cancer Society, 400 Ann N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504 or Paws with a Cause, 4646 Division St., Moline, MI 49348.

ROGERS - William Harris Rogers, aged 77, of Lowell, born February 3, 1923 in Meauwataka, MI, passed away February 2, 2001. He was preceded in death by his parents Carroll and Bertha Rogers. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Verna; children Charles Rogers of Jackson, MI, Della Jane (Rev. Charles) Keyworth of Midland; stepson Richard (Sheila) McClish of Grand Rapids; grandchildren Rebecca and David Keyworth, Helen (James) Medina, James and

Austin McClish; great-granddaughter Ashley Medina; brother Joseph (Theresa) Rogers of Wyoming; sisters Marie Raines of Walker, Caroline (Joseph) Loney of Grawn, MI, Della Norgan of Missouri; sisters-in-law Loretta Gnivicki, Barbara Williams both of Indiana, Mary (Paul) Ridenour of Florida; brothers-in-law Dennis (Betty) Smith of California, Richard (Marge) Smith, Ben (Gloria) Smith all of Indiana; also several nieces and nephews. Mr. Rogers worked for the Corrections Department State of Michigan for 24 years and also was a farmer. Funeral service was held Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Rev. Keith McIver officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial may be made to Schneider Manor.

The Lowell Ledger

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MOVIE GUIDE

SHOWS GOOD 272 - 278

9:30 VALENTINE (R)
12:30 2-40, 4:45, 7:10, 9:20
12:00 2-20, 4:35, 7:00, 9:10
9:30 SUGAR & SPICE (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 4:55, 7:30, 9:50
TRAFFIC (R) 6:40, 9:30
EMPERORS NEW GROOVE (G)
12:45, 2:30, 5:00
SAVE THE LAST DANCE (PG-13)
12:15, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40

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COLLEGE NEWS

Central Michigan University's fall semester honors list includes students from the Lowell area who earned 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and higher grade point averages. Students from the area included: **Melissa M. Bowen, Jessica A. Garber, Jessica L. Koozman, Elizabeth A. Krebill and Casey L. Parker** of Lowell; **Heather M. Halbeisen** of Ada and **Lillian**

R. Hawkins of Alto. In all, 3,741 CMU students were named to the honors list. About 18,400 students attend CMU in Mount Pleasant.

For the fall semester, 740 freshmen, 795 sophomores, 916 juniors and 1,290 seniors were named to the honors list. The fall semester ended in December.

Approximately 6,700 students from Michigan State University earned a 3.5 or better grade point average for fall semester 2000. **Jeffrey Pfaller** from Lowell was inadvertently left off the list of students from last week's Lowell Ledger. He is a sophomore majoring in advertising and the son of Robert and Gay Pfaller of Lowell.

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Historic barn razed, to be recreated again with original siding

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

An aging structure and heavy snow fell on a trio of barns, owned by Towers, in the Fallsburg Historical Village.

A heavy December snow caused the roof of the middle barn to collapse. O.E. Bieri was hired to take down the entire barn with instructions to save the siding to be reused when a replica is created.

A cleanup party will gather on Feb. 24 to sort out the wood that can be reused.

Fallsburg patrons may recall that the covered bridge was recreated back in 1995-96 using wood from the original bridge.

Priscilla Lussmyer, Fallsburg Historical Society vice president, said the barn may have been moved to its current location in 1938. "We're just not sure," she explained. The barns were owned and used by two-three generations of Towers.

"Back in the '20s and '30s the Towers were famous for growing watermelons," Lussmyer explains. "We believe they also kept cows because there are still stanchions in the barns."

The two barns still standing are currently used for storage. Eventually, after the third barn is recreated, the Fallsburg Historical Society would like the barns to represent a demonstration of 19th century farming. "Use them for hay, cattle and other farming related activities. Maybe even to store watermelons," Lussmyer said.

The reconstruction may be completed via an old barn-



Fallsburg Historical Society president, Kerry Schubach is hopeful the reconstruction of the historic barn can be completed within a year.

razing event. The historical society is looking to garner financial support locally and from outside the community for the project.

"We will need funds to purchase new lumber. We will also need the manpower for construction and people with knowledge of how the old barns were built," said Kerry Schubach, president of the Fallsburg Historical Society.

"Ultimately, it will be up to the board when the barn is rebuilt and what it is used for, but I'm pushing to see it get done within a year," Schubach said.

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NOTICE OF PATENTED LAND

Notice is hereby given that the following described "Land" has been lawfully patented and is now being updated and has been filed with the Kent County Register of Deeds:

Part of the South 1/2 of the N.E. 1/4 of Section 22, Town 9 North, Range 9 West, Oakfield Township, Kent County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the East Section line distant 166.50 feet N.00°18'04"W from the East 1/4 corner of said Section 22 and extending thence N.81°50'W. 675.06 feet and N.64°46'W. 300.00 feet and N.28°54'W. 285.00 feet and N.53°07'20"W. 172.00 feet and N.80°43'20"W. 142.33 feet along the centerline of an existing roadway and easement to parcels to the West, thence N.29°32'45"E. 510.19 feet, thence S.42°30'30"E. 282.76 feet and 241.41 feet along a curve to the left (Radius = 424.40 feet) whose long chord bears S.58°48'35"E. 238.17 feet and S.75°06'E. 730.83 feet along the centerline of Podunk Road, thence S.00°18'04"E. along said East Section line (Lincoln Lake Road) to the point of beginning and containing 16.03 acres of land.

This "Land" is owned by Mary-Jane: David who is the last assign in the title chain. Anyone having a claim on the above described "Land" must make a valid lawful claim within (30) thirty days from the date of this notice or forever preclude any claim in the future.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING
7:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2001
BOWNE TOWNSHIP HALL 8240 ALDEN NASH SE

At which time and place the following request will be heard:

James Ken Jones of 9610 Bergy Avenue has made application for variance of Article 3.02 (B) to construct an addition to an accessory structure in front of the front line of the home.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and address to: Gloria King, Bowne Township ZBA, P.O. Box 35, Alto, MI 49302

NOTICE OF PATENTED LAND

Notice is hereby given that the following described "Land" has been lawfully patented and is now being updated and has been filed with the Kent County Register of Deeds:

All that part of Government Lots 1 and 2, Section 11, Town 9 North, Range 9 West, described as: Commencing at the intersection of the centerline of Stacey Street with the East line of the West 21.5 acres of Government Lot 1 and the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 11, thence North 72 degrees 16 minutes West 460 feet on the centerline of Stacey Street; thence North 17 degrees 44 minutes East 210 feet; thence South 86 degrees 51 minutes East 374.8 feet to the said East line of the West 21.5 acres; thence South 320 feet to the place of beginning.

This "Land" is owned by Donald-Gene: Kraus who is the last assign in the title chain. Anyone having a claim on the above described "Land" must make a valid lawful claim within (30) thirty days from the date of this notice or forever preclude any claim in the future.

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Pastor Joe Fremer Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Did you ever notice how people tend to think in terms of decades? Radio stations cater to niche audiences - those who prefer '60s rock and roll turn up their noses at the stations that offer music from the '80s. There recently has been a '70s nostalgia surge, with TV shows and movies cashing in on the fad. I guess that means it takes 25 years for people to begin to romanticize the past.

What do you suppose we will call this decade, 25 years from now? The "double-oughts?" The "Y2Ks?" (I hear British newspapers are

calling it "The Noughties.") What moniker will Tom Wolfe coin for it? He was dead on when he called the '70s "The Me Decade" and the '80s "The Designer Decade." Trends and fads and newsworthy events get partitioned up into 10-year slices and put in their appropriate historical bin.

Our subjective perception of the passing of the years limits our ability to judge those years objectively. We tend to glorimize the past as we get older. It feels to us as though life in the present never quite reaches the high-water mark set back in "the good old days." If we want to get an objective perspective on time, we must turn to the objective truth of God's Word. Psalm 90 has a lot to say on the passage of time. Listen: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. Everlasting! What a

concept! How different from the life of man, which is but a blink: You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. And the difference between God's everlasting nature and our transitory blip leads the Psalmist to pray: Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

First Corinthians 1:24 calls Jesus the Crucified One "the power of God and the wisdom of God." His execution by a particularly humiliating method looks like failure, like a blunder caused by stupidity; but God's Word calls it power and wisdom, the kind of wisdom that can change our hearts and teach us to number our days.

I don't have a life calculator that can tell you how many days you have left. But I can point you to Jesus, the crucified Son of God, who can show you how to make each day count. He is victorious over the numbering of His own days, and offers you victory over the limitations of earthly life. He says from His immortal perspective, outside of the limits of our time: "Behold, I am making everything new!"

School Menus

Week of 2/12 - 2/16

ELEMENTARY

*Chef's Salad & Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich are offered daily as lunch options.

* Lunch: \$1.35 * Milk: 30c

MON: Mini corn dogs or dinosaur pasta & franks, cranberry bread, blueberries & cream, golden corn.

TUES: Chili or crispy chicken drumstick, toasted cheese bread, pears, carrot slices.

WED: Pancake dippers or cereal choice, scrambled eggs, apple juice, hash brown wedge.

THURS: Cheesy pizza or pretzel dunkers & cheese sauce, veggies & buttermilk dip, peaches, pudding.

FRI: Mid-Winter Break - no school.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

*Chef's Salad & Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich are offered daily as lunch options.

* Lunch: \$1.50 * Milk: 30c

MON: Meatball sub sandwich or mini corn dogs, cinnamon apples, vegetable choice.

TUES: Chicken parmesan on bun or chili w/2 soft pretzels, pears, carrot slices, pudding.

WED: Chicken nuggets or turkey gravy, biscuit, dried fruit, whipped potatoes.

THURS: Mexican Bar: Beef or chicken taco meat, crunchy shells, soft shells, pitas, cheese, tomatoes, lettuce, black olives, onions, refried beans, rice, peaches.

FRI: Mid-Winter Break - no school.

Liturgical dance program scheduled for "Series for Performing Arts"

Lowell United Methodist Church will present Neva James in a program of liturgical dance as part of the church's "Series for Performing Arts" on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 3 p.m.

James received her formal dance training in New York City at the world-renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. She has performed with touring companies on the east coast, and was selected to dance in TV productions of the poet Ntozake Shange's Broadway hit play, "For Colored Girls who have considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuff."

James has served as an instructor and choreographer for the Indiana University Northwest Dance Company, and has taught in various dance programs in New York, Indiana, Chicago and Michigan.

Her appearance at Lowell will present dance and interpretation of dance as a gift of God and the ways dance can present the action of God. She will explore Bible and theology



Neva James

as they present dance and how it can be presented in the worship setting.

Establishing a dance and drama workshop for inner-city teens, James uses the performing arts to offer positive alternative activities for young people. She created an after-school dance program for the Brookside Elementary School in Grand Rapids as well as taught dance at the School of Grand Rapids Ballet for the Steps in New Direction outreach program.

In the fall of 1999, she began working with Master Art Theatre in Jenison where she performs with the traveling troupe as a featured dancer as well as serves as a workshop instructor and choreographer. Currently she is on staff at the Civic Center, School of Theatre Arts dance program in Grand Rapids.

This concert is open to the public. A free-will offering will be received and refreshments will be served following the program.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 8: Clare Krebs, Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse.

FEBRUARY 9: Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Inga Weeks, Noah Newhouse, Allee Brenk, David Potter, "AJ" Alvin Davis Brenk II, Adrian Sterzick, Brady Foster.

FEBRUARY 10: Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.

FEBRUARY 11: Gladys Thorne.

FEBRUARY 12: Peg Stanford, Kurt Roudabush, Travis Bergy.

FEBRUARY 13: Deb Heydenburg, Emily Gerard.

FEBRUARY 14: Heather Claypool, Carol Leyman, Gerri Ellison, Scott Treglia, Clyde Newell.

FEBRUARY 15: Richard

Korb, Eric Kimble.

FEBRUARY 11: Gladys Thorne.

FEBRUARY 12: Peg Stanford, Kurt Roudabush, Travis Bergy.

FEBRUARY 13: Deb Heydenburg, Emily Gerard.

FEBRUARY 14: Heather Claypool, Carol Leyman, Gerri Ellison, Scott Treglia, Clyde Newell.

FEBRUARY 15: Richard

Korb, Eric Kimble.

FREE TEEN CONCERT "Caution" Moose Rec. Hall 1320 E. Main St. February 11, 2001 • 1 to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Women of the Moose Will be adult supervised



Wedding rings were first worn by the Romans and were made of iron.

Viewpoint . . .



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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL FEB. 2, 1876 THIS ISSUE IS MISSING.

WE SUBSTITUTE FEB. 1, 1871 C.C. Comstock of Grand Rapids is turning out sap buckets at the rate of \$1,000 worth a day.

Miss Mathilde Wright has been talking "Woman's Rights" in various places since her visit here, and the papers give her creditable mention.

Prof. Winchell of the State Geological Survey says that a bed of the best coal discovered in Michigan underlies the Ionia sandstone and could be exploited.

N.C. Johnson writes to say that he gets ten cents a bushel more for corn and potatoes in Grand Rapids than he gets in Lowell, and wonders if Lowell could get that business by paying more.

Republican soldiers meeting in Grand Rapids approve nominating a soldier candidate for Congress and appoint a search committee.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEB. 7, 1901 The Ledger voting contest this week has Miss Ella Wiley with the high 260 votes. There's a long list of single-digit votes (down to 1), plus one candidate dropped at her request and one ineligible.

"Bands No. 1 and 2 of the Baptist Church will serve a corn supper next Wednesday. See bill of fare and select in what form you will have your corn served." "He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessings shall be on the head of him that seeth it." Prov. 11-26. Supper 15c".

"Correspondents should know that to say So and So 'Sundayed' at such a place is no more correct than to say 'Saturdayed' or 'Wednesdayed'."

Village council tells the Marshal to notify JC Train to remove his logs from Broadway north of the railroad tracks, right now.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO FEB. 4, 1926

Besides the Lowell-M-44 stretch of Lincoln Lake Road, the County Road Commission also plans to connect Parnell with Lincoln Lake, through a swamp 1000 feet wide and 40 feet deep; and a reinforced-concrete bridge over the Thornapple River.

The Strand Theatre will play Zane Grey's "The Thundering Herd," complete with stampeding buffalo and a thousand blood-thirsty Indians.

The new dust arrester at Superior Furniture factory works just fine; the first "dust" is John Roughley's hat.

Pres. Coolidge asks Congress for more money to pay farmers whose cattle are slaughtered in the battle against bovine tuberculosis.

The Klan cashier tells a federal court there are five million members of the Ku Klux Klan in the U.S. and possessions.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEB. 8, 1951 Last December's record-breaking number of accidents in the state: 18,529, an average of 590 per day.

The editor bemoans old-fashioned letter-writing, now that we have typewriters, ball-point pens and ready-made greeting cards.

Michigan has fewer and larger farms than five years ago. Classes in first aid and home nursing, and civil defense committees appointed for schools, are the latest Korean War home front activities.

Twenty-five percent of Showboat earnings, and money from the Lee Fund, will finance the new building at Recreation Park for 4-H and youth recreation. E.C. Foreman chairs the committee.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 1976

Monday's below-zero temperatures result in many cars not being able to start.

Aero Liquid Transit tankers have been stored in their West Main garage, violating five city ordinances. The city has taken action.

Michigan's first "State Close Up," a study program for high school juniors and seniors visiting the state capitol for a day, is a first in the nation also. It is being closely observed by other states. Tom Stahr and Jack Kempker accompany the group to Lansing.

The number of traffic accidents in the city during January sets a new record (28).

State Representative Martin D. Buth says that canning companies have insured that the canning lid shortages of last year will not happen again this year.

To The Editor

To the Editor, Since I never owned a pair of bells, sported long hair, or smoked weed, I was never really grooved into the '70s. But ah, I feel young again. America has a second energy crisis in less than thirty years.

To be a fly on the wall when the city of Lowell has to pay

its electric bill. As I wander Main Street at night in search of a bar from which I have not been banned, my gaze looks upward. There I see the new, improved light fixtures, twice as many luminaries as necessary per standard, each of an elegant design in the best tradition of the 1920s - hurling hundreds of lumens at elevations above even the horizontal. That is, to repeat, per the individual luminary.

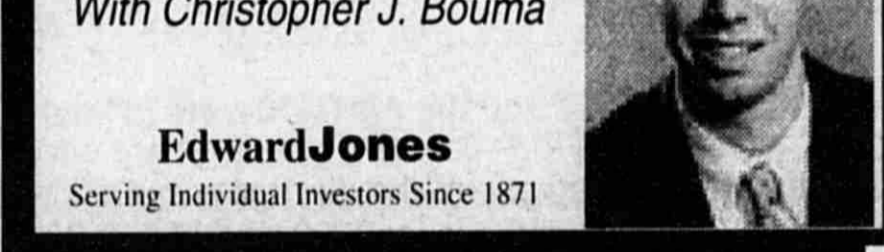
Once again we sweat energy. Cannot imagine why. G.M. Ross - Lowell Township

Sharing The Vision PETER L. GUSTAFSON Lowell Board of Education President

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Table listing various churches and their services, including First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Evergreen Missionary Church, Christian Life Center, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Apostolic Lighthouse, Lowell Church of the Nazarene, First Baptist Church of Lowell, Alton Bible Church, and First Congregational Church of Lowell.

Financial Focus



With Christopher J. Bouma Edward Jones Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR 401(K)'S "PORTABILITY"

When you change jobs, you'll have a big financial decision to make: What should you do with your 401(k)? If you're like many people, this will be the biggest lump sum you'll ever have access to. And because your 401(k) is "portable," you can take it with you when you change jobs. Actually, you have several options. You can move the money into an IRA. You may be able to roll it over to your new employer's 401(k). You may even be able to leave it in your former employer's plan.

All these choices will allow you to continue benefiting from your 401(k)'s best feature: tax-deferred growth of earnings. When your money grows on a tax-deferred basis, you pay no taxes on your earnings until you begin making withdrawals. This means your money will grow much faster than it would if you paid taxes on the earnings each year.

Let's look at an example of how your money will grow if

you keep it in a tax-deferred account. Suppose you have saved \$10,000 in your 401(k). If you just leave it alone, without making any further contributions, it will grow to \$100,627 after 30 years, assuming an 8 percent annual rate of return.

Now let's see what would happen if you decide to liquidate your 401(k) when you leave your job. If you were to make this choice, you'd have plenty of company. Some 78 percent of 401(k) participants ages 20 to 29 choose to cash out their 401(k)s when they change jobs, according to the Hewitt 401(k) Rollover Distribution Analysis, a 1999 study conducted by Hewitt Associates, a benefits consulting firm. The same study notes that 66 percent of 30- to 39-year-olds also follow the "cashout" route, as do 60 percent of the 50-to-59 age cohort.

We've already seen how much your money can grow in a tax-deferred account. If you cash out your 401(k), you will lose this tremendous compounding power. And there are other reasons why it may not be a good idea to "take the money and run." For starters, if you're not yet 59-1/2, you may have to pay a 10 percent penalty tax for early withdrawal. Then, you'll owe federal and state taxes on the amount withdrawn from your 401(k). By the time you do all the subtraction, your 401(k) won't look nearly as juicy as it did when you first contemplated cashing it out.

But what if you really need the money? If you look around, you may find some attractive alternatives. For instance, you may be able to borrow from your 401(k). Or you might want to consider a tax-deductible home equity loan.

Try to do whatever you can to preserve your 401(k). Remember, it's designed to help you pay for a comfortable retirement - and that's a goal worth pursuing.

Letters, Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed one written page or one typed, double-spaced page. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.



CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of **TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2001.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Blough and the Clerk called Roll.

Present: Councilmembers Brubaker, Green, Myers, Shores and Mayor Blough.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, City Treasurer Suzanne Olin, Finance/Investment Officer Charlene McNab, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Fire Chief Frank Martin and Planning Commissioner James Pfaller.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2001 regular meeting as written.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (01/16/01)

GENERAL FUND	\$111,340.96
MAJOR STREET FUND	\$1,272.92
LOCAL STREET FUND	\$34.92
DDA FUND	\$6,939.99
AIRPORT FUND	\$16.53
WASTEWATER FUND	\$258.40
WATER FUND	\$604.90
EQUIPMENT FUND	\$30,288.73
INVESTMENT FUND	\$8.00
CURRENT TAX FUND	\$127,042.60

Item #1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - 2001-2002 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS - PUBLIC HEARING.

As mentioned at the last meeting, Kent County has informed the City an estimated \$25,881.97 in Federal Community Development Block Grant funds is available for various community projects beginning July 1, 2001. In reviewing the proposed projects and having discussions with Tom Tillma of the Kent County Community Development, there is the option of spending to \$40,000 for this coming year.

The following projects were proposed:

- Bowses Road Sidewalk southside from S. Hudson to Pleasant (1180 lineal feet to complete all walks extending to Valley Vista)
 - CDBG - \$21,000
 - Also \$3,750 allocated From Sidewalks budget In General Fund (total: \$24,750)
- North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders
 - CDBG - \$4,000
- Graham Building - assistance for barrier free accessibility
 - \$15,000
 - \$40,000

Jim Pfaller, of 888 Bowses Road, was in favor of installing sidewalks on the south side of Bowses Road. However, he believed there was an error in the proposal. Pfaller thought if the sidewalks continue to Pleasant Street, there would be a portion between Center and West Streets which would be without a sidewalk as well as a part from Pleasant to Center Streets. He also suggested a maintenance schedule for the sidewalks be established for snow removal.

Public Works Director Dan DesJarden noted a portion of Bowses from Pleasant Street to West Street will be upgraded. During this time, a sidewalk will be installed on both sides. From West Street to Valley Vista Drive, on the north side of Bowses Road, a sidewalk will be constructed

using DDA funds. In the future, the City would wish to continue sidewalk down the remaining length of Bowses Road.

Jim Doyle, President of Lowell Area Historical Museum, referred to the item mentioned by Pasquale concerning the Graham Building and the accessibility to the bathroom. He stated he was in support of this funding. Doyle mentioned Lowell Township has also received these Block Grant Monies from the County and has allocated funds for the project. There are a number of items which will be presented to the Council in the future regarding the Graham Building. He was hopeful the funds could be used for other projects, if these are not used for the handicapped bathrooms.

Councilmember Green questioned if there was a way to amend the spending of funds for other projects. Pasquale responded since the building is on the National Register of Historic Places, there is more latitude in terms of providing improvements for the building. Pasquale suggested the Council approve the project and then have the Museum Association review and consider other uses of the funds.

Councilmember Brubaker suggested the phrase "assistance for barrier free accessibility" be stricken and designate \$15,000 for the Graham Building.

Councilmember Myers questioned where the handicapped access would be located. Doyle responded on the back of the building.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BRUBAKER that the Community Development Block Grant funds for 2001-2002 be allocated as follows: (1) Bowses Road sidewalk southside from S. Hudson to Pleasant approximately 1180 lineal feet be allocated in the amount of \$21,000; (2) North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders in the amount of \$4,000; (3) Funds marked for the Graham Building in the amount of \$15,000.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. PROCLAMATION WELCOMING METRO HEALTH LOWELL PLAZA.

The Metro Health Plaza building at the southeast corner of West Main and Bowses has been completed. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. On behalf of the City Council, Mayor Blough wished to place before the Council, for its approval, the following proclamation:

Metro Health Lowell Plaza Dedication
January 25, 2001

Whereas, the primary care physicians of Lowell Family Medical Center have served the community and are joining together with Metropolitan Hospital to provide patients with maximum convenience and service where they live.

Whereas, Metro Health Lowell Plaza is located in the City of Lowell and provides comprehensive health care services in this community.

Whereas, Metro Health Lowell Plaza is dedicated to putting patients' needs first simplifying health care and making prevention and treatment easily available in our community.

I, now therefore, Michael K. Blough, Mayor on behalf of the City of Lowell, Council and citizens of the City of Lowell, welcome Metro Health Lowell Plaza, as a member of the community of Lowell, Michigan on this day, Thursday, January 25, 2001.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve the proclamation welcoming Metro Health Lowell Plaza into the Lowell Community.

Councilmember Myers questioned if the request was originated by the City or Metro Health Lowell Plaza. Blough responded by Metro Health. He believed this represented a great commitment to build within the City of Lowell. The organization worked very hard with the Planning Commission in order to meet the site plan requirements. This is a great west gate for the City.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Item #3. 1999 - 2000 CITY AUDIT PRESENTATION.

Tom Dickinson and Joe Turnes of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson presented the firm's findings on last year's accounts and records.

On behalf of Tom Dickinson and himself, Joe Turnes thanked the Council for allowing them to serve as auditors for the City.

Turnes noted the financial statements for Light and Power and Cable TV would be presented at the February 20, 2001 Council meeting.

Turnes also stated the City used a new software system this year through Creative Microsystems Inc. (CMI). As the auditors, they did not notice any difference in the quality of information provided. He believed this new software has helped the City greatly.

Turnes noted the accounting records and stated these continue to be in excellent condition. City Treasurer Suzanne Olin and Finance Director/Investment Officer Charlene McNab continue to do an excellent job. As auditors, they are the best seen and should be recognized and commended for the good job they do for the City.

Turnes referred to the Table of Contents in the packet provided. He noted the financial statements are in two separate areas: General Purpose Financial Statements and Supplemental Information. The General Purpose Financial Statements are the consolidated information for the City while the Supplemental Information is more detailed.

Turnes referred to the Independent Auditor's Report. He noted the second sentence in the first paragraph states the financial statements are the responsibility of the City of Lowell. These are the City's financial statements and it is their responsibility to express an opinion on the statements.

The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Turnes explained they did not test every transaction of the City. A sample of transactions were tested and the internal controls of the City reviewed.

In the auditor's opinion, the general-purpose financial statement referred to above, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Lowell. This is considered an unqualified opinion. An unqualified opinion is the highest opinion auditors can give the City. This is considered a clean opinion.

The report is in compliance with and has been forwarded to the State of Michigan. It is also in compliance with federal guidelines.

General Fund

The General Fund represents the day to day operations of the City. The total revenue for 2000 was \$1,933,000, while the total revenue for 1999 was \$1,871,000, providing a \$61,000 increase.

The total expenditures for 2000 were \$2,000,000 compared to \$1,830,000 for 1999. This was a \$170,000 increase in expenditures.

The net income or loss for the year 2000 was \$92,000. In 1999, there was a \$35,000 gain. When reviewing the \$92,000 loss, it may appear to be a substantial amount, but it should be compared with the budgeted loss of \$192,000. This means the City did \$100,000 better than what it was budgeted to do. Turnes explained the \$92,000 loss and stated the fund balance at the beginning of the year was \$733,000. Therefore, the fund balance at the end of the year was \$641,000, which is well within the guidelines of a City this size.

Councilmember Green thanked the Finance Department.

Dickinson noted Olin had mentioned previously that the DDA had been audited by the State. The record keeping was found to be impeccable. Olin noted the years audited were between 1994 and 1999.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by MYERS to accept the 1999-2000 City Audit.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.



Toys from Youth... for Youth

County Line 4-H members used a skating party to collect toys for the needy. The toys were delivered to the Flat River Outreach Ministries for distribution. Members who brought a toy with them got into the skating party at Roll Away Family Fun Center for free. Joining the County Line 4-H group were members of the Alto Achievers Club. County Line 4-H leader Pat Mager and club president Teresa Leasure coordinated the event.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Item #4. STRIKING OF DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES.

City Treasurer Sue Olin requested that a business' 1995 personal property taxes in part be stricken. As noted in Olin's memo, a business has moved out of the City and the matter was turned over to a collection agency. After much persistence, the owner agreed to a payment plan. The balance remaining is due to the collection agency keeping 50%. The City's portion loss is \$185.24.

Pasquale explained the 50% level is because of the length of time it took for collections. The shorter the period of time, the less it is.

Pasquale recommended the City strike these taxes.

Councilmember Myers questioned if the company has made any payments on the proposed plan. Olin responded the payment was made in full to the collection agency.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to strike \$185.24 from the 1995 Personal Property Tax Rolls as proposed.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Item #5. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT FOR A LIFT STATION FROM MAPLEWOOD SQUARE DEVELOPERS.

As mentioned to the Council previously, the existing sanitary sewer lift station located on the south side of Sibley near Ridgeview has no easement for access. In order to correct this situation, an easement has been prepared for further construction, operation, maintenance and/or replacement of the lift station on a 30' X 35' parcel. Michael Nosko, as a member of Maplewood Square Developers, the owner of the property, has signed the document.

Pasquale recommended the Council adopt the resolution accepting the easement.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to accept the resolution concerning a public utility easement for a lift station near the intersection of Sibley and Ridgeview from Maplewood Square Developers.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Item #6. PURCHASE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT WATER RESCUE VEHICLE AND PRESENTATION REGARDING A NEW TANKER.

Fire Chief Frank Martin explained the department has a 1981 Ford ambulance, which was purchased by the Police Department several years ago and is very unreliable. Michigan First Response has a truck the company wishes to sell with 35,000 miles. Martin noted the vehicle is seven years old. The trade magazines list the same type of vehicle for \$15,000 to \$18,000. City Mechanic Tom Hartman has inspected the truck and believes it is well worth the money.

Martin stated monies have been sought from the Look Memorial Fund. Lowell and Vergennes Townships will also be paying one-third of the remaining amount of the vehicle. He believed the City of Lowell would have to invest approximately \$1,000.

Councilmember Shores believed the purchase had been well researched and had faith in Hartman.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the purchase of a 1993 Ford 350 E Body from Michigan First Response for a Fire Department Water Rescue Vehicle not to exceed \$4,833.33.

YEA: 5.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Martin stated the Department has a 1979 International tanker and believed it was time to replace it. In 1979 the Department paid approximately \$50,000 for it new. Today, the same truck will cost approximately \$200,000 to \$270,000 depending on what extra safety features are on the truck. The Department can seek funds from different areas. Martin was unsure of what would be available from the Federal Emergency Management Fund.

Martin also mentioned the possibility of leasing such a vehicle. A company from Florida has a lease program for 8 years. The first payment is not due for one year after delivery of the truck is received. He suggested the next 8 years of payments be budgeted and split among the three jurisdictions of the government. Martin suggested John Denhof from the Kent County Purchasing Department write the specifications on the truck and then seek bids.

Martin also noted because the Department is a member of the Fire Commission, a new truck would be delivered in 2004. This will replace the 1984 vehicle.

By General Consensus, the Council agreed that Martin should proceed further to investigate funding potential and continue the planning process.

Item #7. MONTHLY REPORTS.

No comments were received.

Item #8. CITIZEN COMMENTS. Jim Pfaller, 888 Bowses Road, commented on the ice rink at Richards Park. He appreciated the work being done on it. City Manager Pasquale noted Ron Wenger, Perry Beachum, Public Works Department and Bruce Walter have all contributed to the rink.

Item #9. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Brubaker attended the meeting of the Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Board. Additional lighting for the skating rink was mentioned.

Brubaker questioned the Lee Fund. Councilmember Green responded Solomon Lee was a Doctor in Lowell years ago and bequeathed an amount of money to the City. He explained the interest from the fund is allowed to be spent for recreational purposes. The Parks and Recreation Commission reviews the fund every year.

Brubaker noted a representative from Light and Power would be attending the next Parks and Recreation meeting concerning the lighting at Richards Park and a substation site.

Councilmember Green commented on the article in the community news of the East Press last week. The Recreation Committee, which consists of the City, Lowell and Vergennes Townships and Lowell Schools, have been working on a combination path consisting of hiking and biking. This would be something to tie the surrounding communities together. Green noted he was unable to attend the December Parks and Recreation meeting so was unsure of the details.

Mayor Blough requested City staff investigate the sidewalk construction program of the City of Grand Rapids. He believed the construction started at the time a parcel of property is to be sold as a contingent or condition to selling.

Blough also asked City staff to present a way in which information or questions could be passed back and forth to City Council in an easy manner.

Item #10. MANAGER'S REPORT.

City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

1. Congratulations were given to both Suzanne Olin and Charlene McNab for an excellent audit. Both do a great job. The audit is just an indicator of the amount of work they do.

Pasquale noted there has been a very small amount of personal property taxes which must be stricken from record.

2. The following meetings minutes were provided:

- Board of Light and Power meeting of November 27, 2000
- Board of Lowell Cable Television meeting of November 27, 2000
- Airport Board meeting of December 5, 2000
- Chamber of Commerce meeting of December 19, 2000

3. The worksession with the Light and Power and Cable TV Boards and a representative from Virchow Krause is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2001, 7:00 p.m. at the Light and Power offices.

4. A copy of the Schneider Fund Annual Account was provided to each Councilmember.

Councilmember Brubaker asked when the Chamber of Commerce would have their meeting on the findings of the strategic plan. Pasquale responded January 25, 2001, 6:30 p.m.

Item #11. APPOINTMENTS.

None.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 8:31 p.m.
DATE APPROVED: Monday, February 5, 2001.

Michael K. Blough, Mayor
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk



**LOWELL WRESTLING CLUB
2ND ANNUAL YOUTH NIGHT**

All wrestling club members (kids) wearing last year's shirt will be admitted free to the LHS wrestling meet vs. Hudsonville on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. Also "new" sign ups will be admitted free.

Sign ups for the 2001 season will be taking place before the high school meet from 5-6 p.m. Cost this year is \$50 with fundraiser/\$60 without.

WE WANT TO SEE YOU AT THE CARNIVAL!

The Bushnell/Cherry Creek Carnival is just around the corner!!! Fun games and activities are planned for the event held on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 12 to 3 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary. Lunch will be served as well as other tasty treats.

ATHLETIC DEPT./ HUG-A-BEAR PROGRAM

The Lowell athletic department will work in conjunction with the "Hug-a-Bear" program at the Tuesday, Feb. 13 boys'

basketball game with Hastings. Spectators attending the game may bring a stuffed animal for admission into the game. All stuffed animals must be new or gently used. Through your donations, people in our community who are in need of something to hug following an accident or a traumatic experience will be helped.

**ROGER MacNAUGHTON
PERFORMANCE COMING TO TOWN**

The Lowell Area Arts Council is announcing a concert by Roger MacNaughton (native of Lowell) and Friends at the Lowell Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets for the adult contemporary jazz, pop and new age music concert are available at LAAC and at Family Fare in Lowell. Prices are \$5 for LAAC members, senior citizens and students; \$6 for general admission.

Also available at the performance will be MacNaughton's new CD, *Summer Dance*. For more information, contact the LAAC at 897-8545.

WATERCOLOR PAINTING WORKSHOP

The Franciscan Life Process Center will be hosting watercolor artist, Bert Boereman, for a one- and two-day class in watercolor painting that is beginner friendly on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16 and 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Cost is \$40 for one day and \$65 for both days. For more information contact John Knight at 897-7842, ext. 305.

MENTORS NEEDED FOR NEW FAMILIES

Parent-to-Parent, a volunteer parent organization that welcomes new families to Lowell Area Schools, is looking

for more members of the community to get involved with the program. Due to the increasing number of new families moving into the district, additional volunteers are needed to act as mentors to new families and to help coordinate the program in our school buildings. Time commitment is limited to 2-3 hours a month. If you are interested, please call Marcia Bieber at 897-6908 or Nancy Hopkins at 897-0056.

**HELP NEEDED FOR TU JUNIOR/
MSU SPORT FISHING EVENTS**

The Wittenbach Center is looking for adults to assist in leading a group for TU Junior/MSU sport fishing events. Next event likely in late February. Time commitment is once a month; lots of assistance and equipment are available. Call Tammy DeBaar if interested (987-1002).

**LOWELL SUMMER CONCERT
SERIES SEEKING MUSICIANS**

LAAC and LACC have teamed together to bring an outdoor summer concert series to the Greater Lowell Area. The concerts, beginning Thursday, May 31, will be on Riverwalk Plaza with musicians performing on the Showboat.

Blues, Rapp, World Music, Country & Western, Jazz and Christian are some of the music styles the organizations are in search of. If you or your group fit the bill, forward your CD/cassette and a brief bio to Lowell Area Arts Council, PO Box 53, Lowell 49331 or call 897-8545.

**U.S. Postal Inspection
office launches third
annual Consumer
Protection Week**

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Consumer Advocate's Office have joined other leading federal, state and local organizations, as well as national advocacy groups to launch the third annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW).

The U.S. Postal Service has taken this year's subject, Abuse Lending Practices, one step further and sending consumers the message, "If It Sounds Too Good To Be True." The national campaign focuses on educating consumers about mail fraud schemes as well as providing them with tools to recognize and combat fraud - no matter what the scheme. February 5-11 has been designated as the official week dedicated to promote consumer protection awareness efforts including the "top five" mail fraud schemes.

- Advance fee loans: Avoid offers for a "guaranteed" loan requiring a fee paid in advance;
 - Prizes or sweepstakes: Don't get roped into one of those "Congratulations! You're the lucky winner of one of four prizes!" After paying a processing fee, you find out that what you've won has little value, if any;
 - Charity frauds: Either your money never gets to the charity, or the charity doesn't exist; the benefactor is the swindler;
 - Failure to render merchandise or services: Ordered something by mail order or over the Internet and never received the goods? Well, the party you made the deal with in good faith has taken the money and run;
 - Employment schemes: Ever get one of these solicitations, "Thousands of High-paying Government Jobs?" Con artists bilk unsuspecting customers by charging for materials, which could have been obtained free from the hiring government agency - which may or may not have job openings.
 - "Predatory Lending," a scheme that targets those who may be financially distressed. In this scheme, consumers are told they will be provided with easy access to money. Instead, predatory lenders use high-pressure salespersons, inflated interest rates, outrageous fees, unaffordable repayment terms and harassing collection tactics to take the consumer's money, or other property used as collateral, when the loans are called in by the unscrupulous lenders.
- For more information about National Consumer Protection Week, visit the NCPW Web site at: www.consumer.gov/ncpw.

**Meijer
opening -
late May**

The Lowell Meijer store, with some design changes and additional square footage, is scheduled to open in late May. Original plans had the size of the new store at 150,000 square feet. That was scrapped in December. It will be increased by 40,000 square feet; the increase in building size will require additional parking space. Construction is going along smoothly, according to Rockford Construction's Dan Korcek. "We're currently drywalling and painting, and will start putting in floor tile this week," Korcek said. "The construction project has been real smooth thus far." The design changes deal with store layout and fixturing.

**Family Dentistry & Braces
Todd Gillan, D.D.S.**



(across from Family Fare Shopping Plaza)
2186 W. Main • Lowell

**Quality Dental Care
For You & Your Family**

- We Welcome New Patients
- Early Morning & Evening Appointments Available
- We Cater To Cowards
- Free Evaluation For Braces

897-8491

NOT A SPECIALIST

Home Delivered, cont'd... From Page 1

think I would have been as excited or felt as much joy had I not gone through the hard part or had so many people volunteer their services. I am so appreciative of everyone who has come forward and volunteered to help me."

Whaley's son Todd, unable to be there for the arrival of the house, said he felt the excitement from his work. "It was exciting to come home and see the house here. I was excited all day at work."

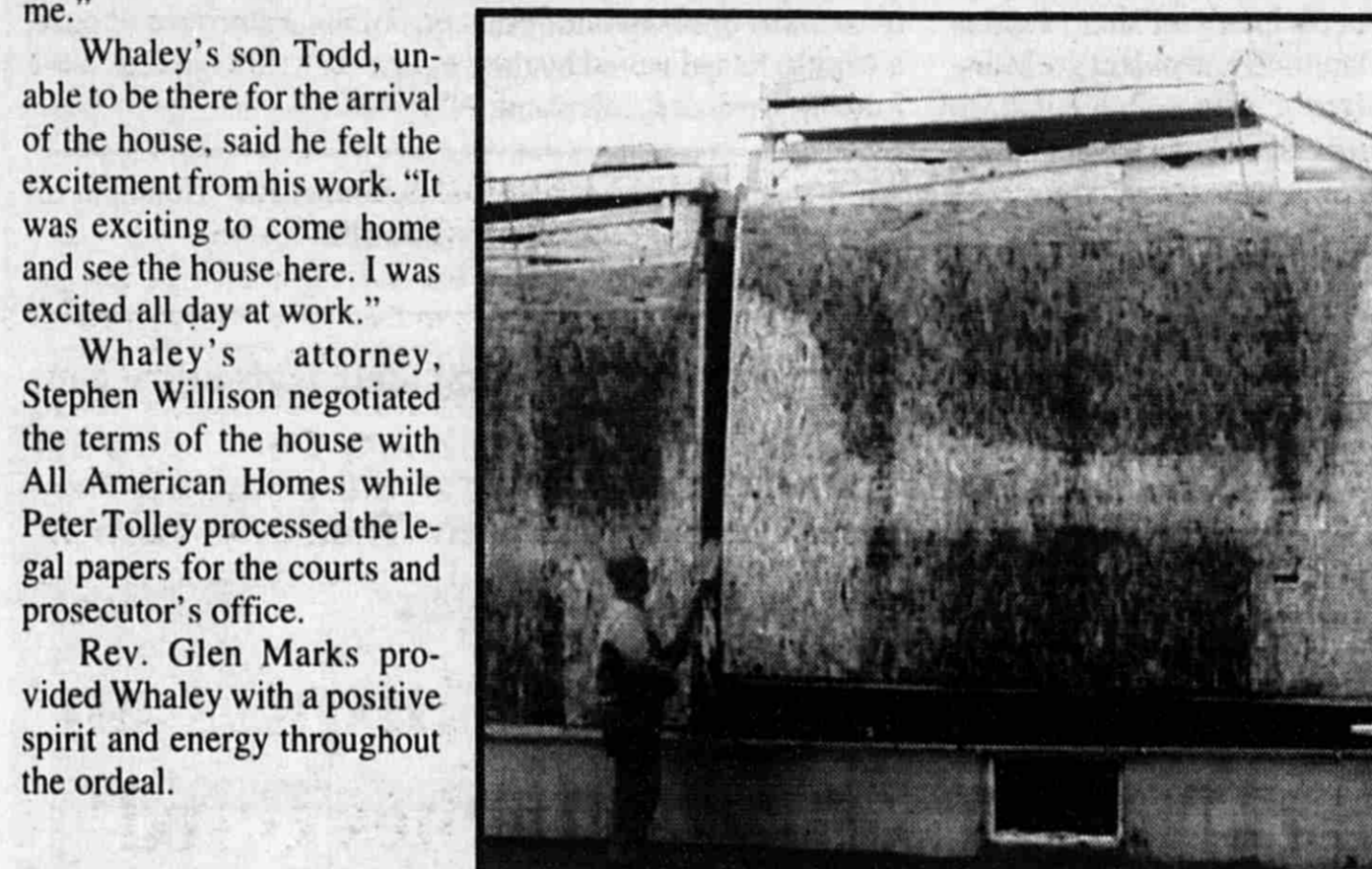
Whaley's attorney, Stephen Willison negotiated the terms of the house with All American Homes while Peter Tolley processed the legal papers for the courts and prosecutor's office.

Rev. Glen Marks provided Whaley with a positive spirit and energy throughout the ordeal.

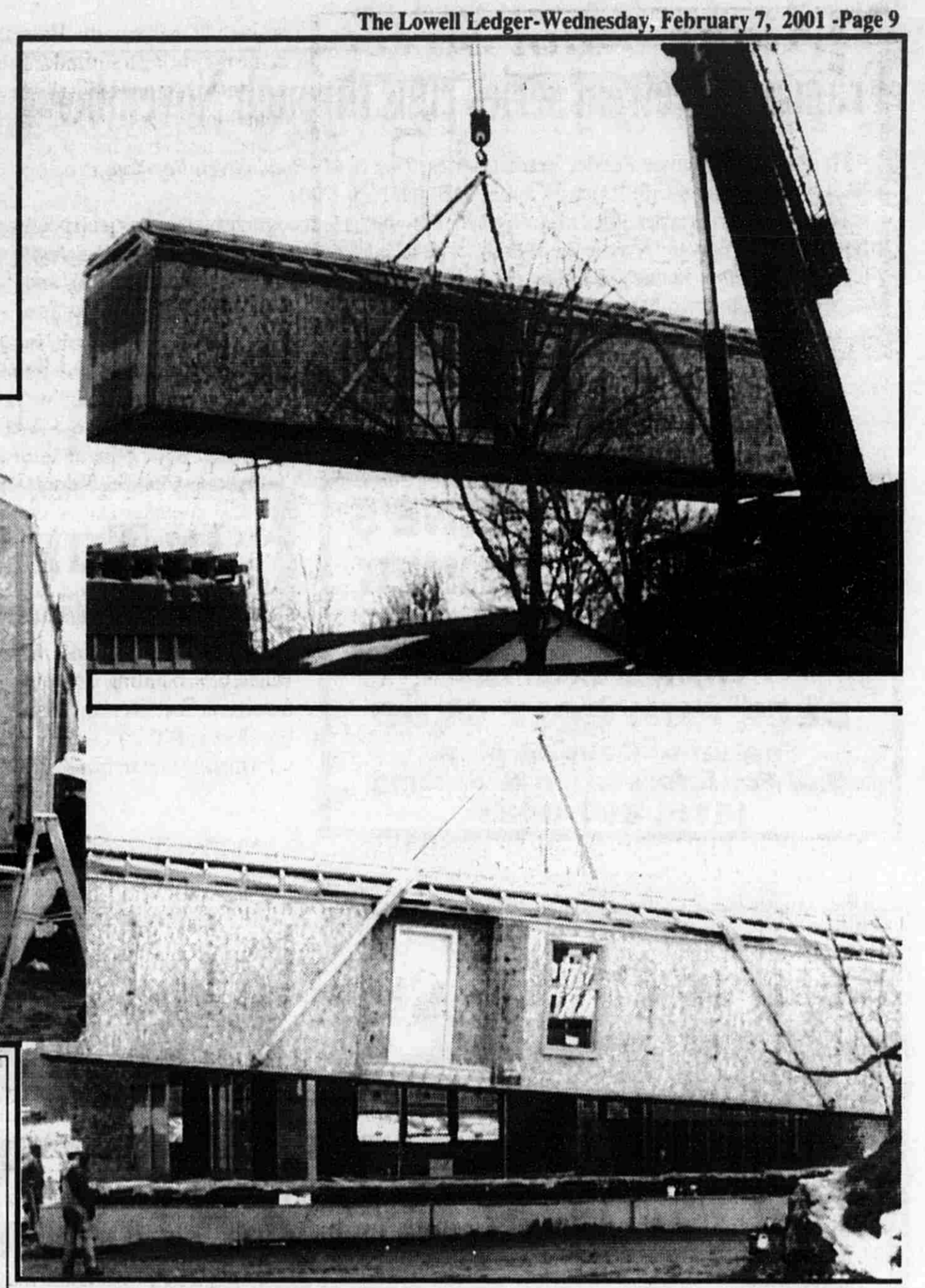
"I am in awe of Pastor Marks' drive and spirit," Erb said. "I talked to him a number of times and he was always so full of energy and positive spirit."

Marks isn't finished. Whaley is still in need of

\$15,000 to cover all her costs. Marks has set up a fund through the Evergreen Missionary Church Deacons Fund at Huntington Bank for anyone who would like to make a donation.



Sharon Whaley, second from the right, watched with friends and volunteers as her house was delivered and gently placed on its foundation.



New Facility, cont'd... From Page 1

69 percent making it their first choice or seriously considering it for a second choice.

Ideally, Welsh believes a pool should be added onto the existing Wellness Center.

An effort, within the last two years, failed to attain support for a community pool. "That effort was highly political which I think made succeeding highly difficult," Welsh explained. "The YMCA is a nonprofit organization led by a board of community volunteers."

Capital would be raised through the availability of community funds, organizations and individuals.

The Grand Rapids Metropolitan YMCA is initiating a metro-wide "Living Legacy" program with a goal of raising \$45 million over the next two-three years.

The program identifies generations of families who have been touched by the YMCA and understand its value. The funds would benefit all metro branches. Welsh said the Lowell YMCA would request \$4 million to use toward its new Y facility.

Winfield recommends a phased approach which would begin by building a small phase I facility. After it is completed and has built a membership base, it could then expand.

The Lowell area population is not yet at a critical mass which could support a facility bigger than 30,000 square feet.

An overview of the survey is available to the public upon request from the YMCA.

We Want To SEE YOU AT THE CARNIVAL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
FROM NOON TO 3:00 P.M.

Fun Games & Activities

AT CHERRY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lunch & Other Tasty Treats

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Franciscan retreat series runs through November

The Mother Rosemae Pender Retreat Series, *This Is My Body Given For You*, is being held at the Franciscan Life Process Center through Nov. 2001.

The retreat series is designed to strengthen individuals to recognize his/her particular call to holiness as the way to "rebuild the church." The schedule of retreats includes a *High School Vocation Retreat* in January, a retreat *On Human Life* in February, a separate *Women's and Men's Retreat*, both in March, a *Mother/Daughter Retreat* in October and a *Father/Son Retreat* in November.

For more information and a brochure to register, please contact the Franciscan Life Process Center at 897-7842.

Student exhibit at Huntington Bank

Fourteen students of Lowell artist and educator, David F. Davis will exhibit their artworks at Huntington National Bank, 414 E. Main St., in historic downtown Lowell from Feb. 6-March 13 during regular business hours.

The following artists are participants in this exhibition: Nancy Berg, Mary Bommarito, Nicole Craig,

John Christopher Jansen, Judy Moleski, Dan Scott, Jerri Teelander, Lerin Bommarito, Donna Boelema, Sue Gillis, Meagan Jansen, Rosalie Ripley, Alan Teelander, and Gerard Wood.

This first-time exhibit is the result of 16 weeks of intense water-media painting in a workshop sponsored by the Lowell Area Arts Council.

Most works have been painted from studio still lifes, yet others are from that precious commodity - pure imagination.

For more information on the exhibition or other workshops, contact Lorain Smalligan, director of LAAC, at 897-8545.

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IN THE SERVICE

Army Pvt. Joseph S. Woodyard has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, KY. During the training, he received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and

stepson of Ray Horsman of Lowell.

In the year 1837, the first state legislature convenes in Detroit

In the year 1914, Danny Thomas is born in Deerfield.

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City attorney: proper venue for special use appeal is circuit court

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The chances of an appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals surrounding the final determination on which wireless communication tower would be first in the city of Lowell was shot down by city attorney, Richard Wendt.

Wendt, in a letter to city manager Dave Pasquale, said the Zoning Board of Appeals board lacks jurisdiction to hear such an appeal. However, an appeal could be taken to the circuit court.

The threat of an appeal by Todd Landman surfaced after the Lowell Planning Commission approved a Bowes Road site for a special land use permit regarding the

construction of telecommunication towers based primarily on the lessened impact for residences.

Since new towers must be a mile apart at minimum, only one could be chosen. The Bowes site was chosen over Landman's (2401 W. Main).

The planning commission approved the Bowes Road site by a vote of 6-2. It denied Landman's special use request by the same count.

In his opinion to the city, Wendt cited a 1996 case where the Michigan Court of Appeals reviewed a similar question concerning an appeal to a township's Zoning Board of Appeals.

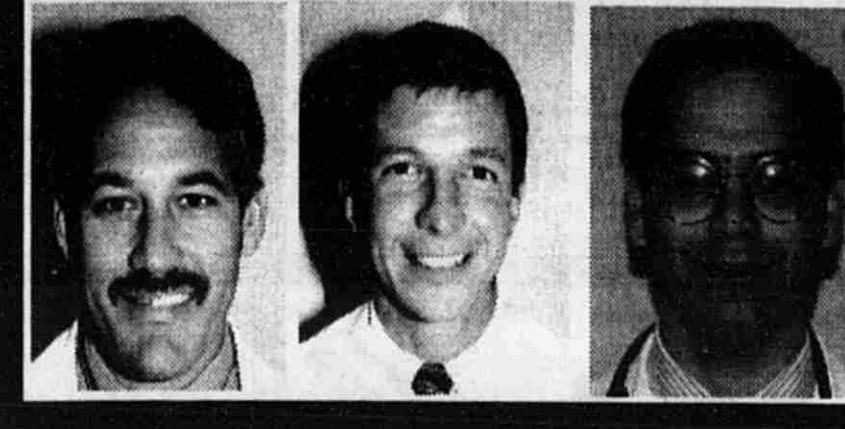
"Like the township in that case, the city of Lowell's zoning ordinance does not provide for an appeal of a denial of

a special land use permit to the board, therefore the proper venue for this type of appeal is the local circuit court," Wendt said.

American Towers is the company which proposes to construct a 250-foot monopole tower on the Fuller Septic site (2051 Bowes Rd.)

AT&T, which proposed a tower on the Landman property, also met all the requirements. However, because of citizens' comments and concerns that the Landman site would have greater impact on its surrounding area, commissioner Jim Pfaller proposed that the special use permit be denied.

Health



With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Kevin Miller

FLU SEASON

A year has passed and once again the flu has arrived in West Michigan. This year's flu has been especially anticipated because of the problems obtaining the current vaccina-

tion. Normally the vaccine is available by early to mid-October, but production covering this year's strains of influenza virus were less than anticipated. Some people through work or other community organizations were able to receive doses of the vaccine before physicians had the medicine to offer, but this was inconsistent. Regardless, the vaccine has been widely available for about six weeks. Immunity after the vaccine is confirmed in the range of 2-6 weeks after the shot is given so once the virus arrives in an area, it is less likely that the vaccination will provide protection, yet it is still recommended that people get vaccinated.

The flu this year has been characterized by the familiar symptoms of fever, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. The treatment is still to devote our efforts to avoiding dehydration. Body fluid loss is greatly accelerated by vomiting and diarrhea. The virus is cleared from the body, in part, through diarrhea, so stopping the diarrhea is not necessarily beneficial. Vomiting prevents patients from maintaining their fluid intake and therefore risks added dehydration.

Medication is available to control vomiting which intern stems the bodies fluid loss. Clear liquid is usually the mainstay of the diet during the most intense phase of the illness, but this is gradually replaced by regular meals as the vomiting subsides. A physician can assist in controlling the symptoms of the flu but limiting the disease is best achieved by getting a flu shot as early in the season as possible.

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You have the opportunity to recognize an adult, teen, child, service group, business, or organization that would be a worthy candidate for the Character in Action Award. Award winners would be recognized in the local press and would receive a certificate of recognition. Please help us recognize the everyday heroes of our community!

Please complete the following form and mail to:
Lowell Area Chamber Of Commerce
113 Riverwalk Plaza
P.O. Box 224
Lowell, MI 49331

Lowell Area Character in Action Award

Name of Candidate _____
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Character Trait(s) Exhibited: (please circle)
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Summary of why you are recommending this candidate:

Nominated by: _____
Phone: _____
Please enclose a picture, if possible. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned.

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Bryce Tulppo
Courtney Tulppo
Jessica Tulppo
Kelsey Wittenbach

Early learning program helps children get off to best start possible

*** Rhonda Delnick, Parent as Teacher coordinator, uses research-based education to improve children's readiness skills, and language and social skills.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Parents as Teachers is a springboard to better, brighter futures for children ages birth to three years.

"Studies show that this national program, with a researched-based education, makes a tremendous difference in a child's development," said Kathy Cole, a certified Parent as Teacher and supervisor to Lowell's first-year program. "Anyone

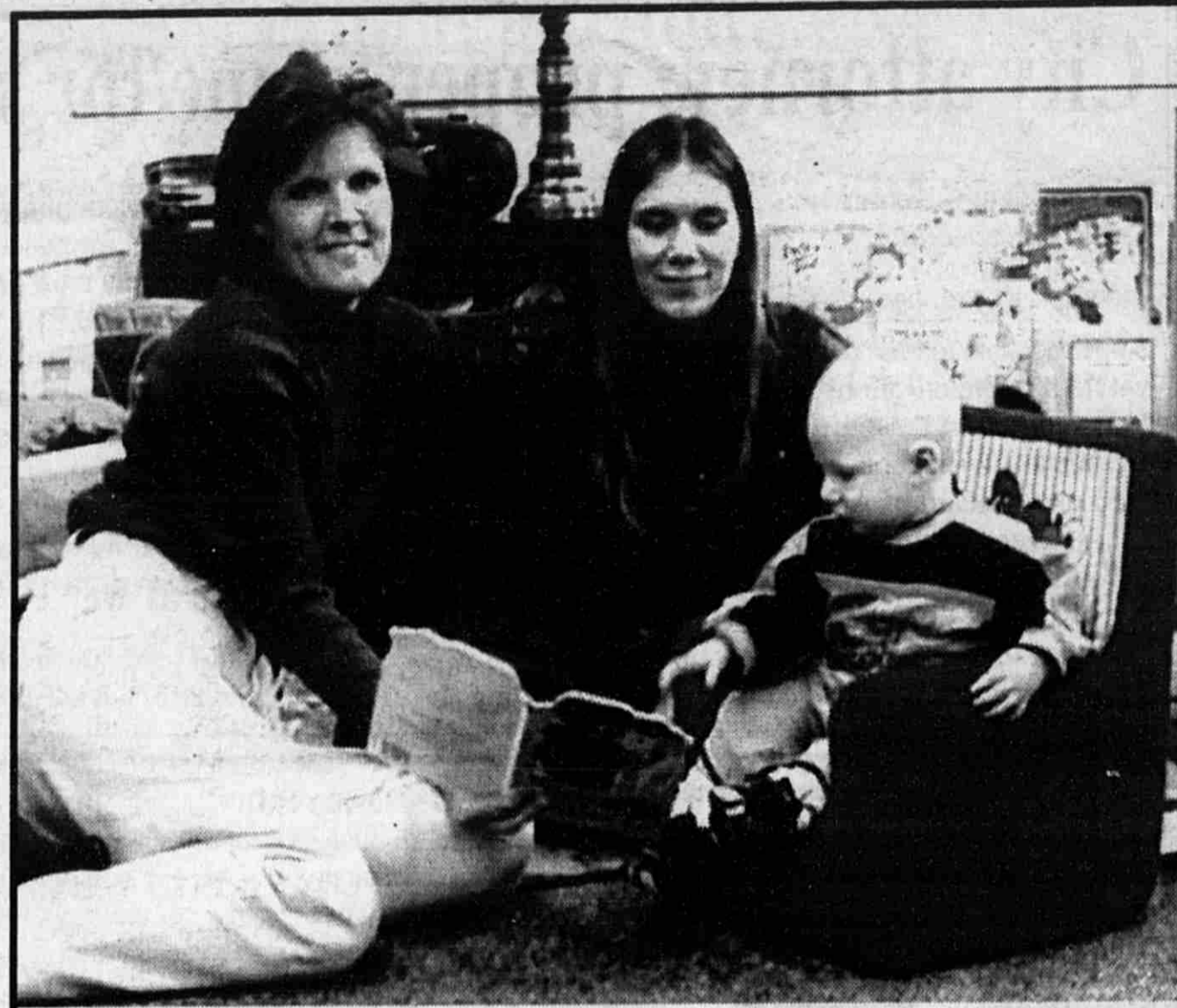
can take advantage of this nationally recognized program. It's free." Grant monies totaling \$13,000 were allocated last summer through the Lowell Area Community Fund (Englehardt) for the early learning initiative.

The funds paid to train Rhonda Delnick, who now serves as the program coordinator. "The program offers absolutely fascinating informa-

tion. I wish I had had this program available to me when my kids were young," said Delnick, a certified parent educator. "There is brain-researched activities that can enhance learning motor development and stimulation to enhance language."

Delnick currently visits the homes of 12-15 families once a month. Ideally, the parent educator can visit a child who enters the program at birth during three development levels until three years of age.


She shares with mothers information on what to look for at each stage of their P.A.T., cont'd. pg. 15



Rhonda Delnick visits with Michelle Rexford and her little boy Cody Stoutjesdyk.



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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.

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

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

SECONDMON.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 M#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. Beltline) 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.

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 10 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.

THURS., FEB. 8: Youth night at LHS wrestling meet vs. Hudsonville at 7 p.m. Wear last year's club shirt and be admitted free. Sign ups for 2001 season taking place from 5-6 p.m. before meet.

SAT., FEB. 10: Bushell/Cherry Creek Carnival, noon to 3 p.m. Lunch, games and activities are planned.

NOW THRU FEB. 15: Used phone book drop-off center at 1st United Methodist Church; trailer in parking lot at Division & E. Main. Please phone books only; for Habitat for Humanity.

BEGINNING FEB. 14 & 15: Franciscan Life Process Center will offer Kindermusik classes for children 4 mos. - 1st grade. For info. or to register, call Judith Madden at the center at 897-7842.

FRI. & SAT., FEB. 16 & 17: Watercolor painting workshop, 9:30 - 4 p.m. with artist, Bert Boerema. 1- (\$40) & 2-day (\$65) classes. For info., call 897-7842, ext. 305.

SAT., FEB. 17: Roger MacNaughton and Friends music concert at Lowell Performing Arts Center, 8 p.m. \$5 for LAAC members, seniors and students; \$6 general admission. Tickets at LAAC and Family Fare in Lowell.

ATTN: LOWELL TOWNSHIP TAXPAYERS

Our office will be open on Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 9 am - 5 pm.

This is the last day to pay winter taxes without a penalty.

I. Jean Huver, Treasurer

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.

THURS.: 9 a.m. Walk/shop at the malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1 p.m. Euchre.
FRI.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WED., FEB. 7: 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast; 9:30 - 11 a.m. Blood Pressure.

FRI., FEB. 16: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Meijer.

TUES., FEB. 20: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Sears or Penney's.

WED., FEB. 21: 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12:40 p.m. RSVP program.

THURS., FEB. 22: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at K-Mart.

FRI., FEB. 23: 12:40 p.m. Bingo.

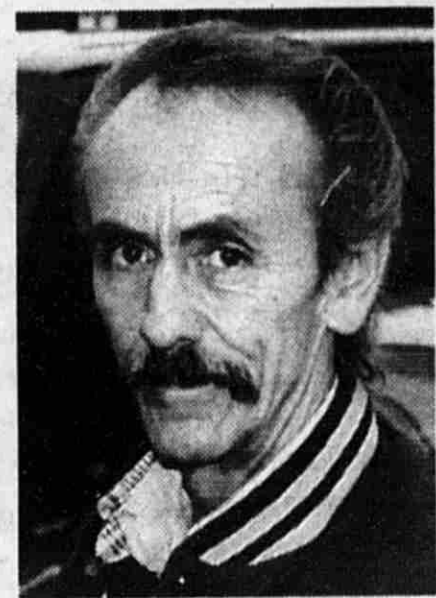
WED., FEB. 28: 8 a.m. Women's Breakfast; 9:00 noon: Tax assistance; 10:30 a.m. Tour YMCA Wellness Center.

TOWN TALK

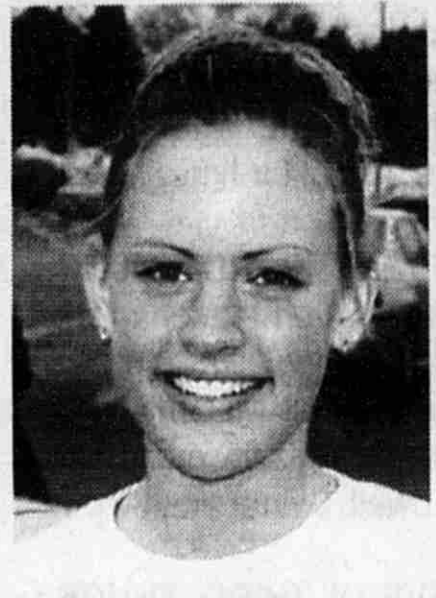
Reality television (e.g., Real World, Temptation Island, Big Brother and Survivor) is a popular entertainment format used by network and cable television - have you ever watched any of these shows and do you like them?



Evelyn Marron
No, I haven't watched them and I don't like them. I don't think those shows are real. I think they set people up. I don't find them to be interesting.



Bob Grant
No, I don't like them. It's not good television. I don't like the way people act on those shows.



Kelsey Scheider
I watch Real World. It's entertaining. I think they make it more dramatic than it should be.



Judie Canfield
I've seen Survivor. I don't like it. The people are too violent toward one another.



Sara Briggs
I've seen Survivor. No, I don't like those type of shows. I think they are silly, stupid and cheesy. Temptation Island is just a terrible, evil show.



Betty DenBraven
No, I don't watch them and don't like them. They show too much and I don't think those shows are good for kids.



Mary Brower
I watched "Cheaters." It video tapes people who think they are getting away with cheating on their spouses. It catches them in the act.



Jerry Farr
No, I don't watch them. I don't have time.

As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live.
—Goethe

In the year 1933, "The Lone Ranger" radio program makes its first public broadcast over Detroit station WXYZ.

Are You Missing A Picture??

Maybe It's At The Buyers Guide/Ledger Office

Also in order to keep pictures from piling up in the future, we are implementing a new policy. Anyone wanting their photographs returned after they have appeared in the Buyers Guide or Ledger must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or pick up the photo within 60 days of publication. After 60 days, photos will be discarded.

Show Us Your Smile!

JANUARY SMILE OF THE MONTH:

NAME:.....Bradley Baker
AGE:.....6 years old
BIRTHDAY.....5/10/94

HOBBIES..... Football, baseball - a real sports guy
He receives a prize for his great checkup.

January "No Cavities" Club Members

Sarah Mosher	Sydney VanOverbeek	Jessie Davis
Carissa Flier	Melissa Mosher	Dana Gaviglio
Christina Davis	Jonathon Nichols	Kelsey Wuld
Meridith Lane	Anna Lane	Adam Jones
Emily Lundquist	Charlotte Hayden	Steven Harden
Alyssa Churches	Kelsey Cruttenden	Kelsey Mankel
Brandon Grochowalski	Bradley Baker	Anna Flier
Brad Nordman	Jack Wilcox	Brandie Barnes
Peter Flynn	Mattie Newman	Becca Loser
Lucas Heacock	Austin DeClercq	Rebecca Cruttenden
David Durkee	Evan Rooney	Josh Wilcox
Heather Jousma	Rachel Rowley	Kylie Newman
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Humidifier may cure static electricity and cracking wood furniture

If you notice static electricity, cracking wood furniture or have problems with dry air in your house, you might be in need of a humidifier or have your existing one serviced. Most residential units have a pad that looks like a honey comb or a foam drum that needs to be replaced on a regular basis, depending on the hardness of your drinking water. These parts will build up with lime or scale, and will no longer absorb enough water to evaporate and put moisture in the air.

Some types of humidifiers have a reservoir and float that control the water level; this reservoir needs periodic cleaning also, to prevent bacteria and algae growth. The best type of humidifier is without a reservoir, which will cut down on a lot of these problems, due to a continuous flow of water through the unit, when in operation. Most humidifiers have a control located in the return air ductwork or in the living space to control the humidity. If this control is set incorrectly, this can cause air to be too dry or condensation build-up on your windows.

This control can be adjusted to obtain maximum performance of your humidifier, depending on the outside temperature in the wintertime and air tightness of your home. For more information locally, you can contact: info@heatingcoolingonline.com

P.A.T., continued... From Page 12

child's development: ideas for learning activities that they can do with their babies; developmental, hearing and vision screenings, monthly family activity sessions, and support group meetings for the mothers. "This allows us to develop ongoing relationships with mothers and makes them aware of community services available to them," Cole explains. "Our goal is to add one additional parent educator home visitor for children ages three through five."

Not only does the program provide early-learning opportunities for the children; it also connects parents to additional educational resources.

A 1991 national study showed that children who participated in the Parent as Teachers program performed significantly higher than national norms in school readiness skills. Problem-solving skills and social development were also higher. To learn more about the program, or to enroll, parents may call the office at 897-1232. More information on Parent as Teachers can be accessed on the internet at www.patnc.org.

Lowell grapplers rebound at Goodrich

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

What a difference a week makes. With six starters out of its lineup, Lowell lost two matches at the Lakewood Invitational.

On Saturday, with three of those starters returning, the Red Arrows improved their record to 24-5 en route to a second consecutive championship at the Goodrich Invitational.

"The boys really looked good. What a difference from a week ago," Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc said. "We made progress where it was needed."

Lowell was decisive Saturday in the finals with its 48-17 win over Richmond.

The Red Arrows got to the finals with wins over Centerline (53-17), Fowlererville (53-16), Armada (66-10), and Lake Orion (48-21).

Six Lowell grapplers finished their day on the mat with undefeated records.

Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds, coming off a first-period pin over Lakewood's defending Division II state champion Greg Seeber (Lakewood) a week ago, was 5-0 at Goodrich, including a win over Armada's Erik Freiwald, runnerup in Division III last year.

Ian DeRath's undefeated day on Saturday was highlighted by a 19-13 decision over previously undefeated Brian Ranger (119) from Richmond.

John McKay's five wins included a win over Lake Orion's Mike Quigley. The Red Arrow won via injury default. McKay was ahead 11-6 when the match was stopped. McKay wrestled at 130 in his match against Quigley.

Caleb O'Boyle, 140, kept his perfect season intact with five wins on Saturday, including a hard fought 3-2 decision over Lake Orion's Ricky Kallis.

Wrestling, cont'd, pg. 16

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

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

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

In the year 1945, Grand Rapids becomes the first U.S. city to fluoridate its drinking water.

In the year 1805, Michigan is organized as a territory.

SYNOPSIS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD
JANUARY 15, 2001 - 7:00 P.M.

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Minutes of December 18, 2000 regular meeting
- Treasurer's Report/Invoices
- Motion to hold a joint meeting in April of 2001 of the Board, Historical Commission, Fallsburg Historical Society and Professionals from the community to discuss issues regarding Fallsburg Cemetery and its future use.
- Motion to approve fee schedule as revised
- Motion to approve precise engineering special use permit amendment
- Motion to approve Rittersdorf/Alberts split with purchase of bond to ensure removal of noncompliant structure
- Motions to designate the following amounts from Community Development funds: \$3,000 to Rockford/Lowell Ambulance for Mobile Transport stretchers; \$8,000 to Lowell Area Historical Museum to share in cost of handicap ramp; \$1,000 to North Kent Transit for senior riders in 2001-02; \$3,000 for construction of fence around historic Fallsburg Cemetery
- Motion to approve spray blocks for the purpose of Gypsy Moth Control for the year 2001

It was also decided to post a sign and collect donations for the home construction project sponsored by Evergreen Missionary Church for Sharon Whaley. Donations may be left at the township offices through the end of February, when they will be forwarded to the church.

- Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting February 19, 2001

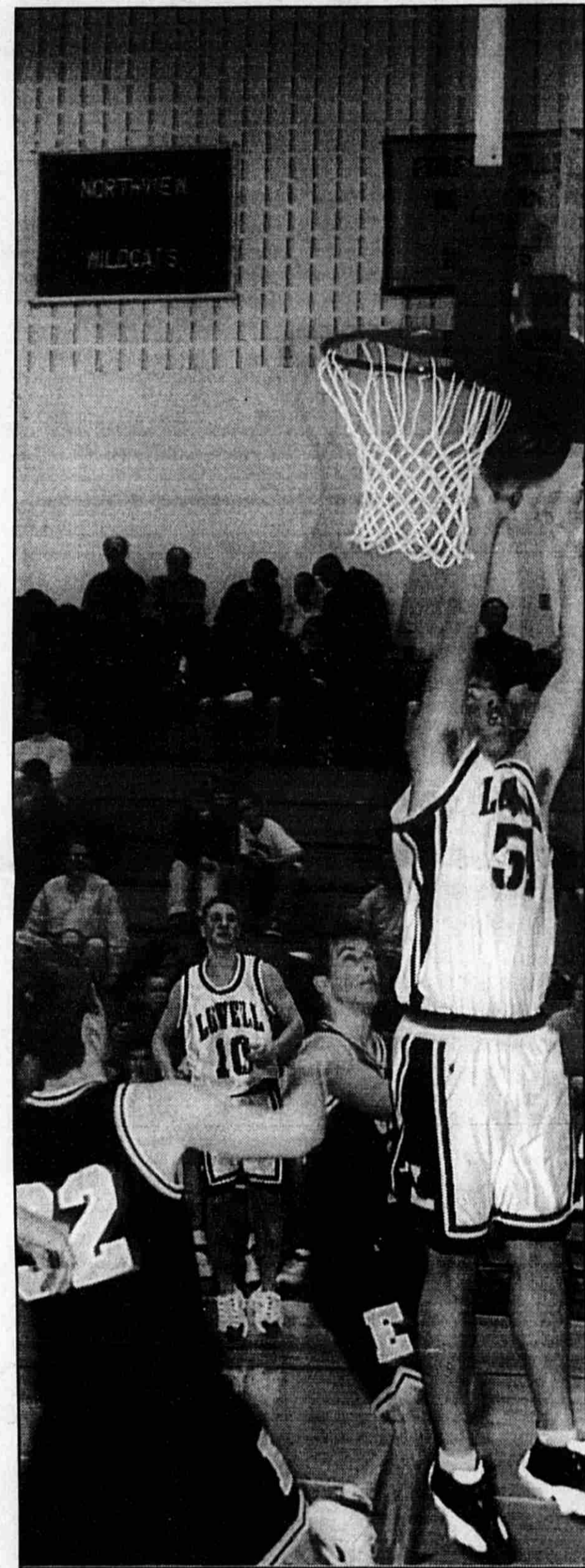
Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Rozema's hot shooting hand helps lift Red Arrows past Pioneers and Saxons

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

One thing is clear following Lowell boys basketball team's 63-57 O-K White win against East Grand Rapids Friday night ... when the Red Arrows make good decisions with the basketball, knock down some shots and rebound well, they're a much better basketball team than their 3-9 record might indicate.

"We felt coming into this week that Hastings (a team we beat Tuesday) and East were two teams we can beat if we play well," said Lowell basketball coach, Pete Bush. "Our goal is



Brad Koetsier scores two of his 14 points as EGR defenders look on.

to win more games than we lose in the second half of the season. Right now we're 2-0."

A lackluster first quarter didn't give any indication to what the second quarter would bring. "I didn't think we played poorly in the first quarter, we just weren't scoring," Bush explained.

That changed in the second quarter. Lowell (2-6, 3-9) trailed 12-7 after the opening eight minutes, but behind the sharp shooting of Dave Rozema, Lowell outscored the Pioneers 21-7 in the second quarter to grab a 28-19 halftime lead. Rozema netted three 3's and two shots in the second stanza. He finished the first half with 13 of his team-leading 16 points.

"Dave heated up in that second quarter and knocked down some big shots for us," Bush said.

Brad Koetsier tallied another double digit scoring figure as he netted 14 points.

Bush was also pleased with his effort on the boards. "Brad made good decisions. I thought he and Andy Curtis played really well for us defensively and were big on the boards," said Lowell's coach. Curtis contributed seven points offensively. Lowell outrebounded East 27-25.

Ryan McCahill led East with 19 points. "I thought we played hard with smarts in the third quarter," East coach, Scott Thomson said. "We spent a lot of energy catching up from that nine-point halftime deficit."

East (3-6, 3-9) cut Lowell's lead to 44-43 midway through the fourth quarter. The Red Arrows staved off the Pioneers. Lowell scored on three consecutive trips down the floor on three point buckets by Sam Oberlin and Bill Harrison, and a 10-foot baseline jumper by Koetsier, building Lowell's lead back up to six at 51-45.

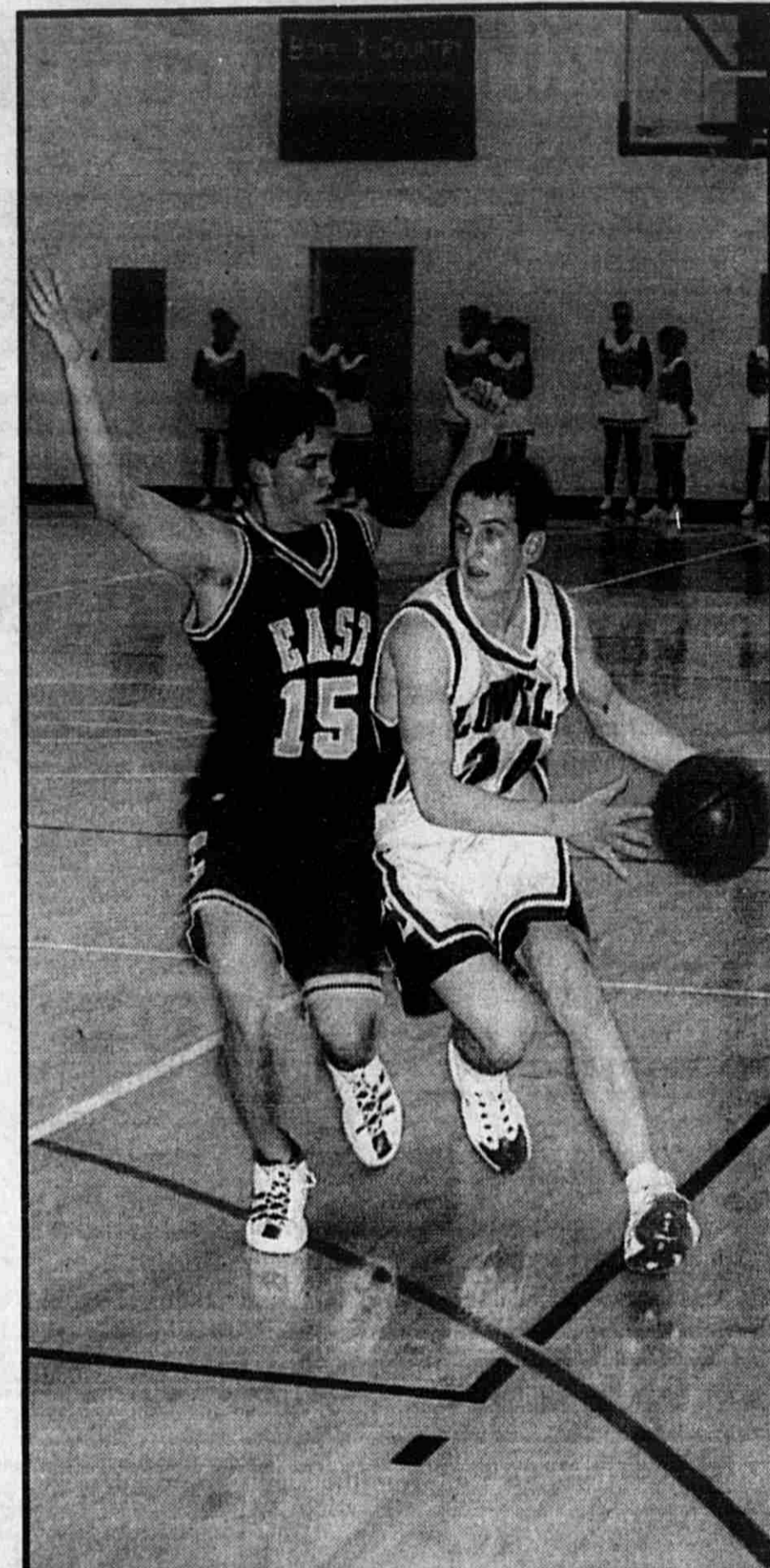
"Those were big shots, because we spent a lot of energy to get back into the game. We're not a team that can dig ourselves a hole," Thomson explained.

Lowell 47
Hastings 46

Lowell was able to respond to the challenges of the Saxons as it posted its second win of the year.

"We didn't play real well, but the boys responded when it got close," Lowell boys basketball coach, Pete Bush said.

In particular, Bill Harrison. The Red Arrow guard netted four of four foul shots down the stretch and made a great feed, late in the game, to Brad Koetsier for a bucket.



Sam Oberlin looks to pass and drives past his Pioneer defender.

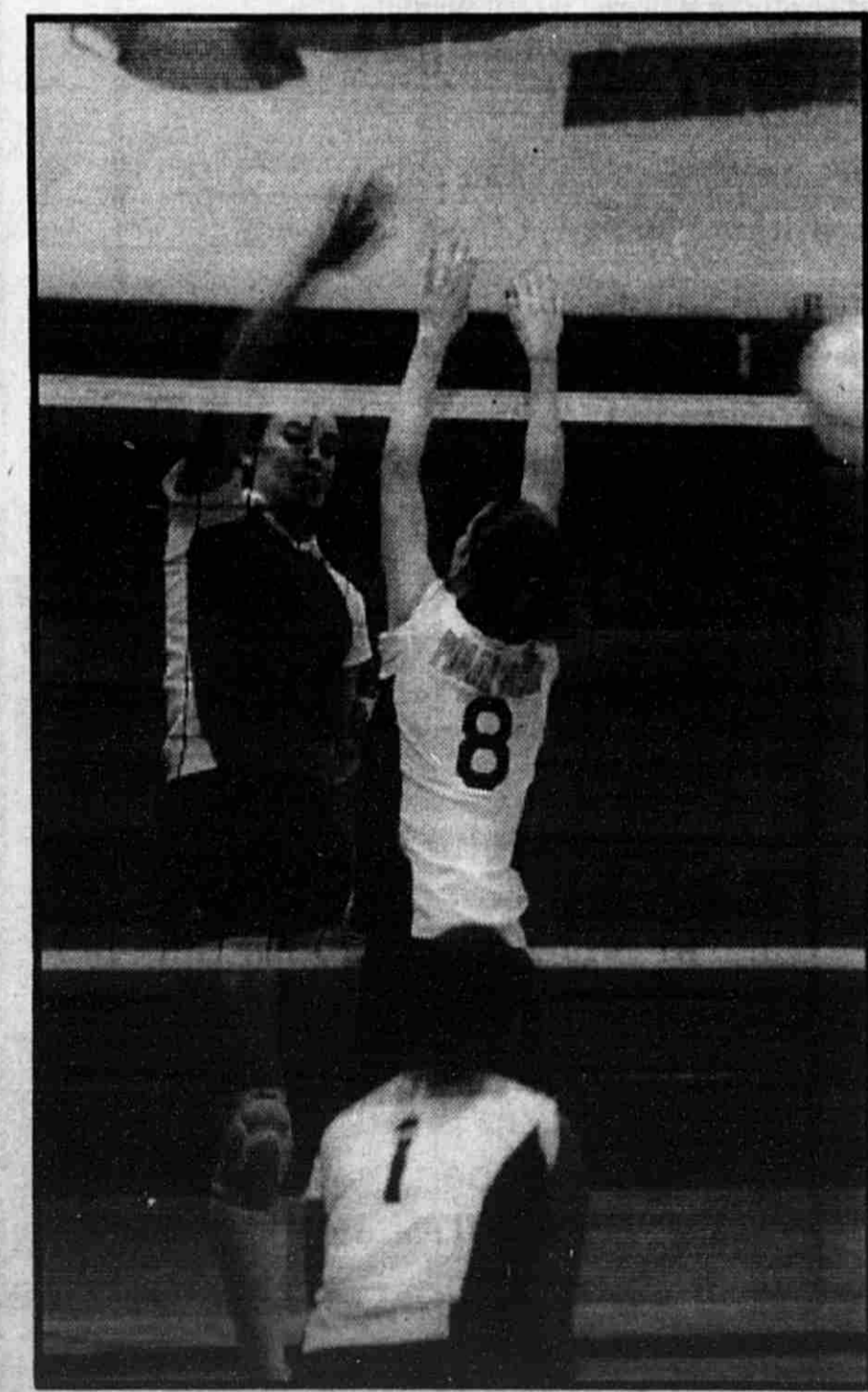
Lowell trailed 7-6 after one quarter of play. The Red Arrows outscored Hastings 19-15 in the second quarter to take a 25-22 halftime lead. The Red Arrows led 36-30 after three quarters. The Saxons' fourth-quarter rally fell short, outscoring Lowell 16-11 over the final eight minutes.

Dave Rozema led Lowell with 13 points. Koetsier added 10 and Sam Oberlin netted 9.

Lowell volleyball team unable to finish off Chix in tough defeat

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

"Winning is a by-product of knowing what to do and how to do it," said Lowell volleyball coach, Connie Black.



Lowell's Amanda Stoutjesdyk powers one past a blocker.

The first-year Red Arrow coach can feel and see continuity being built.

"This isn't about sneaking up on people. We're beginning to earn respect in this league (O-K White)," Black said.

With the exception of Forest Hills Central, Lowell has played quality competition on its schedule rather well.

That trend continued Thursday against perennial volleyball power, Zealand. Lowell won game one 15-12, lost game two 16-14 after leading 14-11 and then fell in game three 15-0.

"We're so close to being a complete winner," Black says.

The Red Arrows displayed inspired defensive play and blocked extremely well against the Chix, according to their coach. "Our serving was also good," Black said.

Lowell's Amanda Stoutjesdyk led the Red Arrows in kills and aces with 12 and three respectively.

Sunny Moyer contributed with a team-leading 22 assists.



Kelly Fitzpatrick elevates for this return.

Wrestling, cont'd... From Page 15

Ben Fleet (215) and Matt Oesch (160) also posted unblemished records at Goodrich. "Matt was sick all week and didn't practice. It took him a while to get in a flow," Strejc said.

Lowell ran its regular dual meet season record in the O-K White to 6-0 with a 57-13 win at Zealand on Thursday.

"We still have three guys we need to get healthy and back in the lineup," Strejc said. "We may be a couple of weeks behind where we were last year, but we're headed in the right place and doing the right things."

Lowell hosts Hudsonville on Thursday and then travels back to Zealand Saturday for the O-K White Conference tournament.

Lowell gymnasts leap over the Rams in a key conference dual

... In defeating Rockford for the first time in its program's history, the Red Arrows scored a record setting 135.2 points.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It took a school team-scoring record for Lowell's gymnastics team to defeat Rockford Monday night.

The Red Arrows upended the Rams 135.2-132.4.

Both teams entered the dual meet with just one conference loss. Lowell's only loss came to Forest Hills Central and Rockford's only defeat came at the hands of Holland.

"I'm not sure if Lowell has ever beaten Rockford in gymnastics. I know we haven't in the seven years I've been coaching," said an elated Michele DeHaan. "This is as big a win as we've had."

Big wins don't come without some big individual performances.

A number of Red Arrows stepped forward with some clutch performances.

Heather McQueen and Kim Seaman, not familiar names for fans who haven't followed Lowell gymnastics this year, were steady and solid on the balance beam. Both placed in the top eight and got Lowell off to a good start in an important event.

"They stayed on the beam and posted two good scores to start us off," DeHaan said. "I think that relaxed the girls who followed."

McQueen scored an 8.35 and Seaman tallied an 8.15. Both scores were personal bests.

Lowell's top two scores on the beam were handed in by Krystal White, 8.5 and Holly Plattner, 8.45.

Plattner who woke up sick on Friday toughed out a day at school so she could compete against Rockford. "I just didn't feel good. I was a little

dizzy, but I knew I had to come to school to compete tonight," she said.

Compete she did. The sophomore was the meet's all around top gymnast with 34.3 points edging out White with 34.2 points.

Plattner finished the night with a bang as she scored a 9.4 in the floor exercise. Melissa Neubecker was second with an 8.95 and White was third overall with an 8.9.

Carmen Datema posted Lowell's fourth score (8.85).

"This was a big win. Now the girls must decide: do they relax or do they push themselves and see how much more they can achieve," DeHaan said.

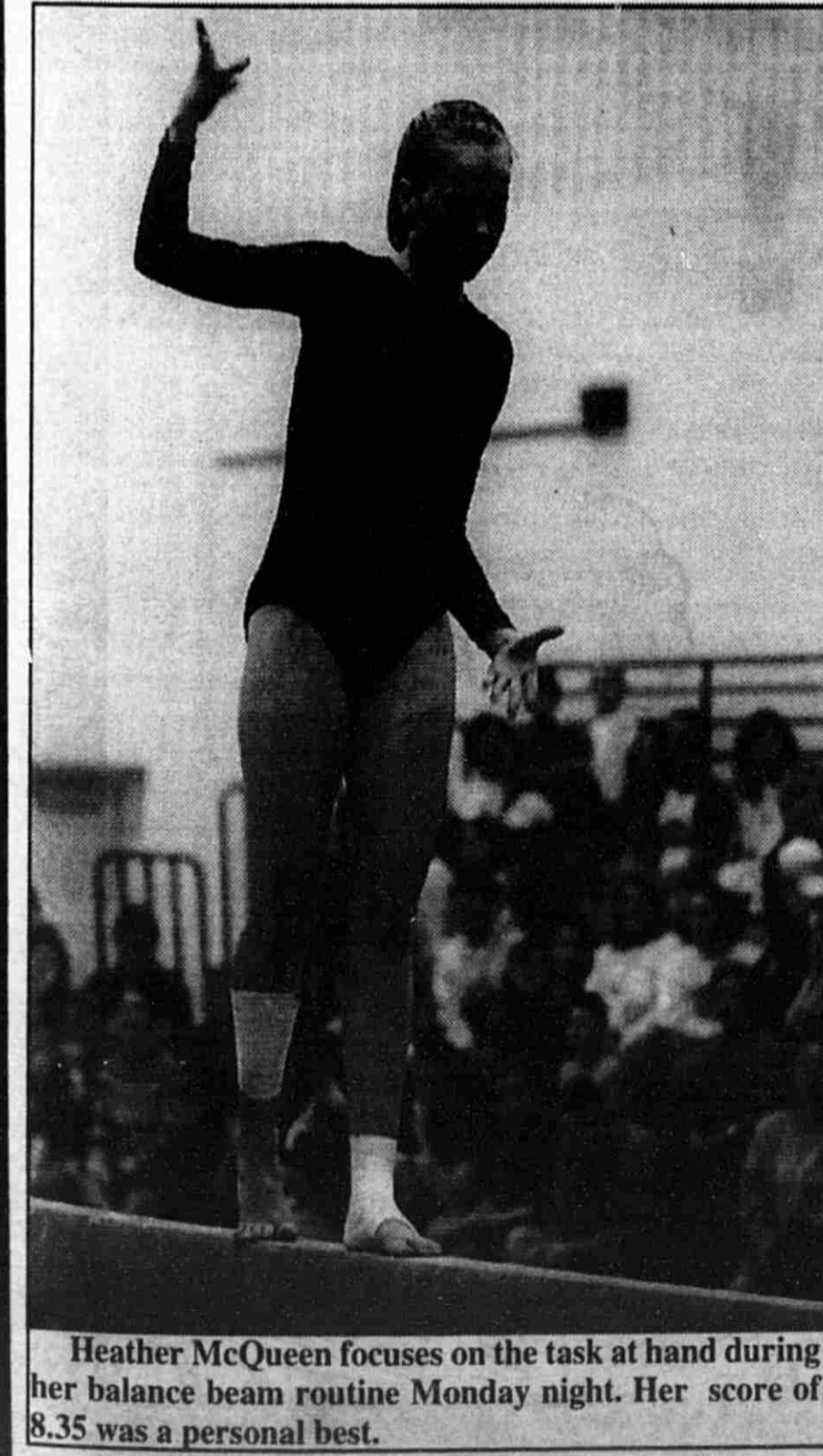
On the uneven bars, Lowell achieved a team score of 31.95. White led the way with an 8.3 followed by Neubecker's 8.0; Plattner's 7.85 and Carisa Sayer's 7.8.

Lowell started the evening on the vault. Plattner led the way with a score of 8.6; White finished with an 8.5 followed by Katie Blough's 8.35 and Neubecker's 8.25.

"It was a down day for us. I don't think our girls were as focused as they needed to be. That hurt us in all the events," first-year Rockford coach, Anna Wynbeck said. "We're disappointed. As a team we've been averaging 134 points per meet. We beat Lowell Saturday at Kenowa Hills. Tonight, they were up and we were down."

April Telman battled to land solidly on her feet; Holly Plattner battled to keep her feet from landing.

Both gymnasts were successful in carrying out their feats and in doing so, helped Lowell to a 127.55-98.775 win



Heather McQueen focuses on the task at hand during her balance beam routine Monday night. Her score of 8.35 was a personal best.

over East Grand Rapids.

The win improved Lowell's O-K Rainbow league record to 4-1 with regular season duals against Rockford and Holland remaining.

"April has been struggling to land her wolf jump with a three-quarter turn on the balance beam," said Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan. "She landed it tonight and then fought to hang on."

Plattner has struggled with her release from the high bar to the low bar on the uneven bars. Against the Pioneers, the Red Arrow's feet never dragged and her legs didn't bend. It was Plattner's best effort of the season on the bars.

Plattner's performance earned her a mark of 7.8. Melissa Neubecker finished with a 7.75 followed by Krystal White's 7.7 and Katie Blough's 7.5.

Telman's performance on the balance beam landed her a team high 8.0. Kim Seaman followed with a 7.8. Blough and Heather McQueen finished with marks of 7.65 and 7.55 respectively.

Plattner led Lowell on the vault with an 8.425. White tallied a score of 8.225. Blough tallied a 7.975 with Neubecker recording a 7.6.

Plattner also notched Lowell's top score in the floor routine. She earned a mark of 8.925. White was second at 8.55 followed by Neubecker's 8.5 and Telman's 7.6.

Team highs in three of four events lifted Lowell to its highest team total of the year Saturday at the Kenowa Hills Invitational.

Lowell, however, fell short of its average beam score and with it fell to fourth overall behind Forest Hills Central 138.8; Rockford 134.20 and Kenowa Hills 133.15, finishing with a 133.05.

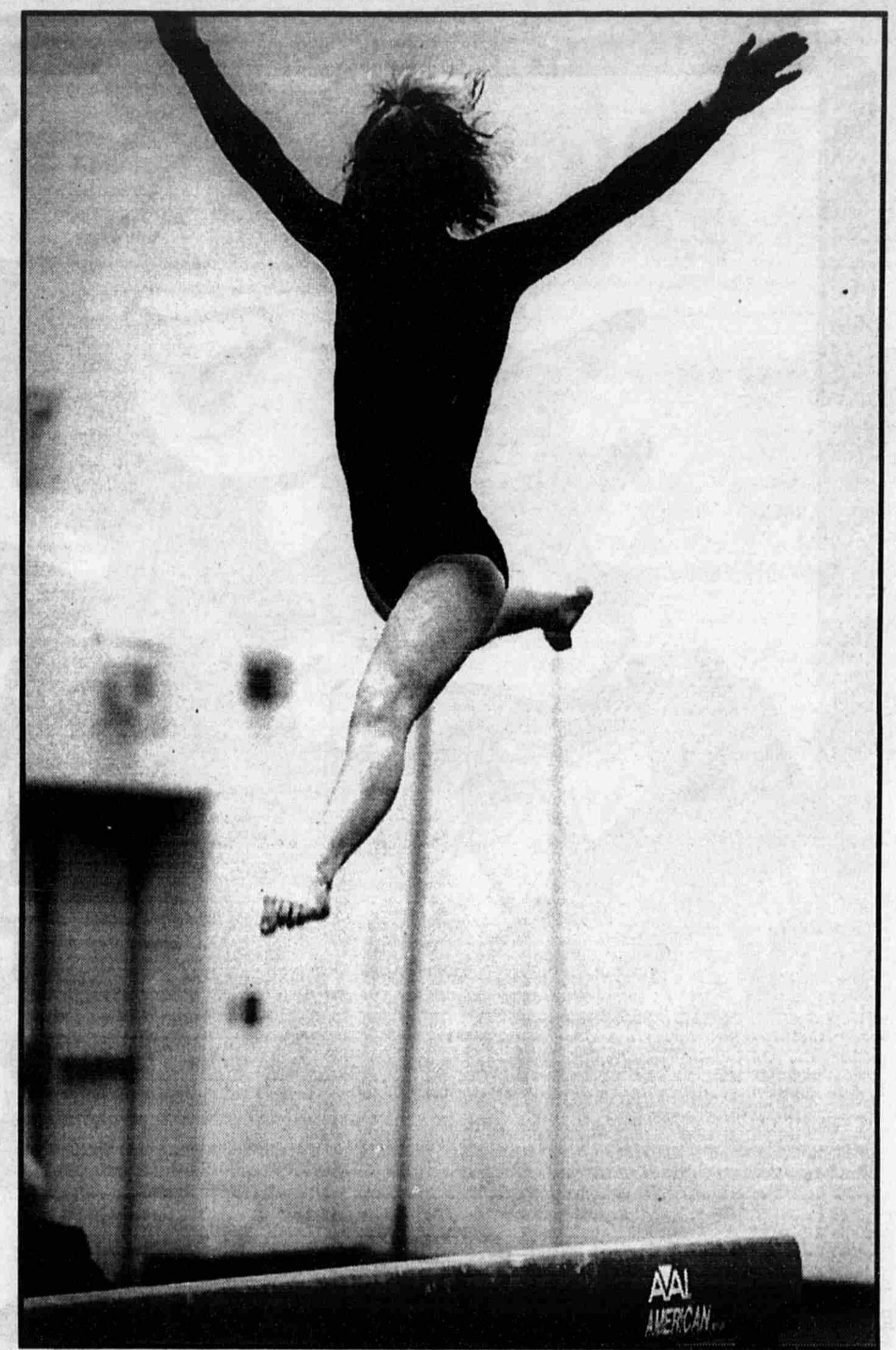
"We were shooting for a top three finish," said Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan. "The girls got off to a bad start on the beam and we just couldn't recover."

Not for a lack of effort. Lowell scored a team best on the vault, uneven bars and in the floor exercise.

On the vault, Lowell tallied a score of 33.75. Leading the way was Krystal White with a score of 8.5. Following her was Holly Plattner, 8.45. Melissa Neubecker and Katie Blough each tallied 8.4's and April Telman was Lowell's fifth score with an 8.2.

Neubecker placed fifth overall on the uneven bars with a mark of 8.2, leading Lowell to a team best score of 32.25 on the bars.

Plattner was seventh over-



Feet, don't fail me now: Holly Plattner gets a pretty good lift on the balance beam

all with an 8.15 followed by Carisa Sayer's 8.0 (8th) and White's 7.9. Blough was Lowell's fifth score with a 7.75.

Lowell tallied a team score of 35.9 in the floor exercise.

Plattner was first overall with a school record of 9.45. White was second overall with a 9.1. Neubecker was eighth at 8.8. Blough finished with an 8.55. Datema was Lowell's

fifth score at 8.25.

"Holly's (Plattner) routine was phenomenal. It was just a gorgeous routine. It was nice that Holly and Krystal placed one-two and didn't have to share their honors with anyone," DeHaan said.

Blough who had to restart her floor routine a second time due to technical problems with the sound system, still managed one of her better scores.

"Katie kept her composure. She has really matured and grown as a competitor. She has so much more confidence," DeHaan explained.

Neubecker led Lowell on the beam. She scored an 8.15.

Blough did not have a fall in a routine that scored her an 8.0. Plattner tallied a mark of 7.65. White scored a 7.35.

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THANK YOU
The family of Marian Lee would like to express our sincere gratitude for the many acts of kindness including flowers, cards, food, visits and emotional support during our Mom's recent illness and death. A special thanks to Schneider Manor, Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Dr. Mark Evenhouse, Father Fekete and St. Mary's Parish.

Pat & Bill Ashby;
Alyce & Jay Hirschi;
Dick & Patti Lee;
Bonnie & Sam Roudabush

CARD OF THANKS
Dear family, friends and neighbors: We would like to thank you for all the heartfelt prayers, food, phone calls, memorials, support and flowers you shared with us during our very difficult time, the death of our son, Alden Richard Hamilton. We would like to thank Gerst Funeral Home for their services and a special thanks to Rev. Gordon Barry for the wonderful service. Also to United Methodist Church and the ladies who served lunch. Thanks to Lowell Area Schools bus drivers, grounds and administrators, Lowell YMCA and O.E. Bieri & Sons. A very special thank you to Samuel Naves: you touched all of our hearts and Alden's. Thank you to all the wonderful people at Harold Zeigler Ford, our thoughts are with each and every one of you.

The family of Alden Richard Hamilton.

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STATE FARM INSURANCE • Chapman Agency

RECOGNIZES THIS SEMESTER'S HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

Lowell Middle School Honor Roll 2nd MARKING PERIOD

SIXTH GRADE

Lindsay Aiken
Robert Alguire
Matthew Amidon
Kayli Arnett
Kathryn Bailey
Brittany Balyeat
Christopher Barlow, Jr.
Scott Beatson
Marissa Bergy
Corrine Bieber
Kameron Blake
Jacob Bottomley
Jessica Bouman
Adam Bowers
Sarah Brearley
Kevin Brechbiel
Haley Briggs
Rachel Brinks
Jessica Cain
Danielle Calkins
Kimberly Carrier
Hannah Dalton
Austin DeClercq
Scott Devroy
Edward Dickerman
Renee Dryer
CiJi Eickhoff
Sarah Eickhoff
Shane Elliott
Kellie Faulkner
Robin Figley
Alexander Fleet
Michael Ford
Austyn Foster
Garrison Fredline
Nichole Freed
David Gallagher
Aaron Geer
Hannah Gerig
Hayley Getzen
Mary Gillhespy
Michael Griffioen
Hollie Gunderson
Shay Hacker
Kassandra Hanrahan
Justin Harden
Charlie Hathaway
Mallory Hines
Travis Hippey
Timothy Hollister
Laurinda Horsley
Austin Hoyt
Allen Huber
David Huffman
Lyndsay Huver
Stacey Janeschek
Lisa Johnson
Lindsey Jousma
Karen Judd
Jordan Kadwell
Bailey Keeler
Stephanie Kempker
Genevieve Kendall
Tyler Kent
Joshua Kettel
Kelsey Koewers
Christian Koning
Kaylyn Koza
Samantha Kozlik
Fredric Lake
Gwyndd Lammas
Samantha Lancaster
Anna Lane
Vincent Larkin
Donald LeVault III
Kelsey Ligman
Larz Lindstrom
Brittany Lyman
Andrew Manion
Kalyn Merrifield
Leslie Morrison
Eric Mundt
Tasha Nauta

Jessica Nelson
Keith Nichol
Michael Nichols
Bradley Nordman
Andrew Nozal
Andrew Oesch
Morgan Olin
Karri Ort
Richard Owens
Ryan Padgett
Zabrina Peck
Bethany Penninga
Lance Perkins
Cassandra Phillips
Jamie Phillips
Margaret Pratt
Patrick Quain
Culver Redd
Kathleen Rissi
Ashley Rodriguez
Kendra Rose
Michael Roth
Kathryn Rottier
Joseph Rozman
Brian Scheider
Jacob Scheller
Kara Schloop
Allison Schneider
Taryn Schumacher
Jacob Seaman
Raymond Seese
Brittney Shellenbarger
Timothy Sinen
Caitlin Sirowatka
Ashleigh Smit
Luke Smith
Erin Soules
Heather Spratt
Kory Stevens
Teresa Sturgeon
Amanda Tarchala
Terrah Tawney
Derek Thebo
Lindsey Trierweiler
Stacey Underwood
Austin VandenHout
Michael VanderHart
Kirsten VanderJagt
Lauren VanderMark
Ashley VanSpronsen
Bailey VanVeldhuizen
Holly Vaught
Amanda Vezino
Kevin Vuong
Kelly Walker
Trevor Wernet
Katrina Wheeler
Tiffany Whittington
Nathan Willemstein
Sara Williamson
Sarah Willits
Kristen Wolfe
Michelle Wood
Kaylee Yonker
Edward Zandbergen
Megan Zinke

SEVENTH GRADE

Anthony Adrianse
Bradley Amidon
Danielle Anchors
Alana Anderson
Donald Anderson
Kyle Austin
Adam Baker
Caleb Baker
Kathryn Barnes
Erin Beddows
LynnAnn Bell
Collette Benmark
Kenneth Bieri
Austin Blough
Melissa Blough
Alice Blumm
Anna Boeve

Lisa Boomers
Sarah Boomers
Holly Borth
Kelsey Brenk
Kaitlyn Brower
Lisa Brown
Zachary Burger
Malley Cahoon
Edith Chittenden
Nathaniel Clements
Ashley Colon
Bradley Corlett
Laura Crimmins
Carey Crout
Rebecca DeLiefde
Benjamin DenHouter
Brittany Dietz
Thomas Doll
Elizabeth Drain
Chad Drenth
Jamie Dryer
Amanda Durkee
Jacob Eldridge
Anthony Everitt
Trevor Foss
Chelsea Freed
Randall Frye
Nathan Galbreath
Julie Geelhoed
Benjamin Geldersma
Alexander Getz
William Gill
Jenna Gillan
Nick Gillhespy
Joshua Gilliard
Katie Goldner
Jasmine Gomez
Brock Graham
Nicole Green
Brandon Grochowalski
Benjamin Hanson
August Harper
Heather Harrigan
Angela Harvey
Brandon Herring
Joshua Hettinga
Brett Hobria
Andrew Hopkins
Nicholas Huizinga
Greg Huyser
Adam Ingraham
Kayla Irwin
Kevin Jahnke
Kristin Johnson
Christopher Jones
Cory Jones
Ryder Jones
Amy Junewick
Ryan Junglas
Abbot Kastanek
Stephen Kerr II
Jennifer Kettel
Hannah Kinney
Andrew Kleeves
Hannah Knudstrup
Kaley Koewers
Kelly Koning
Christina Kosbar
Andrea Koster
Devin Kyllonen
Angela Lachniet
Steven LaFave
Austin Lancaster
Ryan Lane
Jon Latva
Paula Lawrence
Amy Leikert
Sarah Lessens
Rachelle Levingston
Jennifer Lupton
Jodi Lupton
Laura Maki
Seth Mayhew
Kristen McAlpine

Megan Meade
Mary Mendez
Nikita Miles
Angela Miller
Jeanette Miller
Samantha Mol
William Moore
Joshua Morrison
Elizabeth Mosher
Amy Mundwiler
Megan Murphy
Rachel Murray
Autumn Nethercott
Kyle Neubecker
Caitlyn O'Haire
Cassandra Oracz
Amber Osborne
Gary Osborne
Brett Ostrander
Raymond Phillips
Rachel Plotner
Rebecca Plummer
April Polaski
Casey Randolph
Molly Richard
Jonathan Riddle
Christopher Roelofs
Amanda Schneider
Andrew Schultz
Leannah Seese
Bradley Shea
Nicole Shepard
Kirby Siek
Ashley Slater
Chelsea Smit
Crystal Smith
Lori Smith
Jared Spencer
Ashley Spicer
Blake Spoelman
Joshua Tapia
Micah Tawney
Melissa Telman
Emily Timpson
Alisha Trebian
Sarah Troyer
Rebecca Underwood
Andrew VanderKlok
Adam VanderPols
Brook VanEck
Lauren VanEns
David VanKeulen
Megan Vaught
Kenneth Walsh Jr
Alicia Weeber
Eva Wilcox
Cassandra Wildey
Andrew Wilterink
Janice Wisniewski
Jessica Wright
Melissa Wright
Christopher Yarger
Jennifer Zoodsma
Audrey Zook
Katelynn Zuiderveen

EIGHTH GRADE

Nathan Arnett
Katie Baker
Nicole Baker
Rebecca Batt
Laura Baum
Katrina Beatson
Kristin Befus
Jennifer Blattner
Lerin Bommarito
Karl Bouwhuis
Hillary Briggs
Paul Buttrick
Kaitlyn Callihan
Devon Collins
Jason Crandell
Matthew D'Agostino
Abigail Debiak

Kalen DeCenzo
Melody Dernocoeur
David Devroy III
Jenna Dickerman
Timothy Droese
Julie Dunn
Joseph Dykhuizen
Kevin Eggebeen
Roya Eshragh
Matthew Fink
Audrey Fleet
Kelly Foote
Ashley French
Keegan Geldersma
Emily Gerard
Kyleigh Gilliard
Kevin Gillman
Nicole Glover
Rachael Goeman
Benjamin Graham
Amanda Gunberg
Rebecca Heinicke
Christopher Hendrick
Tyler Hoard
Phillip Hogan
Jodi Hutchinson
Ashleigh Inman
Haley Irwin
Whitney Jernigan
Anthony Johnson
Jacob Kadwell
Chelsea Karas
Jean Kimberlin
Brianna Kinney
Sabra Kinsley
Bradley Koza
Christina Kuhn
Brandon Lawrence
Zachary Ligman
Mallory Maschhoff
Dominic Mastrovito
Krashawn McElveen
Andrea Meyers
Brantley Moore
Drew Morrison
Joseph Mull
Paul Mundt
Nicholas Myers
Nicholas Olson
Kelsy Payne
Mandy Phillips
Justin Quist
Amanda Rau
Robert Reedy
David Roth
David Sefton
Kyle Selli
Katherine Serne
Stephanie Sherry
Meghan Silverman
Shane Stokes
Megan Stubbs
Nichole Swift
Stephani Thompson
Adam Topper
Heather VanderHeide
Lauren VanHouten
Tiffany Venneman
Taylor Verdon
Casondra Vredevoogd
Ashley Waldron
Jonathan Walker
Catherine Ward
Jennifer Watikunas
Jason Welsch
Rachelle Wernet
Henry Westerhuis
Nicolette Wheeler
Jenna White
Kayla White
Michael Wildey
Elise Wisniewski
Michelle Wolf
Rebekah Woods

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