

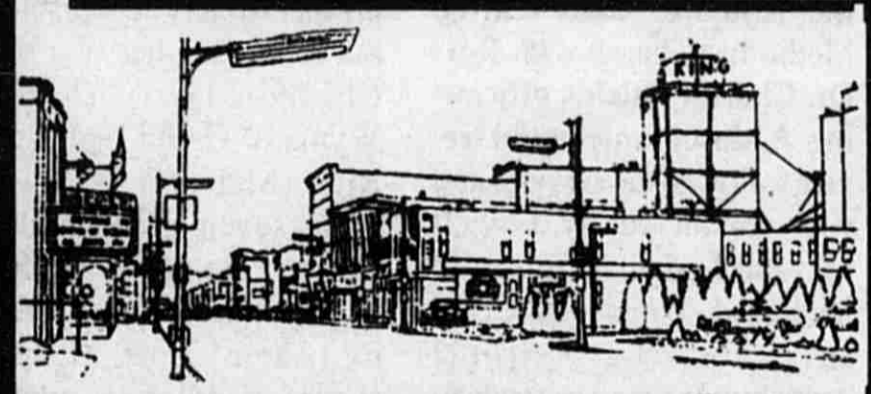
# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 19

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

## Along Main Street



### 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 for beginners 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.

#### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM WWII PROGRAM

Allen Wisner will present his video "The last American Pilot in Slovakia" at the Lowell Township Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Come hear the story of the discovery in 1990 of Lt. Ray Allen's P-38, shot down in 1944, told by Wisner who was piloting the plane next to him. The public is invited; feel free to bring your WWII artifacts to share.

#### CALLING SENIOR CITIZENS/ LOCAL HISTORY BUFFS

If you enjoy telling stories related to how Lowell has changed over the years, economically, socially, etc., we at the Wittenbach Center are interested in you! It would be a half-hour venture in the morning or afternoon in April and May at the center's log cabin where students will be doing a special project. Contact Tammy DeBaar at 987-1002 to volunteer.

#### LOWELL DAY IN LAKELAND, FLORIDA

The annual get-together of Lowellians will be on Sunday, March 4 at Huntington Hills Golf and Country Club (take I-4, exit 18, head north past Lakeland Mall to Duff Rd. (3-5 miles); turn left on Duff Rd., follow to Country Club.) It will be buffet style at 1 p.m.

For information, you may contact Carmen Roudabush (863-683-9071); Mary Peckham (863-683-6336); or Barb Curtis (863-682-7136).

#### 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.

#### 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.

## Township hears opposition to Cook's rezoning request

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Is changing 43.2 acres of land established in a residential area to commercial in direct opposition to the Vergennes Township Comprehensive Plan and the results from a 1998 Community Opinion Survey Report?

That question went before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission Board at its February meeting.

John and Carol Lee, of 34 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE, outlined six reasons why they believe Jim and Berdie Cook's request should be denied.

At the top of the list was that the zoning change request goes against the Vergennes Township Comprehensive Plan.

"The three parcels of land the Cooks would like rezoned to commercial from R-3 are slated as residential for the next 10-15 years according to the land use map," Carol Lee said.

Lee also pointed out that the request goes against the wishes of Vergennes Township residents. "The two highest ranked priorities in the Community Opinion Survey Report are maintaining rural character and conserving open and natural areas," Lee explained.

Cooks noted that rather than adding homes to the community, commercial zoning could generate a tax base and not create the traffic volume or hurt the school as much as a housing development would.

Vergennes Planning Commission chairman, Vern Nauta explained if the rezoning request was approved by the planning commission, the comprehensive plan would probably have to be amended.

"There has been talk for a long time that putting commercial development in that area makes sense," Nauta conferred. "We are not going to stop expansion. In order to preserve rural areas, we must direct it to areas where it makes the most sense."

Nauta added that residents cannot expect someone to pay for their view. "If they want to protect it, then maybe they should buy it."

The Cooks said the land cannot remain an open field. "We need to get rid of some of our real estate if we are going to retire," Jim

Cook Jr. said.

Other reasons why Lees oppose rezoning are:

- They believe commercial development in the requested parcels would negatively impact the value and ecology of the surrounding rural-residential property.

- The township has a lack of standardization for commercial development. "It is disturbing to us that there are no written standards, either building designs or quantity of sites for commercial development," Lee said.

- They believe Cooks' application for site plan review is incomplete, and;

- It is Lees' contention that Cooks' request does not provide adequate rationale for a zoning variance.

"To justify that a piece of residential property should be changed to commercial just because it sits beside a commercial lot is illogical," Lee explained. "The whole point of zoning and planning documents is to make sure that existing commercial areas do not continue to spread out from a central core."

All commercial uses require a special exception use application and site plan review.

Acceptable uses could include churches, gasoline station, hotels/motels, banks, offices, lumber yards, shoe repair shops, funeral parlors and retail sale businesses.

The Vergennes Township Planning Commission will make a decision on the issue at its March 5 meeting.

"It's going to be a difficult decision," Nauta said. "Both sides have done their homework and the planning commission appreciates their input."

## REZONING DIVIDE

*The two highest ranked priorities in the Community Opinion Survey Report are maintaining rural character and conserving open and natural areas.*

**Carol Lee, in opposition to a proposed rezoning request before the Vergennes Planning Commission**

*There has been talk for a long time that putting commercial development in that area makes sense. We are not going to stop expansion. In order to preserve rural areas, we must direct it to areas where it makes the most sense.*

**Vern Nauta  
Vergennes Township  
Planning Commission  
Chairman**

## Group day care home license suspended

••• After a Belding man is charged with second degree criminal sexual assault

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

A Belding man was arraigned in the 63rd District Court on charges of second degree criminal sexual conduct and with accosting a child for immoral purposes while staying with a relative who ran a Lowell group day care home.

According to Lowell police chief, James Valentine, a 17 year old Belding man, as a result of a preliminary exam, was bound over to circuit court on the aforementioned charges.

A circuit court date has not yet been set. The suspect was arrested on Dec. 26 and held on a \$10,000 bond (released on 10 percent).

The charge stems from a complaint that he allegedly had inappropriate sexual contact with a nine year old at the group day care home.

On Friday (Feb. 9), the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services, Bureau of Regulatory Services issued a summary suspension order and an intent to revoke action to Kent County group day care home provider, Amy Thornton at 216 Elizabeth Dean. The day care was ordered to immediately cease providing care to children, effective Feb. 9.

The day care provider was also required to inform all parents or guardians of children in her care that her license has been suspended and that she can no longer provide child care.

## Inside The Ledger

County Reclassifies  
Gee Drive, Story  
Page 12





# Lowell FFA shines in district leadership contests

Forty members of the Lowell FFA performed well in the district leadership contests held on Feb. 1 at Saranac High School. The purpose of the contests is to promote leadership and personal growth through a number of

different career and leadership development events.

Two teams from the district are selected to compete in the regional level of competition on Feb. 15 at Cedar Springs High School. After regionals, the next level of competition is the state finals held during the Michigan FFA Convention on March 5 and 6 at Michigan State University.

Lowell FFA advisor, John Schut, said "I am pleased with the students. They worked together to perform well and represented our FFA community well."

The results are as follows:

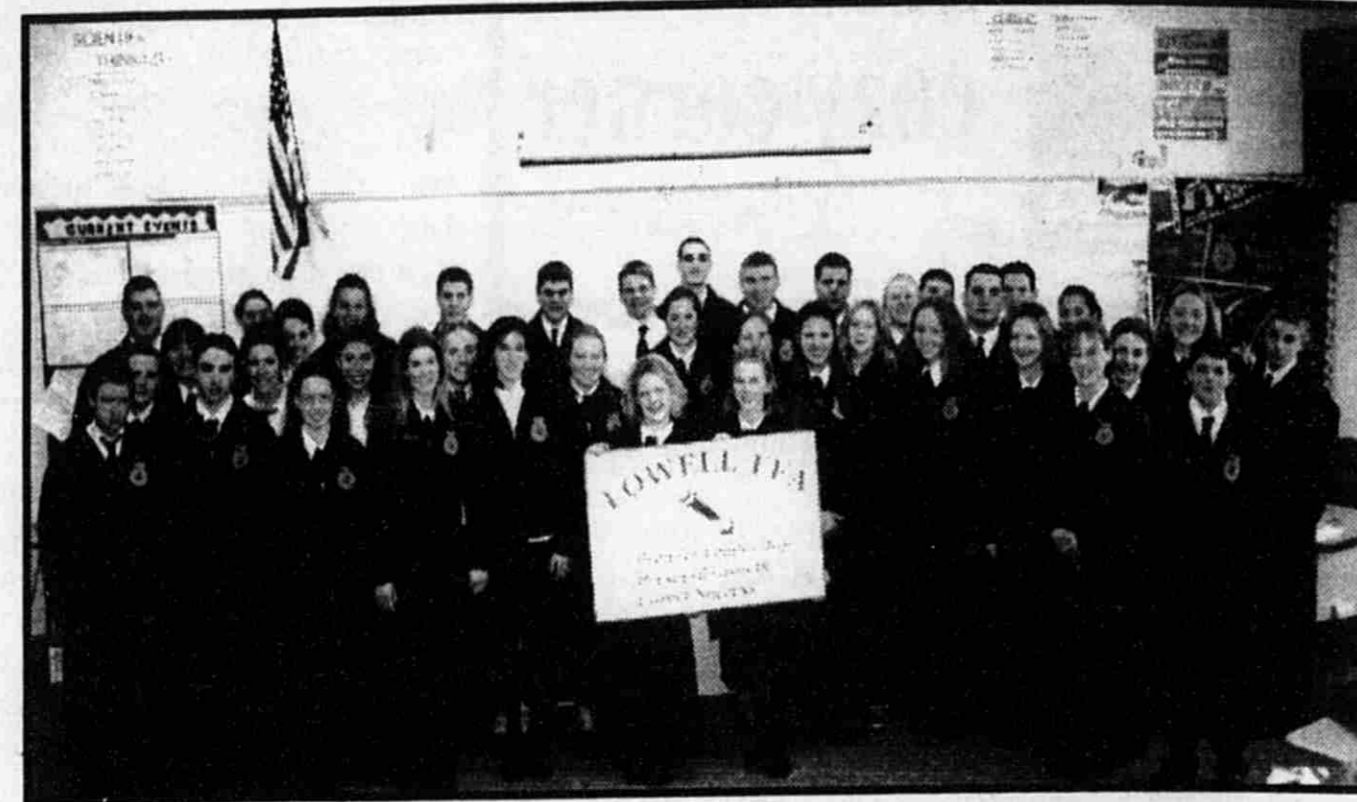
- Prepared Public Speaking - Lisa Wojciakowski

earned a silver award.

- Courtney Perkins earned gold and advanced to regionals.

- Extemporaneous Public Speaking- Natalie Kent earned a gold award.
- Katie Clements earned gold and advanced to regionals.

FFA, cont'd. pg. 7



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- FEBRUARY 15:** Jim VanDyke, DeeAnn Merriman, Deanne Newell, Marcus Kline.
- FEBRUARY 16:** George Blocher, Matthew Schuitema, Tracey Main.
- FEBRUARY 17:** Chris Hodges, Justin Stanford, Stephanie Ellison, Reatha Johnson, Lynda Horsley, Deb Tulecki.
- FEBRUARY 18:** Richard Claypool, Courtney Phillips, Laura Walling.
- FEBRUARY 19:** Jerrica Foss, Bruce Baird, Betty Newhouse.
- FEBRUARY 20:** Mike Rivers, Gary Kemp, Barbara Carpenter, Sara Soyka.
- FEBRUARY 21:** Elizabeth Vezino, Ashton VanderWarf, Kimberly Sterzick, Robin Martin.

# Asset Development: Creating environment in which youth reach their greatest potential.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Many factors (e.g., economics, genetics, trauma) influence why some young people have successes in life and why others have a harder time.

They are not, however, the only factors that do influence. Research done by Search Institute has identified 40 positive experiences and qualities (developmental assets) that have influenced the lives of young people.

Rick Phillips, executive director of California-based Community Matters, presented the Asset Development model to Lowell community leaders.

This model, developed by Minneapolis-based Search Institute, focuses on developmental assets that help young people make wise decisions, choices and develop caring, responsible character traits.

Phillips' workshop organized a two-three year plan with benchmarks and identified goals and vision for the Greater Lowell area.

Area leaders from the following organizations attended: Lowell Public Schools, City of Lowell, Lowell Charter Township, Vergennes Township, Family Resource Center, First

Congregational Church, Laurels of Kent, Cumberland Manor, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Masonic Lodge, Little League, Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization, First United Methodist Church, Greater Lowell Arts Coalition, Lowell Leadership, Lowell Ministerium, Lowell Rotary, Franciscan Life Process Center, Kent District Library, Lowell Area Arts Council, Christ the King Home School, Lowell Youth Development and the Lowell Branch of the YMCA.

"Each group learned the significant role they will play in this long-term process," said Lowell YMCA executive director, Will Welsh. "The intent of the meeting was to build a community-wide framework for creating an environment in which young people truly reach their greatest potential."

The Asset Development model is grouped into eight categories, or building blocks of healthy development.

"Leaders gained a deeper insight and understanding of the developmental assets and, more importantly, they learned how we as a community can put the model in place," Welsh said.

## FFA, cont'd... From Page 6

- Greenhand Public Speaking- Kristen Lee and Cassie Wheat earned golds and advanced to regionals.
- Demonstration- Heather Blough, Gina Blough and Rebecca Pfaller earned a gold award.
- Heather Canfield, Nathaniel Canfield and Ruthanne Oesch earned a silver award.
- Parliamentary Procedure - The team of Bryan Posthumus, Becky Bosserd, Jen Gunberg, Holly Plattner, Tim Zook and Kayla Ritenburgh earned a gold award.
- The team of James Bosserd, Danielle Nebelung, Courtney Baker, Joe Wisner, Megan Nyson and Jana Young earned gold and advanced to regionals.
- Job Interview - Toni Addington earned a silver award.
- Jeff Harrel earned a silver award.
- Conduct of Meetings - The team of Kriste Warren, Jessica Kincaid, Patty Leasure, Steve Koning, Justin Peterson, Jake Baker and Brian Hoekstra earned a silver award.
- Agricultural Forum - The team of Matt Oesch, Pieter Serne, Brian Rasch, Kevin Rasch, Teresa Leasure and Bill Zook earned a gold award and advanced to regionals.

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# TOWN TALK

## Should government funds be used for religious based charitable organizations?



<p><b>Wayne Inman</b> No. They get enough for free and they are exempt from everything.</p>	<p><b>Wanda Elliott</b> No, I don't think so. A lot can be done in churches through their own organizations.</p>	<p><b>Missy Higley</b> Yes, because of my morals and beliefs I think the government should provide charitable religious organizations with funds.</p>	<p><b>Denise Dykgraaf</b> Depends on what they use it for. No, government funds shouldn't be used for that. People could take advantage of the situation.</p>	<p><b>Mary Didion</b> The government doesn't have enough money now to do what it is supposed to do. People already make donations to support those sort of things.</p>	<p><b>Pat Craft</b> I can see a lot of ways churches can do this on their own. I don't see where the government comes in on this.</p>
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**Craig Allen**  
No. Government programs are there to support people, and what about separation of church and state?

**Michelle Smith**  
Yes. It's a good idea. I don't think it would be in violation.

A fan club is a group of people who tell an actor he's not alone in the way he feels about himself  
—Jack Carson

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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 to 8:30 p.m. in members' homes. See poster in high school cafeteria or call 676-1355 for details.

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

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

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

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

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

**EVERY MON.:** Boy Scout Troop 10210, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5th-grade, meet 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For info call Terry Cavanaugh, 868-6481.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**EVERY 3RD TUES.:** Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (& E. 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 1 to 4 p.m.

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

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

**LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL:** Open Tues., Wed. & Fri. noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs., noon - 7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson.

**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.

**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.

**SAT. & SUN., FEB. 17 & 18:** Weekend retreat at Franciscan Life Process Center on Humanae Vitae, a Catholic Church document on human life for married couples, single adults, priests and religious. Call 897-7842, Sister Colleen Ann Nagle.

**SUN., MARCH 4:** Annual Lowellian get-together at Huntington Hills Golf & Country Club, Duff Rd., Lakeland, Fla. 1 p.m. buffet. Contact Barb Curtis (863-682-7136), Mary Peckham (863-683-6336) or Carmen Roudabush (863-683-9071) for information.

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**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR**  
897-5949

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

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

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

**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.

**WED., FEB. 14:** 9-noon. Tax assistance; noon Movie, "Coney Island".

**THURS., FEB. 15:** Noon Dance, West Side Complex.

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

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

**THURS., 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-noon: Tax assistance; 10:30 a.m. Tour YMCA Wellness Center.

### Donations being accepted for D.A.R.E. vehicle

The Lowell Police Department Drug Abuse Resistance Education program in Lowell Area Schools has begun accepting cash donations toward the purchase of a new vehicle.

The 2001 black GMC Sonoma will have bright red D.A.R.E. logos and will be used as transportation for the D.A.R.E. officers to teach classes and attend community events.

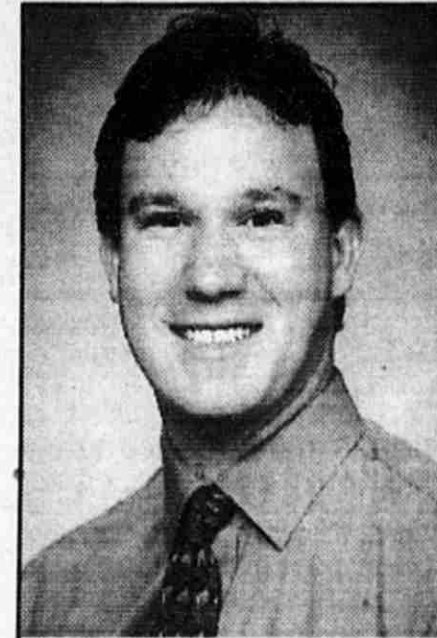
A total of \$18,798 needs to be raised. The new truck will create a higher profile for this important program being taught in the Lowell School District.

Donations may be sent to the Lowell Branch of Huntington Bank at 414 E. Main St. Lowell, MI 49331.

Checks should be made payable to the Lowell Police Department - D.A.R.E.

### Local dentist graduates from advanced training

For a lot of people, a beautiful white smile can be achieved in a matter of a few weeks instead of years. How is this possible? This can be done through a conservative technique that reshapes the teeth and fits them with porcelain laminates that are metal-free, and look and feel like the real thing. Many people can now improve their smiles without the necessity of braces. These natural looking restorations can create the perfect smile that may be desired by many... instantly.



Dr. Martin Vredenburg

A local dentist, Dr. Martin Vredenburg has recently completed post-graduate training at the prestigious Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies in Nevada. Vredenburg completed the Advanced Anterior Aesthetics program under the world-renowned Dr. William Dickerson, a Fellow of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. While at the Institute, Vredenburg underwent intensive training including completing a case on a live patient under the direction of the teachers.

Vredenburg is one of the few dentists from the area that have completed a program that teaches these skills. His commitment to excellence is emphasized by undergoing this training to provide patients with only the best restorations and care possible. By undergoing this training, Vredenburg has achieved the clinical ability that few dentists in the country are even aware exists. For more information call LVI at (888) 584-3237 or Dr. Vredenburg at 897-8429.

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



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

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

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

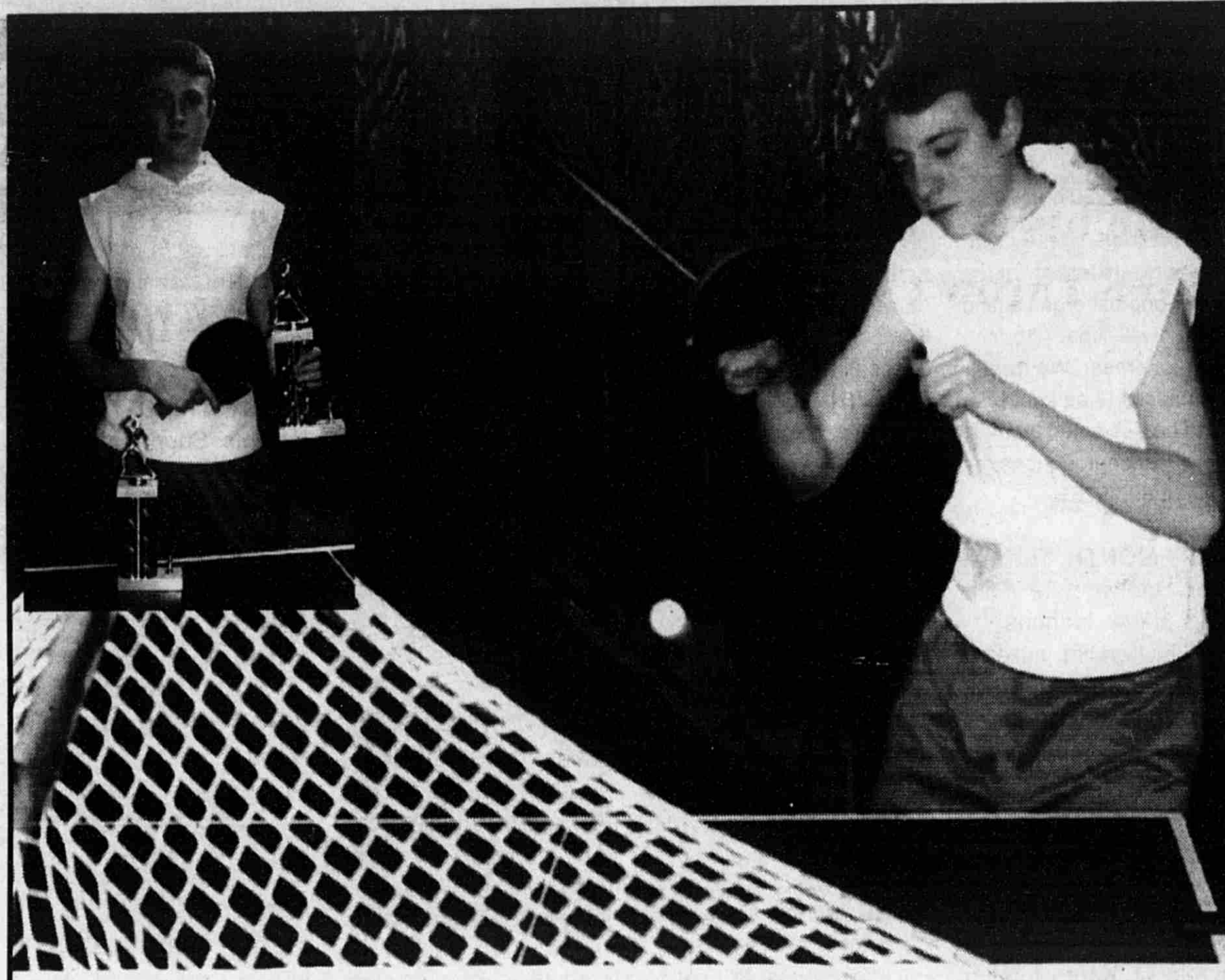
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No Phone Calls Please



Lowell's Dana Long won the 13-and-under Michigan State Table Tennis Championship in Holly, MI.

### Ping-Pong excellence a 'Long'-standing father-son tradition in Lowell family

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Dana Long, 13, did forehand loops around his competition to win the 2001 Michigan State Table Tennis Championship in Holly, MI.

Long won the 13-and-under championship in three games 21-19, 15-21 and 21-16.

This is the third level in which Long has won the championship.

He also partnered with David Witt to win the junior doubles (17 and under) championship. The duo won 21-11 and 21-15.

The Lowell High School junior began playing table tennis at the age of seven. "My father (Frank) encouraged me to play. I've continued because I like the competition and it's fun to play," Long said.

His father taught him well. Six years after picking up a paddle Long reached a historical marker and defeated his dad. "I still practice with Dana... he's just better than I am now," Frank Long explains.

The younger Long is hopeful of spending three weeks in Romania this summer where he will practice with the Romanian junior table tennis team. "The best part of my game is the top spin forehand loop. I wish my serve was better. I need to work on my chop spin serve," Long said.

His immediate goal is to become a national champion (best in age). To achieve that, he will need a rating of roughly 2000. Currently, Long's rating is at 1,100. "Your rating increases or decreases with every win or loss. How much it goes up or down depends on your opponent's rating."

The junior's long-term goal is to play in the Olympics.

In 1914, the Detroit Symphony gives its first concert at the Detroit Opera House.

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In 1940, William "Smokey" Robinson is born in Detroit.

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**MOVIE GUIDE**

**HOLDEN JEFFREY GUINN**  
Was Born On  
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at 8:32 am, weighing  
9 lbs., 20 1/2" long

Proud parents are  
Jeffrey and Michoah Guinn  
of Lowell

Welcoming Holden home  
were big sister, Chelsea  
and big brother, Kellen.

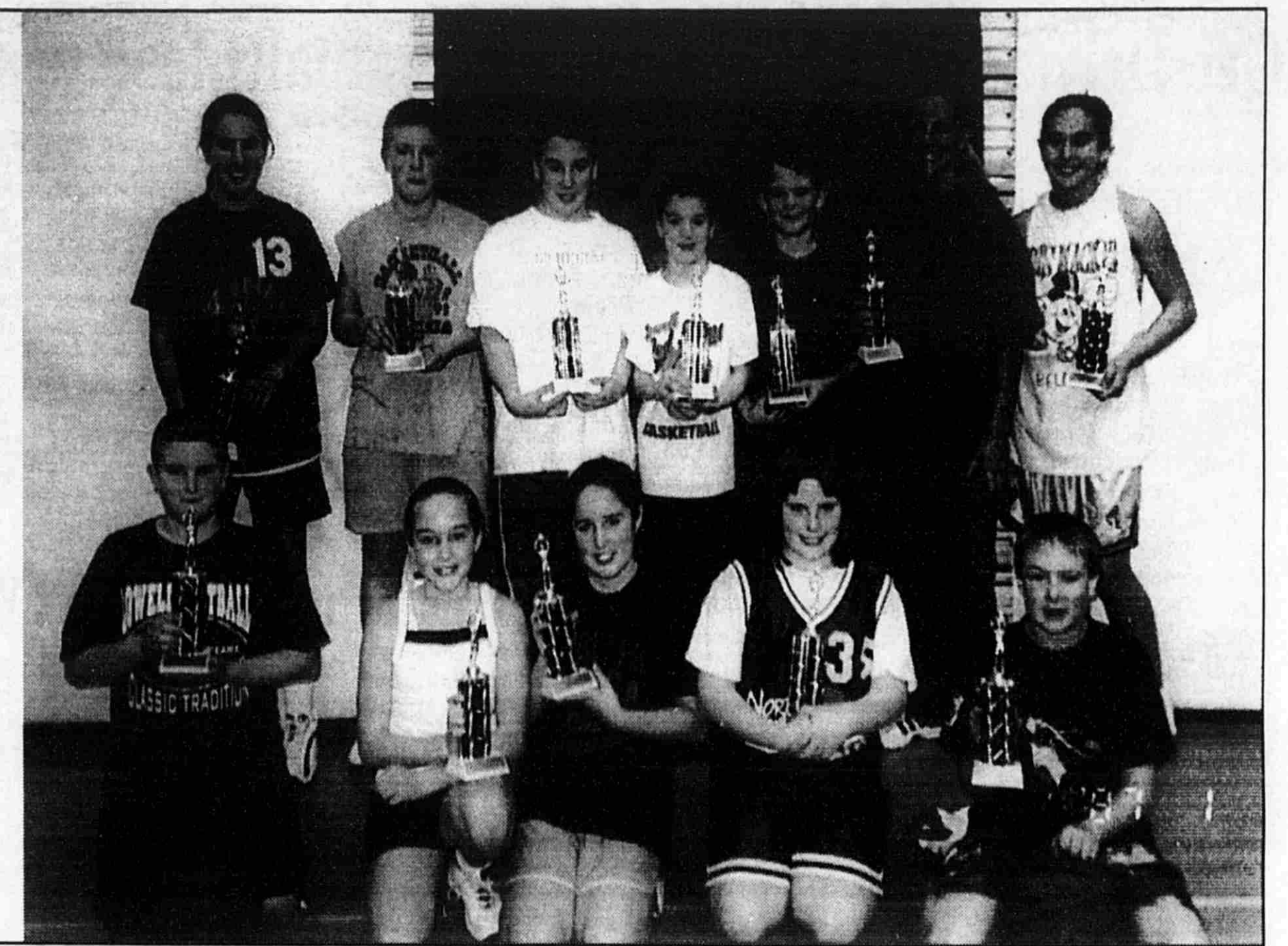
Grandparents are Charles  
and Chrystal Guinn of  
Mayville, MI, Ron and  
Sue Weyher of Iron River,  
MI and Sharon York of  
Zephyrhills, FL.

**SHOWS GOOD 2/9 - 2/15**  
O HANNIBAL (R)  
1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20  
O SAVING SILVERMAN (PG-13)  
12:20, 2:30, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40  
O VALENTINE (R)  
12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50  
O WEDDING PLANNER (PG-13)  
12:10, 2:20, 4:35, 7:00, 9:10  
O TRAFFIC (R) 3:30, 6:30, 9:30  
O EMPERORS NEW GROOVE (G)  
12:00, 1:45

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### Knights of Columbus Free Throw Champions

Pictured to the right are the winners of this year's Knights of Columbus Free Throw tournament. Back row, left to right, are: Brittany Lyman (age 12), Sean Butterworth (14), Josh Hettinga (13), Tim Hettinga (10), Josh Drake (9), Tara Brown (14) and Devon Collins (13). Front row, left to right, are: Ethan Drain (age 11), Cassie DeCator (10), Chelsea Harrison (11), Melissa Shepard (9) and Steve Geelhoed (12). These winners will now compete at the district level.



The dirt bikes of Eric Baird (left), Dan Baird (center) and Tim Hill have been put up for the winter but March and the start of the dirt bike motor cross season cannot be far away.

### March madness means dirt bike season for these Lowell youths

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Tim Hill and brothers Eric and Dan Baird spend the winter season riding their snowmobiles.

It's fun and more importantly it gives their bodies time to heal from a bruising motor cross dirt bike season which ends in November.

All three youths spend every weekend from March to November racing their dirt bikes. The 2001 season begins in Coldwater on the first weekend in March.

"My goal is to go more than a couple of months without breaking a bone," said Hill who has been racing nine years. Currently, he rides a 2001 RM-250.

Hill broke his wrist and sprained an ankle last year. "The first week in June I was racing in Hudsonville and I did three front flips. I broke my wrist and had it in a cast for six-seven months." The cast is off but the wrist is discolored a blue similar to lips after a person has been in cold water too long.

Hill may not like it, but recovering from an injury has been a part of the sport for him. He continues to endure because of his love for racing and for the traveling he gets to do.

Some of the seasonal stops along the way include Ten-

nessee for the Loretta Lynn Nationals; and Beaverdale, Pennsylvania for the Hill Climb Nationals.

It's not all injuries and travel; sometimes it's raising trophies in the air. Eric Baird did that recently in Grand Rapids Arena Cross at the Van Andel Arena.

Riding his CR-250 took first in three days of the event. "It was the first time we've competed in Grand Rapids," Baird explained.

Hill finished fourth on Friday and a Saturday crash took him out of the competition in day two.

Dan Baird, driving a '97 Suzuki 80, crashed on Friday and was left to spectate the rest of the weekend.

A season highlight for Dan Baird was winning the Hill Climb Nationals in Beaverdale. He was first out of 36 racers in his division.

For Eric Baird, the 2000 season highlight was his 18th place finish in the Loretta Lynn Nationals. He competed against 42 other dirt bikers.

While Hill didn't place, his top moment was competing in the Tennessee Nationals.

When the threesome aren't competing on weekends they are practicing on a three-and-a-half dirt bike track on land owned by Bairds' grandfather (Al Baird).

### JV hockey team skates past Grand Haven; shuts out Northview

The Red Arrow junior varsity hockey team traveled to the Edge Arena in Holland on Saturday and lost to the Buccaneers from Grand Haven, 10 - 3.

Scoring for the Lowell/Caledonia team was provided by Brandon John in the first period, unassisted on a power play. Ben Olson scored unassisted, also on a power play, in the second period. Dustin Hofert scored in the third period with Dan Woods recording an assist.

The Red Arrows were host to the Northview Wildcats on Sunday. Lowell proved too much to handle for Northview as the Red Arrows blanked the Wildcats 7-0. Rob Latva was in goal and recorded the shutout.

Brandon John scored five goals, with three coming in the first period. His first goal was scored unassisted; the next two were assisted by Dan Woods.

Woods wasn't done, however, as he broke away and scored unassisted with 44 seconds left to close out the first period. Ben Olson, on a breakaway in the second period, was tripped from behind while bearing down on the Northview goalie. This resulted in a penalty shot, on which Ben buried the puck in the back of the net.

Brandon Johns' speed proved too much for the Northview defense and added another unassisted goal in the second period. The third period saw Dan Woods assist John again for Lowell's 7th score of the game.

Lowell plays Kenowa at Walker Ice and Fitness on Saturday, Feb. 17 followed by West Catholic on Sunday at home. The puck drops at 6:30.

### JV grapplers win league tourney

Lowell's junior varsity wrestling team took top honors at the conference meet in Hastings.

Finishing first were Red Arrow grapplers' Mike Nearing (113 pounds), Kevin Frazier (135), Beau Wilder (138) and Phil Moerdyke (192).

Nate Luebs (119 pounds), Sean Gannon (124), Jeremy Goff (128), Mark Kimberlin (132) and Jason Murray (186) all earned seconds.

Finishing third were Andy Jousma (104 pounds), Braton Fredline (132), Jim Kelly (138) and Greg VanderWal (160).

Earning fourth-place finishes were Matt Muha (128 pounds) and Josh Vaught (147).

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