

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 20

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 21, 2001

New accountability standards will label schools' success

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Participation, achievement, improvement, and results are the focal points of the state's new accountability based accreditation.

The framework of the new accreditation system calls for

assessment of all students, academic achievement, adequate yearly progress, minimizing achievement gaps for gender and ethnicity, and school improvement.

When the system is fully in place, the state will fulfill its promise of identifying every public school building with an accreditation label.

The old Michigan Department of Education framework was broken down into three areas: summary accredited, interim accreditation and unaccredited.

The new framework has four labels: summary accredited being the highest, accredited with recognition status, accredited and unaccredited.

To be labeled summary accredited a school must:

1. Have no less than 80 percent of its students take the MEAP test;
2. Have at least 75 percent of its students score in the highest category on all the MEAP tests;
3. Achieve adequate yearly progress;
4. Show no evidence of achievement gap in genders or ethnic groups; and
5. Show school improvement results.

The state hoped to accomplish this by mid-January. That has not happened. The label is supposed to be based on all five factors, but because factors three, four and five are not

in place, this year only factors one and two will be used.

Beginning next year, to be accredited with recognition status will require that factors one and two, and that a school meet one factor of four and five. Factor three is considered met.

The accredited recognition label requires that 80 percent of students be tested, that at least 50 percent of those students score in the highest category on all MEAP tests, and that two of factors three, four and five be met.

An accredited school must have 80 percent participation with at least 25 percent of the students taking the test scoring in the highest category of any given MEAP test.

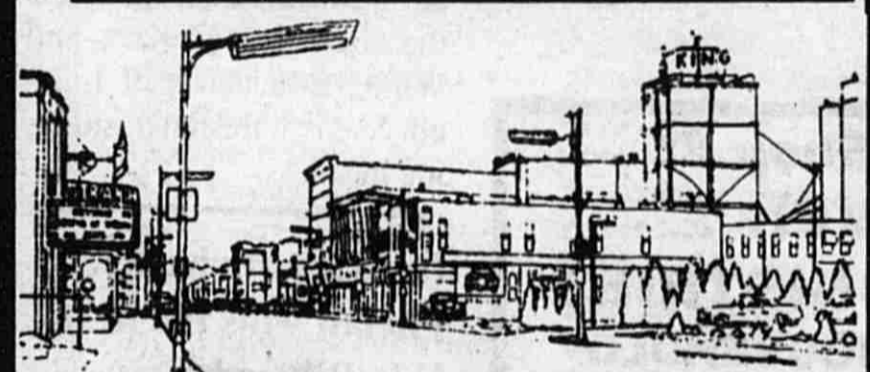
Based on the aforementioned factors, and on the results of the math, reading and science scores, every Lowell school achieved accredited recognition status.

The only exception was the middle school where in science only 31.3 percent of its students scored in the highest category.

Based on the accreditation factors, over 900 schools in the state of Michigan are unaccredited.

Lowell superintendent, Bert Bleke acknowledged his support for accountability, but added the school district needs to take a broader look at accountability. "I believe it is a three-prong approach. We want students leaving this district with knowledge, skills and character," Bleke said.

Along Main Street



FALLASBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

On Saturday, Feb. 24 at 10 a.m., volunteers are needed to sort and move into storage the usable lumber from the Fallasburg Historical Society historic barn that came down under the weight of snow. Refreshments are provided. Please call Priscilla at 897-6430 if you are able to help.

LOWELL YMCA LEADER'S CLUB ROCK-A-THON

The Rock-A-Thon will be held at the Lowell YMCA Teen Center on Saturday, Feb. 24 and Sunday, Feb. 25. The leaders will be rocking on rocking chairs for 24 hours straight starting at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Please stop at the YMCA Fitness Center or the YMCA office to make your pledges and help support our youth.

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).

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEETING

The Lowell Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athletes.

CROP WALK RALLY COMING SOON

Held at First United Methodist Church of Lowell on March 15 at 7 p.m. will be the Crop Walk - 2001 Rally. Representatives from all area churches/organizations will meet to kick off plans for the Crop Walk for Hunger Relief on May 6. Plan to attend or send a representative for pledge forms and recruiting information, 897-5936.

15th annual WMRC opens Sunday

... Timothy Fisher's "Butcher Boy" selected as Best of Show.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Kirstin Ringelberg, art history professor at Kendall College of Art & Design, confirmed what patrons of the West Michigan Regional Competition have come to know: that the work displayed at the annual Lowell Area Arts Council exhibition is of high quality.

"It speaks well of art education in West Michigan," Ringelberg said. "Especially the technique. A vast majority of the work showed great skill and use of technique and good training."

Ringelberg, selected to jury the 15th annual competition, had the difficult task of dwindling the 239 pieces entered down to roughly 70 for the show. From there, she selected seven pieces for awards.

"I expected it to be easier to weed out the pieces for the show," Ringelberg said. "It was difficult but fun."

Lowell Area Arts Council executive director, Lorain Smalligan said Ringelberg was selected as juror because she is relatively new to the area and doesn't have any material or media bias. "Kirstin has a broad familiarity with all mediums and because she is new to the community, she doesn't have any relationship ties to any artists or their work."

The reception for the West Michigan Regional Competition is Sunday (Feb. 25). It will be held from 1:30 until 3:30 p.m. with the awards presentation scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

Ringelberg selected Timothy Fisher's "Butcher Boy" (oil on panel) as best of show.

The oil on panel piece displays a great handling of materials with a strong narrative component. "I thought it rewards a long examination and had a sense of humor and wit," Ringelberg explained.

Adam Tetzlaff's "Inspirational Guidance Counselor" (acrylic on canvas) was labeled best two-dimensional piece.

"It was a well crafted painting. It's a trompe l'oeil (fools the eye). There's great detail and realism. It appears as a



Adam Tetzlaff's "Inspirational Guidance Counselor" earned Best two-dimensional.

photograph. There is also an intriguing story in the content," Ringelberg explained.

WMRC, cont'd. pg. 8

Inside The Ledger

PAC Performance,
Special for Lowell
Grad, Story Page 15

OBITUARIES

FOUT - Richard A. Fout (Rick), aged 48, of Ionia, passed away Sunday, February 11, 2001. He was born August 12, 1952 in Sharon, PA, the son of Richard and Maret (Burt) Fout. Surviving are one brother David Fout of PA; two sisters

Patricia Fout of Ionia and Sara Baxter of PA; four nieces Joanne, Becky and Tiffany Baxter and Elizabeth Fout; one nephew Jeremy Fout; girlfriend Cindy Lasco of Ionia and one best friend, his dog Peppermint as well as lots of friends in Ionia and around the world. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service was held Saturday at

Lakes Funeral Home in Ionia. Any donations may be made to the Diabetes Association. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

RIOJAS - Terrance Lee Riojas, of Yuma, AZ, died unexpectedly February 12, 2001 at the age of 52. He was preceded in death by his father Agapito Riojas. Terry is survived by his loving wife Delaine; his young son Tyler; daughters Anika (Doug) Colburn of Lincoln, NE and Lara Riojas of Ocala, FL; his mother Laura of Grand Rap-

ids; his sister Diane (Keith) Bennett of Lowell; brothers Steven (Agnes) of Walnut Creek, CA and Edward (Mary) of Byron Center; newborn grandson McMillen; and

several nieces and nephews. In accordance with his request, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held in California. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that

contributions be made for the support of his widow and son. They may be sent c/o Edward Riojas, 10385 Byron Center Ave., Byron Center, MI 49315.

at least 12 hours of graded class work.

Students from the Lowell area include: Brianne Gallert, Brooke Gallert, Cherie A. Gillman, Melinda C. Hadley, Emily D. Hovinga, Terresa A. Kenney, Laura E. LaHaye, Trevor M. Land, William H. Mittlestat, Amy Lee Stauffer, Tamara Sue Stauffer and Elizabeth M. Zeeuw; from Ada: Jonathan H. Ballem and Jenny Marie Siler; and from Alto: Nicole S. Eakins and Sarah J. Meekhof.

COLLEGE NEWS

David M. Barry pledged the Albion College chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity during the 2001 spring semester.

Tau Kappa Epsilon is a social fraternity founded at Illinois Wesleyan University in Decatur, IL on Jan. 10, 1899. The "Tekes" support the Special Olympics.

Barry is a first-year student at Albion College and is a member of the Ford Institute for Public Policy and Service. He is the son of Gordie and Susan Barry of Lowell and a graduate of Lowell High School.

Albion College, acclaimed as the seventh Most Wired College in America (Yahoo! Internet Life), specializes in innovative and interdisciplinary programs in the liberal arts tradition. It is located in southwestern Michigan.

A total of 4,493 students are included on the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2000-2001 academic year at Western Michigan University. To be eligible, students must have completed at least a 3.5 grade point average (on a scale of 4.0 being all As) in

Cornerstone University recognizes Elizabeth Roudabush on the dean's list for the fall of 2000. This distinction is reserved for those who achieve a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Roudabush, a 2000 graduate of Lowell High School, is the daughter of Kurt and Wilma Roudabush of Lowell. She is a freshman studying business.

In 1858, Michael J. Phelan wins the first U.S. Billiard Championship, at Fireman's Hall in Detroit.


In 1913, Henry Ford installs the first moving assembly line in Detroit.

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MOVIE GUIDE



SHOWS GOOD 2/16 - 2/22
O HANNIBAL (R)
1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
O RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT (G)
1:10, 3:00, 4:55, 7:15, 9:00
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG-13)
2:00, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30
O SAVING SILVERMAN (PG-13)
12:20, 2:30, 4:25, 7:30, 9:40
WEDDING PLANNER (PG-13)
12:10, 2:20, 4:35, 7:00, 9:10

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE

FILE NO. 170-994GD

In the matter of VIRGINIA A. SCYTOKO

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including:*

DENNIS R. SCYTOKO

whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: On Petition of John V. Szczytko for the appointment of guardian of Virginia A. Scytoko for a hearing to be held on March 15, 2001 at 9:00 a.m.

01/29/01

SUSAN M. POTYRAJ (P46249)
410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 454-4119

JOHN V. SZCZYTKO
872 Fifth Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 456-5992

Lowell YMCA Offers:

ISKA Kickboxing for Fitness
International Sport Kickboxing Association

ISKA Kickboxing Masterclass
Saturday, Feb. 24
8:00-9:30 A.M.

Cost: \$5.00 (open to the public)

Lowell Township Hall
2910 Alden Nash Ave.
Lowell, MI 49331
897-8554

This is an opportunity to learn *real* kickboxing drills and techniques.

This full contact/non contact workout incorporates a full room of kickboxing equipment to give you an explosive workout!

Join us for an awesome workout and a lot of FUN!

Following the Masterclass is an Instructor Certification. This will begin at 10:00 am - 7:00 pm, with an hour break for lunch. The fee is \$85.00 and includes the Masterclass. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy Retberg at 897-8445.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP NOTICE

BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF GRATTAN TOWNSHIP HALL
12050 OLD BELDING ROAD
BELDING, MICHIGAN ON:

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001
between the hours of 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2001
between the hours of 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation in person or by letter addressed to: Frank Buckley, Grattan Township Assessor, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan 48809. Written appeals must be received by March 9, 2001. Those wishing to appeal in person should call the Township offices between March 5 and March 8 to prearrange an appointment at 691-8450.

Tentative equalization factor is 1.000000
Frank Buckley
Assessor, Grattan Township

STATE FARM INSURANCE • Chapman Agency
RECOGNIZES THIS SEMESTER'S HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

Lowell High School Honor Roll 2ND MARKING PERIOD

*Denotes all As

FRESHMEN
Joshua Abdoo*
Lyndsey Adriance
Joshua Anderson
Stacey Anderson
Amanda Ayers
Audrey Bailey
Jacob Baker
Darcie Banfill
Allison Bault
Heather Becker*
Timothy Beenen
Evangeline Bender
Andrew Benedict*
Aaron Benmark*
Stephany Bieber
Andrea Black
Derek Blackall
David Blair*
Stephanie Blanchard
Melissa Blattner
Joe Blumm
Edward Boeve Jr.
Amy Bogner
Anna Boruta
Amanda Bouwkamp
Daniel Brinks
Elizabeth Brower
Kevin Brubaker
Zachary Butts
Heather Cadwallader
Bradley Calvi
Elizabeth Camp
Kati Capps
Cody Carr
Renee Catlin
Marc Cauchi
Ryan Churches (Datema)
Jamil Clark
Ashley Claypool*
Christian Colley
Christopher Corlett*
Jonathan Cosgrove
Amanda Craig
Helen Crimmins*
Christopher Curtis
Grant Daggett
James DeLeride*
Tera DesJarden
Annie Didion*
Nicholas DuBois
Nick Duley*
Thomas Eldridge*
Jeremy Ellis
Nancy Elmer
Heather Essich
Claire Evans
Jared Felling
Jamie Fink*
Stacy Fleet
Kelly Frazier
Christopher Gallagher
Matthew Geldersma
Derik Germond
Stacy Grasman
Amanda Grochowalski*
Mackenzie Hacker
Julie Halbeisen*
Jessica Hamp
Matthew Hansen*
Brendon Harden
Sarah Harmon
Zachariah Harris*
Eric Hasso
Blair Hendrick
Bryan Hoekstra
Amy Hoppough
Zacharias Horan*
Lynda Horsley
Jonathan Howard
Stacey Hubonet
Nathan Huisman
Andrew Ingraham
Andrew Jakubielski
Taylor Jamison
Michael Jansma
Diane Johnson
Kelly Johnson
Matt Johnson
Andrew Jousma
Stephan Kansman*
Ashley Kehoe
Jessica Kincaid
Leslie Koehn*
Steven Koning
Andrea Kropf*
Patricia Leasure
Christopher Lechner*
Kristen Lee*

Melissa Liszewski
Jay MacDougall
Kristen Maki
Larinda Marker
Anthony Mauric
Tabitha May
David Maylone
Cassi McKinley
Jeffrey McPherson*
Heather McQueen
Caitlin Meaney
Adam Meis
Macey Mikesell
Daniel Miller*
Andrew Min
Megan Mingerink
Cara Mooney*
Colin Moore*
Ryan Moore
Maranda Morris
Sean Myers
Jordan Nawrocki*
Rachel Nawrocki*
Alan Nugent
Emily Nurmikko
Samuel Oberlin*
Dustin Osborne*
Dan Palasek
Dustin Pedley
Justin Peterson
Stephanie Phillips
Jose Posada
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Brian Randolph
Scott Riddle
Adrienne Ripley
Charles Roelofs
Erin Rolfe
Kyle Rozema
Matthew Scheider
Paul Schellenberger
Amy Scheller*
Adam Scott
Sandrine Shanghai
Megan Shellenbarger
Samantha Sheppard
Michael Shimabery
Bradford Siek Jr.
David Skidmore
Jessica Smith
Matthew Smith
Sydney Snyder
Crystal Spino
Eric Staal
Sarah Swab
Eric Sytsma
Luke Tomczak
Lyndsey Trierweiler*
John Truskowski
WesLee Tweedate
Kelly Umlauf*
John VanderJagt
Ashley VanEck
Stephan VanHeulen
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Jeremy Wieland
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Amanda Yakes
Holly Yonker
Holly Young
Jamie Zoodsma

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Reflections

Of Faith

Pastor Joe Fremer
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

Does it bother you to hear wealthy people complain? It bothers me! You hear this movie star complaining about how hard she had to work on her last movie (for which she was paid eleven million dollars). You hear this rock star whining about his troubles (but he has a different Italian sports car for every day of the week). It's just kind of hard to feel sympathy for these people. They don't have it rough, not like us regular people.

Before I begin whining about the troubles of us normal folk, let's try a different perspective—say, that of a refugee who is once again fleeing his home in Liberia because of the tribal wars that never seem to quit in West Africa. Suppose he were reading over my shoulder, what would he say? You are preparing to complain to these good people about the condition of your Michigan roads, and what it is doing to the shocks on your motorcar. You have never walked for

three days straight with nothing but the clothes on your back, because you had no time to gather your belongings when the militia kicked in your door. I have no sympathy for your troubles, American.

My imaginary Liberian critic is right, of course. I have no valid complaint. It only seems so when I use a sliding scale based on—how is it the divorce lawyers put it?—"the lifestyle to which I am accustomed." I have a consumer-based view of things, and rate my life in terms of customer satisfaction.

Jesus, of course, had a word to say to people like me who wanted to be His followers: Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 22: Kevin Gerard, Lloyd Powell, Rob Tulecki, Julie Shaffer, Jessy Dale Abel, Krista Foster.
FEBRUARY 23: Joe Ellis, Heather Essich, Bill Mayou, Sharon Miles.
FEBRUARY 24: Cliff Mulder, Amy Aksamitowski,

Tarah Essich, Lizzy Decker.
FEBRUARY 25: Brett Taylor, Susan Miesal.
FEBRUARY 26: Jeremy Goff, Barry Vezino, Bob Ford, Nancy Porter.
FEBRUARY 27: Joshua Soyka, Justin Soyka.
FEBRUARY 28: Mark V. Ritzema, Connie Roth, Scott Denton, Claesra Guastavino.

Any of you who do not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. One who heard His call, Paul the Apostle, wrote from a prison cell: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength (Philippians 4:11ff NIV). Paul learned the secret of moving from a consumer mentality to a supply-side faith. Instead of looking at what he had (or didn't have), he learned contentment by looking at what God could supply.

The old poem says: "I complained that I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet." It is possible to be done with whining by adopting this philosophical attitude toward troubles. But I have learned that there is a far better way, and that is to put my trust in Jesus, and begin to live out the secret of gratitude, not only for His gifts, but also for Himself who gives me strength. What about you?

Robertson/Maxa

Michelle Lynn Maxa, of Chesaning, and Alan Travis Robertson, of Lowell, were married September 30, 2000 in St. Michael's Church in New Lothrop. The bride's parents are Richard and Janet Maxa of Chesaning. The groom's parents are Sally Golds of Lowell and David Robertson of Ft. Scott, Kan. Maid of honor was Patricia Blasius of Linden. Bridesmaids were Jill Gabbert of Elmhurst, Ill., Nichole Maxa of Chesaning, Lisa Andres of Sackets Harbor, N.Y. and Vicki Kildea of New Lothrop.



Michelle Lynn and Alan Travis Robertson

Best man was Mark Cain of Delton. Groomsmen were Eric Maxa of Chesaning, Paul Bieri Jr. of Lowell, Darron Birchmeier of Lansing and Chris Seymour of Pierson.

Hostesses were Jennifer Birchmeier of Midland and Cindy Mulert of Kasson, Minn.

The bride is a graduate of Davenport University and works as a paralegal for Dyer, Garapalo, Mann and Schultz in Dayton, Ohio.

The groom works as an acquisitions manager for the United States Air Force. He is a graduate of Grand Rapids Community College, Davenport University and USAP Officer Training School. He will graduate with an MBA in project management this summer from Wright State University in Dayton.

The couple honeymooned in Jamaica.

Grandparents are Mike and Karen MacDermaid of Vassar and Edward and Mary Lyosowski of Bridgeport.

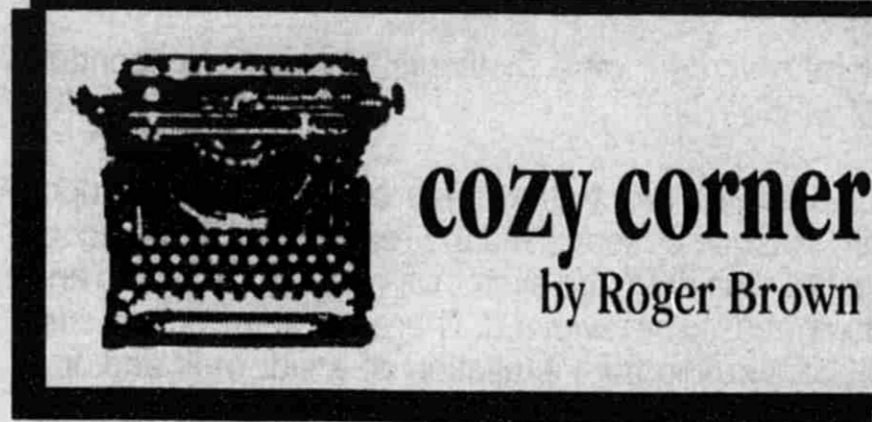
You can reach Evan's Fan Club at <http://www.ameritech.net/users/smacermaid/Evan.html>.

AREA BIRTHS

Evan Michael MacDermaid was born on Thursday, February 1, 2001 at 5:05 a.m. weighing 1 lb. 15

oz. and measuring 12 1/2 inches long. Proud parents are Scott and Sharon MacDermaid of Lowell.

Viewpoint . . .



For you guys out there, remember your high school days when you finally got up the nerve to ask out that certain girl? The day of the big date you woke up with a zit the size of Kansas on the end of your nose. The family car, your only "wheels," had to go into the shop. And, your varsity jacket, your only decent coat, hadn't come back from the cleaners.

I'm sure you gals had similar experiences, but I won't pretend to relate. The bottom line is: Just when you want to make a good impression, you become a rollover accident on life's highway.

I had a similar experience recently. No, we aren't talkin' a date with a seventeen-year-old cheerleader; that was strictly a metaphor. My life hasn't been that exciting for a long, long time.

As readers of this paper, I'm sure you are aware of the new Meijer store opening soon at the edge of town. We are obviously eager to acquire their advertising business which consists primarily of weekly advertising supplements. If we play our cards right, and with a little luck, they could become one of our biggest accounts.

After regularly sending out letters, circulation figures and rate sheets, I eventually hit upon the guy who will call the shots regarding the advertising for the new store. We talked on the phone a couple of weeks ago. He was very pleasant and, better yet, seemed receptive to our proposals. He suggested we meet at our office so he could see our facility and take a tour of the area around the store. We set it up for 1:00 a.m. on a Friday. To my thinking Friday was good. It is press day for the Buyers Guide. All our staff is there and the place looks busy.

As Friday rolled around I was as nervous as before one of those high school dates. Fortunately I didn't wake up with a zit on the end of my nose. It was one of those awful Michigan

winter days with overcast skies, temperatures just above freezing and a steady rain was coming down. About an hour before our scheduled meeting, the lights flickered, we heard a small explosion out back, and the lights went out. As the Lone Ranger said when he found out late in life that Kemosabe means the east end of a horse traveling west, "What the...?"

When I got to the rear of the building I found a couple employees as white as ghosts. When the lights flickered they investigated and found smoke, sparks and flames erupting from the meter on the back of the building. They were approaching it with a fire extinguisher when the meter did an impersonation of nuclear meltdown and blew up! The two employees hit the deck. We have 220 three phase service to the building so I'm sure the show was impressive.

Late in the day, when power was restored, the electricians and power company guys had a theory of what happened. They think ice falling from the eave had previously cracked or loosened the glass housing around the meter. All the rain of that Friday eventually shorted out the contacts, and we had our little meltdown. When it happened we weren't concerned with the "why" of it.

It was time to make some quick decisions. First I retrieved the cell phone I keep hidden in my car. Despite all my public criticism of cell phone users, I do have one of the annoying contraptions. I'm a closet cell phone user.

Without power we have no computers, phones, heat or lights. I sent two employees to my brother's business in nearby Saranac to finish typesetting the display ads. We rigged flashlights in a light table so that another employee could put pages together. I called the printer and told them that we would be sending page paste-ups rather than negatives. I sent the rest of the employees home. I called an electrician with a frantic plea for help. And, I called the guy from Meijer in hopes of canceling our appointment. Unfortunately, he had already left the building.

When my appointment showed up, the place was dark, quiet, damp and starting to cool down. We had to conduct our meeting at the front counter because it was too dark in any of the offices. I explained our situation and apologized for not being able to give him a tour. I'm sure he wasn't terribly impressed, but he did seem understanding of our situation. The meeting went as well as could be expected. Kinda like a date with a zit on the end of your nose.

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I knew it had to happen. G.M. Ross has a fan club.

Dave B. Simmonds

Letters, Letters, Letters, Let-

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.

Sharing The Vision

BERT R. BLEKE
Lowell Schools
Superintendent

A question that I hear quite frequently is why do I, as the Superintendent of Lowell Schools, wish to spend time and energy helping the students in Grand Rapids. Because of my involvement in this endeavor, it is important to share with the Lowell community why I care about these children.

You need only travel between Grand Rapids and Lowell on M-21 to quickly realize the strong relationship that exists between the city and the Lowell community. This relationship is particularly apparent in the early morning or late afternoon when there is almost an unbroken string of lights either going to or returning from the Grand Rapids area. Lowell is no longer an isolated community. In fact, a strong argument can be made that, "As goes Grand Rapids, so goes Lowell." There exists a strong interdependency.

I believe that there are at least two compelling reasons to help. 1) It's the right thing to do for children, and 2) It makes good economic sense.

First, let's look at the children, which is by far the more important. If one were to review the statistics of the Grand Rapids elementary schools, you would find that over 90 percent of the children are living at the poverty level in many of the schools. I believe it is the responsibility of those who have been blessed with ample resources to help these children. If the Greater Grand Rapids community would reach out to

help these children by volunteering their time (only one hour a week), this could change the lives of many children and families.

Giving all children equal opportunity to be successful, to dream, and to have a future just seems to be the right thing to do. Because these children live in a different community or a different school district means nothing. The fact is they need our help and support. These children are indeed our neighbors.

A second powerful reason to help these children and the Grand Rapids Schools is one of economics. Lowell is very much dependent on the long-term economic success of Grand Rapids. It is clearly to the benefit of our community that the Grand Rapids community prospers and grows. My argument is that this long term prosperity and growth is dependent upon all children being successful and productive citizens.

It seems we all have hectic crammed lives. Perhaps it is time to reflect and to find time to help those in our broader community who would benefit from a small amount of our most precious commodity - our time. Each of us can make a difference in the lives of children and families. I would challenge you to find time to make that happen in your life.

Your comments about this concern or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Bert Bleke, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa 9:5.

Join Us In Worship

<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship.....8:30 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship Time.....9:30 A.M. Sunday School.....9:50 A.M. Worship.....11:00 A.M. Kid's Club (Wed.).....3:30 P.M. Dinner (Wed.).....5:30 P.M.</p> <p>REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlement • Ph. 897-7185</p> <p>Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Pastor Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: Worship Celebration : 8:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday Night Alive: 6 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for All Ages) 7 p.m.</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service: 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/JV.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</p> <p>Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 241-1739 email: aplighthouse@yahoo.com</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>TIMOTHY E. HARMON, Minister Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.iserv.net/~goodshp Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Wednesday Evening.....7:00 P.M. Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>
<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>		



Ledger Entries

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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL FEB. 16, 1876
This issue is missing. We substitute Feb. 15, 1871

Steamers are trapped by ice in Milwaukee Bay; if they don't get to Grand Haven soon, that bay will become too iced over for ships to penetrate.

Mr. Canfield of Lowell and Mr. Purple of Ada are panning for gold in Ada, and have found 22 tiny pieces.

The Cantata of Esther, with local talent, played to sellout crowds at Pullen's Hall last week.

Anna Dickinson held the reviewer spellbound in Ionia last week, speaking not on Woman's Rights ("Ionians don't need that lecture") but delivering the tale of Joan of Arc.

Lowell is arguing - and arguing - whether to transform the six-year-old village charter into a city charter.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEB. 21, 1901

Requests for a gate or watchman at the Main Street Pere Marquette train crossing follow the death of a woman who apparently tried to run across in front of the engine.

Mrs. RB Boylan is challenging Miss Ella Wiley in the popularity contest. Everyone else is hundreds of votes behind. (Ad): Please call Monday or Tuesday and see the large stock of rainy day skirts and under skirts. We will be glad to show them to you. NB Blain.

The editor is dead set against passage of a state law requiring fishing licenses at a dollar a year.

Lowell operated on just over \$21,000 last year and finished almost \$9,000 in the black. The editor calls for lower taxes.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO FEBRUARY 18, 1926

The Board of Trade meets twice monthly now, at noon. This week they discussed the need for a hotel.

The rent hikes with the advent of more Superior Furniture workers from Grand Rapids is handled by ordering the assessor to re-evaluate those rental properties.

The Lowell Hi-Y Club is working with the county YMCA to establish a YMCA here.

Deputy collector William J. Mickel will be at the Lowell State Bank on March 4 to assist those who are liable to the federal income tax.

The American falls at Niagara have frozen over dry for the first time since 1900.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEBRUARY 22, 1951

Needed are 183 nurses to fill Michigan's quota for the Korean conflict, and nursing schools are recruiting more students to fill the civilian gap.

County School superintendent, Lynn H. Clark warns that many schools are badly lit, with 60-watt bulbs enclosed inside fixtures that have not been washed in years.

King Doyle asks for a building permit to erect four grain-storage silos west of the warehouse.

President Truman calls Congressional investigations of federal employees for Communist sympathies/membership a "red herring".

Librarian Inez Rutherford breaks a hip, so her sister, plus Thelma Hahn and Bernice Smith, fill in for her.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1976

A thaw and springlike temperatures result in weight restrictions on Kent County roads.

Lowell and Ada now have a verbal agreement for Ada to purchase water from Lowell. Many details must be worked out. Ada is seriously short of clean water. Meanwhile, Lowell City Council approves plans for the new treatment plant.

The hazardous school crossing at Monroe and High will receive flashing 15-mph school zone signs, activated during school hours.

A tour through Attwood's die-casting department will take place tomorrow afternoon, in observance of Die-Casting Week. This issue contains Saranac Schools "HI-SPY" news.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2001.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Acting Mayor Green and the Clerk called Roll.
Present: Councilmembers Brubaker, Shores and Acting Mayor Green.
Absent: Councilmember Myers and Mayor Blough.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt and Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BRUBAKER to excuse the absences of Councilmember Myers and Mayor Blough.

YEA: 3.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 2.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2001 regular meeting as written.

YEA: 3.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 2.
MOTION CARRIED.

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

YEA: 3.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 2.
MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (02/05/01)	
GENERAL FUND	\$119,007.73
MAJOR STREET FUND	\$642.55
LOCAL STREET FUND	\$642.54
DDA FUND	\$3,337.55
AIRPORT FUND	\$1,934.49
WASTEWATER FUND	\$176,364.78
WATER FUND	\$3,448.18
DATA PROCESSING FUND	\$229.90
EQUIPMENT FUND	\$899.84
CURRENT TAX FUND	\$165,184.00
LOOK FUND	\$3,500.00

Item #1. 215 JAMES - HABITAT FOR HUMANITY-SQUARE FOOTAGE VARIANCE FOR MINIMUM FLOOR AREA- EXTENSION REQUEST. Acting as Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman, Jeanne Shores stated at its October 4, 1999 meeting, the ZBA granted variances at 215 and 221 James Street to Habitat for Humanity constructing 1,050 square foot homes, rather than 1,500 square feet as required under the Zoning Ordinance. As noted in Pam Doty-Nation's letter, the house at 221 was completed last year. Because of environmental clearances required due to a HUD grant purchasing 215 James, the process took longer than expected.

At its January 22, 2001 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended a year's extension of the variance. The ZBA may determine to enact this at the meeting. Doty-Nation noted the particular family selected for this site is a two-person family consisting of a mother and child. The approximate size of the house only needs to be 950 to 1000 square feet.

Councilmember Green questioned if a specific variance was needed to decrease the required square footage. Pasquale responded the original variance was for 1,050 square feet. He asked Doty-Nation if she believed 1,050 square feet would be possible. Doty-Nation responded yes. She explained the size of the house is based on the number of people in the family.

Pasquale stated the ZBA can extend the original variance. If Habitat for Humanity wishes to build a smaller home, the ZBA would need to proceed through the entire process again.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BRUBAKER to extend the square footage variance request of 1,050 square feet of living area for the Habitat for Humanity home located at 215 James Street.

YEA: 3.
NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 2.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. PURCHASE OF QVF HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE. City Clerk Betty Morlock requested the purchase of a Qualified Voter File (QVF) computer equipment upgrade which would allow the City to maintain its communication with the State of Michigan voter file.

Morlock explained approximately five years ago the State purchased computers for communities with 5000 residents or more. In Kent County, every City, Township and Village received a computer because the County was already setting money aside to switch over to a qualified county wide voters system. Upon receipt of the computer, the City signed an agreement which stated upgrades or changes would be the responsibility of the jurisdiction.

A cost of \$2,100 would provide the necessary hardware and software equipment. The purchase will be allocated from the General Fund - City Clerk budget.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the purchase of Qualified Voter File hardware and software programs in order to upgrade to the requirements from the State of Michigan.

YEA: 3.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 2.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #3. FUTURE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS - DISCUSSION REGARDING FINANCING. As part of the priorities established by the Council, the upgrading of City roads was considered of utmost importance. In particular, the reconstruction of Gee Drive was listed as a top project in the Streets Master Plan. The cost to carry out this work was estimated currently at \$810,196. Additionally, a condominium housing project north of the Family Fare Supermarket was approved a few months ago which would cause increased traffic along this road. In addition, there were several other road projects needed.

Gee Drive has been reclassified to a Major Street under Public Act 51 by the Michigan Department of Transportation. This enables greater State shared gas and weight tax revenues to be allocated to the City from such improvements. With Gee Drive being classified from a Local Street to a Major Street, it increases the revenues by \$6000 a year. City Manager Pasquale explained this may not sound like much. However, a significant share goes toward maintenance.

Also, efforts have been undertaken to classify Gee Drive as a Rural Major Collector under the National Functional Classification System for federal funding. Roads under this classification can qualify for 80% federal funding. The South Hudson Street, which will be reconstructed this spring, is classified as a Rural Major Collector and 80% of the cost of reconstructing this road will be federally funded.

The Grand Valley Metro Council-Transportation Policy Committee has determined there is insufficient traffic volume to merit Gee Drive as a regional facility at this time. The issue will be revisited once Meijer's opens. The committee did recommend classification of Foreman Road as a Major Rural Collector and qualify the thoroughfare for future federal funding.

Pasquale stated Gee Drive can qualify for such funding, but may be several years away. As an alternative, the City could secure Transportation Fund Bonds up to \$1,265,000 for 15 years of amortization. This could also include the reconstruction of Valley Vista Drive and North Division as added projects. Payment can be derived from millage and state shared transportation revenues. Another possible project being considered is the extension of Ridgeview Drive.

Pasquale wanted a sense of direction from the Council. Councilmember Shores did not believe the City could wait another 5 to 6 years to reconstruct Gee Drive.

Councilmember Green questioned the number of mills being estimated for the City Hall/Police Station project. Pasquale responded currently between 1 1/2 to 2 mills. He explained if the road projects are added to the City Hall/Police Station project, the millage request could be between 2 1/2 and 3 mills. Pasquale stated the Council has indicated the City Hall/Police Station project is a priority and millage will have to cover a substantial portion of the funds.

Councilmember Brubaker questioned the amount of funds the City would have to pay if we waited until the

federal revenues were available. Pasquale responded 20% of the cost.

Brubaker inquired if Gee Drive could be fixed temporarily. Pasquale responded the road needs to be reconstructed. The drainage system is very bad, and curb and gutter needs to be reviewed. There has also been discussion concerning the installation of a sidewalk and/or a bike trail.

Councilmember Green inquired how many years the City has left to pay on the library. Pasquale responded 3 or 4. Green questioned how much this was in a year and how much is provided in a mill. Pasquale responded the yearly payments are in the \$40,000 range. A mill will bring in approximately \$73,000 into the General Fund.

Green stated if that was 2 or 3 years away, not six years. Maybe the City could receive faster qualification, once Meijer's is open.

Pasquale stated he and DesJarden have received several complaints concerning these streets with regard to reconstructing and upgrading.

Pasquale noted this item would be placed on the next agenda for the meeting of February 20, 2001. No further information was discussed.

Item #4. CITIZEN COMMENTS. Planning Commissioner Jim Hall stated street improvement funds could also be acquired through special assessments.

Councilmember Brubaker inquired when the construction would begin on the housing condominium development behind Family Fare. Hall responded sometime in the spring.

Item #5. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Brubaker noted there would be a meeting held on February 27th, 6:00 p.m. at the School Administration Building concerning the Lowell Commercial Development Strategy and Marketing Plan. Councilmember Shores noted her visit to Mrs. Vandell's third grade class. She spoke to the class concerning City government. Shores stated this is her fourth year visiting and thanked Mrs. Vandell for the invitation. Shores questioned the status of the rivercrossing project. Pasquale responded the work has been substantially completed.

Item #6. MANAGER'S REPORT. City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

- The following meetings minutes were provided:
 - Look Memorial Committee meeting of November 15, 2000
 - Downtown Development Authority meeting of December 14, 2000
 - Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of December 9, 2000
 - Grand Valley Metro Council Transportation Policy Committee meeting of December 20, 2000
 - Planning Commission meeting of November 27, 2000

At its meeting of January 22, 2001, the Planning Commission reviewed two special use permit applications regarding the construction of telecommunication towers. The two sites - 2401 West Main (Landman) and 2051 Bowes (American Tower - Fuller Septic) were carefully considered. Since new towers must be a mile apart at minimum, only one could be chosen. The Commission approved the Bowes Road site for a special use based primarily on the lessened impact for residences.

In researching the appeal process, City Attorney Richard Wendt said a special use permit decision is not appealable to the ZBA.

The site plan for the Fuller Septic site is still being reviewed by the Planning Commission and will be considered at its February 26, 2001 meeting.

- The next scheduled Council meeting is on Tuesday, February 20 because of President's Day.
- WWTP Superintendent Mark Mundt prepared an annual report regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Councilmember Green questioned the progress of rerating the plant. Mundt responded the data has been turned over to the engineer. A draft report should be provided by the end of February.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. DATE APPROVED: Monday, February 19, 2001

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

Michigan Jaycees to create local Lowell Chapter

The Michigan Jaycees, named the number one state organization in the nation, recently announced the creation of the Lowell chapter.

The organization is seeking individuals who are between the ages of 21 and 39 to join forces and give back to the Lowell community. Both men and women, single and married, are welcome.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, the Michigan planning director, Dave Chambers and United States vice president, Greg Kludt will be at the Main Street Restaurant, 901 Main St. for a "Kick Off Coffee" at 10 a.m. All Lowell community members are welcome to come and meet their new Lowell Jaycees. For more information, contact Cherie

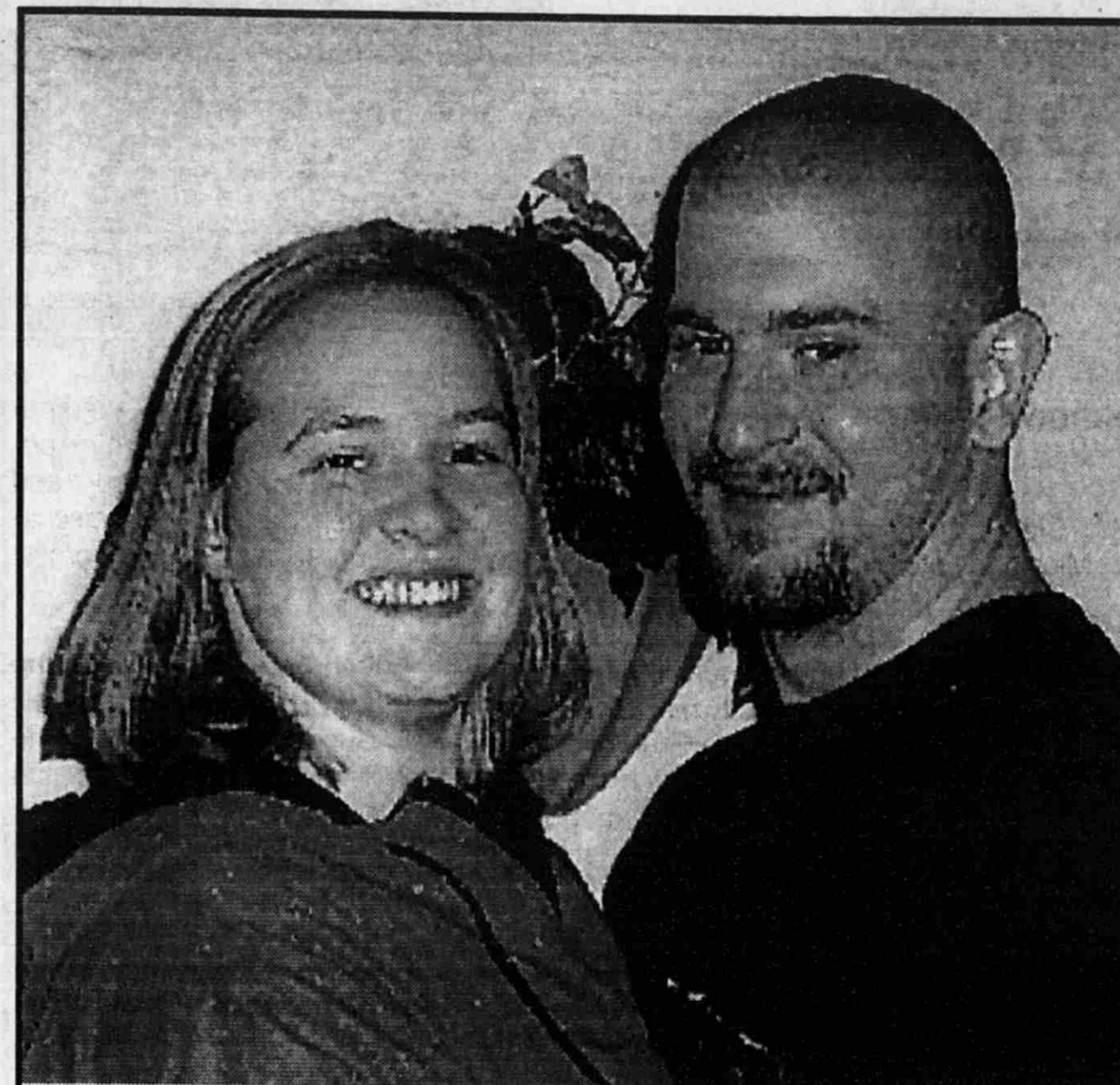
VanderVeen at (616) 458-4057.

What separates the Jaycees from other organizations is that they provide opportunities for individual growth through personal and professional skills training, business networking, member socials, and community service projects. Members also have the opportunity to expand their network of contacts through other area chapters located in Grand Rapids, Ionia, Kentwood and Wyoming.

When Henry Giessebieber, of St. Louis, Mo., looked around his community back in 1920, he realized he had the opportunity to create something great and power-

ful. He could create an organization that would have a direct impact on his personal career, his hometown, possibly his state and even the nation. His dream would "put people in close touch with young businessmen." "give them a wider social acquaintance, so desirable in business..." "make members an integral part of a powerful force," and "distinguish them from others by association with the Jaycee organization."

Today, the dream of Giessebieber has become reality and has been a driving force for 80 years within the United States, known as the Junior Chamber. Jaycees for short.



Tiffany and Bryan Risher

Risher/DeZwaan

Tiffany DeZwaan and Bryan Risher were married on February 16, 2001 at the 63rd District Court.

The bride's parents are Ron and Darci DeZwaan. Parents of the groom are Jerry and Sandie Risher. Tina Ruid served as maid of honor and Dan Ruid was best man. The couple expressed thanks to family and friends for all the love and support.

Rotary/Women's Club hold joint meeting

The annual joint meeting of the Lowell Rotary Club and Lowell Women's Club was held Wednesday, Feb. 14 at the Masonic Temple.

Lisa LaHaye and Kristi Ford, honorary senior girls members of the Women's Club, gave a very clever and enjoyable report on Michigan history.

The guest speaker was Jim Winslow, who spoke on rail-roading in Michigan. He showed slides of the Grand Trunk and Pere Marquette depots, trains and rails in Low-

ell dating back to the late 1800's.

The next meeting of Lowell Women's Club will be held at Lowell High School on March 14.

In 1897, the apple blossom is adopted as Michigan's official state flower.

CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to receive and review the various Assessment Rolls for 2001 at City Hall on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2001
AT 9:00 A.M.

A second meeting, for the purpose of hearing appeals and a continuation thereof, will be held at City Hall on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2001
FROM
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M., AND 1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
AND
6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., if necessary

Appeals may be made by letter or on forms available at City Hall. Letters and/or forms must be submitted not later than March 9, 2001. A personal appearance is not required.

The following ratios and multipliers are expected for Real and Personal Property assessments:

Commercial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Industrial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Residential Property	50.00%	1.0000
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Michael Blough, Mayor
James Marfia, Assessor



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WMRC, cont'd... From Page 1

Best three-dimensional honors went to Patricia Hendricks' mixed media piece titled "Daughter."
 "Conceptually it is great. The work is layered and she uses materials to represent her theme (dealing with feminist issues)," Ringelberg said.
 The award for creative use of materials went to John Leben's mixed media piece titled "Double Shuffle."
 "Leben's work has a strong graphic element to it and also has depth both physically and metaphorically," said Ringelberg.
 The juror's selection was given to Sarah Bierman for "Old Fellows." Her C-print's iconic quality (monumental focus/dominant effect) gave it a weird David Lynch quality that grabbed Ringelberg's attention.
 Merit awards were bestowed upon Michael Pelz's "Wooden Madonna" and Yvette Cummings' "Venice."
 The West Michigan Regional Competition will be on display at the Lowell Area Arts Council through March 31.



Sarah Bierman's "Old Fellows" was awarded juror's selection.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL

15th Annual West MI Regional Comp.

February 25 - March 31
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 February 25, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **March 5, 2001 at 7:00 P.M., at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331** to consider and review the following special use permit application:

Lowell Area Schools of 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331, is applying for a special use permit to construct a new public elementary school on property located at the NW corner of Lally and Alden Nash, parcel #41-16-004-226-007, in the NE quarter of section 4, on approximately 29 acres. The property is being purchased from Roger and Kenneth Kropf.

The special use permit application and site plan can be reviewed at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671** [fax 897-5674]. Written and oral comments will be received until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township offices.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

YMCA teen leaders to hold rock and read session

The Lowell Leader's Teen Center will be rocking on Saturday, Feb. 24 starting at 2 p.m. on rocking chairs for 24 hours straight until Sunday, Feb. 25. During this time anyone from the community is welcome to stop in at the Teen Center and ask the leaders questions about the club, or just to hang out with them.
 Club members will be reading stories to kids from 4 - 8 p.m. while rocking on Saturday. All children and adults are welcome.

The Rock-a-Thon will be held at the Lowell YMCA Teen Center located between Mancino's and Moonlight Video. The teens are asking for pledges from the community. Stop at the YMCA Fitness Center (next to Mancino's) or the YMCA office at 323 W. Main St. to make your pledges and support our teens.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE LOWELL TOWNSHIP HALL 2910 ALDEN NASH, SE ON:

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001
 between the hours of 9 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; also on

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2001
 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims. You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

- 1) By letter addressed to the Lowell Charter Township Supervisor and received by him prior to March 12, 2001; or
- 2) By phoning the Township Hall (897-7600) for an appointment to appear in person.

The tentative Real Property assessment ratio and assessment multiplier required by P.A. 165 of 1971 are:
 Ratio - 50% Multiplier - 1.00

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
 Lowell Charter Township

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP HALL ON:

MONDAY, MARCH 12
 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13
 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

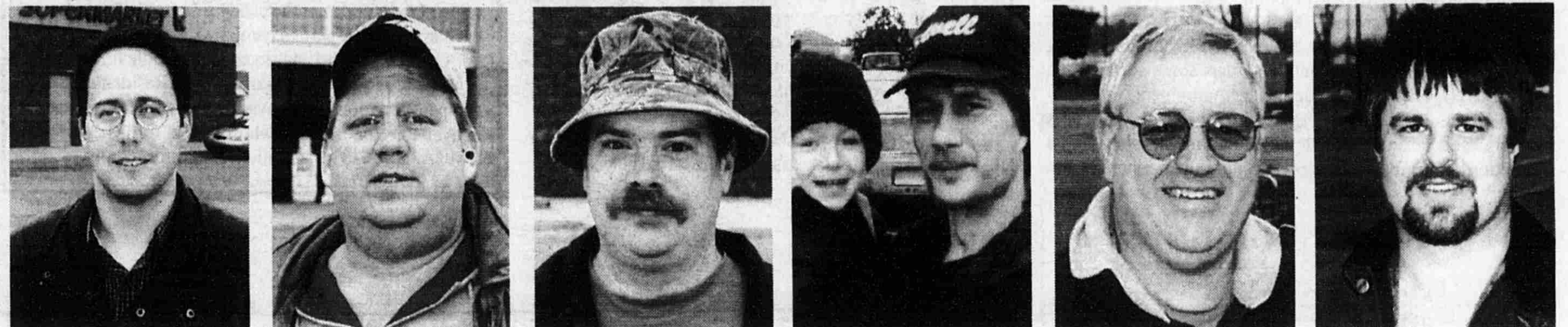
OR

- 1) To appear at the Board of Review, call on Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., (616) 897-5671, to schedule an appointment.
- 2) By letter addressed to the Vergennes Township Assessor, P.O. Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 and received prior to March 9.

Mari Stone
 Vergennes Township Clerk

TOWN TALK

The XFL, the new football league ... is it football, entertainment or a waste of your time?



Brian Bishop
It's not football. Too much talk. The rules are interesting, but the game is just the WWF's bent on football.

Thad Clinton
It's probably all three. I suppose if there is nothing else on, I may watch it again.

Adam Dawson
It's a joke. Bits and pieces of it are okay, but it's not the real game.

Lon Tower (Lon Jr.)
I think it's pretty cool. I'll probably check it out some more. I like the on-field cameras. It's like being right there in the huddle.

Bruce VanZyll
It's a waste of time. It's not regular football.

Gerard Jakubiak
It's pretty good. I like being able to hear what they are saying in the huddle and on the sidelines. I also like the camera closeups. The best part is the start of the game where they race for the football.

George Fabis
I don't like it. I watched it for 10 minutes ... during that time there were seven delays and way too much talking.

Sue Colon
It's not for me. I think it is a bad use of television. There must be better things to put on television.

IN THE SERVICE

Marine Corps Pvt. **Derrick L. Phillips**, son of Colleen G. Doney of Jenison and Richard L. Phillips of Lowell, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Phillips successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Phillips and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m. by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Phillips spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which

included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training.

They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Phillips and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values - honor, courage and commitment, and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Phillips and fellow recruits ended the training phase with the Crucible, a 54-hour team effort, problem-solving evolution which culminated with an emotional ceremony in which the recruits were presented the Marine Corps Emblem, and were addressed as "Marines" for the first time since boot camp began.

Phillips is a 2000 graduate of Jenison High School.

LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

Meeting of February 12, 2001

January 12 & 13, 2001 workshop meeting, and the January 22, 2001 special meeting.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Matt Trierweiler, Student Council President and Representative to the Board, reported that Alto Student Council members came to the high school and reported on the activities they are involved in and also asked questions of the high school council members. High School Student Council will be sponsoring another blood drive in March. Junior class members are working on prom.

REPORT - Accreditation Presentation - Karen Ruple of Kent Intermediate School District reported on the State's new accreditation standards to help the Board and community better understand the new State initiative.

ACTION ITEMS - Accepted the following gifts:

- Atwood Corporation donation of Skin Packaging Resin valued at \$116 to be used by the 6th grade students in the Plastics class.
- Michael Stephens donation of \$100 to be used by the Alternative High School.
- Bobbie Minier of Amway Corporation donation of 18 skids of paper products valued at \$15,000 to be used by the Copy Center.
- Thomas Sheidel of Knights of Columbus donation of \$840.07 to be used to purchase supplies and materials for teaching about disabilities.
- Susan Wild donation of computer equipment valued at \$100 to be used by Alto Elementary School.

Amended the 2000-2001 general fund budget. Adopted the budget appropriation resolutions for the 2000 Debt Fund and the 2000 Construction Funds.

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved were:

- The minutes for the January 8, 2001 regular meeting, the

January 12 & 13, 2001 workshop meeting, and the January 22, 2001 special meeting.

• The following payment of bills:
 GENERAL FUND \$791,483.79
 SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
 A. Food Service Fund \$49,755.71
 B. Athletic Fund \$14,077.79
 2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$118,972.53
 TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$43,692.15
 SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$1,900.00

• Leave of absence request from Pam Thomas on or about April 7, 2001 through the first semester of the 2001-2002 school year.

• New Hire of Michael Lincolnhol for the high school physical science teacher position.

• Annual Election Resolution calling for the election to be held on Monday, June 11, 2001.

• Federal Surplus Property Program participation resolution.

• Strike Personal Property Taxes from city tax rolls.

BOND FOLLOW-UP - Jim White reported that bids are due in soon for the Alto gymnasium project. The Riverside building will be receiving electrical and roof upgrades.

TEACHER TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE - In June-July 2000, Gov. John Engler and the Michigan Legislature approved \$110 million in funding for the Teacher Technology Initiative as part of a supplemental bill to the 1999-2000 state school aid appropriation. Jim White reported that the majority of teachers opted for laptop computers. Some buildings will be receiving scanners, digital cameras and other technology rather than lap tops. The Board will receive a report in the Fall as to how teachers are utilizing this State offered technology program.

STANDARD & POOR'S - Bert Bleke reported that the Michigan legislature has contracted with Standard & Poor's to become the first state in the nation to use its School Evaluation Services. The independent analysis of public school districts will contain some 1,500 pieces of school data for each Michigan school district and it has the potential of helping schools to improve.

RENEWAL OF 18 MILLS - Bert Bleke recommended that at the annual election in June the community be asked to vote on the reinstatement of a 5-year 18 mill levy on non-homestead property. This item will come back for Board action at the March meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Bert Bleke expressed gratitude to parents for their involvement with their children and schools. The Board and administration are working on a new vision for the schools and will seek community input during the process. A vision for the Wittenbach-Wege Center is being developed to make this into a world class organization. County superintendents received criticism over the initiative to help Grand Rapids Schools but this is a way to cross district boundaries and to do what is right in an effort to help "all children." There is an economic benefit as well.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:
 Regular Board Meeting - Monday, March 12, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.
 Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
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An anxiety disorder is much more than the normal anxious feelings or concerns we may experience on a daily basis. It is chronic exaggerated worry and tension. Frequently we are unaware of the reason for the worry. When anxiety exists, there is usually a sense of disaster or impending doom. The source of the worry is hard to pinpoint. Often there is excessive worry about health, money, family, or work.

Many factors appear to be involved in the underlying source of a generalized anxiety disorder. Some contributing factors are: genetics, development, environment, and individual psychological coping strategies. One who experiences anxiety feels an increased threat to important values and a depletion of coping resources. An individual generally has

greater expectations, increased responsibility, and an overall increase in energy output.

People with Generalized Anxiety Disorder cannot seem to shake their concerns even though they know their anxiety is more intense than the situation warrants. The result is worry about failure, the inability to relax, and trouble either falling asleep or staying asleep.

Physical symptoms that can indicate the presence of anxiety are: trembling, muscle tension, headaches or irritability. One may feel light-headed, out of breath, nauseated or experience a dry mouth or increased frequency or urgency to go to the bathroom. Often individuals with anxiety startle more easily than others. They frequently feel tired and have trouble concentrating. Depression may also accompany anxiety.

Individuals with the above symptoms may visit their physician to investigate the cause of these symptoms. If there is no physical cause for the symptoms, it is likely that anxiety is present. If anxiety is severe, it can be very debilitating, making it difficult to carry out routine daily activities. The anxiety, worry, or physical symptoms cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.

Before your anxiety reaches the level that it impairs your daily functioning, it is wise to seek professional help. Anxiety

is a very treatable problem. Treatments for anxiety are usually provided by a psychologist, therapist or counselor. Methods of treatment include cognitive restructuring, relaxation exercises, visualization, or affirmations. If these methods are not effective, then the use of medication will be considered.

While many times anxiety is manageable with the help or support of family members or friends, it can present serious problems. Being in a continuous state of anxiety can be extremely stressful making daily activities impossible. The decision to get professional help is wise and may help to restore peace and joy to your life.

Y camp information night, March 2

The Lowell YMCA will be hosting a Camp information night on Friday, March 2 at the Teen Center from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Staff will answer questions, accept registrations, and start the candy sale from which campers can earn their way to camp.

Camp Manitou-Lin is located in Middleville and has summer programs for kids of all ages. Resident and day camp information will be available. Financial assistance is available for families who qualify. Call the Lowell YMCA at 897-8445 for additional information.

Michigan Lottery replaces Lotto with Millions

The very last drawing for the Michigan Lottery's Michigan Lotto game will be Saturday, Feb. 24, 2001. Michigan Lotto, which was introduced in 1984, has seen a decline in popularity over the past few years. Therefore, the Michigan Lottery has chosen to replace the lagging game with a new jackpot game called "Michigan Millions" which offers more ways to win and bigger jackpots.

"Many players have been looking for a fresh, new game that offers more prizes and bigger jackpots, and we think Michigan Millions is just the game for them," said Michigan Lottery commissioner, Don Gilmer. "Based on market research and feedback from both players and retailers, we believe Michigan Millions will appeal to people all across the state."

Sales of Michigan Millions tickets will begin on Sunday, Feb. 25 with the first drawing scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 28. Michigan Millions drawings will be held twice a week on Wednesday and Saturday at 7:28 p.m. and the cost to play is \$1 per wager. Tickets will be available at the more than 6,400 lottery retailers that currently sell tickets for Michigan's other on-line games (The Big Game, Michigan Rolldown, Keno and the Daily 3 and Daily 4 games).

Michigan Millions is a departure from Lotto because it offers six different ways to win - double that of Michigan Lotto. This new game features a "Wild Ball" that offers players more opportunities to win bigger prizes. In addition to the jackpot, there are five other ways to win, from \$5 up to an estimated \$20,000.

To play Michigan Millions, players will select six numbers from a field of 51, or use the "easy pick" feature in which the computer terminal randomly picks six of 51 numbers. During the drawing the Lottery draws six numbers from a field of 51. Anyone matching these numbers will win the jackpot. The Lottery then draws a seventh number - the Wild

Ball - from the remaining 45. Players matching five numbers and the Wild Ball will win an estimated \$20,000 prize. There are four other ways to win, with and without the Wild Ball. Odds to match all six numbers are 1 in 18,009,460 with overall odds to win a cash prize of 1 in 529. (Comparatively, Michigan Lotto offered overall odds of 1 in 1,013).

Cash prizes are awarded for matching six numbers, five numbers, five numbers plus the Wild Ball, four numbers, four numbers plus the Wild Ball and three numbers plus the Wild Ball.

The launch of Michigan Millions is accompanied by a statewide television and radio advertising campaign.

Lowell P.D. raising funds 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.



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Kickboxing exercise and instruction Saturday

Lowell YMCA will offer area residents an opportunity to test just how fit they are.

Led by ISKA director, Florence "Fitz" Fitzgerald will lead participants through a kickboxing workout Saturday at Lowell Charter Township Hall.

The mastersclass begins at 8 a.m. and runs until 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$5 per person.

Fitzgerald will share with the general public accurate information and safe training techniques, as well as designing programs to achieve total body fitness.

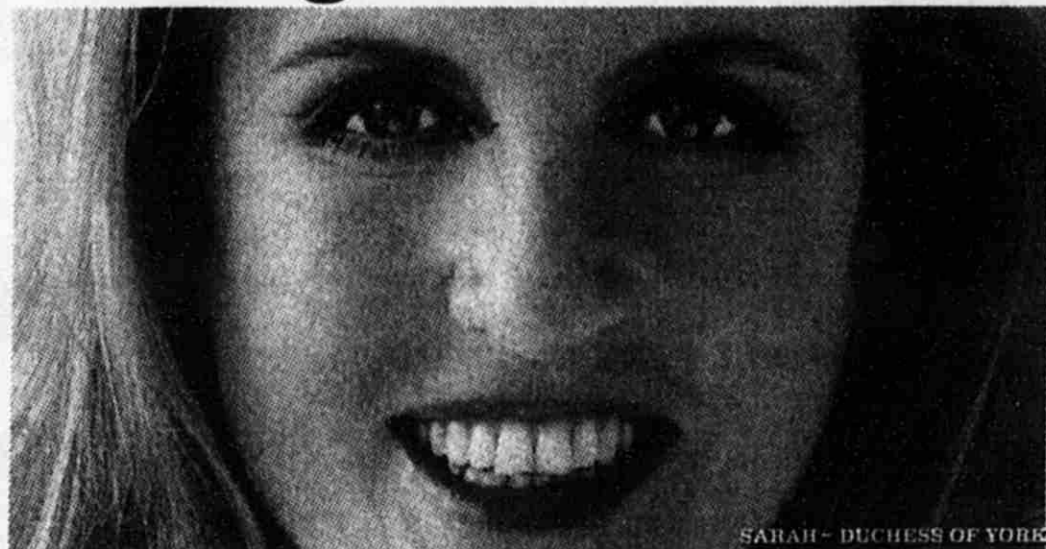
"It is an unbelievable workout and is perfect for any fitness program," said Sandra Fizer, YMCA event coordinator. "It's also an opportunity to learn real

kickboxing drills and techniques."

Following the mastersclass will be an instructor certification course. It runs from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. with an hour break for lunch. The fee for this is \$85, this includes the mastersclass.

For more information or to sign up, contact Andy Retburg at 897-8445.

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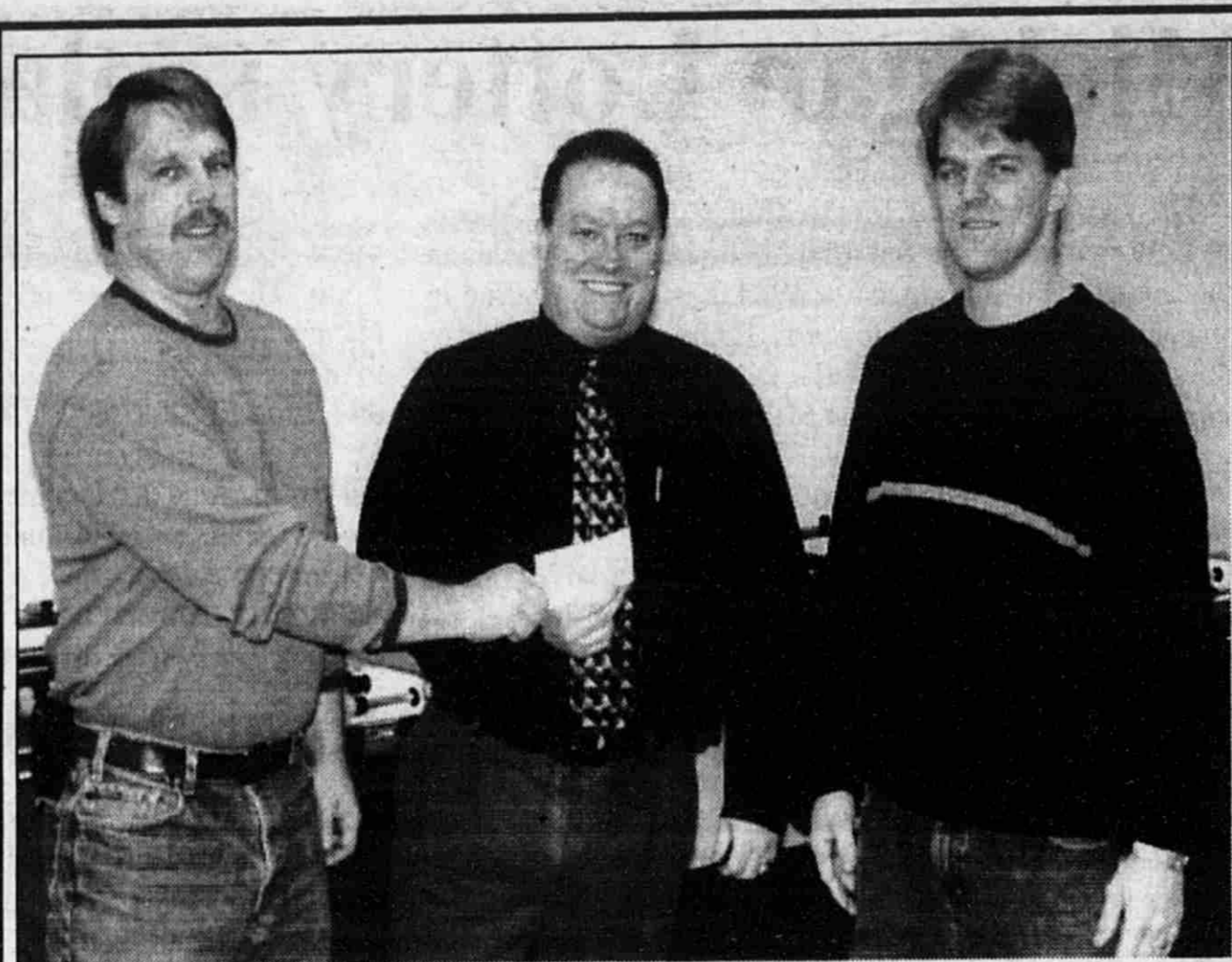
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Lowell Masonic Lodge #90 members Ron Stanford (left) and Keith Stanford (right) present Lowell YMCA executive director, Will Welsh with a check for \$1,456. The money was raised through the organization's annual golf outing.

Lowell Masonic Lodge links with YMCA for teens

••• Donation helps Lodge begin to make good on its five-year, \$5,000 commitment toward the YMCA teen and wellness centers.

For the past few years, the Masonic Lodge of Lowell and the YMCA have organized a golf outing to raise money needed to support the programs of each organization. This past summer, \$2,912 was raised through the support of sponsors and the 16 teams of players who participated at Deer Run Golf Course.

The Masonic Lodge #90 of Lowell has made a commitment to support the Teen Center program organized through the YMCA and has contributed back to the YMCA \$1,456 from the golf outing.

This contribution is part of a \$5,000 five-year commitment that the local Masons are making to support the work of the YMCA as they address the needs of middle school and high school youth of our community. "We believe the Teen Center to be

one important way the community can provide positive environs to enhance the development of our young people," said Ron Stanford, who along with his brother Keith chaired the golf outing. "As Masons and as citizens of this community, Lowell Lodge #90 will continue to support positive community involvement to help our youth. We appreciate the opportunity to work with Will Welsh, Lowell YMCA director, and the volunteers from the YMCA Leaders Club."

Free and Accepted Masonry has from its inception emphasized strong character and committed service to the community. The YMCA has exemplified many of the same positive principles and has been a service to countless families in our community and communities around the globe.

ONE POSITION OPEN FOR LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

There is one Board of Education position to be filled at the annual school election which will be held on Monday, June 11, 2001. This position is a four-year term ending June 30, 2005.

Residents interested in running for a board seat must first file nominating petitions and an affidavit of identity. Candidates must be 18 years of age, a resident of Michigan for at least 30 days, and a registered voter in the Lowell Area School District for at least 30 days before the election.

Nominating petitions and affidavit forms may be obtained by any candidate from the Board of Education office located at 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The petitions must contain at least 20 signatures of registered school electors of the district. It is recommended that a reasonable number of signatures over the minimum be obtained to protect against invalid signatures.

Petition circulators need not be a registered school elector, however, must be a registered voter in the State of Michigan. Individual petitions must be taken for each township and city in which signatures are obtained, and **ELECTORS CAN SIGN AS MANY PETITIONS AS THERE ARE PERSONS TO BE ELECTED.**

If you are interested in running, please note the following dates:

Monday, April 9, 2001 - 4:00 p.m.

last day for filing nominating petitions;

Thursday, April 12, 2001 - 4:00 p.m.

last day for a candidate to withdraw his/her name;

Monday, June 11, 2001 - Annual School Election

For more information contact:

Sonja DeDonado or Kay Jones at 897-8415.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EVERY 2ND 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.: Pioneer Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood Dr. Children ages 4 thru 7th grade. Call 897-5894 for details.

EVERY 2ND THURS.: Lowell V.F.W.

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 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.,

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.

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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.

SAT., FEB. 24: Volunteers needed at 10 a.m. to sort and move into storage lumber from historic barn at Fallasburg. Refreshments served. Call Priscilla at 897-6430 for more information.

THURS., MARCH 1: Vergennes Cooperative Club meeting at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Program: Winter birthday and Bingo party; bring a wrapped gift for a Bingo prize. We are still collecting food for Access 6. Hostesses: Phyllis Bieri, Norma Noall, Jeanne Shores. Sponsor: Evelyn Briggs.

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.

MON., MARCH 5: Lowell Athletic Boosters meeting in the high school staff lounge at 7 p.m.

THURS., MARCH 15: Crop Walk Rally at 1st United Methodist Church 7 p.m. Attend or send a rep. to pick up pledge forms and recruiting info. Call 897-5936 for further questions.

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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.**SAT.:** 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12:40 p.m. RSVP program.
SUN.: 8 a.m. Women's Breakfast; 9:30 a.m. Tax assistance; 10:30 a.m. Tour YMCA Wellness Center.

NEW DIGS PATROL

Two new Lowell Police Department patrol cars have been put into service. The new 2001 Chevy Impalas will replace the 1994 and 1995 Caprices; both have approximately 155,000 miles on them. The Impalas are being purchased via a lease agreement. The department will lease each vehicle for three years, at \$6,682 per year from Burger Chevrolet. At the end of the leases, the department will purchase each vehicle for \$1. Governmental bodies are not permitted to enter into an installment loan. Each patrol car will cost \$20,000. The two patrol cars being taken off the road will be sold through a sealed bid process.



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MacNaughton, and his music, greeted warmly by Performing Arts Center crowd

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Friends, family and fans took a winter season's break for a little "Summer Dance" at the Lowell Performing Arts Center Saturday night.

Lowell High School graduate and former resident, Roger MacNaughton returned for his first formal performance, promoting and playing songs from his newly released CD "Summer Dances."

"It was special. I've done a lot of performances like this but not in Lowell. I grew up here. This was a homecoming of sorts," MacNaughton explained. "I'm always looking for a place to play and promote my new CD."

MacNaughton did so in the accompaniment of musi-

cians Michael Hyde, Charlie Hoats, Tim Heldt, Bob Thompson and his son Mark MacNaughton. Adding vocals to a few of the musical pieces was Edye Evans Hyde.

"Mark used to always tell me my music needed a real drummer," MacNaughton said. On Saturday, his son filled that percussion void. "We've played together here and there, but this was a special event," he adds.

His other son Scott videotaped the 90-minute event.

In addition to musical highlights from his CD, MacNaughton entertained those in attendance with songs which may make his second CD along with some jazzy and Latin standards.

"This last CD took me two years. I'd love to have a second

one ready some time this fall or winter," MacNaughton explained.

He has about half of the songs written. The second CD will be more acoustic piano, featuring new age and jazz.

"It was a great thrill playing with longtime friends and great musicians," MacNaughton said. "It was also great fun being up there tonight... it was like being in my own new digs. This center is a beautiful place to play. It felt good."

Comments following the performance indicate MacNaughton sounded good too.



Valentine Dance Royalty

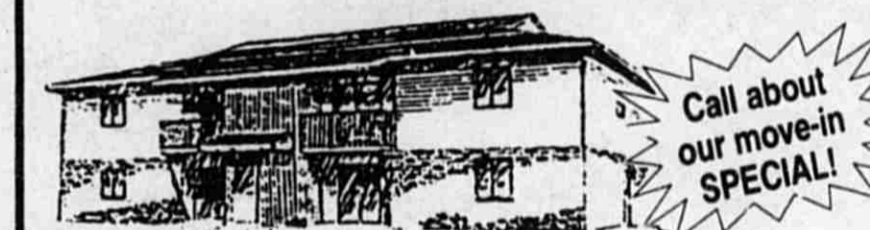
The second annual Valentine's Dance, sponsored by RollAway Family Fun Center, provided fourth-through-seventh-grade students with plenty of opportunity for dance and fun with friends. The main event was the vote for this year's royal family. Students voted on a king and queen (middle school) and a prince and princess (elementary school). Pictured standing, left to right, are: Will Holland and Jessica Stinchcomb, court jesters; John Drier and Ashley Whittingham, prince and princess; sitting, left to right, are: Troy Heimer and Danielle Anchors, king and queen.

The winners received a one-month free skating pass and one free game of Laser Tag.

Sign-up for RollAway's fourth annual Muscular Dystrophy Skate-A-Thon will be held March 1.

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Mark & Karen Blodger
Bill & Jodi Schaefer

We also want to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who helped out in so many ways.
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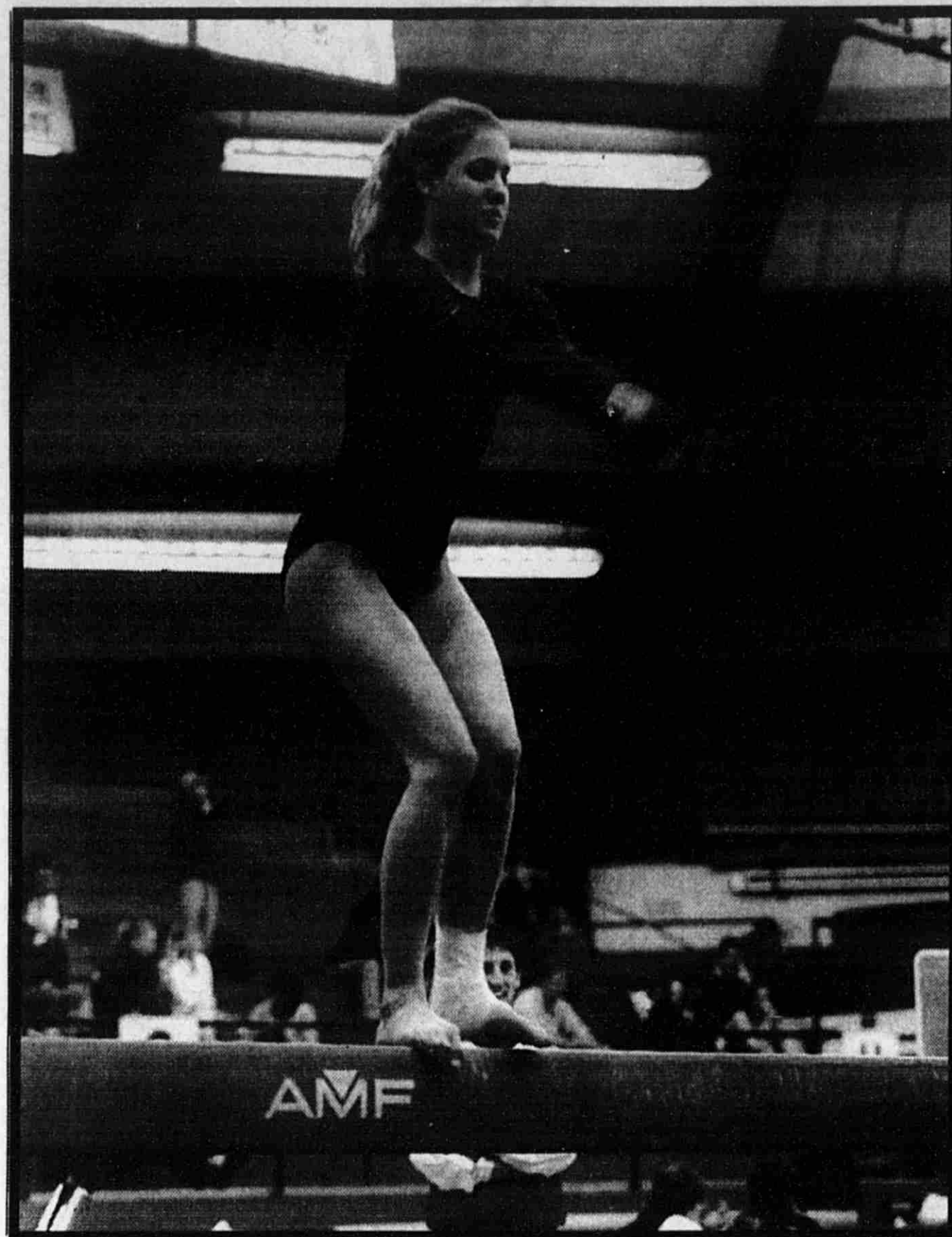
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EOE



Krystal White earns conference championship on beam; Lowell finishes fifth at conference meet

••• The sophomore became the first Red Arrow gymnast in school history to place first in an event at an O-K Rainbow conference meet.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Krystal White's warm-up on the balance beam was a far cry from her performance in Saturday's O-K Rainbow Conference meet in Holland.

The sophomore scored a personal best 8.95 on her way to becoming the first Red Arrow to ever take a first in an O-K Rainbow Conference championship meet.

Prior to her beam routine, White replaced any thought of a shaky warm-up by focusing on giving it her best and being satisfied with whatever happens.

"I seem to do better when I do that instead of thinking I have to do a good routine for the team," White said.

Unable to make a clean first pass on the beam in warm-up, White executed without error her first pass, which includes a three-quarter tuck and a full turn, when it counted. "Usually I'm okay if I don't fall during that first pass," White said.

She was more than okay with the results. "That's pretty cool," White reflected when learning she was the first Lowell gymnast to earn a first in a conference meet.

White and her Red Arrows, though, fell a little shy of their third-place goal as they finished fifth in the conference meet and tied for fourth overall (dual standings and conference meet).

"We were hoping for a third, but fourth is still an improvement over last year (tied for fifth)," said Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan.

Holland, who won the dual part of the regular season, took first in the league meet with 140.90. The Dutch were followed by Rockford 134.10; Kenowa Hills 132.90; Forest Hills Central 130.70; Lowell 130.55; Mona Shores 122.65; East Grand Rapids 118.75 and East Kentwood 105.25.

Not unlike the regular season, Lowell's best event was the floor exercise. The Red Arrows tallied a team score of 34.70.

Holly Plattner led Lowell with a 9.15, tying her for second with Denay Kipley of Holland. Kenowa Hills' Ashley Teat was first with a 9.35.

Other Lowell scores were Melissa Neubecker 8.65; White 8.6; and Carmen Datema 8.3.

On the beam, White's 8.95 was totaled with Neubecker's 7.85; Blough's 7.8; and Plattner's 7.55 for a team score of 32.15.

"Krystal had an excellent beam routine. She had no falls and very few wobbles," DeHaan said.

The Red Arrows scored a 32.45 on the vault. White and Plattner led the way with marks of 8.25 and Neubecker scored a 7.75.

On the uneven bars, Neubecker led all Lowell gymnasts with a 7.95. White and Plattner both tallied 7.85s and Blough finished with a 7.6. Lowell's team score was 31.25.

"Everyone qualified for the regional. That was a goal of ours," DeHaan said.

The top eight individuals in each event, from the regional, qualify for the state.

Lowell will host the Division II regional on Saturday, March 3.

Lowell's junior varsity hockey team netted a game-winning goal with less than a half minute to play to post a 2-1 win over West Catholic.

Red Arrow coach Mike Hofert opted to pull Rob Latva from goal with 90 seconds left on the third period clock to gain an extra skater. The strategy paid off as Josh John found the back of the net on an assist by Dan Woods with less than 30 ticks remaining on the clock to give Lowell the win.

Lowell's first score came in the opening period on a goal by Brandon John. The assist went to Josh John and Jordan Schaefer.

This Saturday, Lowell plays at Wings Stadium in Kalamazoo at 2 p.m.

Lowell defeated Forest Hills Northern 66-12 in the Division II District final. The Red Arrows reached the final with a convincing 44-15 win over Northview.

The Wildcats entered the fray buoyed, in part by an early season highly competitive dual match with the Red Arrows and the absence of two Lowell starters, John McKay and Ben Fleet.

Northview, however, proved no match for Lowell, the state runnerup in each of the last two years.

"They weren't a little better than us tonight... Lowell was a lot better," said Northview coach, B.J. Schroder. "They are a tough team. I wouldn't be surprised if they win it all."

It was clear from the outset that Lowell had its focus directed solely on Northview.

David Kropf's (103 pounds) 18-8 win over Wildcat Nate Basel set the tone and sent a message to Northview. "There was a lot on the line, least of which was our pride. The boys stepped it up and performed at a high level," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc.

For Kropf it was sweet redemption following a disappointing showing at the O-K White Conference meet. "I have been starting slow. I've worked hard to correct that. This is the best I've wrestled all year," Kropf said.

Strejc thought Kropf's tremendous effort against Basel gave his club an early boost of momentum.

Lowell's Brandon Kinney (112 pounds) boosted the Red Arrows' lead to 9-0 with a 20-5 technical fall over James McGovern. Ian DeRath, 119, made it 15-0

VanLaan, 152, decisioned Marvin Hayes 6-0; and Matt Oesch, 160, decisioned Kevin Hankinson 8-7.

Northview picked up wins at 171 against Mike Forward and at 189 against B.J. Frazier.

Lowell's Pieter Serne (215) and Ben Vaught (HWT) finished the match with 5-3 and 8-3 decisions respectively.

"This is the most complete team we've fielded in a while," said Strejc. "We're on our way. Our concern is getting everybody healthy -

wanted all 14 of our wrestlers to advance," said Lowell coach, Dave Strejc.

Five Red Arrow grapplers recorded district championships.

None were more impressive than Ben Vaught's heavyweight win over Kenowa Hills' Adam Rasch. The Knight entered the match undefeated and had Vaught trailing by a half dozen points in the third period.

That's when a Vaught arm lock threw Rasch to his back and pinned the season's first loss on the Knight.

Others who earned dis-

trict titles were Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds, who decisioned Wyoming Park's Kenny Seganski 8-3.

"Brandon is wrestling like a champion regardless of the situation," Strejc explained.

John McKay, 125, won a district championship with a major decision over Northview's Troy Pitsch.

John Mendez was victorious at 130 pounds with a 9-2 decision over Mona Shores' Justin Langlois.

Caleb O'Boyle kept his perfect record intact with an 18-4 major decision over Wyoming Park's John Maxwell.

Losing their district championship matches were Ian DeRath, 119 pounds (injury default) and Ben Fleet, 215, who lost a 5-1 decision to Mona Shores' Brad Perri.

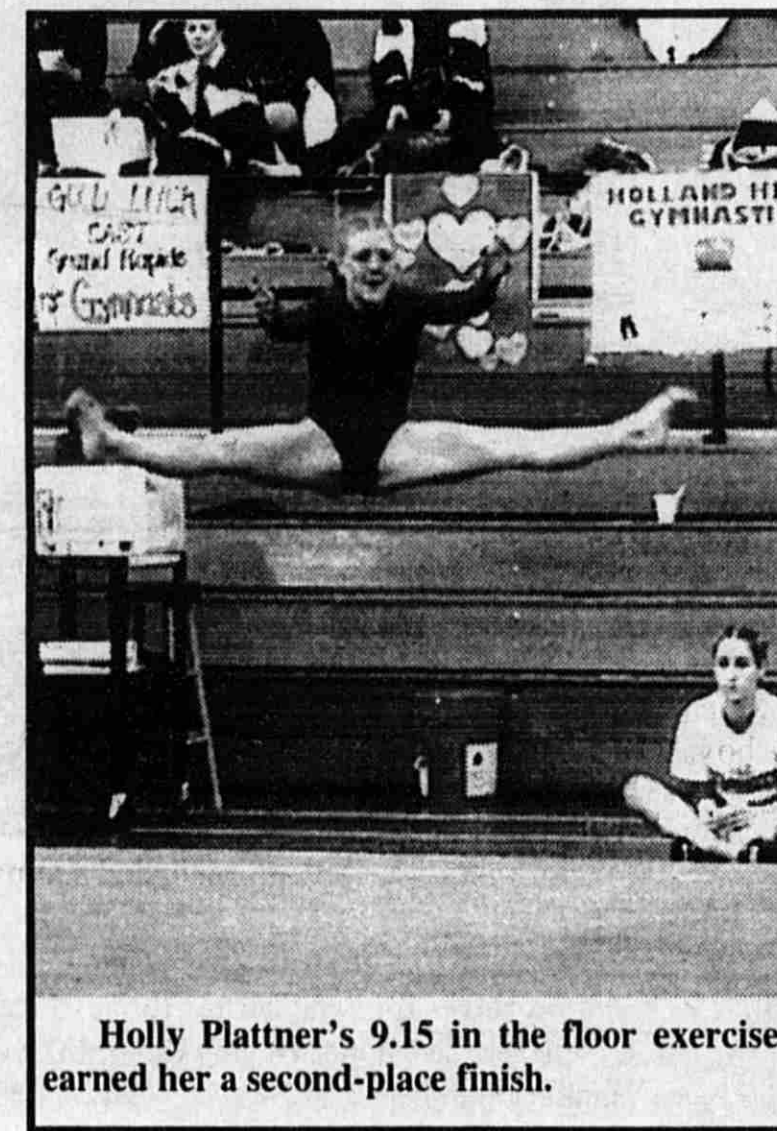
In consolation matches, Bobby Gingerich, 135 pounds, defeated Northview's Mike

VanderMolen 10-1; Pete VanLaan defeated Northview's Marvin Hayes 3-1; and Matt Oesch, 160, defeated Middleville's Kyle McKeown 10-5.

"Gingerich is tenacious. He keeps wrestling and keeps going after people," Strejc said. "VanLaan's record may not show it, but he's wrestled some formidable opponents this year. He gives every match his all. He keeps getting closer and closer to where he wants to be. Pete is starting to peak."

Mike Forward lost his consolation match to Northview's Jordan Petrovich 4-2; B.J. Frazier lost via injury default.

Lowell wrestles Wyoming Park on Wednesday in the regional team semifinal beginning at 6 p.m. at Caledonia. The winner will take on the victor between Middleville and Mona Shores.



Holly Plattner's 9.15 in the floor exercise earned her a second-place finish.

'83 Grandville graduate is named Lowell boys track coach

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

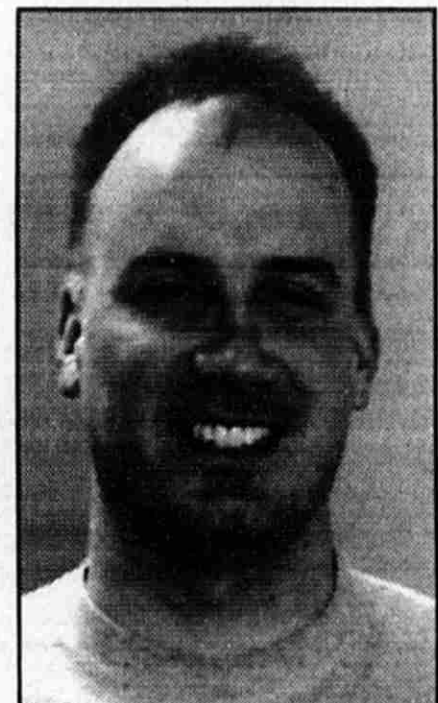
For the first time in 14 years, someone other than Keith Boeve will coach the Lowell boys track team.

Russ Stevens, a 1983 Grandville High School graduate and a third-year social studies teacher at Unity High School, will lead the program into the 2001 season.

"We're going to work hard and when the hard work is done, we're going to have fun," said Stevens. "I am very excited about the opportunity to coach track at Lowell."

Stevens has extensive background in track both as a coach and as an athlete.

He served as an assistant track coach



Russ Stevens

for six years at Grandville High School and as the junior high school head coach for one year. Stevens also coached football at different levels for 14 years in the Grandville system.

In the early '80s, the Bulldog lettered four years in track and two years in football.

"I ran the half mile, mile and the mile relay," Stevens explains. "I also played defensive back at the varsity football level for two at Grandville."

Stevens says a good track program is one where there is a good working relationship between coaches and athletes. "I'm there for the benefit of the athlete and because I want to see them succeed," he explained.

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NOT A SPECIALIST

Red Arrow grapplers too strong for Wildcats and Huskies; claim fifth straight district championship

••• 12 Lowell wrestlers advance to individual regional at Kenowa Hills Saturday.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

A little spark ignited Lowell's high octane wrestling machine Thursday night.

Those who remained in its path, Northview and Forest Hills Northern, got run over.

Lowell defeated Forest Hills Northern 66-12 in the Division II District final. The Red Arrows reached the final with a convincing 44-15 win over Northview.

The Wildcats entered the fray buoyed, in part by an early season highly competitive dual match with the Red Arrows and the absence of two Lowell starters, John McKay and Ben Fleet.

Northview, however, proved no match for Lowell, the state runnerup in each of the last two years.

"They weren't a little better than us tonight... Lowell was a lot better," said Northview coach, B.J. Schroder. "They are a tough team. I wouldn't be surprised if they win it all."

It was clear from the outset that Lowell had its focus directed solely on Northview.

David Kropf's (103 pounds) 18-8 win over Wildcat Nate Basel set the tone and sent a message to Northview. "There was a lot on the line, least of which was our pride. The boys stepped it up and performed at a high level," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc.

For Kropf it was sweet redemption following a disappointing showing at the O-K White Conference meet. "I have been starting slow. I've worked hard to correct that. This is the best I've wrestled all year," Kropf said.

Strejc thought Kropf's tremendous effort against Basel gave his club an early boost of momentum.

Lowell's Brandon Kinney (112 pounds) boosted the Red Arrows' lead to 9-0 with a 20-5 technical fall over James McGovern. Ian DeRath, 119, made it 15-0

VanLaan, 152, decisioned Marvin Hayes 6-0; and Matt Oesch, 160, decisioned Kevin Hankinson 8-7.

Northview picked up wins at 171 against Mike Forward and at 189 against B.J. Frazier.

Lowell's Pieter Serne (215) and Ben Vaught (HWT) finished the match with 5-3 and 8-3 decisions respectively.

"This is the most complete team we've fielded in a while," said Strejc. "We're on our way. Our concern is getting everybody healthy -

wanted all 14 of our wrestlers to advance," said Lowell coach, Dave Strejc.

Five Red Arrow grapplers recorded district championships.

None were more impressive than Ben Vaught's heavyweight win over Kenowa Hills' Adam Rasch. The Knight entered the match undefeated and had Vaught trailing by a half dozen points in the third period.

That's when a Vaught arm lock threw Rasch to his back and pinned the season's first loss on the Knight.

Others who earned dis-

trict titles were Brandon Kinney, 112 pounds, who decisioned Wyoming Park's Kenny Seganski 8-3.

"Brandon is wrestling like a champion regardless of the situation," Strejc explained.

John McKay, 125, won a district championship with a major decision over Northview's Troy Pitsch.

John Mendez was victorious at 130 pounds with a 9-2 decision over Mona Shores' Justin Langlois.

Caleb O'Boyle kept his perfect record intact with an 18-4 major decision over Wyoming Park's John Maxwell.

Losing their district championship matches were Ian DeRath, 119 pounds (injury default) and Ben Fleet, 215, who lost a 5-1 decision to Mona Shores' Brad Perri.

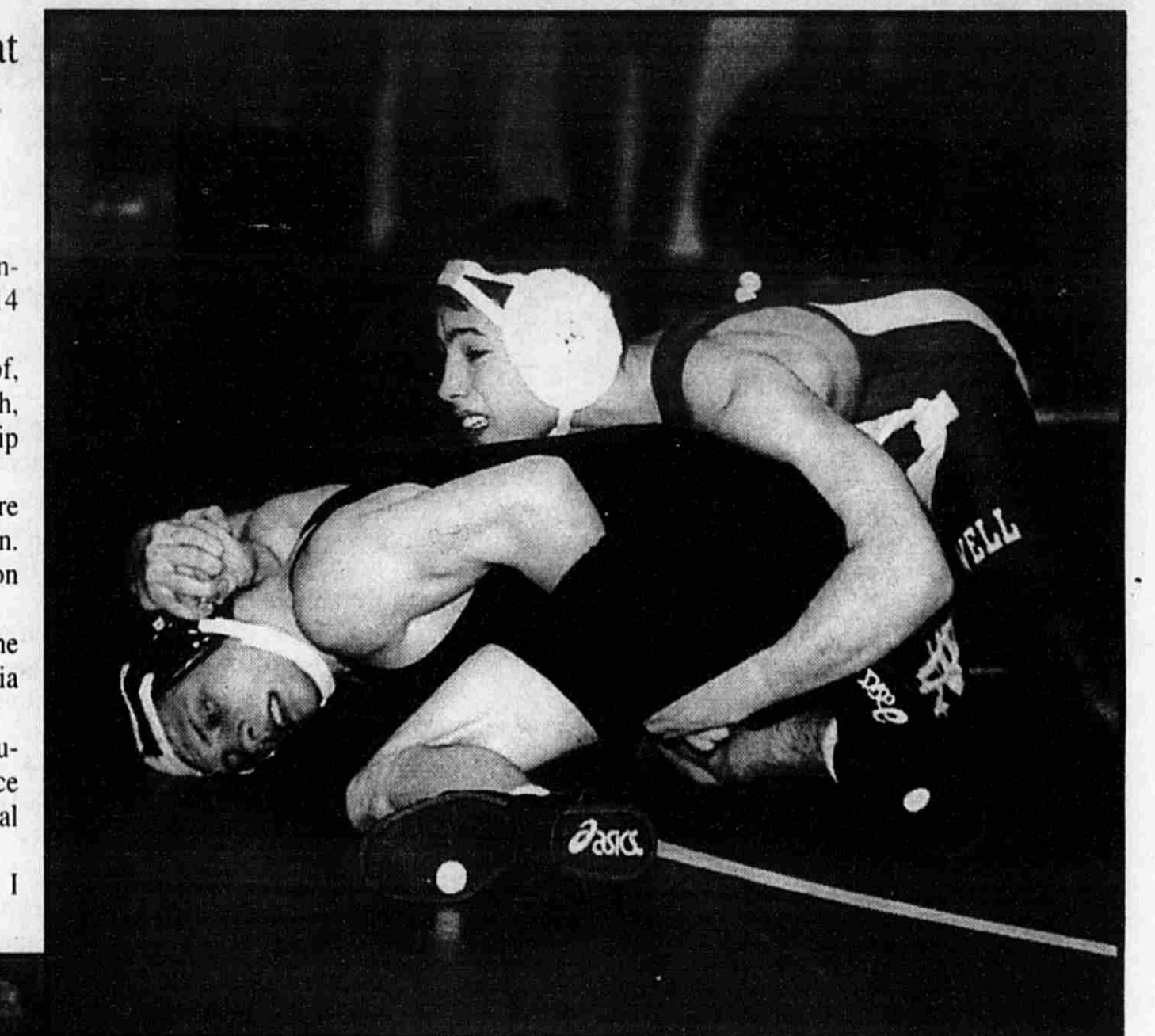
In consolation matches, Bobby Gingerich, 135 pounds, defeated Northview's Mike

VanderMolen 10-1; Pete VanLaan defeated Northview's Marvin Hayes 3-1; and Matt Oesch, 160, defeated Middleville's Kyle McKeown 10-5.

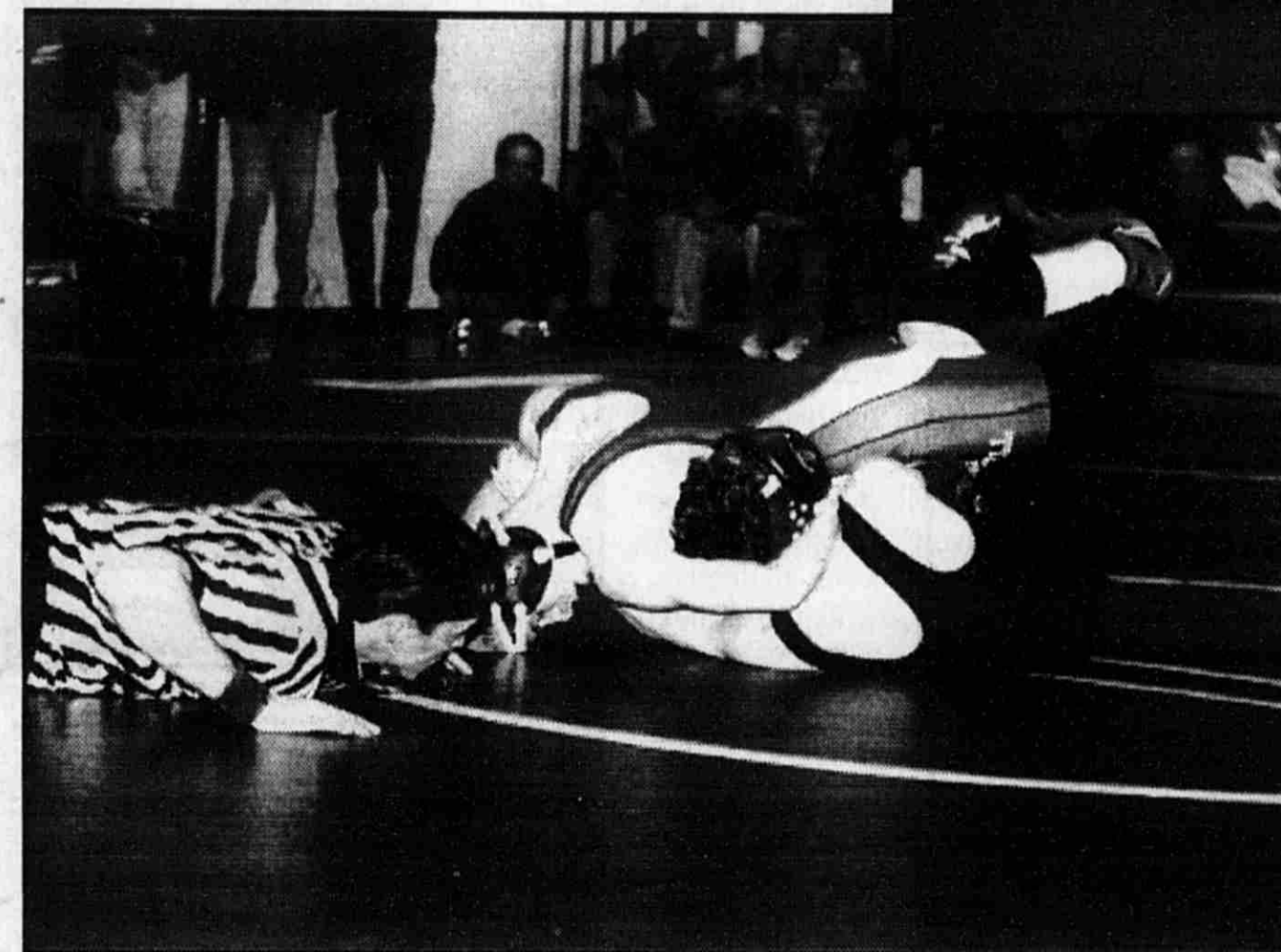
"Gingerich is tenacious. He keeps wrestling and keeps going after people," Strejc said. "VanLaan's record may not show it, but he's wrestled some formidable opponents this year. He gives every match his all. He keeps getting closer and closer to where he wants to be. Pete is starting to peak."

Mike Forward lost his consolation match to Northview's Jordan Petrovich 4-2; B.J. Frazier lost via injury default.

Lowell wrestles Wyoming Park on Wednesday in the regional team semifinal beginning at 6 p.m. at Caledonia. The winner will take on the victor between Middleville and Mona Shores.

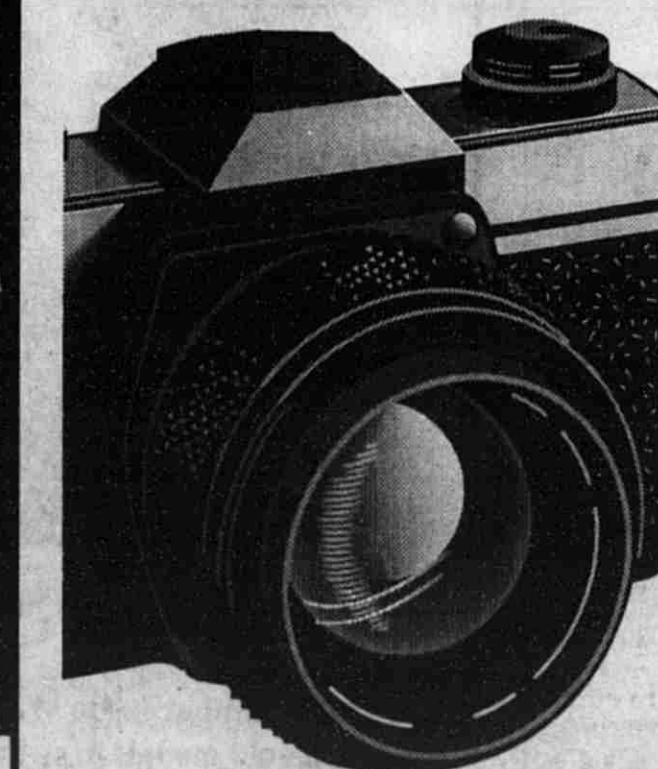


Brandon Kinney scored a 20-5 technical fall against his Wildcat opponent.



Lowell's Ian DeRath recorded against Northview's Troy Nelson.

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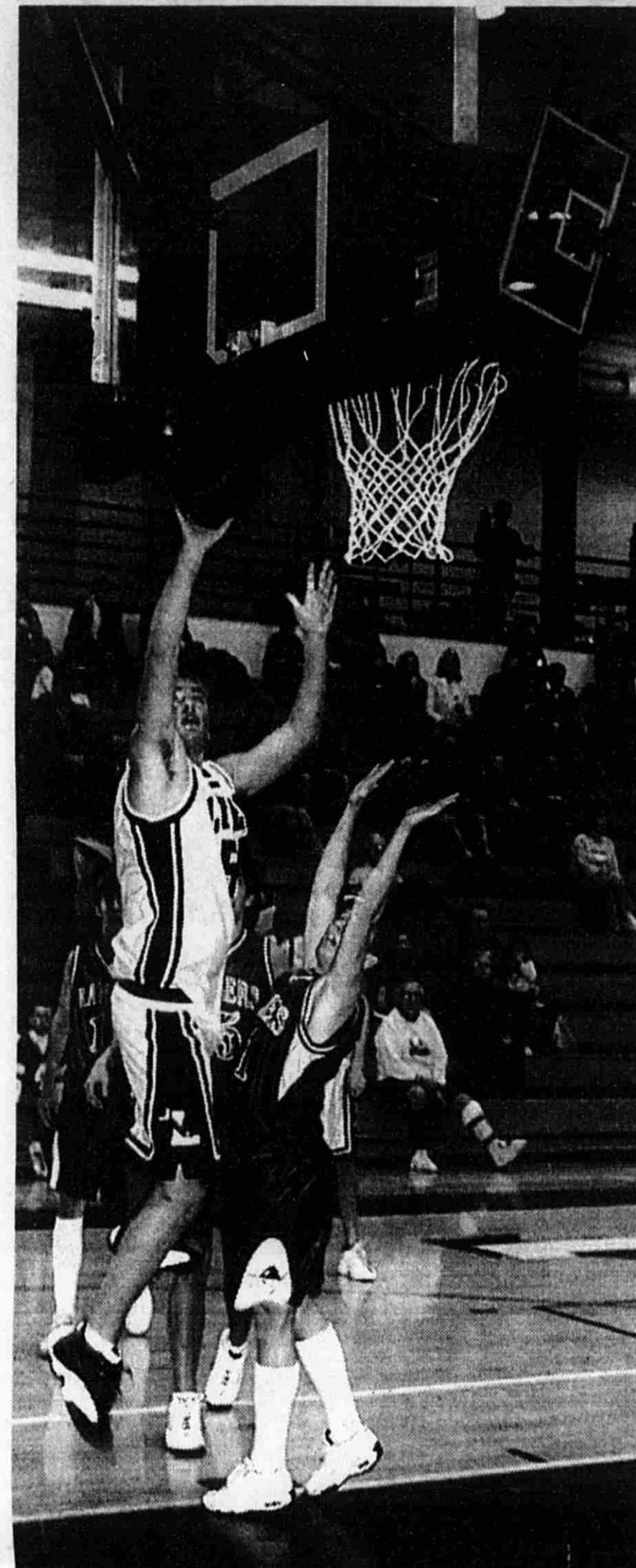


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Lowell celebrated another district championship after routing Northview and Forest Hills Northern.



Brad Koetsier attempts a short baseline-jumper against Central.

Hastings outguns Lowell in three overtimes, 74-68

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Big shots enabled Lowell to erase an eight-point, fourth-quarter deficit and send the game into overtime.

Big shots rallied Hastings from an eight-point deficit in the third overtime to give the Saxons a thrilling 74-68 O-K White Conference win.

"The game came down to whoever makes the last big shot," said Lowell boys basketball coach, Pete Bush. Hastings' Eric VanderMolen and Dustin Terrel made a number of big shots down the stretch. The two Saxons accounted for 48 of Hastings' 74 points. They netted 15 shots from the three-point arc.

Three of VanderMolen's treys came in overtime. None were bigger than the one the Saxon netted with 21 seconds remaining in the second overtime to give Hastings a 62-61 advantage.

"VanderMolen and Terrel were canning deep threes. The big shot was VanderMolen's three when Hastings was down two," Bush said.

Lowell was the beneficiary of some great perimeter shooting by Bill Harrison. The junior hit three treys in the final three minutes in helping Lowell battle back from an eight point deficit.

The tying basket in regulation was delivered by Sam Oberlin. The freshman guard pulled up and netted a 10 foot jumper as time elapsed, knotting the score at 47-47.

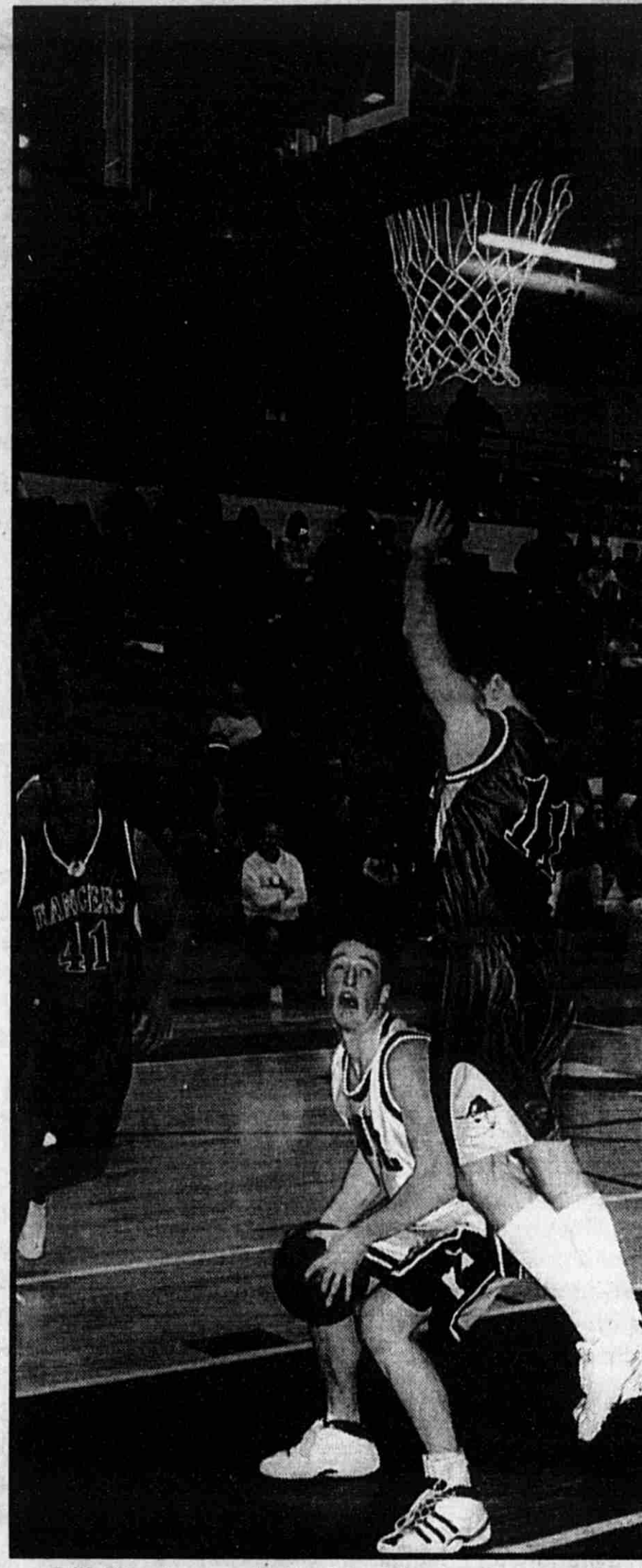
Lowell struggled offensively for three quarters. The Red Arrows trailed 26-19 at halftime and 34-26 after three quarters of play.

"We were awful for three quarters," Bush conceded. "But the boys hung in and battled back in the fourth quarter. Harrison knocked down some big shots for us. This hurts. It's a tough game to lose. It's one we felt we should win."

The loss dropped Lowell to 3-12 overall and 2-9 in the league. With the win Hastings improved to 4-12 overall and 2-9 in the conference.

Oberlin led all Lowell scorers with 22 and Harrison tallied 18 (6 threes).

Terrel netted a game-high 30 points. VanderMolen contributed with 18.



Bill Harrison waits for his defender to come down before going up with a shot.

pressure defense helped Central increase its lead to 28-13 at halftime.

Lowell was outscored 17-10 in the third quarter as Central cruised to its 14th win of the season. The Rangers are now 9-3 in the O-K White. Lowell falls to 3-13 overall and 2-10 in the league.

Kyle Carhart led a balanced Ranger attack with 12 points. Lowell had a team-leading eight points from James Bossard and Dave Rozema.

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Summary of why you are recommending this candidate:

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Please enclose a picture, if possible. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned.

FHC 58 Lowell 39

An undermanned Lowell boys basketball team was over-matched by the Rangers Friday night.

Playing without its point guard, Sam Oberlin, the Red Arrows struggled against FHC pressure.

Lowell trailed 9-7 after one period of play. The Rangers'



A STUDY OF PERSEVERENCE

Para Olympian Jason Wenning spoke to students at St. Patrick School about his success in sports. Wenning has won seven gold medals in swimming over the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Para Olympics despite missing both legs and two fingers on his left hand. Wenning's message to the students was that anything is possible, as long as one puts their mind to it and works hard. Wenning is currently finishing his graduate degree at the University of Michigan.

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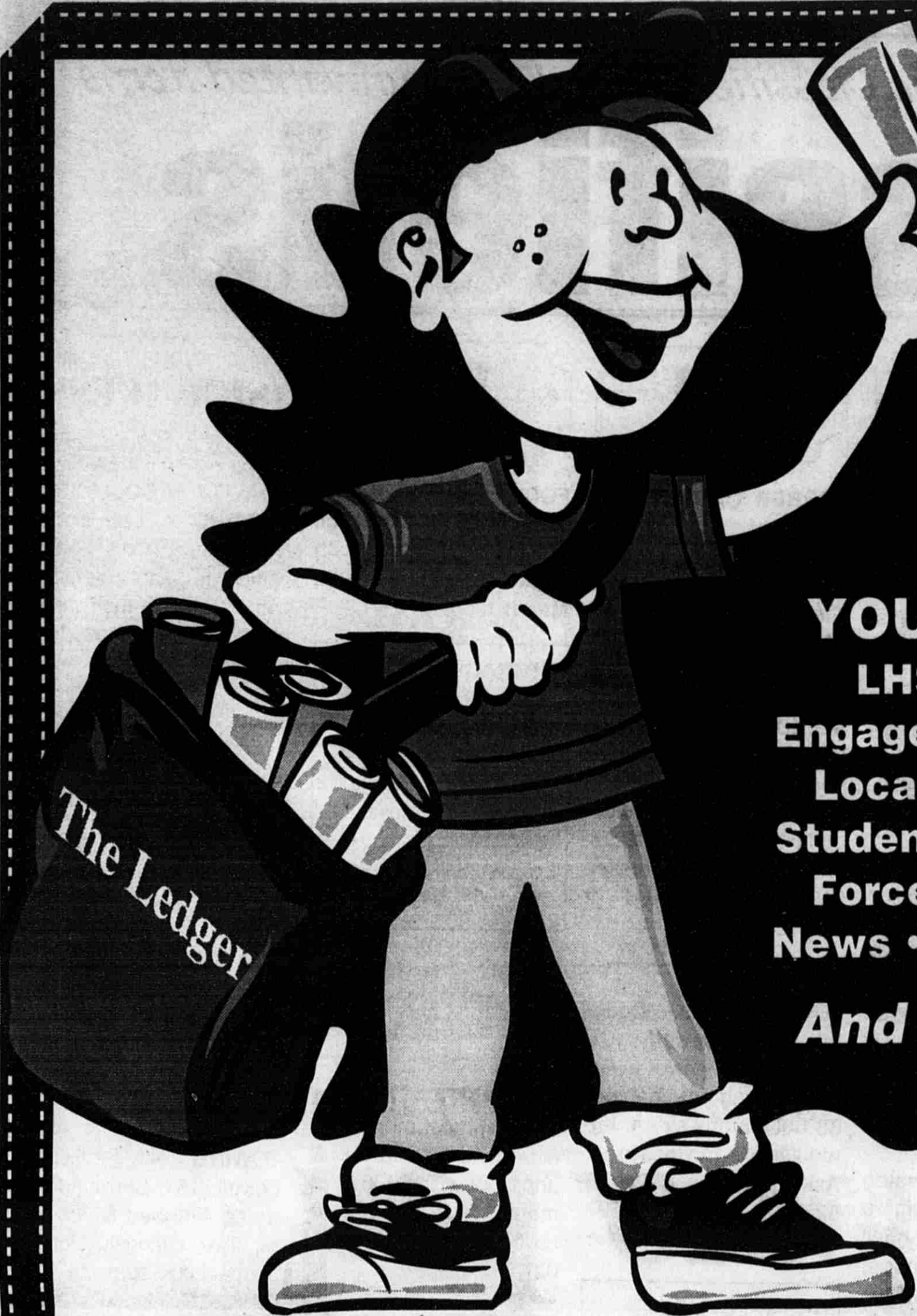
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