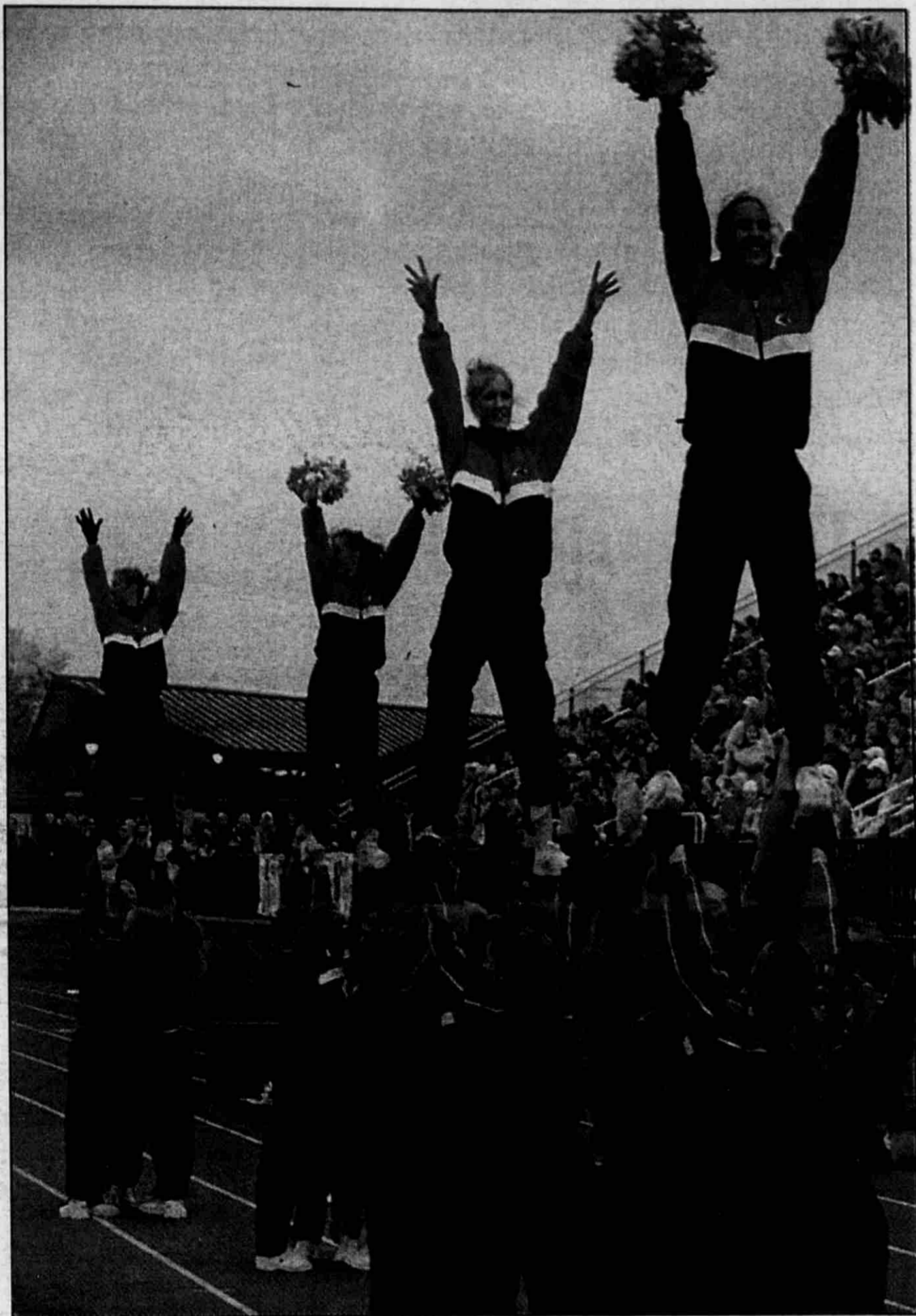


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 31 Issue 3

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 24, 2004



On to the Silverdome

By Dan Schneider

Lowell is going to the Silverdome in Pontiac Saturday to play for the Division 3 state championship.

"I'm excited and our team's excited," said Lowell coach Noel Dean, who led the Arrows to the Division 2 state championship in 2002. "We have a lot of kids participating who were in eighth grade when our seniors went last time."

Even though the next game is for the state championship, Lowell's focus stays the same as it has been all season.

"Win the next game," Lowell wide receiver Mike Koster said after the Red

Arrows beat Charlotte 49-14 at East Kentwood Saturday to earn the trip to the dome. He caught five of five passes in the game for 104 yards.

In the playoffs, as in the rest of the season, the Arrows have had the same philosophy: work hard first, everything else comes second.

"We practiced every practice like it was our last practice and we hoped that it wouldn't be," Koster said.

Lowell executed with fire and intensity on both sides of the ball last Saturday.

The Red Arrows immediately showed the Orioles what their defense could do. They caused Charlotte quarterback Derrik Eldred to

throw two incomplete passes and allowed them only five yards of forward progress on the drive.

Lowell then put together a combination of runs by Ryan Esbaugh, a pass to Mike Koster, and some keeps by quarterback Keith Nichol to get the ball from their own 36 to within a yard of the end zone. Nichol kept it for the Arrows' first score. Lowell would score on the six subsequent drives. The Arrows didn't punt until the fourth quarter.

Lowell got to start its second drive of the game on Charlotte's 10-yard line. This was after Ed Zigmont blocked Charlotte's punt. A keep by Nichol put the ball in the end zone again for

Lowell had a lot to cheer about in the 49-14 victory.

More pictures and story continued on page 14.

Two local trail groups look forward to combining efforts

By Dan Schneider

Now that the Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) exists, cooperation with another local trail group, the Lowell Area Trailway will help to build its goal.

The national headquarters for the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) has been located in historic downtown Lowell for four years. The group has been building and maintaining the North Country National Scenic Trail a lot longer than that, since 1980.

"We're veterans at this," said NCTA executive director Rob Corbett.

The LARA hopes to take advantage of some of the NCTA's knowledge gained from experience when constructing the trail in Lowell.

"There will be a lot of not having to re-invent the wheel," said Mari Stone, Vergennes Township clerk and a representative on the LARA board.

There are a lot of differences between the trails. Whereas the Lowell Area Trailway will be paved to allow

cyclists and rollerbladers, the North Country Trail is a simple dirt path. The Lowell trail will connect local points of interest, city and township parks and the like, while the North Country Trail is national in scope—its route stretching from the eastern border of New York to the middle of North Dakota. But the core purpose for both is the same.

"We're both about increasing the quality of life, that's the crux of the issue," Corbett said.

Trail groups, cont'd., pg. 9

Illegal trap set on city grounds kills dog

By Dan Schneider

A hunting trap placed illegally on the north-east bank of the confluence of the Flat and Grand rivers caused the death of a Lowell woman's dog two weeks ago.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, Nov. 10, Diane Smith was walking her dog, a four-year-old Brittany Spaniel, on city property.

The dog stumbled upon a trap placed to catch small mammals. The trap ensnared and suffocated the dog.

"It was a pretty good size and it was the kind that collapses over their throat and the back of their neck so they suffocate," Smith said.

Unable to free the dog from the trap, Smith went to the Lowell Police Department. Officer Chad Bustraan removed the dead dog from

the trap and confiscated it. He searched the area for other traps but found none. The trap had no tags identifying the owner, as required by state game law.

"It was, one, placed illegally because you're not supposed to trap in town, and two, I understand that according to gaming laws there are supposed to be identifiers," Lowell police chief Jim Valentine said.

Valentine explained a city ordinance prohibits trapping within the city limits. He said this was the first incident of a pet getting killed in a trap that he is aware of.

Smith, who has lived in Lowell for two years, misses her dog.

Illegal trap kills dog, cont'd., pg. 11

Happy Thanksgiving



Santa's On His Way... Page 8

No More Swinging ... Page 10

Local Vet Travels To Africa...

Page 11

Rezoning rejection leaves FROM weighing its options

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Flat River Outreach Ministries (F.R.O.M.) chair will be heading back to his board of directors after the request for a zoning change got shot down by a planner. Pastor Roger La Warre and board member Kraig Haybarker had approached the Lowell Planning Commission several months ago about rezoning the property at 112 Lincoln Lake, the Masonic Lodge building, to central business district C-2. F.R.O.M. is looking to move its operations to that location.

The planning commission decided to seek the opinion of a professional planner, Steve Langworthy, of Langworthy, Strader, LeBlanc, and Associates, Inc., who recommended against the rezoning. After some discussion on other possible options, the commission made it clear that it was up to the organization as to what direction it wanted to pursue or if it wanted to continue with this property at all.

La Warre said his board was exploring the idea of moving to the Masonic

Lodge which offered the organization a chance to expand some of its operations and include a retail site. The Lincoln Lake site is the only proposal presented to the group so far, and is beginning to look like it could be a costly venture. The biggest obstacle is that F.R.O.M. would have to "pour in a great deal of money" in site plans before even being granted a rezoning that would better suit the needs of what the group wants to do there, La Warre said. Even then, the alternative zonings, public facilities, or the commercial zones C-1 and C3, would mean a number of variances.

"Essentially in the end the site is going to look like a C-2 zone," said Haybarker. F.R.O.M. was looking at the C-2 zoning because of its relaxed setback and parking regulations. Langworthy said that by allowing this, the city would set a precedent for other developers to seek the zoning which is designed specifically for the "downtown" area.

Commission member Jim Hall felt C-3 would be the best option since there is already property zoned C-3

Green light for proposed barber shop & retail space

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Seeing it as a much better design, the Lowell Planning Commission gave a developer the thumbs up on constructing two buildings on a West Main lot.

Dave Piersma approached the commission about constructing two separate 1,500 square foot buildings at 521 W. Main St., the northeast corner of Amity and W. Main. City manager David Pasquale said he was able to talk to the developer and architect Nederveld Associates and from those discussions, the buildings were reoriented from the original design.

The concern about the first design was the way the buildings were situated, especially the south building. It gave little space between it and the strip mall, owned by Phil Johnson. It would have allowed for limited access to the now existing property at 505 W. Main, which worried Johnson in regards to repairs and a firewall.

The city had concerns because of a gas meter that was located in the back of the building. "What they have done is moved the buildings so the narrowest part is facing in, thus creating more flexibility for the setbacks," Pasquale said. This change allowed for nine foot setbacks and created better access to the back of the two buildings.

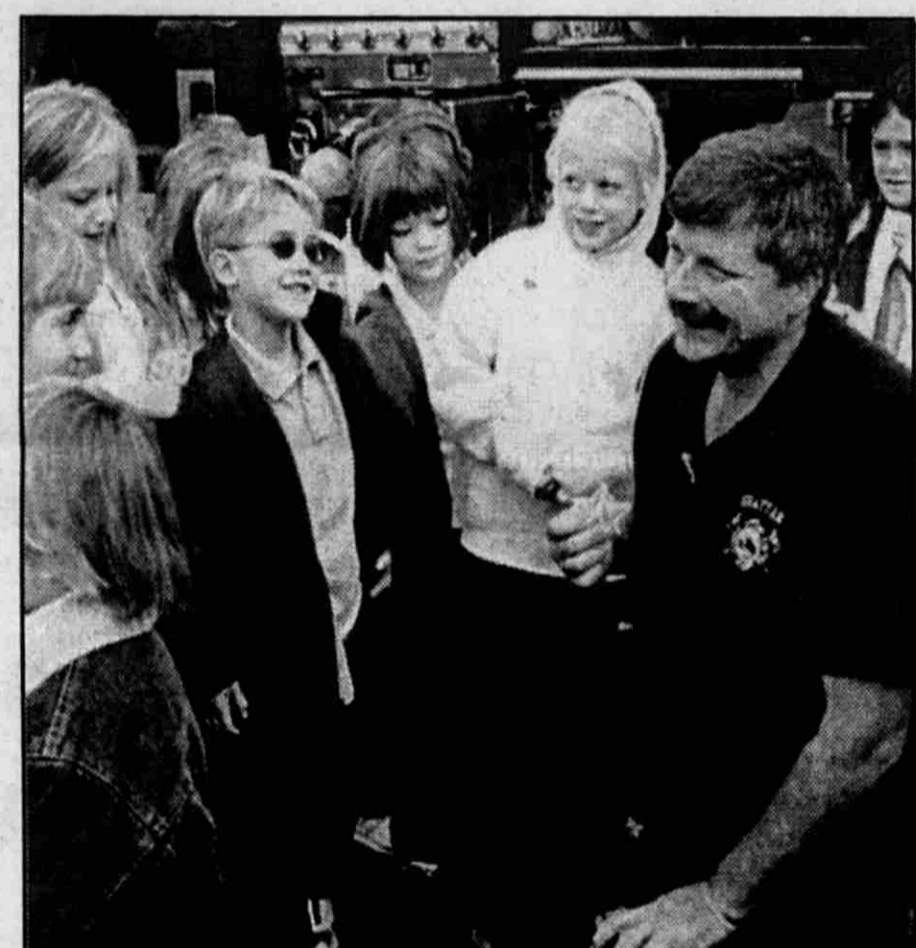
"The plan as it progressed is better," said commission member Jim Hall

ing properties, and the change could have a serious impact on the current downtown area with funding and resources split to promote the two different areas. Langworthy did support the idea of rezoning to public facilities or to commercial C-1 and then seeking the variances necessary. The planning commission plans to review the entire area again at its work session in hopes of determining a specific plan for the area, which includes several vacant properties and properties that have been hard to develop, said commission chair Clark Jahnke. Langworthy has been asked to attend that meeting.

Piersma only plans to construct part of it now with the new building. Sidewalk will be finished when the second building is constructed.

Parking concerns were also raised; Piersma showed 17 spaces. Pasquale said he only needed to construct at least eight to cover the barbershop at this time. The second building was being called a retail space and

Green light for shops, cont'd., pg. 13



Fire Safety lessons

Grattan volunteer firemen recently visited St. Patrick School in Parnell to teach kindergarten, first and second grade students about fire safety. Pictured is fireman Mark Rosenberger and in the background is the fire truck the students were able to check out.

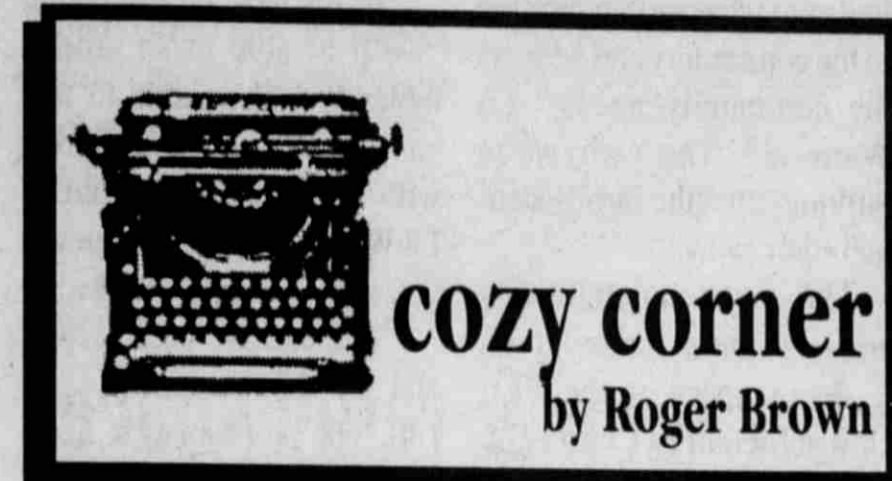
Lowell resident YAM award recipient

The Council for Art Education has recently announced the 2004 (YAM) award recipients.

M. Karen Thomure, a second year (YAM) chairperson, received an Award of Excellence for her outstanding 2004 Youth Art Month state report. Thomure is a Lowell resident and retired art teacher, having taught 22 years at Lowell Middle School. She is currently the YAM Advocacy co-chair for the Michigan Art Education Association.

Thomure will receive her award at the National Art Education Association Conference in Boston, MA, in March 2005. She, along with two other recipients from Louisiana and New Jersey, will give a presentation together on what their state is doing to advocate the arts and motivation involved.

Viewpoint . . .



I have a neighbor who is beginning to annoy me. Of the neighbors we hang with, there are four of us that follow professional football to any extent. These allegiances of course reflect our previous homes. The four teams garnering our meager support are the Washington Redskins, Miami Dolphins, Pittsburgh Steelers and of course my beloved Lions. Boy, do I love those @&*&% Lions!

Things have been peaceful here in the neighborhood over the past couple of seasons. All our teams were lackluster losers. Our choices of football teams to back made a standing joke at our frequent get-togethers.

As a Lions' fan for over forty years, I can obviously out-whine any pro football fan... especially these guys whose teams have established dynasties at one time or another. Lions' fans have been waiting for a championship season almost as long as baseball's Cubs' supporters. We might not be talkin' pre-TV coverage, but the games weren't even in color the last time the Lions won a championship. Can you say, "I like Ike?"

If you follow pro football at all, you can easily guess which neighbor has become annoying. This neighbor is a great big, loud, gregarious guy in any situation. Now that the Steelers are something like 9 and 1, he's pretty much insufferable. Everything is Ben Roethlisberger this and Jerome Bettis that. If you think Terry Bradshaw can be loud and irritating, you ain't seen (or heard) anything.

In an effort to stretch this column to a suitable length, I'm going to take us off on a sidebar. I promise it's relevant to the story line... sort of.

About three weeks ago my wife and I were on our whirlwind trip out west. It was a Saturday night in Tombstone, Arizona. We were in a little café waiting for our dinner,

when a guy in his mid-thirties excitedly entered the dining area with news about the Michigan vs. Michigan State game. The news caught my attention, as well as the table full of people next to us who turned out to be from Holland, Michigan. It really is a "small world"... but as comedian Stephen Wright points out, "wouldn't want to paint it though."

I milked the guy for information about the triple overtime nail-biter in which Michigan pulled off a victory. When it became apparent that the guy with the info was a Michigan fan, I said, "Oh... you're one of those." He seemed ready to take offense, until I made it clear I was joking. I told him my daughter went to State, along with a heckuva lot of my money.

I was only partially kidding. U of M football fans and their attitude that Big Ten dominance is something pre-ordained, are quite annoying. What is sad, is the fact you can't escape it. Not even in Tombstone, Arizona. Heck, we're going all the way to China soon, and guess who's there? My son-in-law... a U of M grad and die-hard football fan. I don't know how my daughter puts up with him.

Back to my neighbor. I watched the Lions and their totally pathetic loss to the hated Vikings on Sunday. After the game, I headed to town to run some errands. The Steelers' fan neighbor came wheeling around the corner as I was waiting at a stop sign. He and his wife were on their way home from watching the Steelers' game at a friend's house. I waved and began to pull away as soon as they were clear. Unfortunately, he squealed to a stop. I knew the Steelers had won, and I knew what was coming.

Let me describe the scene. The neighbor and his wife are dressed in Steelers' game jerseys and hats. His Jeep has a Steelers' license plate on the front and a Steelers' spare tire cover on the back. He has two Steelers' flags flying from the roof. Told you he is annoying.

He hollered, "It was ugly, but they won." He didn't have to say who had won. After a few details about his game, he laughingly offered condolences on the Lions' loss.

Ah, but I did have a comeback! "To heck with the Lions," I said, "my hometown high school just won the semifinal game for the state championship." When he tried to change the subject back to the Steelers, I hollered, "They're playing Saturday night in the Silverdome for a second state championship in three years!" I drove off.

GO RED ARROWS!!!



Ledger Entries

of 125, 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
NOVEMBER 26, 1879

Susan B. Anthony will speak at Music Hall tonight. Tomorrow is Thanksgiving.

Grand Rapids wants the new asylum for the blind to be located there.

The Detroit Evening News says Michigan produced over two million barrels of salt this year.

Rev. Moulton of Rockford stopped and had a hot toddy on the cold ride home from Grand Rapids, and there's now a row in his church.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
NOVEMBER 24, 1904

The new Parks Mfg. Co. building at the corner of Main and Hudson opens for manufacturing its cream separators, sprayers and hand trucks.

The Lowell Independents lost to the Grand Haven team last Saturday, and claim unfair treatment and crowd interference.

Rev. Magdamz of the German Lutheran Church offers private lessons in the German language.

Voting machines have not speeded the process; some people took time to read all six tickets.

A regular back-page feature is "Temperance Topics."

75 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO
NOVEMBER 28, 1929

Lowell City Bank raises interest on savings to three percent.

Despite rumors of scarce wood in the U.P., recent deals for 150 million feet of white pine and 60 million feet of hemlock have been made in two counties there.

Hotel Waverley now has steam heat, a big improvement.

The Friday night dance at Smyrna was well-attended by Moseley folks.

50 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
NOVEMBER 25, 1954

Esther Fahmi reminds us that licenses are now available for all vehicles, not just the '55 models.

The safecrackers who stole \$500 from Wittenbach Sales and Service are caught at a garage in Adrian.

Officers post "No U-Turns" signs on Main Street and will enforce them.

The new sport in the Grand Valley Conference, cross country, ends its season with Lowell winning the Regional.

Holmes Ellis's speech about Hopewell Indian Tribes at Rotary inspires the group to try starting a Lowell Historical Society, to research Indian sites here.

25 YEARS
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
NOVEMBER 22, 1979

Chaffee Planetarium will be open Thanksgiving evening for the first time, due to interest in its show "The UFO Experience."

A car thief was caught within an hour, but the police again remind all to not leave the keys in the car.

Michigan's Bottle Bill takes effect Dec. 3 and is predicted to change people's habits. Reminder: it applies to cans too.

Urging safe snowmobiling reflects last winter's increased deaths and injuries.

The Kent County Library starts a Mail-a-Book program for readers who have trouble getting to the library.

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Karrie Scudder

OUTDOORS

By Dave Stegehuis

Shooting shacks have become a common sight along highways that pass through deer country. These blinds resemble an outhouse except for an opening on each side. They keep a hunter warm, dry, and concealed. The shooting shack is semi-permanent and not practical on public land because they must be removed.

The solution has been pop-up portable blinds. These are compact, lightweight, and are easy to set up and take down. The window openings can be adjusted. Just be careful if they have zippers, because I found that a Montana mule deer can hear a zipper move from a distance of 300 yards.

For the hunter on the move, there are satellite navigation systems that can be carried in a shirt pocket along with a compass. Two-way radios provide communication between hunters. Lightweight insulated waterproof boots insure comfort on long walks. Scent-suppressing clothing is available to fool the able nose of deer while camouflage patterns conceal hunter outline and movement.

A variety of scents and calls can be used to lure the deer close to the hunter. Baiting deer with corn or other food is allowed in designated areas and then only in compliance with a number of restrictions.

As hunters, we all have to make individual decisions as to which technology and methods are proper and ethical. Fortunately, in spite of all the gear and gadgets, the woods and wildlife are the same. The anticipation of the hunt and the excitement of encountering wildlife is still what draws us to the woods each fall.

Letters, Letters, Letters...

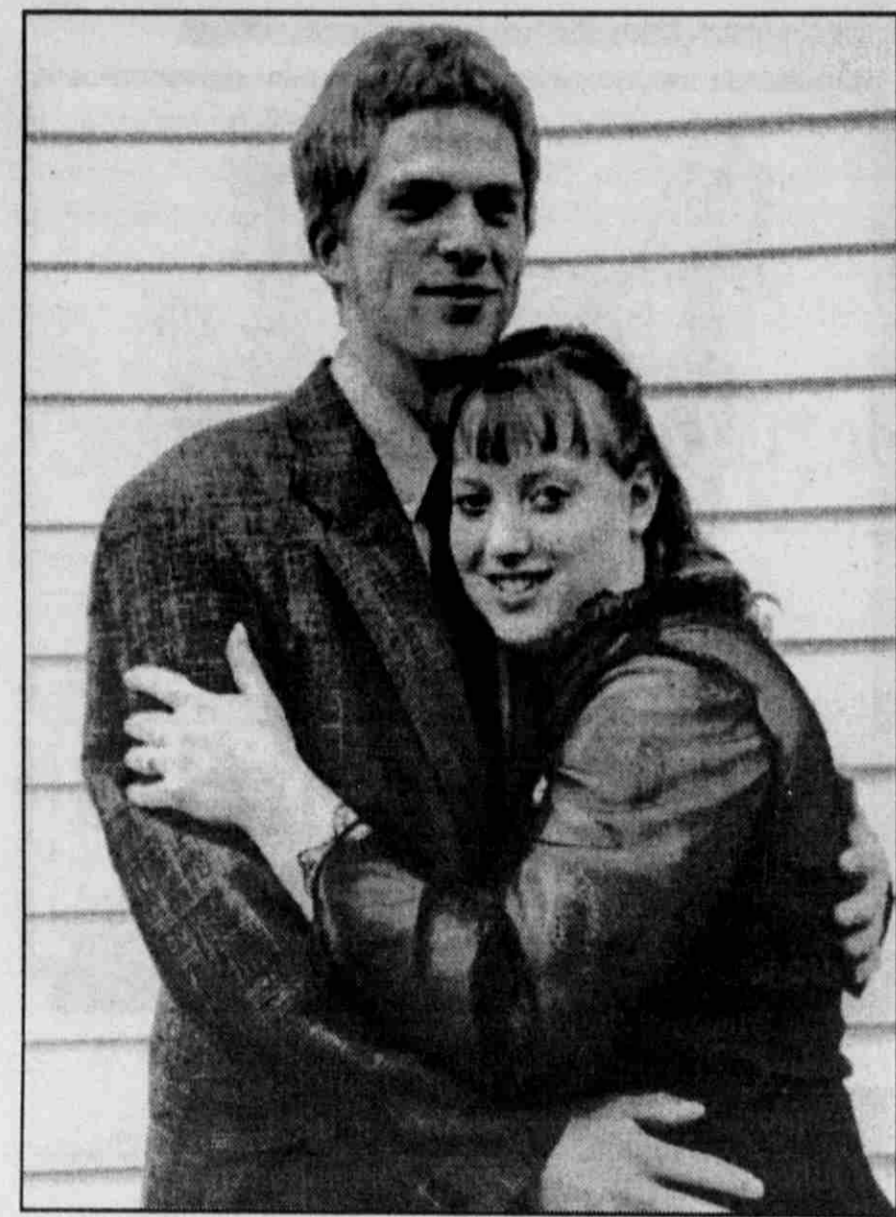
The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed one written page or one typed, double-spaced page.

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com Letters must be signed and please include a phone number when emailing.

Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Ledger reserves the right to limit submissions from the same writer to twice a month. The Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

ENGAGEMENTS

Stiver/Bowman



Daniel Bowman and Amanda Stiver

Amanda Marie Stiver and Daniel Frank Bowman, both of Grand Rapids, will marry in a January 8, 2005 ceremony at First Baptist Church in Lowell.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Neil and Kathy Stiver of Lowell. A graduate of Lowell High School, she currently is a junior at Cornerstone University.

The groom-elect is the son of Brian and Connie Bowman of Manistee. A graduate of Onkama High School, he graduated from Cornerstone University in May 2004 and is currently at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary.

First Congregational Church will expand its ministry with larger building

By Dan Schneider

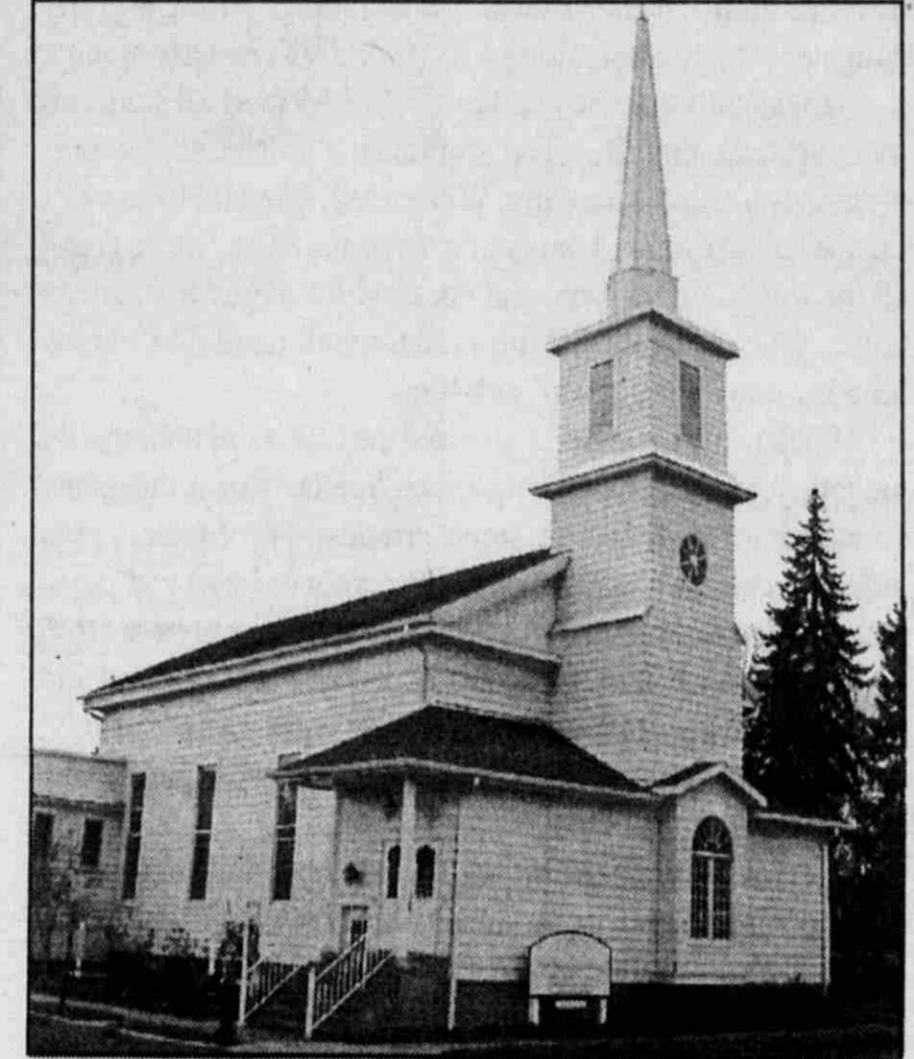
When the First Congregational Church of Lowell completes the construction of its new church, it will have more sanctuary space as well as space for new community programs.

The church has 260 members at last count and is still growing, according to pastor Roger La Warre. The first phase of the new building will include a sanctuary that seats

266, but also a 3,630 square-foot family center, classrooms and office space. The new church is being built on Lincoln Lake Ave., north of the church's current location.

Excavation work on the site began Oct. 4. La Warre hopes to dedicate the new sanctuary during the March 5, 2006 service. It would be the day before the First Congregational Church's 150th anniversary.

At its present site, La



First Congregational Church as it now stands on Hudson Street.

Warre said, the church doesn't have enough room to expand its community programming.

"Right now we are so limited as to what we can provide to the community and address the community needs," La Warre said. "That's why we're building this (the family center) right away."

When the church does its annual summer fun program, it shares space at the First United Methodist Church. La Warre said the congregational church hopes to be able to return such courtesy to the community once the new building is finished. He said the new building will allow the church to host more speakers and even sports camps.

In addition to new programming, La Warre said the family center will be more conducive to new types of worship, especially for young people.

"We think there's a need in this community for wor-

ship where the music styles are non-traditional, where the liturgy style ... is more conversational-based," he said.

In the new family center "we'll be able to sit around tables, you'll be able to talk and sing and pray and interact with each other," explained La Warre. "If you're in pews, you can't do those things."

The current sanctuary at 404 N. Hudson Street seats 180. The building was dedicated in 1861. It took four years to build it during the Civil War.

According to a letter found in the church's archives, Dr. Richards, who donated the property on Hudson St. in the 1800s, requested that it always be used for religious purposes. La Warre said the church intends to honor that request once the new building is finished, selling the old building to another church or other religious group.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOV. 25: Pat Vezino, Melissa Roudabush, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt, Lorri Myers, Amy Swift.

NOV. 26: John Erickson.

NOV. 27: Bonnie Vezino, Kim Harding, Marty Chambers, Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Roudabush, Heather Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Josh Spencer, Aiden Malone.

NOV. 28: Shelly Hildenbrand, Lee Miller.

NOV. 29: Margaret Gardner, Gail Thomet, Kelly Sauber, Scott Swanson, Tara Propst.

NOV. 30: Jason Craig, Todd Ryder, Joe Kiczanski, April McClure-Cowan.

DEC. 1: Travis Briggs, Deb Anchors, Dennis Brenk II, Joyce Watrous.

Recently-unified girl scout troops undertake toy collection

By Dan Schneider

For three months, the girl scouts in Lowell and Alto have been part of their own local "neighborhood."

The Flat River Neighborhood formed in late August. It includes girl scouts from Alto, Bushnell, Cherry Creek and Murray Lake elementaries and Lowell Middle School. A girl scout neighborhood is a larger, cooperative group of several individual troops. They meet together for group activities.

Among the smaller neighborhoods in the Michigan Trails Council, the Flat River Neighborhood has 113 girls in 15 troops. The neighborhood also includes Lowell High School, but there are no registered troops at this time.

"The girls are hopefully going to be a more congealed

group because they are all in the same school district," said Sue Merriman, leader of the Alto fifth grade girl scout troop.

The Lowell area troops broke away from the much larger Forest Hills-Lowell Neighborhood.

"It was over 1,000 girls in that neighborhood," Merriman said. "It wasn't efficient for the girls to work together because it was so big."

The new neighborhood will also help the girls localize their service efforts.

"We can focus on the Lowell area and being able to help the community in different ways," Merriman said. "It's always nice if the girls can see what their endeavors are going towards."

The Flat River Neighborhood has already worked together on a service project-making Halloween cards for patients at DeVos Children's Hospital. Their first local project, and first major project, will be the collection of toys for Flat River Outreach Min-

istries along the route of Lowell's annual Santa Parade. Girl scouts have collected toys during the parade in the past. This will be the largest group of girls to do it, and they hope to make it the biggest year yet.

"We're hoping to get at least 400 unwrapped toys for

parade at any of the schools having girl scout troops.

Parents of girls interested in joining the girl scouts in the Flat River Neighborhood can call Lina Ackey of the West Michigan Trails Council at 784-3341.

People can bring the toys to the parade for the girls to collect. This year's Santa Parade starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Lowell Fairgrounds. Unwrapped toys can also be dropped off before the

Preschool restructures to provide "developmental learning"

Changes are occurring, and more are to come as the Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC) in Lowell works to restructure its preschool program.

Transitionally, the center is moving from the self-directed learning approach to a more teacher-directed developmental environment. FLPC's preschool educators Charlie Knudstrup and Fredna Rayford continue to support each child's individual needs through play by using child-centered experiences and developmentally appropriate toys. But an added advantage is structured time for school readiness skills and field trips.

"This week Wednesday and Thursday the children are visiting the Polar Express Train Garden exhibit at Frederik Meijer Gardens and will decorate a tree while there," said Knudstrup.

According to Knudstrup, the multi-sensory teaching methods in the center's new approach are adaptable from child to child and stimulate language and math skills at all developmental stages.

"When children manipulate a puzzle piece into the right position, hold a pencil correctly, color within the lines, or cut paper into a desired shape, they are developing fine and gross motor skills," he said. "We work and play with each student to refine their motor skills, which in turn, increases the confidence of these young pupils."

Rayford reports that while it may seem all developmental schools are similar in nature, the FLPC preschool is unique because of the staff



Henderick Jannenga, front left, and his preschool classmates ride in a hay wagon to an orchard where they will learn about the beginning stages of the food cycle.

music therapists and artists who share their talents with children.

"Children take outdoor discovery walks to the farm, are helped to play musical instruments rarely seen in other schools, go on field trips, and are involved in unique art projects thought up especially for them by our Artist-in-Residence," said Rayford.

This variety of activities helps the teachers "connect" with children having differing learning styles and helps to reinforce independence and to grow each child's positive self-concepts and cooperation skills.

"For example, our hayride experience helps teach the food cycle—from the planting of seeds, to the harvesting of hay, to the feeding of animals," explained Rayford. "It's experiences like these that make the FLPC Preschool like none other."

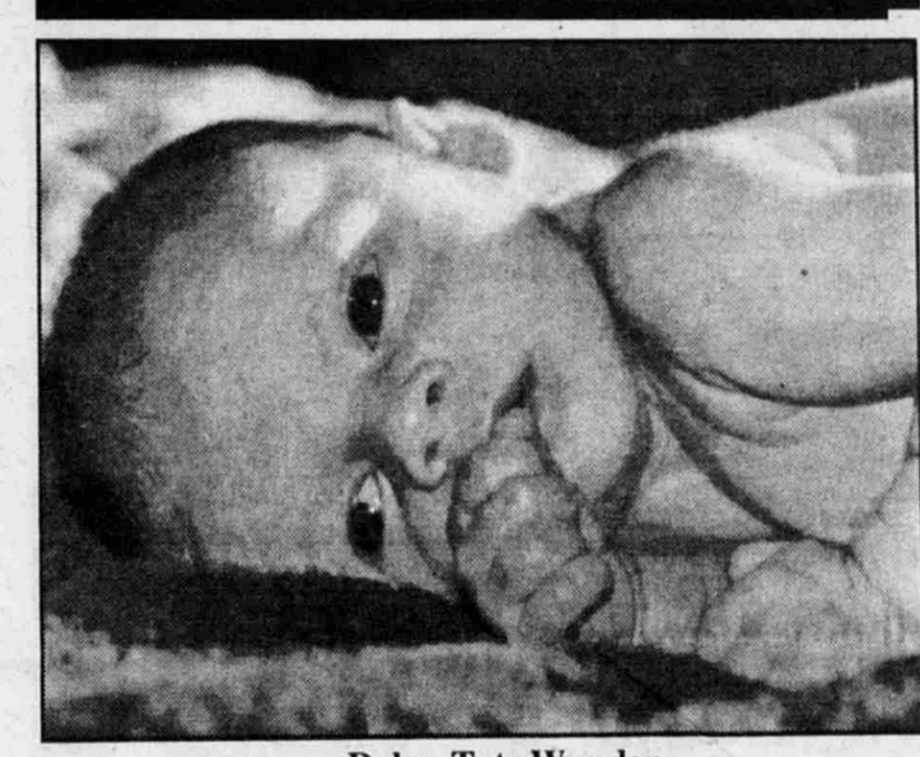
The FLPC Preschool operates Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Table with 4 columns listing various churches: Alto United Methodist Church, Evergreen Missionary Church, Christian Life Center, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Apostolic Lighthouse, Lowell Church of the Nazarene, South Boston Bible Church, First Baptist Church of Lowell, Alton Bible Church, and First Congregational Church of Lowell. Each entry includes address, phone, and service times.

AREA BIRTHS



Dylan Tate Wunder

Wunder Diana Bittrick is proud to announce the birth of her grandson, Dylan Tate. The "little pumpkin" was born Halloween morning, weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. and measuring 18 3/4 inches long to Brenda and Doug Wunder of Spring Lake.

Tower Chris and Amy Tower are happy to announce the birth of their son, Jackson Charles, born on August 26, 2004 at 9:34 p.m. at Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus. He weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and measured 20 inches.

Great-grandparents are Betty and Gaylord Heaston of Lowell. Grandfather is Barry (and Cathy) Bittrick of Ada. Paternal grandparents are Carol and Jim Wunder of Escanaba.

Welcoming Jackson home is his big brother, Mitchell and his uncle, Brian. Proud grandparents are Gary and Sharon Curless of Ada, Mary Tower of Lowell and Terry Tower of Belding.

LUNCH MENU Elementary Menu Week of Nov. 29, 2004

MON: Chicken sticks with a biscuit or turkey & cheese on bun, broccoli, pears, milk.

TUES: Pizza wedge or chicken quesadilla, salad, applesauce, milk.

WED: Macaroni & cheese or turkey & cheese on bun, mixed fruit, mixed vegetable, milk.

THURS: French toast, cereal, scrambled eggs, potato wedge, juice, milk.

FRI: Pizza dippers or sloppy joe on bun, peaches, corn, milk.

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FROM CHRISTMAS BOX DONATIONS Flat River Outreach Ministries will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts through December 17. Angel Trees or Toy Barrels will be in place at the following locations beginning Friday, November 26: Showboat Automotive, Rite Aid, Huntington Bank, Goldworks, Lowell City Hall, Dollar General, Springgrove Variety, Brenda's Hair Design, Ionia Co. Nat'l Bank, Englehard Library, LA Video. In addition Flat River Neighborhood Girls Scouts will collect toys along the parade route of the Lowell Christmas Parade on December 4. Food and gifts can be dropped off at the First United Methodist Church on December 16 and 17 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm (Jackson Street entrance). Food and toys will be distributed on Saturday, December 18. This program provides a helping hand for many area families financially stressed this time of year. Remember: This program is for our community! If we can be assistance to your family with food and/or toys, please call the Food Pantry (897-4189) or visit the Thrift Store to sign up.

Santa Claus is coming to Lowell - Saturday, December 4

The annual Lowell Santa Parade is sure to put Christmas spirit in the city of Lowell on Saturday, Dec 4. It will begin promptly at 10 a.m. at the Lowell fairgrounds and make its way east on Main Street.

The Kent County Youth Fair pancake breakfast begins at 8 a.m. in the King Memorial Youth Center at the fairgrounds. Santa will be in attendance from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. to have breakfast with

kids, then will hop on his sleigh to catch up to the parade.

Ice sculpture competition on the Riverwalk Plaza. The works and the process will be on view from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Spectators can vote for the "People's Choice" award.

Santa will be available for pictures on the Robert E. Lee from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the same time, "Rudolph's Craft Workshop" will be at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. This involves crafts for children ages two to eight. The Lowell Lions Club

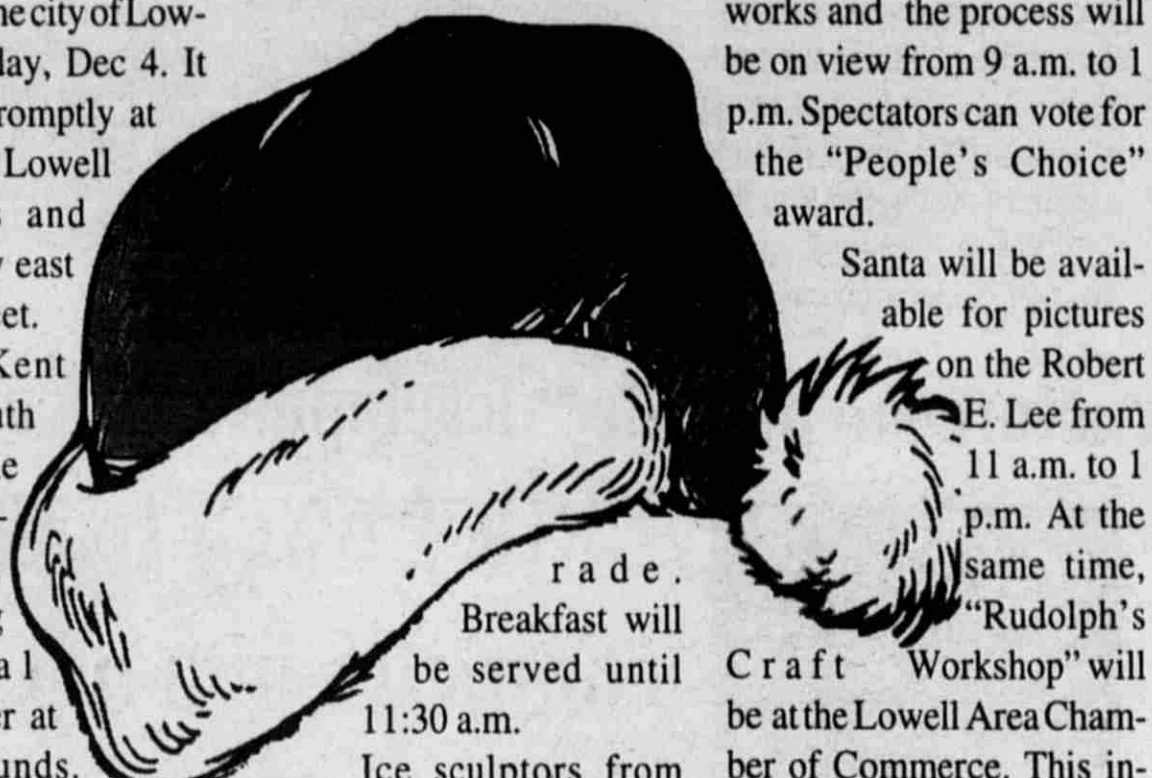
will be selling hotdogs and hot chocolate from 9 a.m. until supplies run out along the Riverwalk. Meanwhile, St. Mary Catholic Church is

having a bake sale with chili and hot sandwiches from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The annual Rogue River Artisans Art and Craft

Christmas sale will be held at Lowell High School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Local merchants and restaurants will have specials going on throughout the day.



BUSINESS MATTERS

Jennifer Meyers was recently promoted to the position of assistant vice president of Independent Bank's Belding office.

She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and MBA in Finance from Western Michigan University.

Her career began at Independent Bank in 1999 as a branch manager in Saranac. As assistant vice president, she will continue her duties as branch manager and participating in community activities.

She was also recently elected as secretary and board



Jennifer Meyers member of the Ionia Business and Professional Women's Club and is a member of the Lowell Rotary Club.

Trail groups combine efforts, continued...From Page 1

They face many similar issues, as well. The NCTA has experience with establishing property easements and throughways, something the LARA will have to do to construct their trail.

The NCTA is well-versed in organizing groups of volunteers for trail maintenance. Additionally, the NCTA has high-tech computer equipment already established for drafting maps of trail routes.

Ever since the idea of a Lowell Area Trailway was put in motion, the North Country Trail has been considered one of the attractions to which the Lowell trail will connect. The North Country Trail is shown on the maps in the Lowell Area Trailway's original master plan.

"We've always looked at the North Country Trail being a part in our trail system as a rustic trail link off our paved trail," Stone said.

The NCTA hopes the Lowell trailway will get people in the area excited about outdoor recreation in

general and trails in particular.

"There's nothing we would like to see better than Lowell embrace trails and open space access," Corbett said.

The North Country Trail could use the enthusiasm around here. There's a stretch from downtown Lowell north to Fallsburg Park, but the southern region of Michigan is the only part of the state where incomplete miles of the North Country Trail outnumber completed miles.

One of the first noticeable cooperative efforts between the two trail groups will be a development and communications staffer, hired by NCTA at the beginning of next year. The LARA will get 15 percent of the staff person's time for two years. The job will consist of grantwriting and generally promoting trails.

"We're looking forward to having a professional who is well-versed in seeking grants spend some time seek-

ing them for us," Stone said. "This will get us on our feet."

In its latest round of grants, the Lowell Area Community Fund approved a \$39,000 grant to the NCTA to fund the development and communications staffer.

"I think that the committee was pleased to see local efforts being coordinated,"

said Scott Vashaw, chairperson of the Lowell Area Community Fund Advisory Committee. "I think anytime groups can come together and coordinate their activities, it's going to be a better use of dollars and, ultimately, it's going to be better for the community."

The NCTA still has to

raise \$19,000 to be able to hire someone for two years. They have applied for a \$6,500 Consumer's Energy grant.

In another local collaboration on the Lowell Area Trailway, the current class of the Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excel-

lence is coordinating volunteers to build a bridge through some wetlands in the Cooper Woodland Preserve. The preserve is one of the scenic attractions that will be attached to the Lowell Area Trailway. The bridge project is still in its early planning stages.

Little Lowell twirler competes in a big way

Andrea Coffey, a Lowell Middle School student and baton twirler in the marching band, recently competed in the NBTA (National Baton Twirling Association) Michigan State event in Milan. She placed first in Beginner Two Baton and State Strut, second in Open Solo and Modeling in the intermediate 13-15 year old category.

In July, the eighth grader competed in the WTA (World Twirling Association) national competition in Holt. She placed in the top 10 in Fancy Strut, Solo and Military Strut events.

Coffey has received a lot of encouragement from her sister, Alyssa. "Alyssa gives suggestions when I'm struggling to learn and perfect a baton trick in between my lessons."

At left, Andrea Coffey, with coach Patti Jankowski, at the nationals in Notre Dame last July.



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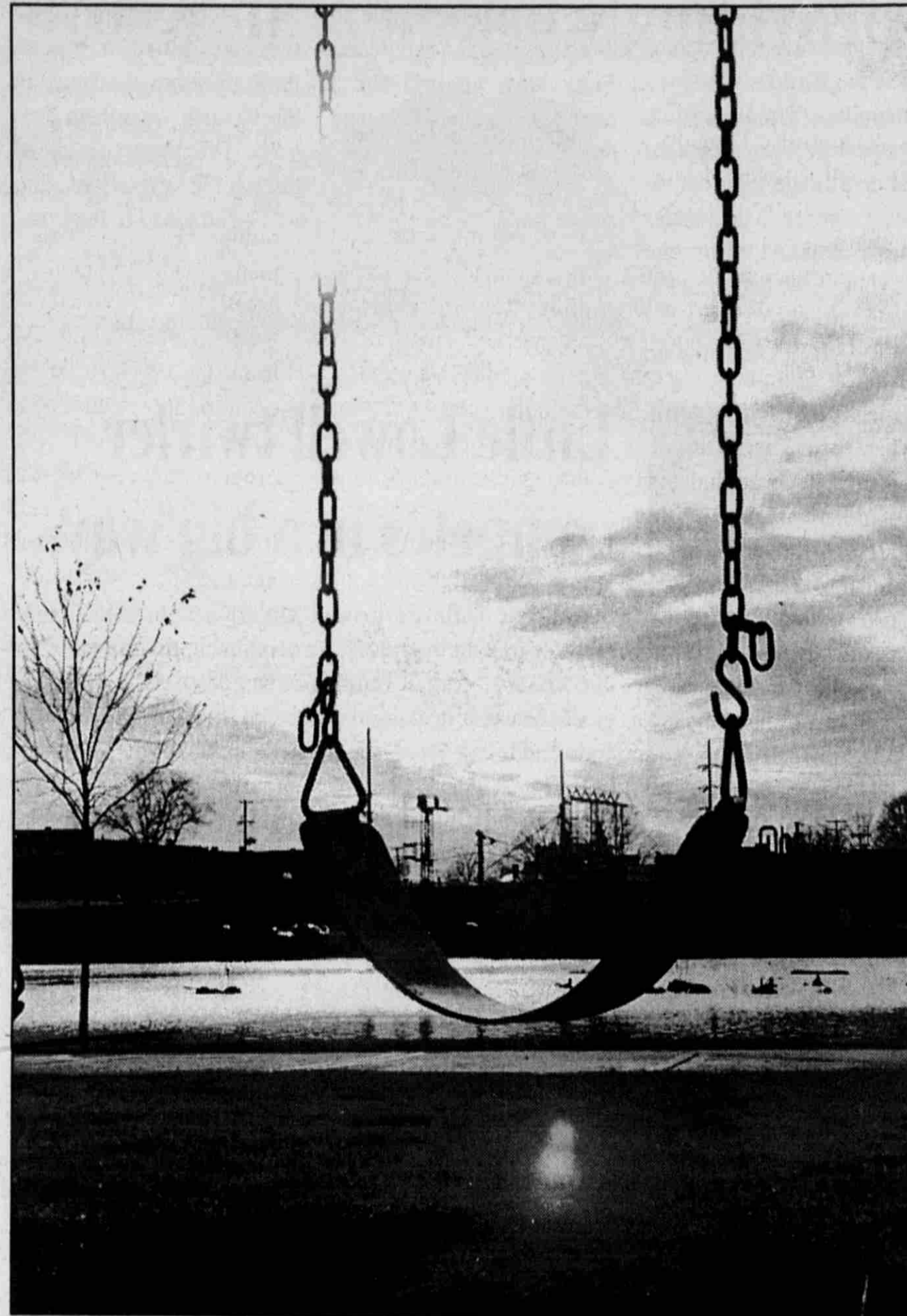
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Art wall will take the place of swings on Riverwalk

By Dan Schneider



The swings along Riverwalk Plaza will be replaced next year by an art wall Unity High School students will construct.

The swing set along Riverwalk Plaza will be gone by the end of the year.

Located between Englehardt Library and Unity High School, the playground equipment did not meet modern safety standards and is beyond repair, according to Lowell Area Schools transportation and operations director Larry Mikulski.

"The playground people who we work with literally condemned it," he said.

Large concrete tubes that had accompanied the swings were removed earlier this year.

The playground that has long been a part of Lowell's downtown will be replaced next year by a mosaic art wall. Students at Unity High School will render mosaics and otherwise cover with tile a wall seven feet high and 12 feet long.

"It will reflect the natural area of the Flat River," said Unity High School artist-residence Mary Kuilema, who will teach a class in tile-making and installation next

semester. The wall will include a doorway symbolic of the transition between urban and natural environments.

"The idea is it will be a passageway from the classroom to the natural environment," Kuilema said. "The doorway will be fairly small and I think it will be more of a visual space."

The students will make relief tiles as thin tiles to be broken into mosaic pieces. The project also includes tasks like estimating, construction and design. Students will make the tiles at the school and transport them to Kuilema's studio to be fired.

"I'll have 75 apprentices so I couldn't ask for a better situation," Kuilema said.

Students will make a photographic and possibly a video documentary of the process. Overbeck Construction will have the wall installed in time for the students to cover it with tile in May.

"The first thing they will see is a cinderblock wall and then eventually it will be gorgeous," Kuilema said.

Chamber Foundation still raising funds for Showboat upkeep

The spring Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence class reached its goal in getting the Lowell Showboat looking ship-shape. The Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation is now trying to secure funding to keep it that way.

"We worked so hard on it, we really need a maintenance fund," said Liz Baker, executive director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

The city has some money in its budget for the

upkeep of the showboat, but with the budget still tight, another source of funding would go a long way toward keeping the showboat looking good. The Chamber Foundation is asking for donations to establish a separate fund. For a \$12 donation, the chamber is offering donors glass ornaments with laser-cut images of the existing showboat.

The current Robert E. Lee, the fourth showboat to bear that name, was completed in 1979 after a wind-

storm destroyed the previous one. The showboat has been a part of Lowell's history since 1932, when city fathers came up with the idea as a way to lift spirits during the Depression. The first showboat was called the George Washington.

The ornaments are available locally at the Black and White Store, Chimera Design, Springgrove Variety, Huntington Bank, Ionia County National Bank and Lowell Area Arts Council. Still available are 750 of the 800 ornaments that were made. The Chamber Foundation hopes to raise about \$4,500 with the ornaments.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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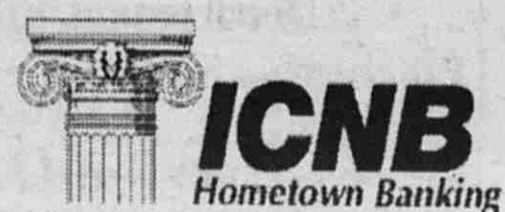
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Local veterinarian part of team providing workshops in Kenya

Dr. Bruce Langlois, of Animal Hospital of Lowell and veterinary director of Remote Area Medical, recently arrived home from a trip to Maasailand in Kenya, Eastern Africa. The purpose was to do training of community-based animal healthcare workers. The team which includes Dr. Sandra Chapman of Montreal, Quebec, has written a book and developed a course to train natives in developing countries who survive on subsistence agriculture how to better care for their livestock and handle common disease conditions.

Students who took the

four-week course were Maasia warriors. They were taught anatomy, physiology, nutrition, pharmacology, humane livestock handling, how to perform a physical examination, and common disease conditions in cattle, sheep and goats. The 32 students learned through classroom teaching and hands-on practice.

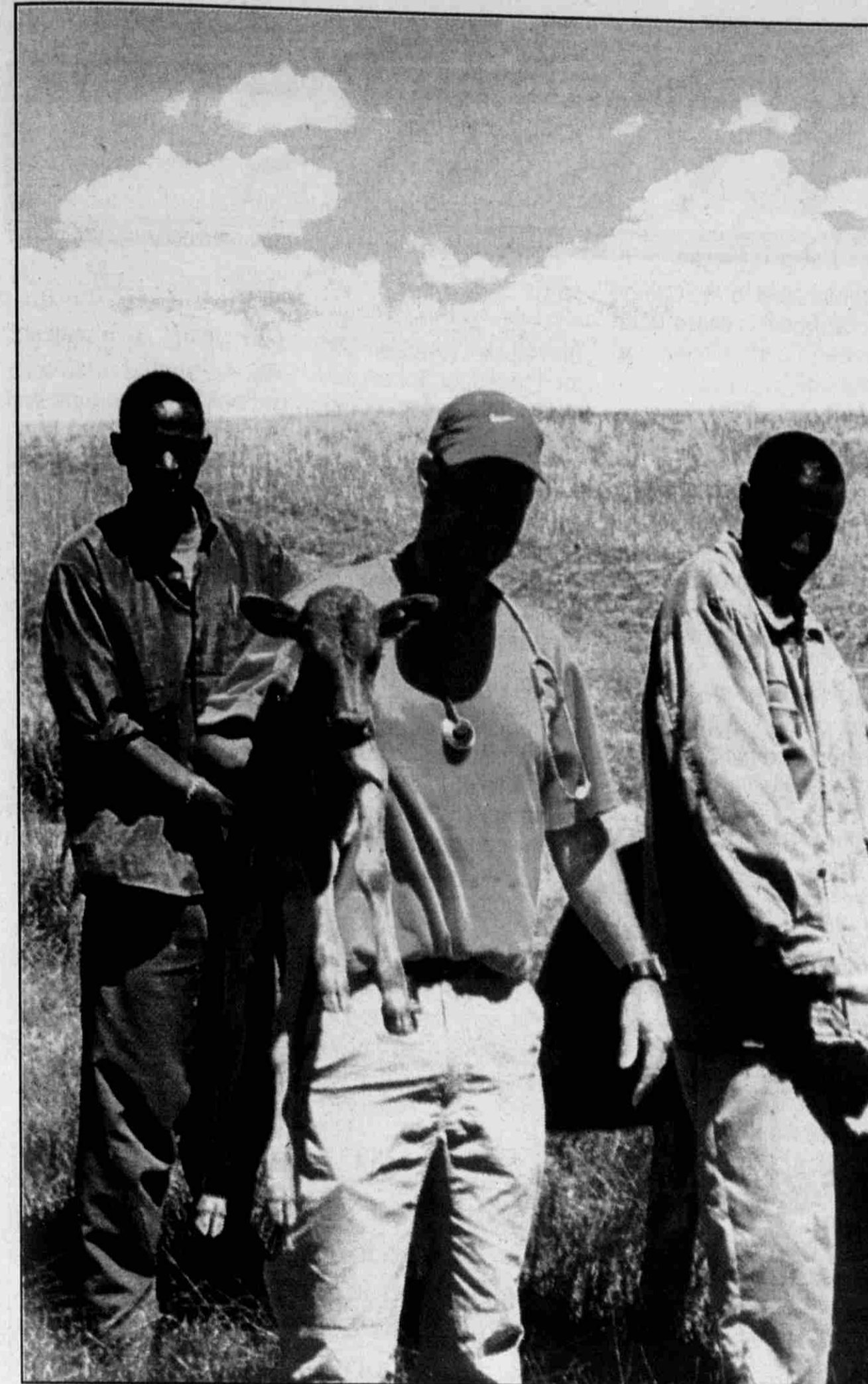
Along with the training, Drs. Langlois and Chapman did an evaluation of the problems in the area. Plans are being developed to reduce disease and increase production of the livestock, on which Maasia are extremely dependent.

Tick infestation was a big

problem in the cattle, and the team has instituted a plan for tick control, which will reduce the incidence of many of the common diseases.

Dr. Langlois said, "We found the Maasia to be very open and appreciative of our work, and we know that this program, and our work to follow, will have an incredible impact on the livestock and the Maasia economy."

Remote Area Medical is a nonprofit organization based in Knoxville, Tennessee. Besides the veterinary projects, RAM provides free human healthcare including dental and optical in remote areas of the world.



Dr. Bruce Langlois, Remote Area Medical's veterinary director, with two of his students, Ben, left, and Steven. Langlois, holding a calf, trains the Maasia warriors on how to better care for their livestock.

Illegal trap, continued...From Page 1

"I'm single and it was just the two of us living here and the cat," she said.

Smith frequently walked her dog in the area by the two rivers. Since it was remote she would take her dog off the leash.

"I never had her off the leash where there were people," Smith said.

She will get a new dog, but not right away. "The right dog will come at the right time," Smith said.

She's concerned about the fact that someone is trapping illegally and for the safety of other people who frequent the area.

"Kids are down there a lot," she said.

Lowell police are looking for the person who placed the trap. People with information relating to the case are encouraged to contact the department or to call Silent Observer at 1-866-774-2345.

There comes a time in each life like a point of fulcrum. At that time you must accept yourself. It is not any more what you will become. It is what you are and always will be.

—John Fowles

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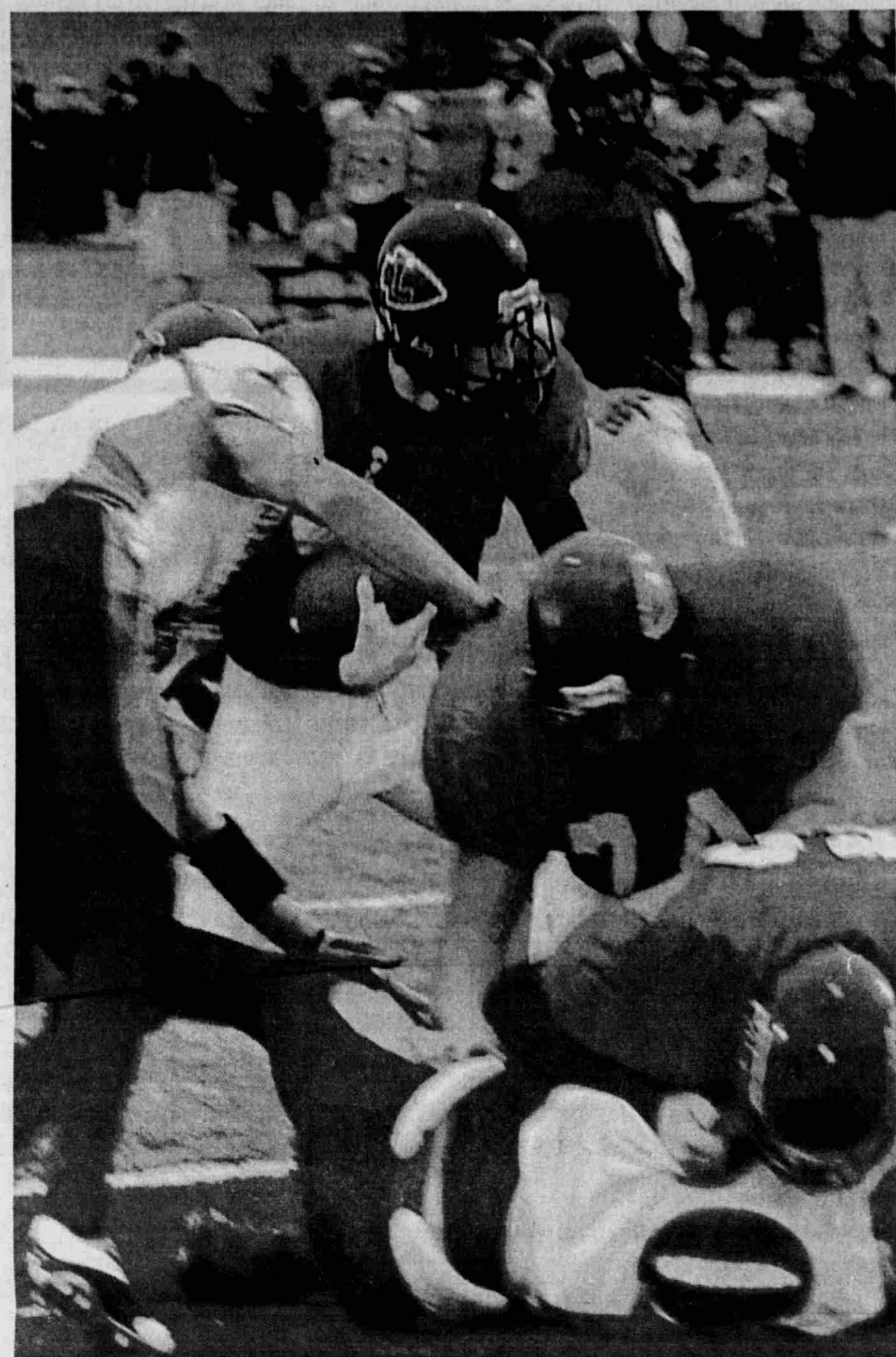
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On to the Silverdome, continued...From Page 1



Lowell quarterback Keith Nichol runs the ball in for one of his four touchdowns against Charlotte.

Then Charlotte demonstrated why they were playing in a state semifinal game. They converted a fourth-and-one, then Eldred completed two passes. The second was to Ben Sherman for a 26-yard touchdown.

Lowell's next drive ended in a short touchdown run by Esbaugh. Then Lowell kicker Ramsey Charrouf made a saving tackle on the kickoff. Charlotte had first and 10 on the 31. Eldred completed a pass for 10 more yards but Chris Meeuwsen made sure that was all the progress they'd make on that drive. He charged through the middle of the line, blocking Eldred's pass. The ball went straight up, knuckling around in the air before Meeuwsen grabbed it. Lowell went up 28-7 after a drive capped by another Nicholsneak touchdown.

The Lowell defense kept coming on strong.

"We put pressure on the quarterback, made them make bad decisions, that's what we needed to do to win this game," said Meeuwsen.

Bad decisions added to Lowell's tight pass coverage meant real problems for the Orioles. Koster picked off Eldred on his next pass attempt.

Lowell drove for another touchdown (Nichol kept the ball a fourth time for the score).

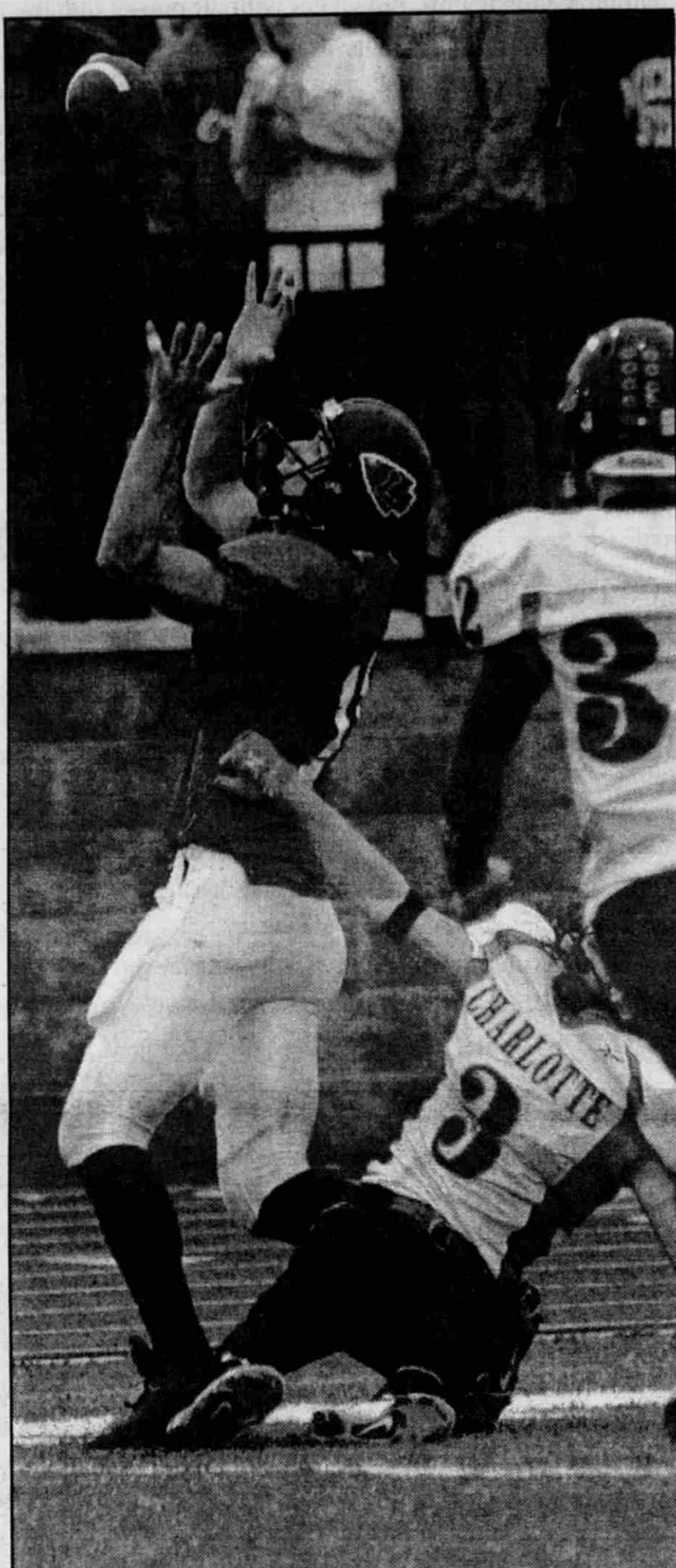
Frank Mulder picked off Eldred on the next Oriole drive.

With 11:8 on the clock, Nichol ended the half by completing a pass to Brad Shea who made a wild, flipping trip to the end zone.

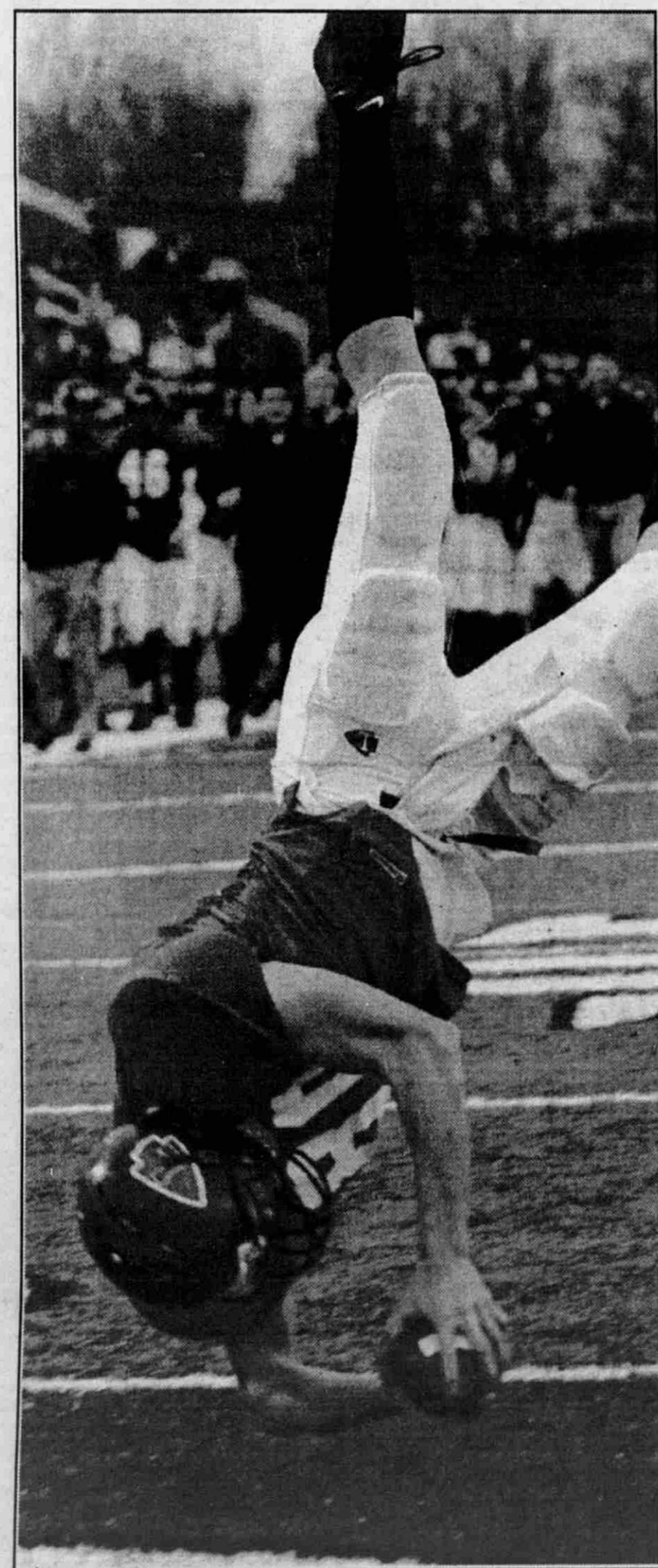
The clock ran in the second half. Lowell used up just about all of the third quarter on one final scoring drive. Charlotte would score in the fourth, but it was too little, too late.

Nichol went perfect, eight-for-eight passing in the game for 152 yards. He also

kept the ball 18 times for 75 yards. Esbaugh led Lowell in rushing with 89 yards on 20 runs. Lowell totaled 212 yards rushing and allowed Charlotte only 47. Brock Graham and Jeremy Holliman led the Lowell defense with five tackles each.



Lowell's Mike Koster caught everything that came his way against Charlotte: five receptions for 104 yards.




At left, Lowell's Brad Shea was upended into the end zone as the clock ran down on the first half of Lowell's state semifinal win over Charlotte.

Photo submitted by Joe Provonche

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Arrow basketball puts forth strong effort in spite of loss

By Dan Schneider

The season ended in Muskegon for the Lowell girls varsity basketball team, Monday, as the Red Arrows fell short against Grand Rapids Christian.

It was the second of two great challenges the Arrows faced at the end of the season. The first was the district championship against Forest Hills Northern. And even in the first loss of the season, they rose to the challenge against Christian.

"My girls will never lose because of lack of effort," said Lowell coach Dee Crowley.

After being down by 10 points earlier in the fourth quarter, the Arrows pulled it back to within two in the final minutes. But Christian made free throws, kept control, and ended up ahead 57-50.

Lowell had a hard time dealing with Christian's size and physicality. The Eagles had a lot of strength inside getting offensive boards. They also forced Lowell into 24 turnovers.

"I think they scored most of their points on fast break," Crowley said.

Christian also did a good job stopping Lowell's star guard, Kendra Gallert. She was limited to three points in the game. Lowell also hit only one out of 13 three pointers. The Arrows typically hit six or more per game. But forward Amy Oberlin had a good game inside. She led Lowell scorers with 20 points and also led Lowell in rebounding with 12 boards.

Oberlin was disappointed with the result against Christian, but appreciated the challenge.

"This is why I play basketball, for games like this," she said. "You win some, you lose some, this is what you play for."

And the loss came at the end of what was still a great season for the Red Arrows.

"There's only one team in class A that doesn't lose the last game, but it doesn't overshadow what they've done all year," Crowley said.

This year's team finished 23-1. They set several school records, including most wins in a season and least points allowed.

On the way to the regionals, Lowell got the up-

per hand in a tight game against Forest Hills Northern, 44-40.

Lowell was up at the half, but by just three points. Northern scored first, then hit a three-pointer to go up 25-23. The Huskies played a stingy defense that kept Lowell on the perimeter. But the Red Arrows were playing tough defense, too. They stuck with it and started to get the ball inside during the fourth quarter.

It was a tough fight throughout the fourth. The score was tied at 36, 38, and 40 in the last five minutes of the game. Then Brook VanEck hit a vital jump shot from the left side. The Lowell defense held on and Kendra Gallert hit two free throws on a one-and-one trip to the line to seal the deal.

"We really wanted this game," Gallert said. She led the Arrows' scoring with 18.

The Red Arrows avenged last year's district semifinal loss to the Rangers and became the district champions.

To get to the rematch against Northern, Lowell beat Forest Hills Central, 59-29, in the way that has been

characteristic of the team all year. The Red Arrows' defense confounded the Rangers' offense, rendering it ineffective and recovering the ball for multiple fast break opportunities. Lowell forced 24 turnovers in the game.

On the offensive side of the court, Lowell's quick passing and ability to hit both inside and outside shots was hard on the Rangers' de-

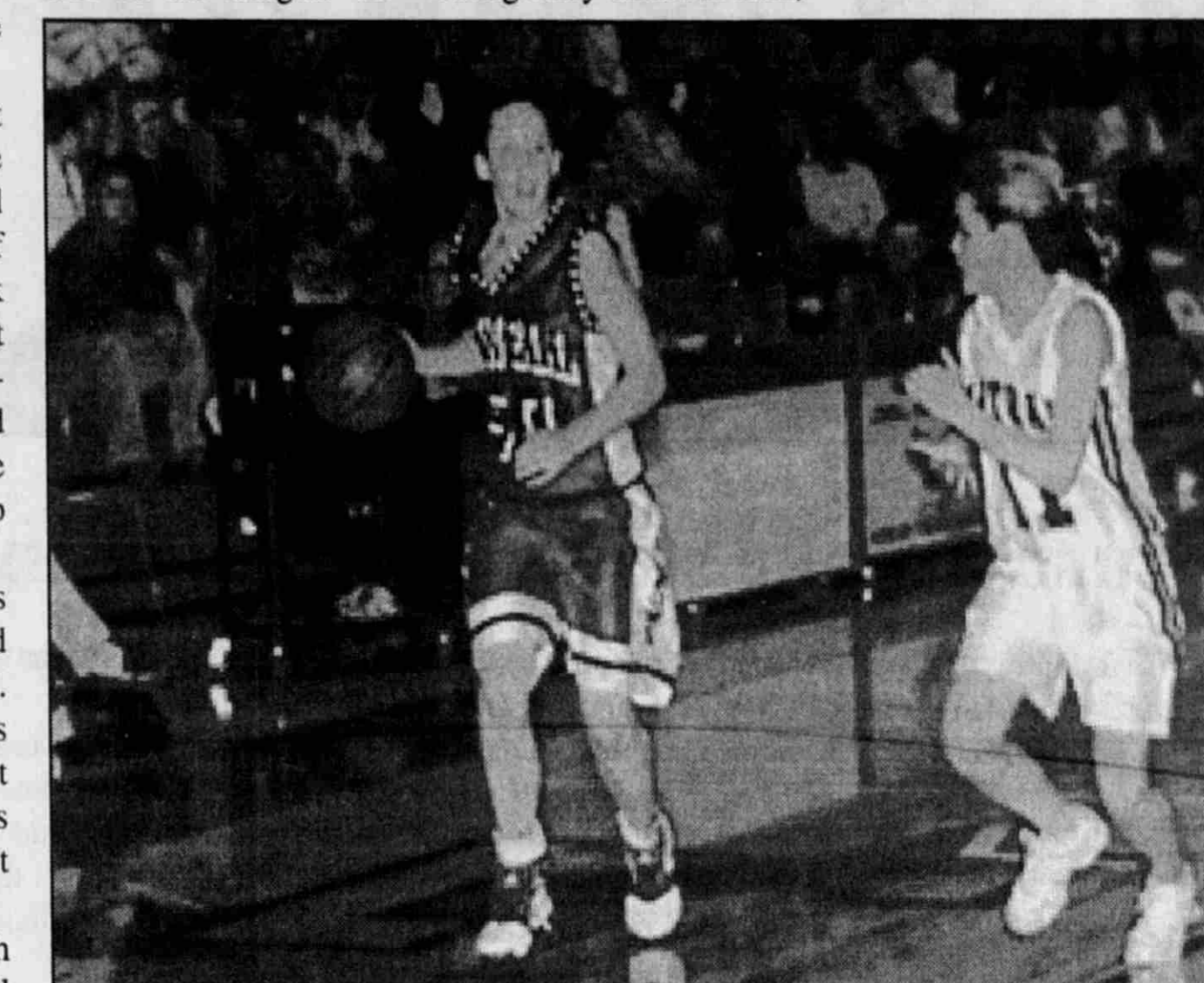
fense. Lowell has exhibited these abilities in earnest as the regular season ended and the tournament began.

"The last two weeks have probably been some of our best basketball of the year," said Crowley.

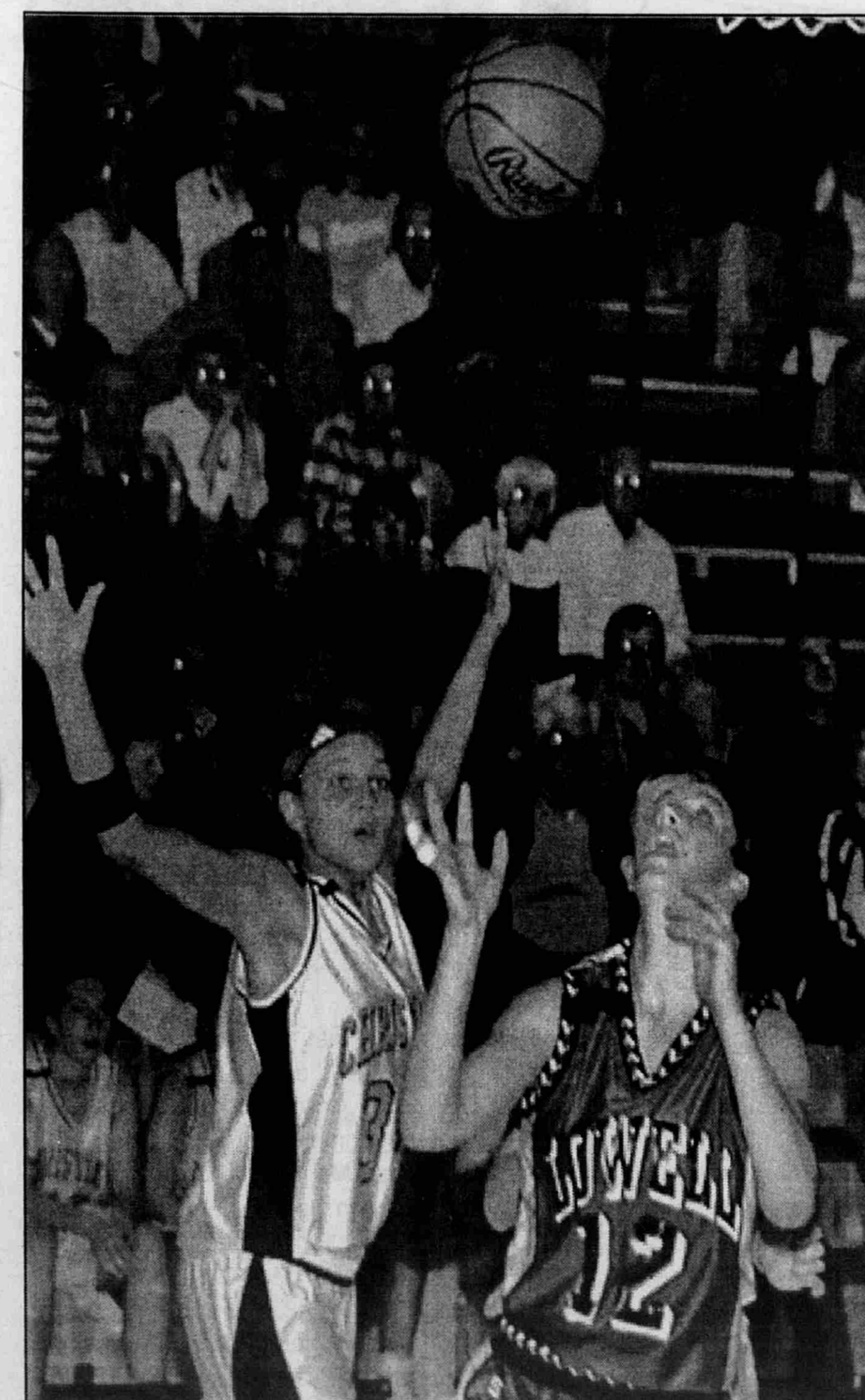
Over past two weeks, Lowell beat OK Gold Champ Wyoming Park, claimed their second win over a strong Unity Christian team,

and won decisively against the Cedar Springs team that forced overtime when the two met earlier in the year.

Leading Lowell's offense against the Rangers was Gallert with 18 points and four assists. Devon Collins scored 11 points and Brittany Bueche came off the bench to add 10. VanEck led on the boards with eight.



Lowell's Brittany Bueche takes the ball across half court against Forest Hills Northern in last week's district semifinal.



Lowell's Amy Oberlin works for position against Grand Rapids Christian Monday.

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JV Lady Arrows basketball has best-ever season

The Lowell JV girls basketball team completed its best season with an undefeated 20-0 record. The Lady Red Arrows credited their success to offensive execution, defensive pressure and teamwork.

Members of the team include sophomores Austyn Foster, Lisa Johnson, Karri Ort, Amanda Geelhoed, Hayley Getzen, Kelsey Koewers and Lyndsey Trierweiler, also freshmen Chelsea Harrison and Andrea Converse. They were coached by Roxanne Gallert.

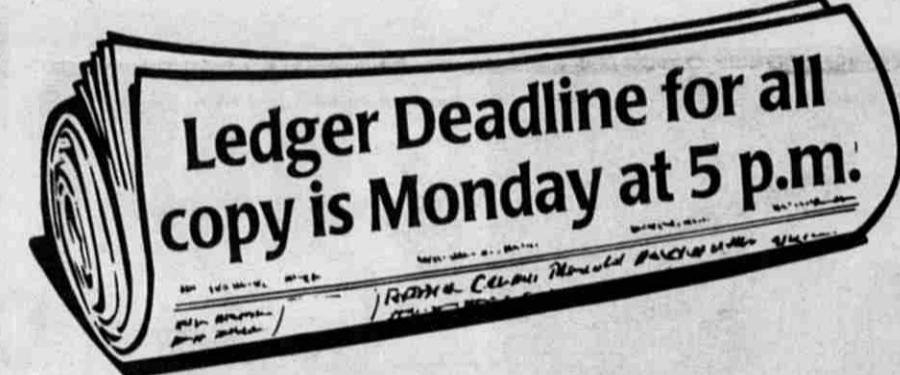
Murray Lake students earn a chance at cash

Five Murray Lake Elementary students took home some extra cash last Wednesday, Nov. 17. Emma McLane, Page Wilson, Hailey Stasiak, Jacob Sprague and Logan

Landman all sold over 30 items from Murray Lake's annual Family Links fundraiser.

The students were placed in a phone booth-sized plastic box called the "Money Machine" and allowed to grab bills (\$1-\$50) that were blown inside the box. Students cheered their fellow classmates on as they grabbed the free cash. Landman was the big cash winner taking home \$30; others won from \$13 to \$26.

The Money Machine was used as a motivator for students to sell their fundraiser items. The fundraiser earned over \$10,000 for the Murray Lake Family Links.



TOWNSHIP OF GRATTA

COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing on December 1, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, on a proposed ordinance to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance.

The amending ordinance would adopt a new Article 14 of the zoning ordinance, covering planned unit developments (PUDs). This new Article 14 would replace the existing Article 14 in its entirety, except that existing Article 14 would continue to apply to land development plans that were approved as PUDs under the existing Article 14.

The amending ordinance includes provisions on the minimum qualifying conditions for PUDs; procedures for Planning Commission and Township Board review of applications for PUDs; the required contents and information to be included in development plans for proposed PUDs; standards under which development plans for PUDs would be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission and Township Board; procedures for approval of changes in an approved PUD; provisions on the imposing of terms and conditions on PUD approval; time limitations for the commencement of construction of an approved PUD; performance guarantees and other provisions.

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed amending ordinance. Written comments concerning the ordinance may be submitted to the Township office, at the above-stated address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: November 5, 2004

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTA

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday, December 6, 2004 at 7:00 PM, at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI** to consider a private road application as follows:

James Sturus has requested an application review to construct a private road named Alder Meadow Court for access to nine lots in the RA District. The property is located on the west side of Lincoln Lake Ave. in section 10, parcel number 41-16-10-400-028, about 400 feet north of Lincoln Hills private road.

The complete application can be reviewed at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, 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 Planning Commission Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township Offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission



Logan Landman tries to grab the cascading bills during his turn in the box.

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Vergennes Township is seeking applications for the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Review. Applications should be received by Wednesday, December 15, 2004, and will be considered at the December 20, 2004 meeting of the Vergennes Township Board.

Application forms may be obtained at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331, or on the township web site at www.vergennestwp.org under forms. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm. If you wish to receive an application through the mail, kindly send a stamped self-addressed envelope to PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331-0208, and a form and job description will be sent. For further information, call 897-5671 during office hours.

Mari Stone, Clerk

Financial Focus

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TIME TO REVIEW YOUR 401(K) HOLDINGS?

This may be the time of year when your company gives you a chance to increase your 401(k) contributions. But how much to put in isn't your only decision regarding your 401(k)—you'll also want to look at your investment mix. Why? Because things change—and, if you want to get the maximum benefits from your 401(k), you'll need to make sure it still meets your needs.

When considering adjustments to your 401(k), think about two key factors: *the performance of your investments and the number of years you have until retirement.* Let's look at both:

• *401(k) performance*—The performance of the indi-

vidual accounts within your 401(k) can affect the overall balance of your plan. When you established your 401(k), you allocated different percentages of your total portfolio to stocks, bonds, money market accounts, government securities, etc. Over time, these percentages can change—a lot. During the long bull market of the 1990s, the equity portion of your 401(k) may have grown to such levels that your portfolio was taking on a higher level of risk than you were comfortable with.

Now, though, the situation is different. From 2001 through 2003, the stock market has had mixed results, and 2004 has not been a particularly good year. So, within your overall portfolio, the value of stocks may be down, which means that your other 401(k) investments—especially your fixed-income vehicles—may have taken on a greater prominence.

This could be a problem. You need your 401(k) to grow, so that you can build resources for retirement. And to achieve this growth, you need significant exposure to stocks. Of course, stocks are subject to market risk—including the potential loss of principal invested—but, over the long term, stocks have historically outperformed every other financial asset. (Keep in mind, though, that any stock's past performance doesn't assure its future

THE LOWELL LEDGER-WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2004 - PAGE 17 results.) So, if your 401(k) is becoming "overweighted" in fixed-income investments, your progress toward your retirement goals could be slowed.

Review your 401(k), at least once a year to make sure your holdings still reflect your risk tolerance and need for growth. If you have high-quality, stock-based accounts, don't give up on them because of a down year—over time, good investments tend to reward patient investors.

• *Years until retirement*—You'll also want to review your 401(k)'s investment mix to make sure it is still suitable for your age level. When you're starting out in your career, you can afford to invest more aggressively in your 401(k), because you have many years to overcome any "down" periods. But in your last few years before you retire, you may want to shift some (but not all) 401(k) assets from stock accounts into fixed-income accounts. By making this move, you can "lock in" any gains you achieved from stocks and reduce the volatility of your overall account in the final years in which you'll contribute.

Start Your Review Soon

By reviewing your 401(k), possibly with an investment professional, you can ensure that your holdings are working together to help you achieve the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned. So the next time you get that 401(k) statement, take a close look at it—it's got an interesting story to tell.

Michigan families needed to host exchange students

Pacific Intercultural Exchange (P.I.E.) is looking for caring Michigan families to host high school students from various countries for the 2004-05 January spring semester. The students, ages 15-18, will be arriving in January for the upcoming school year.

The students are prescreened, they speak English, and have medical insurance and their own spending money to cover such things as clothing, school supplies and entertainment. Most families are not paid

but may be able to claim a \$50 per month charitable contribution on their income tax.

Whether you are a single parent, retired, have small children, teens or no children, you can have a great

experience hosting an international teen.

If you are interested, call 1-800-382-7439 and give a teen a chance to live and study in our country and possibly help in making a difference in their future.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 04-178, 612-DE

Estate of BENEDICT PHILLIP ZICKUS
D.O.B. 10/31/47

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, BENEDICT PHILLIP ZICKUS, who lived at 4517 Bekinshire, N.W., Comstock Park, Michigan died October 30, 2004.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to BRONWYN B. ZICKUS, c/o JOHN D. MITUS, Attorney at Law, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. N.W. Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

November 16, 2004

JOHN D. MITUS
(P-31244)
410 Bridge St. N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 774-4001

BRONWYN B. ZICKUS,
Personal Representative
5083 Stoney Creek, N.W.
Comstock Park, MI 49331



KIDS IN MOTION

The Alto branch library will present "Kids in Motion" on Monday, Dec. 13 at 10:30 a.m. The program will include several active games to both entertain and tire out your little ones, ages six and under. Registration is required. Call 647-3820 to participate.

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897-4307

That part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 20, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, described as commencing at the East 1/4 corner of said Section; thence North 89°53' West 600.03 feet along the East-West 1/4 line of said Section; thence South 00°17' West 500.38 feet; thence South 17°23' West 509.16 feet; thence South 26°32' East 258.35 feet to a line which is measured as bearing North 44°57'26" East from a point 122.5 feet West along the South line of Government Lot 1 from the Northwest corner of Cooked Lake Park; thence South 83°48'17" East 164.30 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 83°48'17" East 93.00 feet; thence North 42°23'43" East 125.52 feet along a traverse line on the North side of Big Crooked Lake; thence North 65°24" West 95.09 feet; thence South 46°42' West 108.63 feet; thence South 13°37'14" West 49.14 feet to the point of beginning, Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan.

The Planning Commission will also consider granting site plan approval to the proposed land division in accordance with the Township Land Division Ordinance and the April 5, 1995 special land use.

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and be heard with regard to the requested special land use. Written comments may be submitted prior to the hearing, to the Township office, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan 48809, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: November 17, 2004

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTA

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Quad door, only 47k miles.
Like brand new!
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3rd row seating, 59k miles,
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\$15,500



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All pwr.options, only 50k miles
First \$9,900



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Sport RT pickup,
5.9 V-8, auto., air &
29,000 actual miles! Clean!
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everything, 68k miles.
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Leather, loaded with
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Quad cab, 4x4, only 9800 miles.
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68k miles,
V-8, loaded
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2001 FORD F-150 4X4
Crew cab, XLT, Lariat,
5.4 V-8, auto., air,
leather & more!
\$15,995

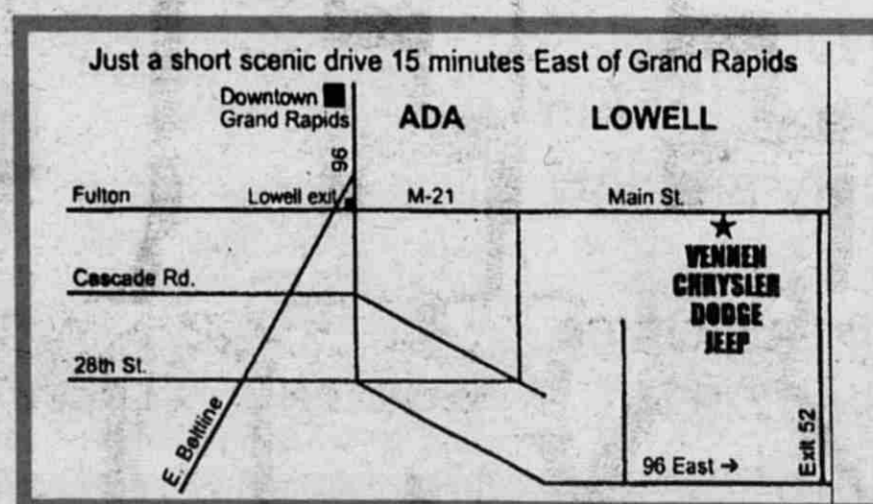
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