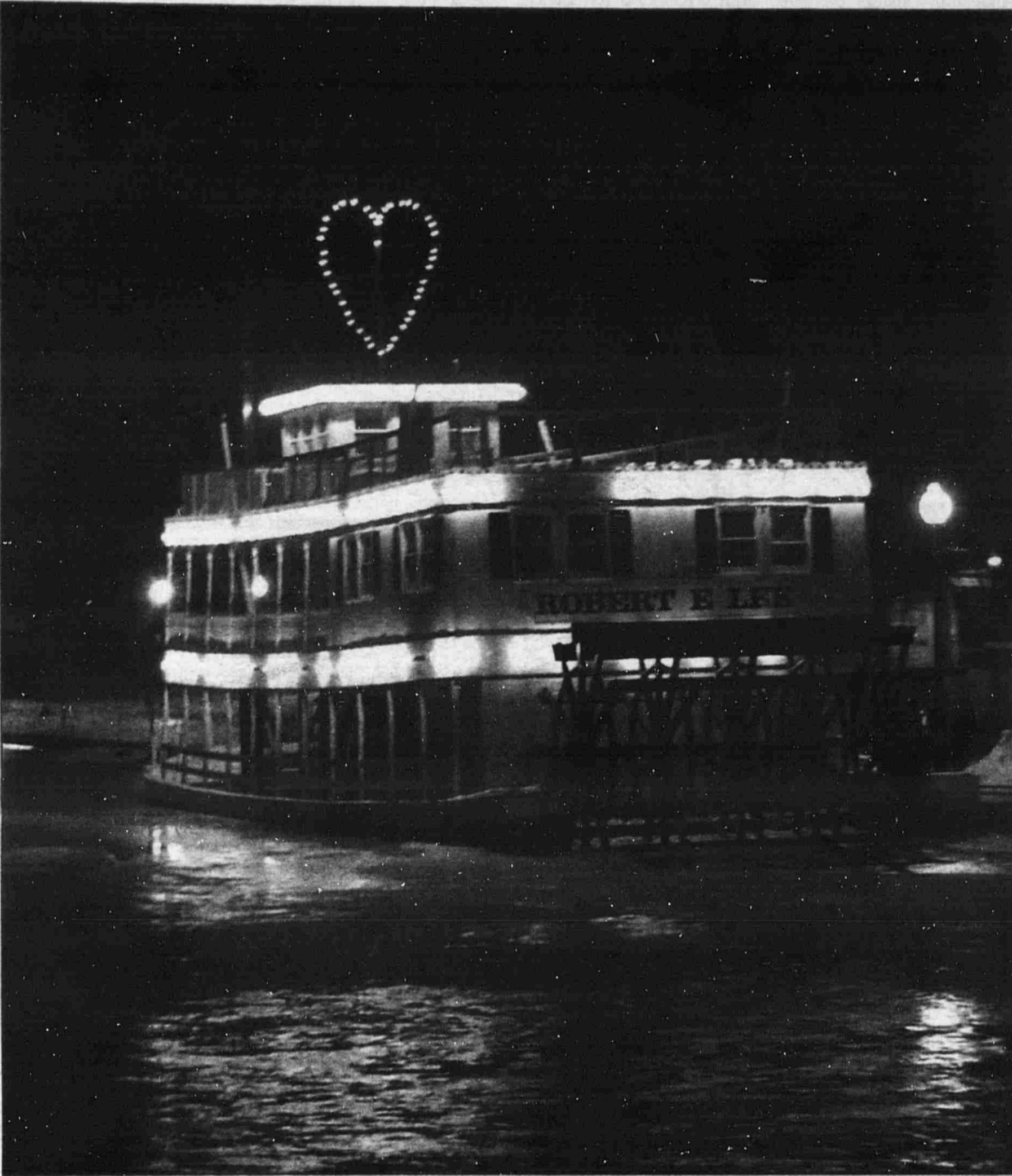


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 31 Issue 13

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 2, 2005



Love that boat!

February is just one more opportunity for the Lowell Showboat to shine. The large Valentine can warm even the coldest evening scene. The heart was the first of the lit decorations put together by contractor Ivan Blough for the top of the showboat. Blough, who built the showboat, first created the bright red heart as a Valentine's Day present for his wife, Carolyn Jane. Other decorations followed, such as the shamrock for St. Patrick's Day, a duck for the summer festival, and a candle for Christmas season. An additional 260 lights illuminate the showboat, seen shining on the iced-over Flat River.

Complaints mount after snow storm

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

When old man winter lets the snow fly, cars get covered, houses get covered, and the streets can become treacherous. And just as the streets can become difficult to maneuver, so can the sidewalks.

So when the January snowstorm from two weeks ago blew through Lowell, it wasn't a surprise that come Monday there were calls about sidewalks not being shoveled. In fact, it was even the topic at the Jan. 24 Lowell Planning Commission meeting. According to the city ordinance, property owners have 24 hours to clear their sidewalks. During last week's planning commission meeting, member Garland Berry mentioned several areas where sidewalks hadn't

been cleared and wondered about the possibility of the city taking over that responsibility.

Expense and manpower make it almost impossible for the city to do so, said Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden, adding that his small staff of eight spent most of the weekend of the storm trying to keep the streets clear. After that, the department is responsible for clearing about two miles of city-owned sidewalk that are near City Hall, the fire station, and several parks, along with the public owned parking lots.

Sidewalks that are shoveled are dealt with on a complaint by complaint

Sidewalk complaints, cont'd., pg. 8

Students experience inauguration firsthand

By Dan Schneider

Two Lowell High School students were in Washington D.C. two weeks ago to see George W. Bush take the oath of office as president of the United States.

Sophomore Scott Beatson and freshman Will Bryan visited the capital from Jan. 16 to Jan. 21. During that time, both were present at the inaugural address; they both felt they got a firsthand look at the fruits of American democracy.

"It's just cool to be able to witness the peaceful transfer of power," Beatson said.

They were able to attend through a national program called Lead America. Its goal is to foster in youth philosophies and character traits necessary for good leadership. Both Bryan and

Beatson had attended the organization's conferences previously in Washington.

While in Washington for the inauguration, they attended speeches and seminars. They also took part in a simulated election that included details down to designating secret service agents.

"One of the speeches I remember was by the political campaign manager for the south for Bush-Cheney," Beatson said. "Mostly he talked about how students can get involved and how he got involved."

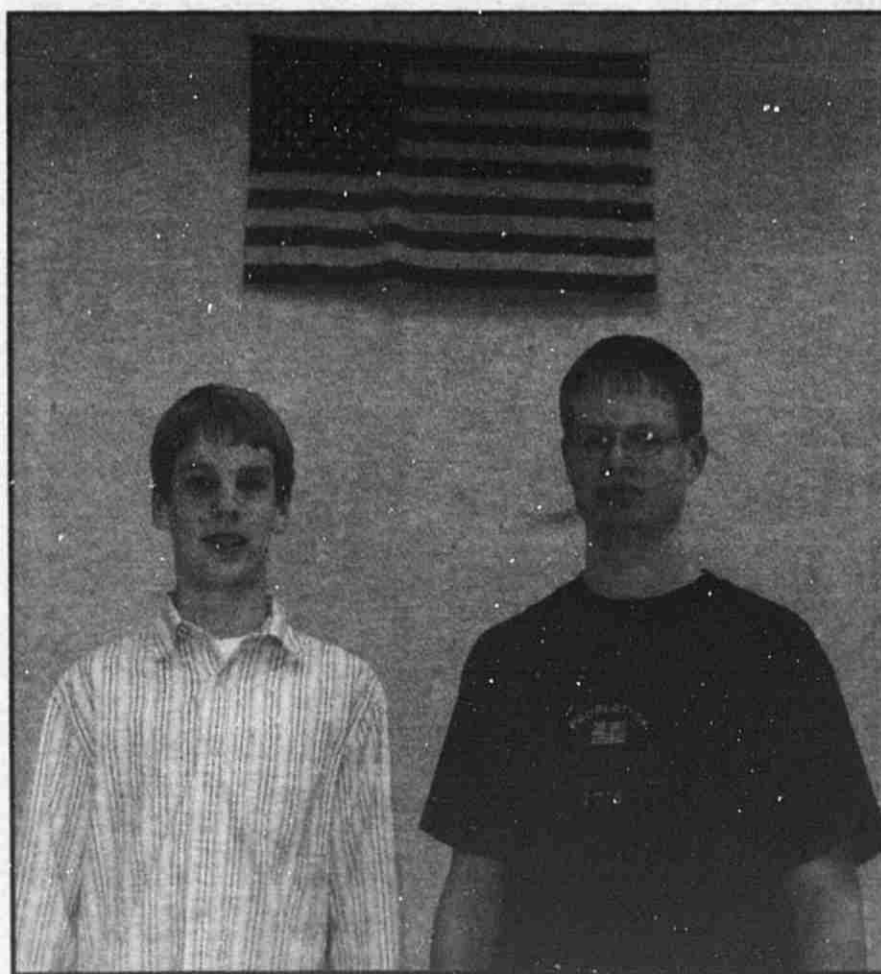
Beatson said he learned the importance of getting involved in politics on a local level. He sees his future political involvement in doing more grassroots work, rather than running for office himself.

Bryan hopes to become a senator or even take the

oath of office himself one day. Being at the event in person served to strengthen those aspirations. "Hearing them speak, just being there made we want to go into

politics even more than I did before," he said. "It was exciting to actually get to see

Students' D.C. trip, cont'd., pg. 10



Lowell High School freshman Will Bryan, left, and sophomore Scott Beatson were in Washington to see the second inauguration of President George W. Bush.

Inside
The Lowell Ledger
New
Rent-To-Own
Business ...
Pg. 4
"Classic" Run
Over ... Pg. 10
Local Cellist
On Record ... Pg. 11

From furniture to appliances, new rent-to-own opens its doors

By Dan Schneider

New on the west side of town is a rent-to-own store. Preferred Rent-2-Own carries a variety of products ranging from washing machines to coffee tables.

"We basically rent to own all your home furnishings, appliances, electronics," said store manager and co-owner Dave Dean.

The store seeks to offer a selection competitive with larger furniture stores in the city of Grand Rapids. It is limited in this regard only by its floor space, co-owner Bob Smith said. What doesn't fit in the store, they can order, he added.

"We do carry higher-end furniture and electronics and appliances," Smith said. "I can get anything that anybody wants."

The store's regular inventory includes furniture brands like Berkline, Lane and Ashley. Electronics brands include Toshiba and Zenith; appliances by Speed Queen and Crosley are available, as well as Dell computers.

The store is located in the former BP gas station at 11630 E. Fulton Street next to Hunan Garden. Dean and Smith each have several years of experience in the rent-to-own business, having been managers of Universal

Rent-to-Own in Greenville.

"I've been doing it for nine years, Dave's been in it for five years, so we've got 14 years combined experience," Smith said.

The co-owners scouted the area for about three years before deciding to open their own business in Lowell.

They saw the opportunity "to be the first rent-to-own in Lowell," Dean said. "The market wasn't targeted yet. We also like the Lowell atmosphere as far as it being a smaller town, so it (the store) will be locally owned and operated."

The store is independent, rather than part of a franchise.

"We will be participating in all the local parades and the fair and all the local events," Dean said.

Preferred Rent-2-Own sells its products straight retail or by weekly or monthly payment plans. It offers 120 days same as cash, and pay-day loans as well.

Anyone can rent-to-own regardless of credit history, Smith said. "We're willing to work with people," he said.

The store has been open since Tuesday. A grand opening will be held Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. with refreshments and 10 percent off merchandise storewide.



Dave Dean, left, and Bob Smith are co-owners of Preferred Rent-2-Own, which opened Tuesday on the west side of town.

Arbor Day Foundation offers free trees

Ten free Colorado blue spruce trees will be

given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during February 2005.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed

to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

The Colorado blue spruce has a silver blue-green color and can be used as an individual ornamental, an energy-saving windbreak, a privacy screen or a living Christmas tree.

To become a member and receive the trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by Feb. 28 or go online to arborday.org.

Two men given fine in dog trapping case

Two men were handed fines last Wednesday in 63rd District Court for their roles in setting a trap that killed a Lowell woman's dog.

Michael Kain, 59, of Coral, and Gerald Noah, 69,

of Mecosta, both pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of setting a trap on city property. Both were ordered to pay \$150 fines.

Lowell police detective James Hinton obtained a confession from Kain

Dec. 27 following an investigation after an illegally-set and improperly identified trap killed a dog Nov. 10. The trap was set on the northeast bank of the junction between the Flat and Grand rivers.

Trapping within the city limits is a violation of a city ordinance. The maximum penalty for the misdemeanor is 90 days in jail and up to a \$500 fine. The trap was not labeled to identify the owner, so it was also in violation of Michigan Department of Natural Resources regulations.

The dog was a Brittany spaniel belonging to Diane Smith of Lowell.

Both men were licensed trappers. The trap in Lowell was set with the intention of trapping raccoons.

Got an Announcement to make?

Wedding, Engagement and Anniversary Announcements* are Free in the Ledger. Birth Announcements without a photo are free; with a photo are \$5.

* Anniversary announcements cannot contain an invitation to a celebration

Viewpoint



cozy corner

I put my wife on a flight to Michigan last week. She was heading home to attend her brother's retirement party. I stayed behind to watch the dogs. Having spent fifty-some Januaries in Michigan, I was thankful for my dog-sitting duties.

Her plane left out of Key West. The airport there is small, the lines are short, and check-in went smoothly. We had time to kill before she needed to go through security. Now that Florida has banned smoking indoors you can actually breathe in the small restaurant and bar at the airport. We ducked in there for a cup of coffee.

As I sipped my coffee, I was attracted to a small collection of publicity photos posted on a wall near the bar. Curiosity got the better of me, and I went up for a look. I guess my curiosity stems from the same personality flaw that drives people to spend hard earned cash on "People" magazine or waste time watching "Access Hollywood." I try to rise above that stuff, but this was free and I had time to kill.

I'm sorry to report that the collection of autographed photos was a little weak. Let me amend that statement ... very weak. Of the thirty or forty photos, I recognized exactly four. Admittedly, I am a bit of a hermit and not in tune with who's who in the world of celebrities. Still, when only ten percent of the photos on your wall of fame are recognizable, it's a pretty weak collection.

So, who did I recognize? Jimmy Buffett topped the list. He was followed at some distance by the long ago retired third baseman Wade Boggs. Then came the has-been actor Cliff Robertson. I couldn't believe I could only find three, so I scanned the photos again. Ah-ha, there was one I missed ... the over-the-hill talk show host Sally-Jessie Rafael. And no, I have no idea if I spelled her name correctly. Nor do I much care.

The rest of the publicity photos were an assortment of pro-wrestlers, NASCAR drivers, stunt pilots, a skydiving Elvis, soap actors, comedians, magicians, various Las Vegas-style lounge acts, etc. A three-member, heavily implanted

bikini team was promoting some product. Their photo did catch my eye, but again, I had never heard of them, or the product.

One of the "wanna-be famous" publicity photos that seemed to best represent this group was of a guy dressed in a doctor's smock. I think his name was Dennis Fitzgerald. According to the caption under the stereotypical black and white glossy 8 by 10 photo, Dennis is a veterinarian, or plays one, on the cable channel, Animal Planet. For that, he carries around a briefcase full of photos and a supply of felt pens. You know, just in case he is spotted by a fan.

So, what's the deal? Do these clowns carry around photos and swap 'em for burgers and beers in places like the bar at the Key West airport? And how do they work the scam? "Yeah, I see you looking at me. Yup, I'm the guy who sat at the bar next to Norm and Cliff on 'Cheers'. Give you a signed photo for a draught and some Buffalo wings." He whips out a glossy and a felt tip ... another free lunch.

I did witness one of these impromptu photo signings. In fact, I even scored a signed photo. For a friend of course.

This happened several years ago. I was having a quick sandwich between flights at the Cincinnati airport. A very fit looking old man dressed completely in bright yellow asked to share my table. His suit, shirt, tie, cowboy boots and a matching briefcase ... everything was bright yellow. I said hello, then tried to ignore him. I'm thinkin' "weirdo." Pretty soon a young man approaches and asks the old guy in yellow if he is "Banana George."

Sure enough, I'm sitting with a celebrity. Banana George, the star of the Cypress Gardens water ski show, motivational speaker and the featured character in a few TV commercials. Never heard of him? I hadn't either. George whips out some publicity photos (color ... because of the whole yellow thing) and a felt tip. I had him sign one for a friend of mine that used to water ski competitively. I figured he'd know Banana George. He did.

On the plane out of there, it dawned on me that I probably should have bought old George's sandwich. I guess the publicity photo scam isn't always good for a free lunch. This whole deal got me to thinking. I'm about the right size, shape and age to have been Wally's friend Lumpy on "Leave it to Beaver." I could have some bogus publicity photos made up with me and Wally and the Beaver. You can do anything with digital photos on a computer.

Then I'd go to work. Every time a check comes at a restaurant I'll say, "Yeah, I saw you looking at me. That's right, I'm Lumpy from 'Leave it to Beaver.' How about a signed photo for the wall?" Hey, it works for all these other nobodies, and I'm as "nobody" as it gets.



Sharing The Vision

With Shari Miller
Lowell Schools Superintendent

We were privileged to hear from Dr. Steve Robbins on our recent professional development day about Unintentional Intolerance. This is especially relevant for teachers and parents. The children who are in kindergarten today will be a part of a different demographic picture when they graduate from high school. Currently, White or Caucasian children are in the majority. In nineteen years, children of color will be in the majority. All of our children will need to learn to live and work together as productive citizens in our democratic society.

As I listened to Dr. Robbins, I began to think about times in my life when I benefited from being White. While we might not realize it at the time, who we know plays a large part in our careers and work. I began teaching in the mid-1970's when teaching jobs were hard to find. My minister was the president of the Board of Education in the small town near my home. Their Spanish teacher resigned in midsummer and he called me to apply. That began my career as a Spanish and English teacher.

Examples of discrimination may be less evident to those of us that are White, but our friends and colleagues of color are well aware of these incidents. My children have not been targeted as potential shoplifters upon entering a store. Often, young people of color without regard for their income level

or amount of education are targeted and followed as they move through stores. Are there some children of color that shoplift? Yes, of course. However, there are also affluent White children that behave inappropriately.

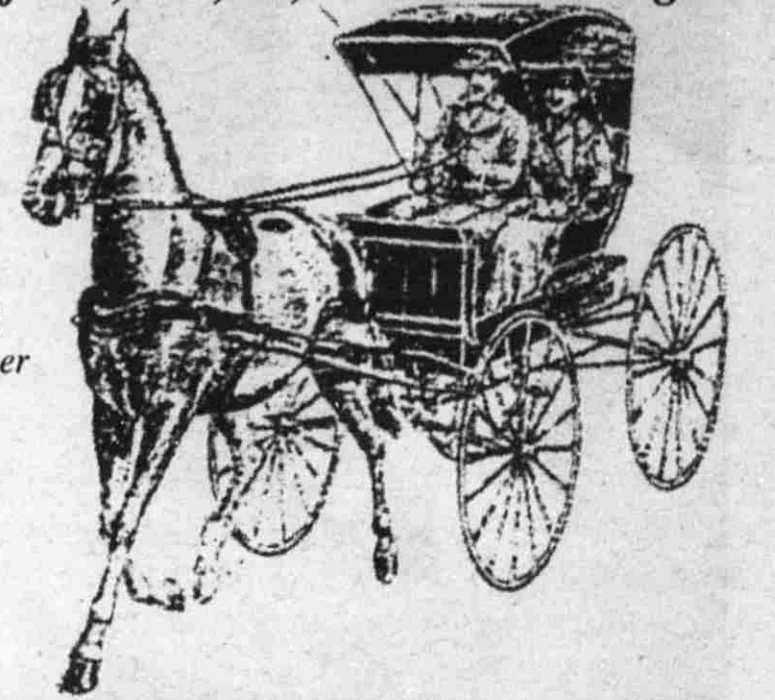
Our children need to learn to see people as individuals rather than as part of a racial group. We also need to remind ourselves that our children watch our behavior and listen to our comments. We as adults need to monitor ourselves and avoid stereotyping people based upon race, gender, or income.

We will continue to include diversity activities as part of our professional development program. We are also working with a community group, called Champions of Diversity. This broader group is considering ways in which we can work as a community to ensure that every individual in the Lowell area is respected and valued. Our vision for the Lowell Area Schools includes developing within our children an appreciation for a multicultural society and the benefits that we gain by being able to work together.

Your comments about this matter or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Superintendent Shari Miller, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or smiller@lowellschools.com (check out our Web page at www.lowellschools.com or make comments to the Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com)

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmeyer

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
FEBRUARY 4, 1880

An office is built on the west side of Hatch's mill. Seasoned beech and maple sells readily for \$2 a cord. Carr & Davis are putting up a new meat market building on the bridge.

Phrenologist Dr. Thomas Turner did a number of craniological surveys while in town last week.

"Cannon Reports" (Cannonsburg news) tells of a young people's group out serenading; at Mrs. Hyde's they are greeted with a shot from a revolver, causing them to "flee to their respective homes."

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
FEBRUARY 2, 1905

Mrs. Frank Fitch continues to lead the popularity contest with 2461 votes, more than a thousand in the lead. Votes are one a week sent in with a Ledger coupon, or 52 with a one-year subscription; deposit in the ballot box at the Ledger.

O.K. Starch Enamel, at 10 cents a box, claims to reduce ironing effort by half; the iron glides easily over the fabric, leaving a surface sheen.

A performance by the Cleveland Ladies Orchestra at the opera house last Wednesday receives positive comments.

The Unity Pedro Club of 17 Lowell ladies enjoys a sleigh ride and entertainment by Mrs. Cora Krum of Vergennes.

An M.I.T. professor says that goldfish are much better at killing mosquito larvae than kerosene, the usual treatment.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
AND THE ALTO SOLO
JANUARY 30, 1930

Former Lowell girl Emma Moore Winters of Phoenix, AZ, leaves \$2,500 to the Lowell Methodist Church in her will.

Ben Wepman's "famous and fragrant" fur business will stay in town awhile; he bought two buildings next to the post office (on Main Street).

The American Legion Auxiliary reports that they wrapped 3753 Christmas gifts for hospitalized veterans in Michigan.

The difference between hard coal and soft coal: soft coal has, and distributes, lots of soot.

Ship-to-shore telephone is the newest communication development.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
FEBRUARY 3, 1955

Army Chaplain Major Thomas Doyle preaches at his home church, Lowell Methodist, as part of the centennial celebration.

It's the Lions Club versus the faculty at a benefit basketball game next Tuesday.

Curly Howard predicts that, no matter what ground hogs do, Lowell gets six more weeks of winter yet. It's really cold.

A new three-cent stamp honors Michigan State College and Pennsylvania State University. Both were founded 100 years ago.

Michigan Bell lets the schools know that it pays the largest property tax of anybody.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
JANUARY 30, 1980

The model of the new Robert E. Lee Showboat is on display at City Hall. Bill Barber is the artist.

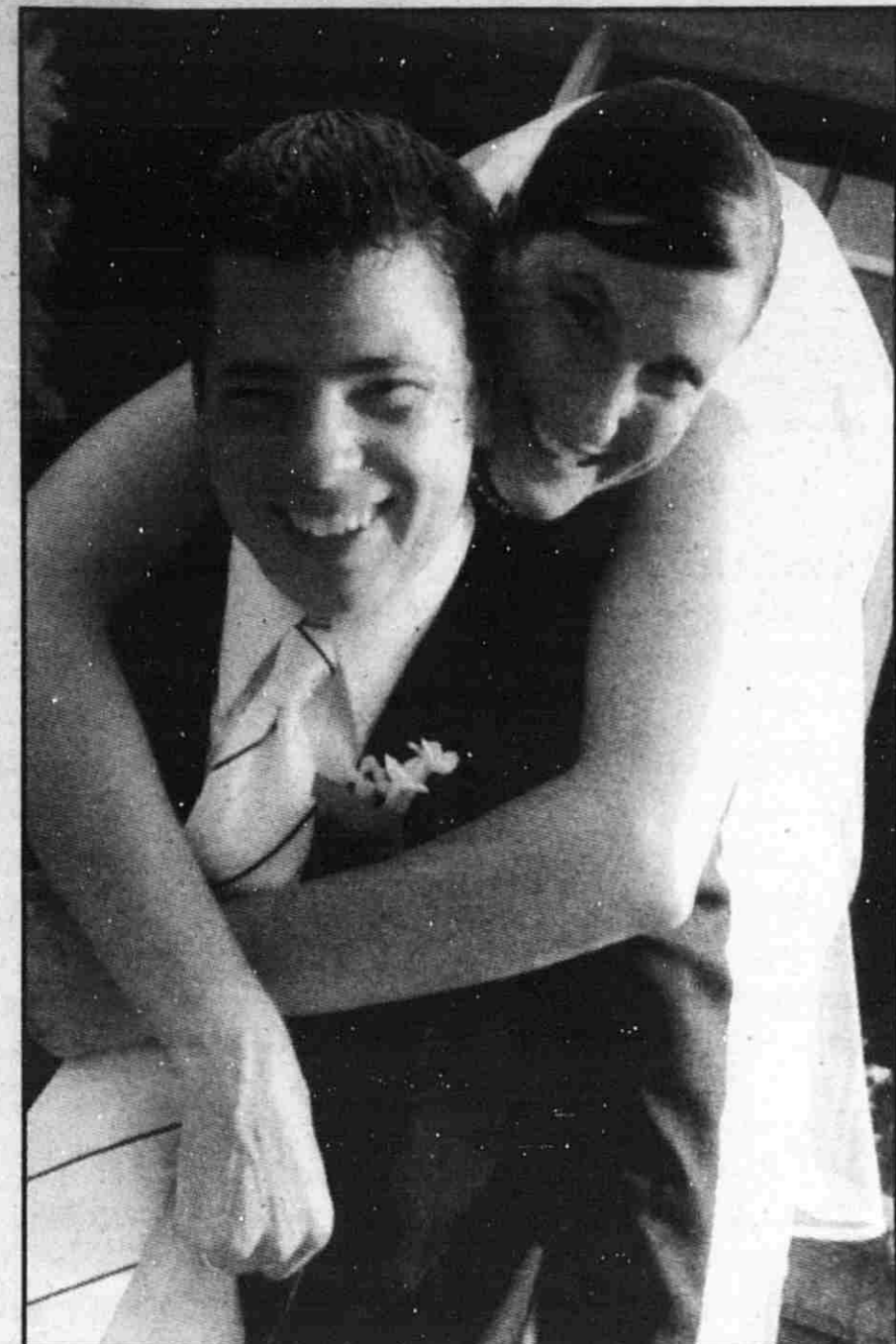
"Anonymous" offers a \$50 reward for identification of the vandals who damaged the Runciman-Riverside playground.

The Ledger changes its size, heads and price. Most obvious is the size, down to tabloid.

Amway donates a needed site for Ada's water metering station west of town.

Weddings

Brower/Jorgensen



Andrew and Janay Brower

Grace Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids was the setting for the September 4, 2004 wedding of Janay R. Jorgensen and Andrew M. Brower.

Parents of the couple are James and Karen Jorgensen of Lowell and Robert and Katherine Brower of Grand Rapids.

Matron of honor was Kari Kemerer. Bridesmaids were Natalia Petraszczuk,

Reflections of faith

Pastor Joe Fremer,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

I remember my first trip to the barbershop. OK, maybe not my FIRST, but I was pretty young! Every little boy is apprehensive on his first visit, but I was terrified. It wasn't the high, strange chairs, all vinyl and chrome, nor was it the strange smells. It was The Barber. He wore an outfit just like what Dr. Kildare wore on TV, but he was not young and competent-looking. He wasn't even just old. He was ancient. He was the oldest person I had ever seen—older even than Amos on The Real McCoys.

He came at me with these scissors, long, bright, and far more pointy-looking than anything my mother had in her sewing kit. But worse, I saw that his hand was shaking! The scissors danced toward me, doing sort of a rumba as The Barber reached for me, and I think I just about fainted. I don't remember much else of the ordeal except that my mother was sort of disgusted at the way I cried and begged her to take me home.

I lived, though. Another time we got there early, when he was working on another customer, and my curiosity overcame my fear somewhat. I watched him take up the scissors, and yes, his hand was shaking like a leaf of quaking aspen. Fascinated, I watched the scissors wobble their way toward the customer's head. I was all set to flinch, wondering if he ever cut off an entire ear.

Then something remarkable happened. The moment the scissors touched the customer's hair, The Barber's hand became perfectly still! I peered at the operation, waiting for the tremor to show again, but The Barber clipped and snipped with the cool precision of, well, Dr. Kildare. Behind the shaking hands, there was a competent barber.

I lost most of my fear of going to that barbershop after that. He still crept me out—I mean, he was so old he made Boris Karloff look young. But I learned that he wasn't going to maim me.

When people looked at Jesus, their attitudes, their expectations, their standards of judgment blinded them. Some could only see His faults—not real faults of course, but disappointments to their expectations—when He seemed to be a Sabbath-breaker, when He wouldn't provide miracle bread on demand, when His sermon was disgusting (see John 6:22-71). It is as Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 53:2-3:

"He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not." (NIV)

Yet the eyes of faith look beyond the human frailty and ordinariness of Jesus, to see the Mighty God, the Savior. Even on the cross—especially on the cross—the hidden God is revealed, if we but have eyes to see and ears to hear. Ask God to give you the sight and hearing that comes from faith.

Smiths celebrate 65 years of marriage



Ernest and Blanche Smith

Ernest and Blanche (Little) Smith of Lowell celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on December 18, 2004. Highlighting the occasion was a surprise gathering of their children, family and friends at First Congregational Church in Lowell.

The Smith's children are James S. and Judith (Fuller) Smith, Ernestine (Smith) Bundy and Patricia Smith. They have six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

New Arrivals



Craig and Mary Wittenbach. Great-grandparents are Don and Donna Gerard, Earl and Doris VanLaan and Elizabeth Wittenbach.

Steve and Kaily (Wittenbach) VanLaan of Kirksville, Missouri, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Noah James. He was born December 9, 2004 weighing 10 lbs. 11 oz. and measuring 22 inches.

Welcoming him home is big sister, Breanna.

Proud grandparents are Phillip and Beck VanLaan and Don and Donna Gerard, Earl and Doris VanLaan and Elizabeth Wittenbach.

HEALTH

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie



SINUS INFECTION

The sinuses are open spaces behind the bones around your eyes and nose. When the openings of the sinuses get blocked, mucus cannot move out of the nose. This increases the chance of germs starting to grow inside the nose. The germs (bacteria) can cause an infection called sinusitis. Some things which may cause blocked sinuses or thick mucus are:

- Colds or upper respiratory infections
- allergies or hay fever
- cigarette smoke • traveling at high altitudes
- cocaine use • diabetes

AARP offers free tax service

Beginning Feb. 1, through April 15, the AARP Tax-Aide will offer free tax counseling and tax preparation assistance throughout Michigan for people of middle and low incomes, with special attention given to those age 60 and over. The community service program will run

Over 800 Tax-Aide volunteers filed more than 56,000 federal and state tax returns at 200 sites in Michigan last year, including senior centers, libraries and other convenient locations. The service is also available for homebound individuals when possible. For more information about Tax-Aide and locations of their sites call 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669) or visit the web site at www.aarp.org/taxaide.

services of the AARP Tax-Aide volunteers.

The service is also available for homebound individuals when possible. For more information about Tax-Aide and locations of their sites call 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669) or visit the web site at www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Happy Birthday

FEBRUARY 3: Dale Phillips, Clarice Poisson, Sana Bryant, Cassandra Thomas.

FEBRUARY 5: Ann Mulder, Kenneth Gregersen Sr., Colleen Myers, Mandy Schneider, Joe Barnes.

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

FEBRUARY 4: Jo Hill, Kelsey Scheider.

FEBRUARY 6: Donna Oesch, Reed Stormzand, Norm Johnson, Angie Blough.

FEBRUARY 9: Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Inga Weeks, Noah Newhouse, Allee Brenk, David Potter.

"AJ" Alvin Davis Brenk II, Adrian Sterzick, Brady Foster, Dave VanKeulen, Charlotte Drake.

In The Service

Rachael E. Plumley Base, Kaiserslautern, Germany. Plumley, a 2002 graduate of Grand Rapids Catholic Central, is the daughter of Joel Plumley of Lowell and Anna Zielinski of Grand Rapids.

A security controller with two years of military service, she is assigned to the 568th Security Forces Squadron, Ramstein Air

Best Wishes To MARGARET KYSER Who Celebrated Her 90th Birthday On January 31, 2005.



Her children are Kathy (Bob) Roush, Charlie (Marsha) Kyser, Diana (Dave) Roush, Carolyne (Dick) Manion and Liz (Tim) Callihan. Some of the many grandchildren (21) and great-grandchildren (35) were able to come celebrate along with her, as well as many friends and relatives!

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS
If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell

ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Kirby and Harrison
Alto • 616-691-8011
Worship.....9:30 A.M.
Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS
Pastor Dean Bailey

Contemporary Services
Lowell High School Auditorium
(Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided)
Sunday Mornings.....10 AM
Impact Youth (Sunday at the Pastor's home).....5 PM
Phone us @ 897-0333 or 437-5093
Call for a free CD Service Sample

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
Rev. Randy Meyers - 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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
DR. MICHAEL T. KONKIN, PASTOR
Nursery & child care available at both services
Barrier - Free Entrance

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH
10501 Settlewood • Ph. 897-7185
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475
ALL ARE WELCOME!
(Barrier-Free)

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor
Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor
Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
"XL" Youth: 7 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. George J. Fekete
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM
Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BERGER 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EWN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class. 9:00 A.M.
Worship Service.....10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M.
SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.
At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell
(entrance in rear of building)
CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES
Pastor Robert L. Hubbard
Phone: (616) 897-1267
website www.aplighthouse.com

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington • 897-8800
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.
PASTOR KEN ANDERSON
Staffed Nursery Provided
Barrier-Free Entrance

SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH
(Kyser Road SE at Grand River Ave.)
WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS - WE CARE ABOUT YOU
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.
Word of Life (for Jr. & Sr. High).....6:30 P.M.
Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M.
Olympians (1st - 8th grades)
Prayer and Bible Study
Library, Nursery, College & Children's Services provided - Wheelchair Accessible
Church 897-7823 • Parsonage 897-5464 • sbccb@juno.com

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org
Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor
Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor
Sun. Worship Services.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:50 A.M.
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Sidewalk complaints, continued... From Page 1

basis. Valentine said it can be tricky determining if someone was supposed to shovel since the ordinance has some confusing language. According to the ordinance, a property that is next to a parcel with

sidewalk must shovel a path, however a lot not near any parcels that have sidewalk does not.

"It would make it easier if it read regardless if near sidewalk or not, they would have to shovel," Valentine

said, adding that officers are left to determine whether there was supposed to be a shoveled path or not.

The police department has made an effort to notify residents on school routes, which at present do not appear to have had many problems. The railway sections were late in getting plowed. The city usually does this but because of the timing of the snowfall, it was several days before staff could get to those areas, Valentine said.

Another focal point is West Main Street, Valentine said. It is more dangerous for someone to walk along the busy street avoiding snow-covered sidewalks than it is to trek through them. The city works hard to make

sure those sidewalks remain clear for pedestrian traffic. Because of manpower, the Lowell police department cannot enforce clearing sidewalks, Valentine said.

It was mid- to late-afternoon on Jan. 24 before officers were able to work on sidewalk complaints. "We really work toward making sure the sidewalks get cleared," Valentine said, adding that his officers don't write a ticket immediately.

There is that unknown factor, i.e., that the property owner may have been out of town and didn't get a chance to clear his sidewalks, the person may be physically unable or can't afford to pay someone else to do it for them, he said.

There is also the

liability issue for property owners if a person slips and falls on unplowed sidewalk or steps off the curb into the street to avoid snow-covered sidewalks, Valentine added.

The question of hiring an outside contractor was mentioned but currently the city relies on volunteer compliance.

Valentine has been

looking for people who might need assistance with sidewalk clearing, hoping to get local groups and churches to take that on as a special project. At this time, he hasn't seen any real need. If residents or pedestrians see a demand, however, they should contact the police department.

College News

Central Michigan University has announced its fall semester honors list which includes students who have earned 3.5 and higher grade point averages.

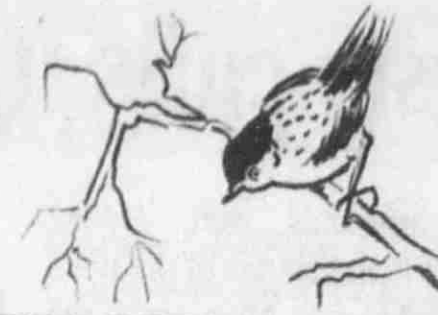
From the Lowell

area are: Courtney Baker, Andrew Benedict, Jacquelyn Benedict, Mark Hyzer, Nichole Straub and Raychel Swift.

From the Alto area is Jessi Olczak and from Ada is Alexandra McMahon.

Outdoors

By
Dave Stegehuis



FEEDING FRENZY

It is 9:30 a.m. and the sun is shining, yet it is only eight degrees outside. A gusty breeze is driving the wind chill factor to well below 0. This kind of weather can be tough on wildlife.

One group, however, seems to be doing just fine. A steady parade of fluttering darting birds is descending on several feeders in our yard. They pick up a seed, fly to a branch, crack the shell, then fly down for another.

The bright red male cardinals stand out in sharp contrast against the snow-white background. The availability of an easy meal keeps them and their more drab colored mates coming back. Several pair show up together.

Juncos, nuthatches and chickadees are present all year. There was once talk of replacing the robin as the state bird with one of these full-time residents. Robins bail out when the cold weather arrives.

The tufted titmouse population has grown to a small flock. For small birds, the titmice not only hammer the

feeders, but have been known to rob Toby's dog food from inside a chain-link run. The dime size kibbles must be difficult for the birds to carry because the dog searches the nearby woods to reclaim dropped morsels.

Hairy woodpeckers along with the smaller downy woodpeckers share a suet cake. These birds are so similar in appearance it's hard to identify one from the other. Sometimes a yellow-shafted flicker or blue jay joins the feast.

A number of purple finches and goldfinches are common visitors, while the rose-breasted grosbeaks only occasionally make an appearance. The larger mourning doves don't use the feeders but sort through dropped seeds on the ground. The doves come early in the morning and in the evening and don't stay long.

Water is scarce in the cold dry environment, so the birds

are eager to drink from the heated birdbath. The water may be one reason why we have so many birds.

Our feathered guests consume about 40 pounds of sunflower seeds a month. In addition to the water, our avian friends have the luxury of natural cover adjacent to the feeding area. Thirty-foot spruce trees provide protection from the weather and sanctuary from the hawks.

Red and fox squirrels are also drawn to the yard. Plastic bottles strung on a wire from which the feeders hang have foiled all but one squirrel. Just in case, I bribe the squirrels with cob corn stuck on a board and fastened to a tree.

Human visitors to our house marvel at the variety of bird species and spend a lot of time watching the activity from our dining room window. The squirrels and birds bring constant animation and a splash of color to an otherwise rather gray winter landscape.

Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Lowell Area Historical Museum will be conducting its next Volunteer Training on Wednesday,

Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. at the museum (corner of Hudson and Main). If you are interested in learning more about the history of the Lowell area and providing a much needed service, you may want to attend. Volunteers provide services such as museum greeters, tour guides, processing donations, clerical support and special events. Call Judy Straub at 897-7688 for more information.

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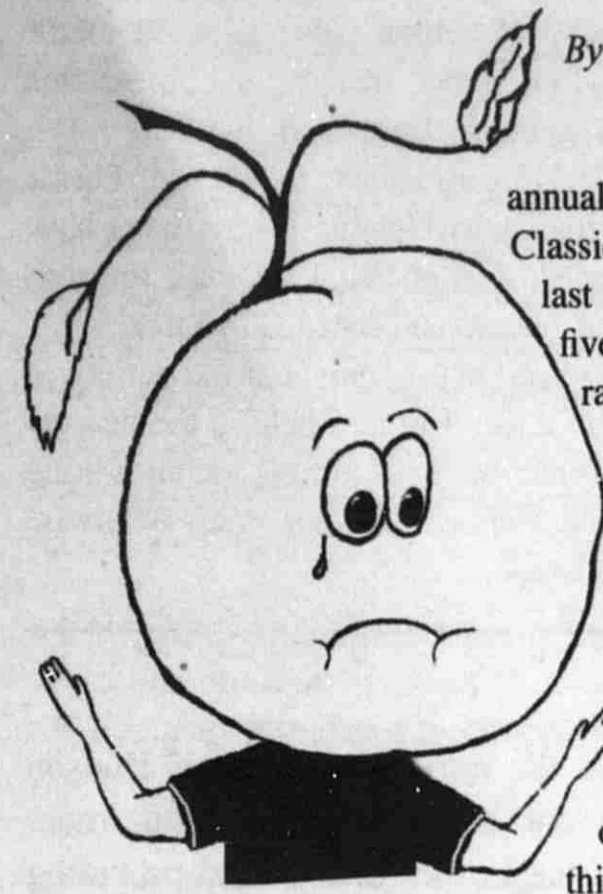
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BUSINESSES SERVICES

10-year run ends as Cherry Creek 5k Classic calls it quits

By Dan Schneider



Last year's 10th annual Cherry Creek Classic Walk/Run was the last hurrah for Lowell's five-kilometer foot race.

Citing declining participation and competition from bigger-draw runs in Grand Rapids, event coordinator Terry VanderWarf decided not to organize a run for this year.

"The actual participation has declined a bit," VanderWarf said. "The last few years, it has declined in the area of 25 runners."

VanderWarf also said he has run out of steam a bit this year as a coordinator. "If you're not in it 100 percent, it's not good," he said.

VanderWarf and Thad Kraus started the race in 1994. By 1999, the run and walk were attracting 205 participants. Last year's Classic drew 105 runners and 15 walkers.

"It's due to other events coming in, bigger events," VanderWarf said. "When we started, there wasn't another run that weekend within a hundred miles of here."

The Cherry Creek Classic was always held the second Saturday in June, raising close to \$30,000 over its 10 years for community causes, VanderWarf said. The Lowell Police Department's D.A.R.E. program, Englehardt Public Library, Lowell Area Historical Museum and King Memorial Youth Center at the Lowell

Fairgrounds were among the beneficiaries of the run's fundraising. Most years, the run raised about \$2,500.

"The first years we were lean and then the last few years we were bringing in more," VanderWarf said. "We couldn't thank the community enough for their sponsorship of this because that's what kept us going."

In 2003, the Classic established a scholarship for Lowell High School cross country runners. With \$900 left in that fund, it will be divided into three scholarships this year. Money from any unclaimed scholarships this year will be saved for future scholarship awards, VanderWarf said.

In spite of declining race participation over the years, the volunteer staffing continued to remain with the cause.

"We had people who would come back year after year," VanderWarf said. "We had the same people for 10 years in the main areas."

Carol Briggs always worked the registration table, Jeff Dickerman set up the computer scoring and Tina Dickerman arranged refreshments. Jim and Sue Schafer helped VanderWarf run the finish area.

"Everybody I had in the finish line was there every year for 10 years, and that is probably a dozen people," VanderWarf said.

Students' D.C. trip, cont'd. ... From Page 1

the inauguration live, to actually see him get sworn in and the inaugural address."

In his inaugural address, President Bush gave a broad outline of his vision for the future of America in the world. Beatson called the speech potentially historic.

"It doesn't seem very significant at the moment, but one of the speakers we had was saying it was going to be an important four years, a lot of changes in the world," he said. "So however it pans out, we can both say that we were there in the beginning."

Beatson and Bryan agreed that if they had been able to vote in the 2004 election, their votes would have gone to Bush.

"One thing I do like is his pre-emptive policy on terrorism," Beatson said. "The other reason I would have voted for him is his economic views and his policies on taxes, social security and welfare." A lot of the people at the inaugural address had the same views about the president.

"Inside the actual inauguration, there were a lot of Bush supporters, so it was mostly cheering, and then walking between the inauguration and the parade there were protesters," Beatson said.

Bryan was among Bush supporters along the parade route, as well.

"It seemed like that was still mostly Bush supporters," he said. "We were where Bush actually got out and walked, so that was really cool."

Beatson had a different parade experience.

"We missed that part because the entrance we were going through was blocked by protesters so we had to wait for two hours," he said.

He did not see tempers flaring between Bush supporters and detractors, however.

"The Bush supporters started singing, I think it was the national anthem, and that was about the extent of the interaction I saw," Beatson said.

Multi-talented Lowell musician records CD

By Dan Schneider

A local musician and longtime member of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra recently cut an album of 11 songs.

The album "Cello Songs and Stories" is composed, performed and recorded by cellist and 10-year Lowell resident Stephen VanRavenswaay. He plays his own backup on piano.

"Cut," however, isn't an accurate way of referring to the process. The term comes from the early days of record-making when albums were transferred from a master tape by literally cutting grooves into a wax disc. The disc was used to make a mold which, in turn, was used to press records.

Not wanting to deal with the inconvenient method, VanRavenswaay used modern technology to record his music in a home studio.

"I've been writing stuff for years and I've just now felt comfortable enough with the recording technology to do it (record)," he said.

The recording took about three weeks; writing the songs took about three years. He recorded the cello parts with a single recording microphone. He performed the piano parts on an electric piano wired through computer filters to make it sound like Yamaha grand.

"I'm not a great pianist, but with computer technology I can fake it," VanRavenswaay said.

On the cello, however, he is quite accomplished. He's been playing the instrument since he was young, though he started out playing the violin. VanRavenswaay's father, a string music teacher

and former department head of Holland Public Schools' music program, turned onto the cello after he physically outgrew the violin. He's the oldest sibling of two brothers and a sister, in a family that grew up musical.

"My brothers and sister all had to start on instruments, a stringed instrument of some sort, and

I'm the only one who kept with it," he said.

VanRavenswaay, 45, had a part-time gig with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra as a junior in high school. Following graduation, he studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore before getting a full-time job playing cello for the

symphony in 1978 at the age of 19.

For about eight years, he's been playing a cello made in 1755 by Leopold Wildhalm of Nurnberg, Germany. The cello at one point was boxed in a wooden case and stored in an attic in Wisconsin for almost a century.

A Chicago antique dealer purchased it at an

estate sale and it ended up at the Guameri House violin shop in Grand Rapids which is where VanRavenswaay found it.

Some modifications were made to the instrument to transform it from a Baroque setup to a modern cello. It also took awhile to season the violin back to life. VanRavenswaay said the vibrations from playing the instrument opened the pores of the wood over a period of

time, giving the instrument a fuller sound.

Outside of his professional career, VanRavenswaay is into playing jazz. He has also played backup for bands ranging from new age to prog-rock at their midwest

tour stops. These acts include John Tesh, The Moody Blues and Yes as well as Christmas rockers The Trans-Siberian Orchestra. He'll play in the upcoming Josh Groban performances in Grand Rapids and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The kind of music on the CD is jazz-new age, for listening and thinking.

"I'm not writing stuff to technically be 'wow,' show off how good you are," VanRavenswaay

said. "It's just emotional and intellectual music, basically."

Song titles include "Simplicity Complicated," "October Dream," and "The Passage of Time." For the most part, the titles came after the song was written, with VanRavenswaay thinking afterward about what the songs evoke.

"You have to come up with a title for stuff," he said.

Exceptions are two songs about his wife Corrie and daughters Amanda and Jennifer. These were more premeditated. The song "Amanda" was inspired by a picture he keeps in his studio.

"It looks like some sort of old Spanish art photograph and it just fit her personality, to me," VanRavenswaay said. "That song is sort of a Spanish art song, it's got a real Spanish feel to it."

The CD is available locally at Chimera Design and at the Black and White Store. The Lowell Area Arts Council receives \$2 from every CD sale at those locations, a result of VanRavenswaay's desire to get more involved in the local arts scene.



Stephen VanRavenswaay, a cellist with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra and Lowell resident, has recorded a CD of 11 songs. He is pictured with his cello, which was built in Germany in the 18th century a year before the birth of Mozart.

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Local high school sports stars seek to inspire younger students

Murray Lake Elementary students eagerly waited to see some of their local "idols" make an appearance at their school on Thursday, Jan. 27. There were 330 students who greeted over 25 players from Lowell High School's regular season undefeated girls' basketball team and the state champion boys' football team.

The Murray Lake students expected to hear their "idols" talk about some "great shots" and "great TD passes", but instead were treated to what makes these players "undefeated" off the basketball court and the football field. Brock Graham, football team captain and starting

linebacker, spoke first. "School comes first. If you don't do well in the classroom, you will never make it to the football field. Make sure you listen to your teachers, and do your homework. If you want to play on a state champion team someday, you need to work as hard in the classroom as you do on

the field." He holds a 3.95 grade point average.

Ryan Esbaugh, starting running back and linebacker, added, "We all have people that we don't like a lot, but when you are on a team you can't let that interfere. You need to respect all your teammates; you need

to respect all of the other students in your classroom." Two-year varsity basketball player, Meghan Beachum said, "No matter what you do in your future, make sure you get involved. It doesn't have to be sports. You can get in the school play, or in a school club, or be on the yearbook staff. Being involved makes life fun. I encourage all of you to try lots of activities."

Amy Oberlin, a three-year varsity starter with a 3.95 grade point average, encouraged students to give a lot of effort. "No matter what you do, give it 110 percent. It is not all about winning; it is all about giving whatever you do your best effort." Oberlin's efforts will lead her to a college soccer career.

State coaches of the year, Noel Dean and Dee Crowley, also encouraged the young students to work hard at school and at their sports, adding that kids involved with sports do better in school. Murray Lake principal Brent Noskey said, "Our kids look up to these players. They already knew how successful they were at their sports; I wanted them to hear how hard they work off the court and field. Many of these kids are Lowell's finest. It makes me proud to see former students making such a positive impact on our kids here at Murray Lake."



Murray Lake elementary students listen as LHS athletes relate experiences.

Lowell basketball bounces Forest Hills Eastern, Sparta

By Dan Schneider

Lowell shut down Sparta in a home game last Friday, winning 68-41.

The Red Arrows were up 16-9 after the first quarter. 36-18 at the half and didn't slow their pace through the second half.

Four Arrows scored in double digits. Josh Hettinga

hit three 3-pointers, scoring 18 points total to lead Lowell. Ryan Lane was close behind with 16 points. Brad Shea had 13 points and Mike McElroy scored 10.

"I thought from jump ball to buzzer it was the most energy we've played with all season," said Lowell coach Jeff McDonald. "And we

communicated better that game than we had all year, especially on defense."

The Arrows won their third straight game last Tuesday against Forest Hills Eastern. Lowell jumped out to a quick lead, up 15-5 at the end of the first quarter. Lowell didn't give up that lead and, in fact, extended

it, during ensuing quarters of play. The Arrows were up 33-13 at the half, 45-17 after the third quarter and 54-33 at the conclusion of the game.

Scoring duties were distributed equally among several Lowell players. Mike Koster, Brad Shea and Mike McElroy put up nine points each. Josh Hettinga and

Ryan Lane each scored eight. In all, nine Red Arrows contributed scoring.

This is Eastern's first year of existence as a school, and therefore its first boys varsity basketball season. Several Lowell players were able to get time on the court against the fledgling team.

"A lot of kids got to

play and we played really unselfishly," said Lowell coach Jeff McDonald. "A lot of kids contributed, so it was a positive night for us."

Lowell hosted East Grand Rapids Tuesday night. The Arrows' next game is Friday at Kenowa Hills.

Good start for Arrows at West Ottawa volleyball invitational

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell varsity volleyball team won three matches Monday in a quad at Middleville.

The matches were won in two games each. Against Middleville, the scores were 25-23, 25-7. Lowell beat Ionia 25-17, 25-11 and Forest Hills Eastern 25-15, 25-11.

It was a good night of serving for the Red Arrows.

"At the (West Ottawa) tournament we missed seven serves a game," said Lowell coach Gigi Peal. "Last night

we only missed five scores on the whole evening."

Kristin Johnson led Lowell in kills Monday night with 25, followed by Samantha Mol with 23. Taylor Verdon had 59 assists on the night. Katie Baker had six service aces and Malley Cahoon and Amanda Schneider had nine blocks each.

The team used Saturday's tournament at West Ottawa to start rebuilding intensity after a pair of tough conference losses.

"It was actually a great

weekend for us. After two weeks of conference and after two losses they started to put it together again," Peal said.

Lowell finished third in pool play against Traverse City West, Allegan and Byron Center to enter the gold bracket of the tournament. Lowell finished fifth in the tournament after losing in the quarterfinals to host West Ottawa. The Panthers advanced to the finals where they lost to tournament champion St. Joe.

In contrast to the serving

troubles, Lowell put good games together at the net.

"We had quite a few blocks on the day," Peal said. "That's been the aspect of our game, the last couple weeks of conference that hasn't been winning. It was good to see not only our defense doing well but our girls getting up in the net and getting some touches."

Lowell was recovering from a loss in three close games at Northview last Thursday. The scores were 25-23, 25-23, 25-20. Kristin Johnson led Lowell in kills

with nine. Katie McElroy had three service aces to lead the Arrows in that category. Taylor Verdon had 16 assists for Lowell.

Lowell's last home conference match of the season is Thursday at 7:30 against Greenville.

Lowell boys roll their way into the semifinals

The Lowell boys team rolled its way into the semifinals of the Lowell Invitational last Saturday.

They racked up a total pin score of 3,241 to finish behind Rockford and advance to the first round Baker. There, they bested the Ionia A team, 375-301. Lowell went up against Grand Rapids Union in the second Baker, losing 352-340.

Union went on to tie Rockford in the final at 390, losing the roll-off 220-172.

The girls' team racked up a total pin score of 2,064, advancing to the first Baker where they lost to Union, 263-261.

Kelloggsville won 298-270 against Wayland in the girls final.

Both teams defeated Unity Christian Jan. 24. The girls won 19-11 while the

boys won 18-12.

Chelsea Freed, Carey Crout and Ashley Nawrocki each rolled two games for Lowell in the match. Freed rolled 123 and 126, Crout rolled 162 and 160, and Nawrocki led the girls, rolling 172 and 179. Erin Soules (100), Lisa Brown (114), Kim Ward (131) and Cassie Bodus (114) rolled single games for Lowell.

Rolling two games each for Lowell on the boys' team were Jon Eickhoff (243, 159), Jim Denny (228, 212), Anthony Everitt (191, 162) and Sean Adrianse (166, 167). Brandon Jahnke (149) and Greg Sherman (219) rolled one game each for Lowell.

Both teams take on Kenowa Hills next Monday at 3:30 at Lowell Lanes.

Support Your Team

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS VARSITY WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

This Page Courtesy of The Lowell Ledger

VARSIY VOLLEYBALL

* Indicates a home game at LHS Main Gym
All games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless indicated

1/13	East Grand Rapids*
1/15 TBA	Zeeland Invitational
1/20	Kenowa Hills
1/27	Northview
1/29 at 8:30 p.m.	West Ottawa Invitational
1/31 at 5 p.m.	TK/FHE/IONIA
2/3	Greenville*
2/5 at 8:30 a.m.	Northwood Tournament
2/10	Unity Christian
2/14 at 6 p.m.	Zeeland*
2/19 TBA	Conference*

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Indicates a home game at LHS Main Gym
All games begin at 7:30 p.m.

1/14	Unity Christian*	2/11	Northview
1/18	St. Johns*	2/15	Greenville*
1/21	Cedar Springs	2/18	Unity Christian
1/25	Forest Hills Eastern*	2/22	Cedar Springs*
2/4	Kenowa Hills	2/25	Crossover (Gold)

VARSIY ICE HOCKEY

* Indicates a home game @ Standard Federal Ice Center

1/13 at 8 p.m.	Union
1/15 at 9 p.m.	Wayland
1/21 at 9 p.m.	South Christian
1/28 at 9 p.m.	West Ottawa*
1/29 at 7 p.m.	Forest Hills Central
2/4 at 9 p.m.	South Christian*
2/11 at 8 p.m.	Hudsonville
2/12 at 9 p.m.	Catholic Central*
2/18 at 9 p.m.	Grand Haven*
2/19 at 9 p.m.	Forest Hills Northern*
2/26 at 9 p.m.	Northview

VARSIY GYMNASTICS

* Indicates a home game in the LHS Aux. Gym
Games begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated

1/12	Forest Hills*
1/15 at 10 a.m.	Holland Invitational
1/19	East Grand Rapids*
1/22 at 9 a.m.	Mona Shores Inv.
1/24	Rockford
1/29 at 10 a.m.	Kenowa Hills Inv.
2/2	Holland*
2/7	Kenowa Hills*
2/16	Mona Shores
2/19 TBA	Conference @ Mona Shores

VARSIY WRESTLING

* Indicates a home game at LHS Gym
Matches begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated

1/13	East Grand Rapids
1/15 at 9 a.m.	Gary Rivers Tournament*
1/20	Kenowa Hills*
1/27	Northview*
2/3	Greenville
2/5 at 9:30 a.m.	Goodrich Tournament
2/9 TBA	Crossover (Gold)
2/12	Conference at Northview
2/16 or 17 TBA	Team Districts*
2/19 TBA	Individual Districts
2/23 TBA	Team Regionals*
2/26 TBA	Individual Regionals
3/4 & 3/5 TBA	Team State Finals
3/10, 11, 12 TBA	Individual State Finals

Gymnastics team places fifth at invitational

The Lowell gymnastics team vaulted, swung, balanced and floor-exercised to a fifth-place finish Saturday at the Kenowa

Hills Invitational with a team score of 128.15.

Lowell's top scorers on vault were Amanda Rau (8.05), Jenna Dickerman

(7.55), Kelli Kowalski (7.35) and Leannah Seese (7.25).

On bars, Lowell's top scorer was Dickerman with an 8.45 (eighth place overall). Seese followed with a 7.6, then Rau (7.55) and Rebecca Underwood (7.45).

Dickerman finished second overall on beam with a score of 8.9. Underwood was ninth overall with a score of 8.65. Rau scored an 8.3 and Kowalski a 7.45.

Rau led Lowell and finished seventh overall on the floor exercise with a score of 8.85. Underwood scored 8.75 and took 10th place overall. Kowalski scored 8.05 on the floor and Dickerman scored 7.95.

Forest Hills was the top team at the invitational, with a team score of 140.65.

Lowell's next meet is Wednesday hosting Holland at 7 p.m.

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The Lowell Ledger

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Varsity hockey upsets Forest Hills Central

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell-Caledonia hockey team skated to a pair of big wins over the weekend.

Saturday's upset 3-2 victory over tier one team Forest Hills Central was the Red Arrows' biggest win of the season so far. A hot-shooting Justin Story got Lowell-Caledonia (L-C) started with two goals in the first period. Kyle Austin assisted on both goals with Joel Scheyle also assisting on the second goal.

Ted McCoy scored early in the second period to put the Arrows up 3-0. The goal was from a Corey

Kelly assist. L-C's Cory Kowalski had to have a strong goalkeeping game to hang on to the lead, which he did.

"Cory Kowalski in the nets had by far his best game of the year," Lowell-Caledonia coach Mike Ballard said.

Despite the Rangers outshooting the Arrows 15-2 in the second period, Kowalski only allowed one goal.

"That's where Cory really stepped up and kept us our lead and kept the momentum on our side," Ballard said.

The Rangers would

score again in the third period but Lowell would continue to hold on.

"We were just able to maintain our discipline and we played a little tighter defense in our zone," Ballard said.

Both teams had played the night before and Forest Hills had played Wednesday night of last week, as well.

"We went into this game knowing that they had just come off a huge victory on Wednesday against East Grand Rapids," Ballard said.

So the tier three Arrows knew it was a good time to hit the ice aggressively.

"We were able to actually be the aggressor right from the start, and Justin (Story)'s big first period really helped," Ballard said. "That's a huge victory for the program, to be able to knock off a tier one team. That says a lot about how far the kids have come and how far the program has come in six years."

Last Friday night on friendly ice, L-C won a rematch against league rival West Ottawa, 4-1. The Panthers won this team's first meeting of the season.

Lowell scored two goals in the first period of Friday's game. The first was by McCoy. It was an opportunistic shot right in front of the goal from on

an assist by Corey Kelly 3:12 into the game. Brad Anderson scored the second, unassisted on a shot from the top of the left circle with 1:45 remaining in the period. Story scored Lowell's third goal, unassisted four minutes into the second period.

West Ottawa scored 1:50 into the second period. Then it was McCoy again, scoring on an assist from Kyle Gruz 10:45 into the second period.

West Ottawa outshot Lowell-Caledonia in the game, 22-16.

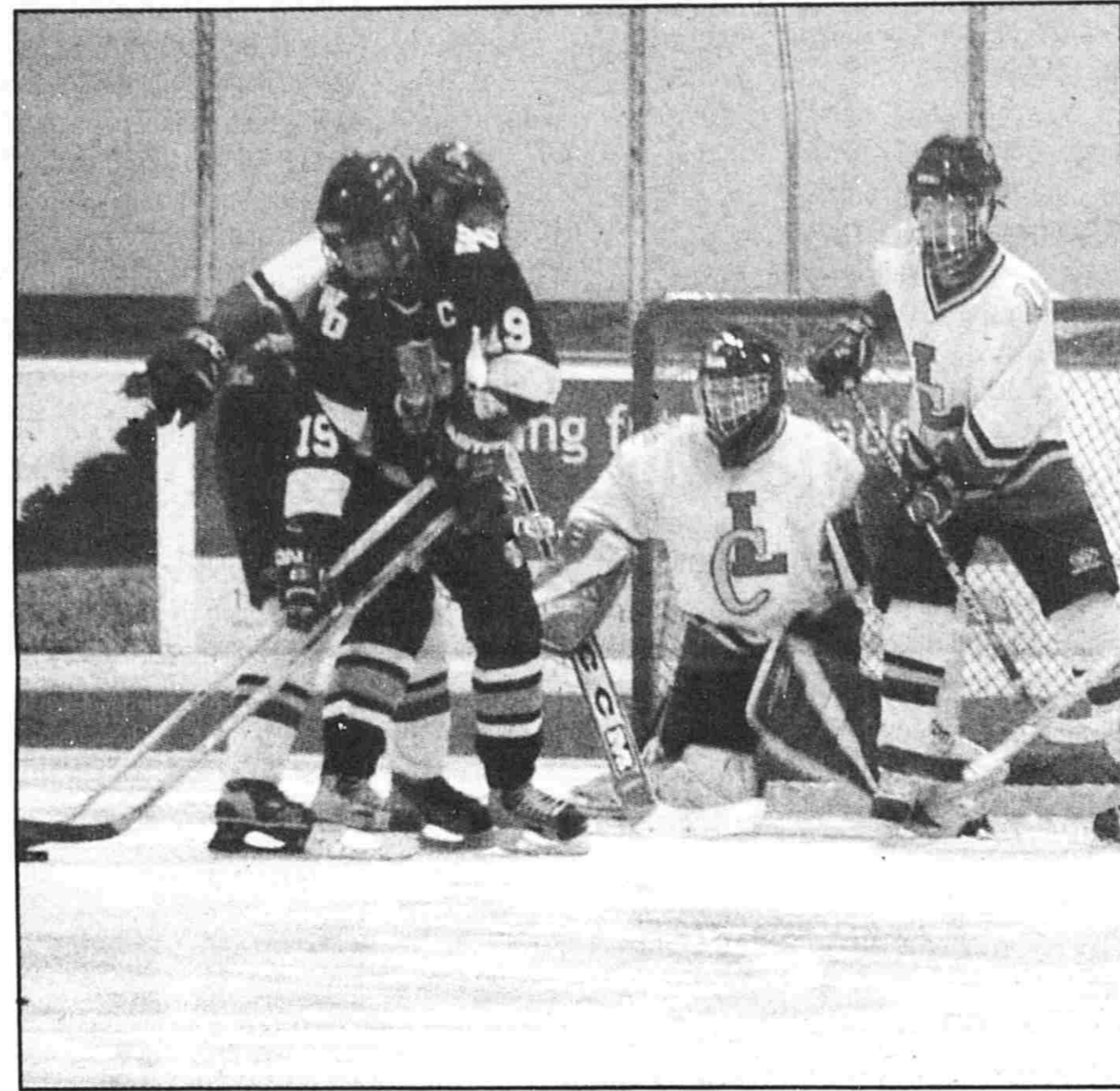
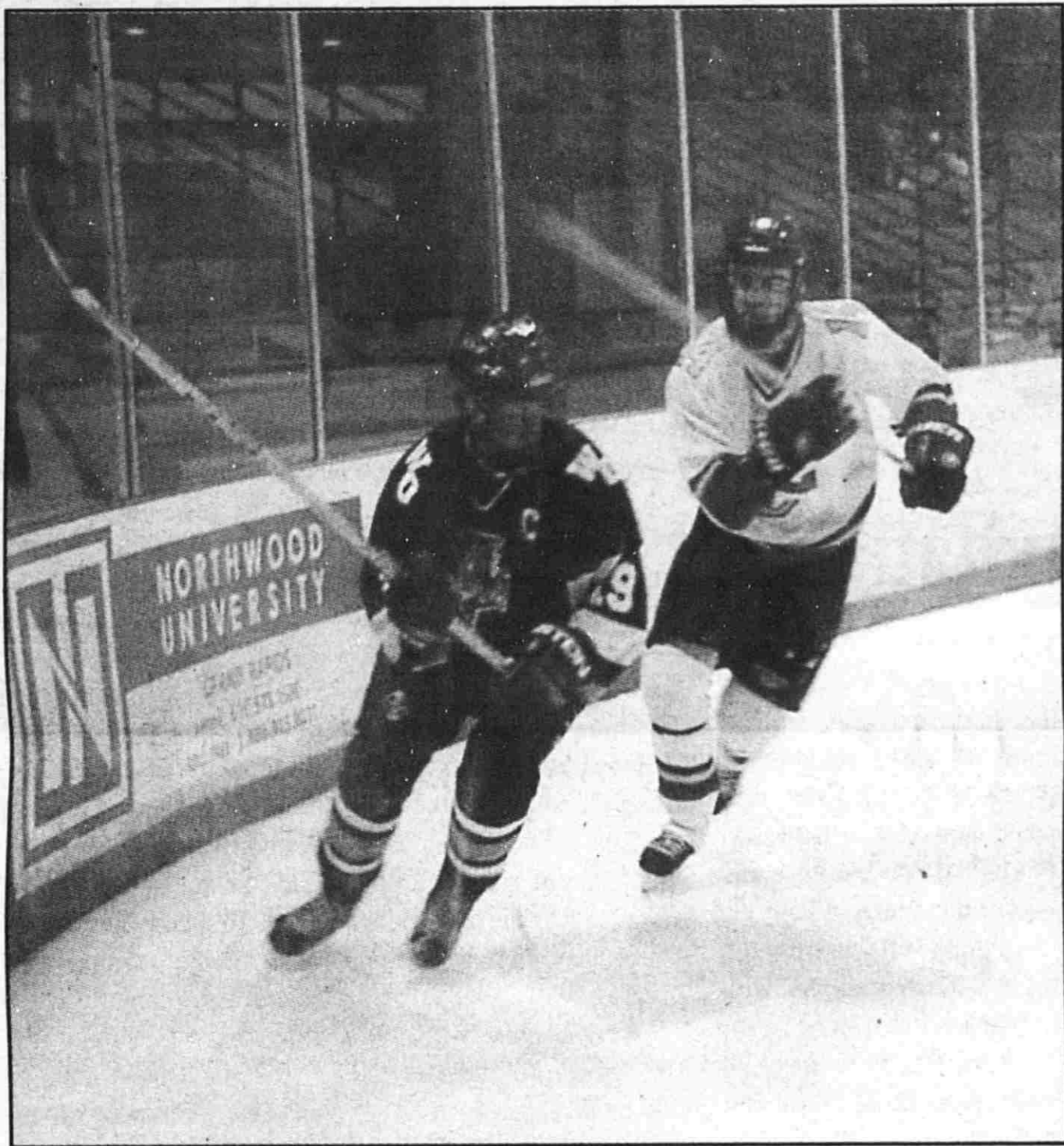
"Tonight Lowell-Caledonia jumped to the puck and when we played them the last time, we did," West Ottawa coach Terry Cutter said. "They wanted

it more tonight because they went after it."

"All week long we talked about our goals for the rest of the year and one of those was to sweep the rest of our league games," Ballard said. "Another was to compete with the tier one and tier two teams we play."

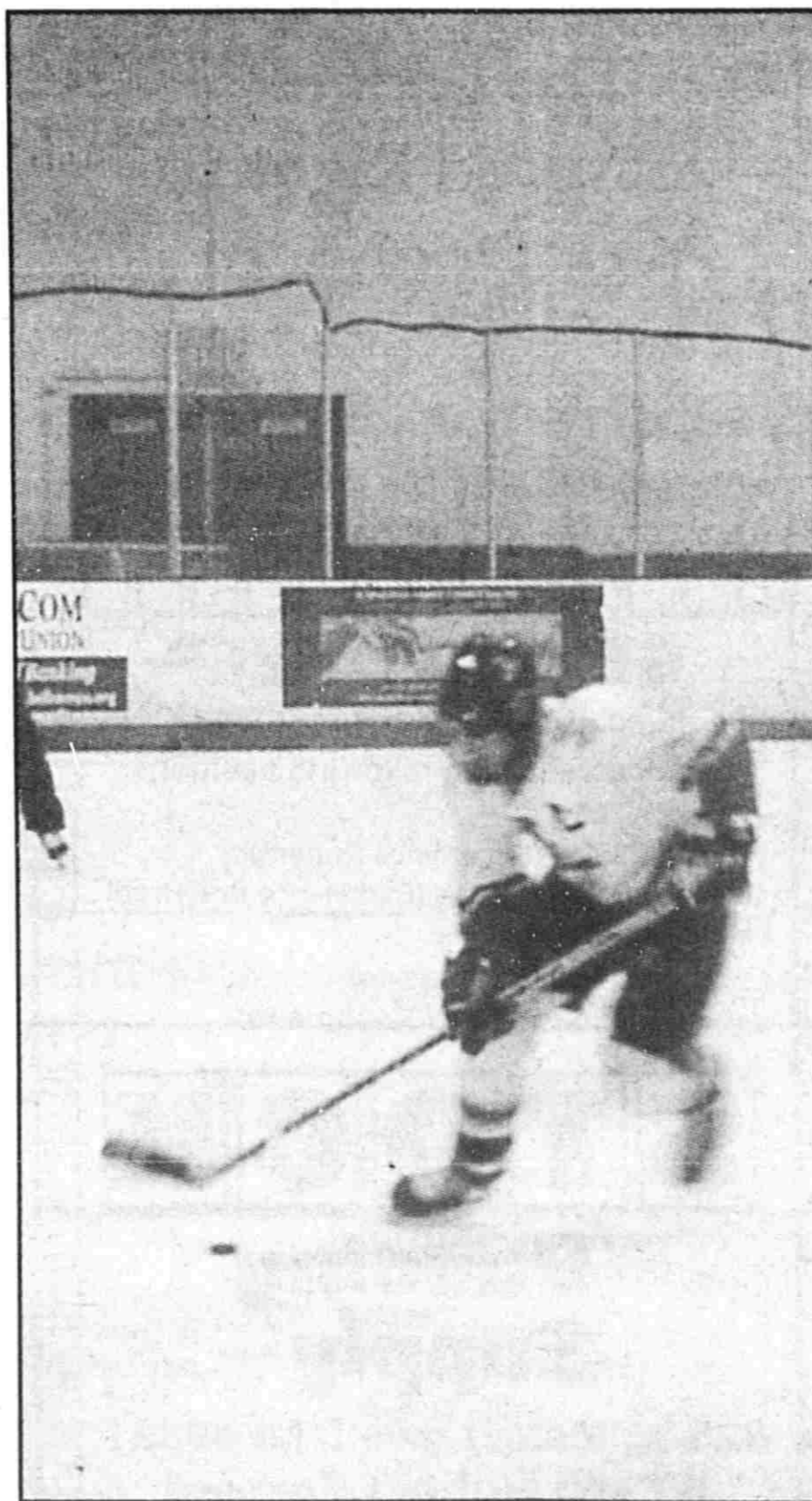
The Lowell-Caledonia junior varsity team also won last Friday, shutting out Northview 7-0. They tied with Forest Hills Central's junior varsity, 5-5.

L-C's next varsity game is Thursday against South Christian at 5 p.m. at the South Side Ice Arena. The game had originally been scheduled for Friday night.



Above, left: Lowell-Caledonia's David Sweeny tries to beat West Ottawa's Chad Bradbury to the puck in last Friday night's game.

Above, right: Lowell-Caledonia's Cory Kowalski (goalkeeper) and Brad Anderson guard the net against West Ottawa last Friday.



Lowell-Caledonia's Ted McCoy takes the puck up the ice last Friday.

SYNOPSIS BOWNE TOWNSHIP

Regular Board Meeting
January 17, 2005 - 7:30 p.m.

- Motions approved.
- Minutes approved for December meeting. List of invoices approved.
 - Motion to support Clerk in the administration of School Elections 2005-2006.
 - Motion to appoint members to the Board of Review.
 - Motion to schedule Community Block Grant Program Public Hearing for February 21 meeting.

Complete copies of the minutes are available at the township office, 8240 Alden Nash S.E., P.O. Box 35, Alto, MI 49302 or on the website www.bownetwp.cc.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

MATH PARENT MEETING

Monday, February 7th
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Cherry Creek Elementary

This informational meeting will provide support for **Bushnell & Cherry Creek** families in assisting their children's growth of various math concepts. You can register by calling Bushnell (987-2650) or Cherry Creek (987-2700).

Childcare will be provided.

Lowell wrestlers fight past Northview

By Dan Schneider

The host Lowell Red Arrows wrestled to an exciting 37-33 victory last Thursday night against Northview.

The theme of the night was gut it out and come from behind, as the Wildcats put the Arrows in a hole early.

The night started at 275 where Northview's Corey Hill pinned Trevor Foss in 1:21.

Ray Seese fought back for Lowell, winning a 9-0 major decision against Hale Navarre. Navarre had beaten Seese when these teams met last year.

"Everybody he lost to last year he's tearing up this year," Lowell assistant coach Wayne Fuller said of Seese.

Lowell lost the next two matches, with Northview's Andrew Hayward pinning Joey Sadlak in :30 at 112 and Ryan McGovern pinning Rob Karasiewicz in 3:56 at 119.

Lowell's Mike Thomas was nearly pinned in his 125 match against Adam DeVries. But he scored a reversal and went on to score

the fall against DeVries in 4:58.

At the 130-pound weight, Northview's Dustin Miller pinned Justin Boss in 1:53. Joe Mendez won the 135 match by forfeit. Chris Roelofs jumped back from being nearly pinned in the first period by Marcus Hayes. Roelofs won the match by technical fall, 20-3, as the clock expired.

Ryan Karasiewicz kept the momentum on Lowell's side, pinning Ben Wayward in the final seconds of the first period of the 145 match. John Fleet won a 9-0 major decision over Northview's Jared Williams in the 152 match.

Alex Basel had Lowell's Alex Fleet tied up for almost the entire first period of the 160 match. Fleet held on though, scoring a reversal at the end of the period, then scoring repeated takedowns for a 17-10 victory.

Northview's David DeHaan won an 11-5 decision over Matt Francisco at 171.

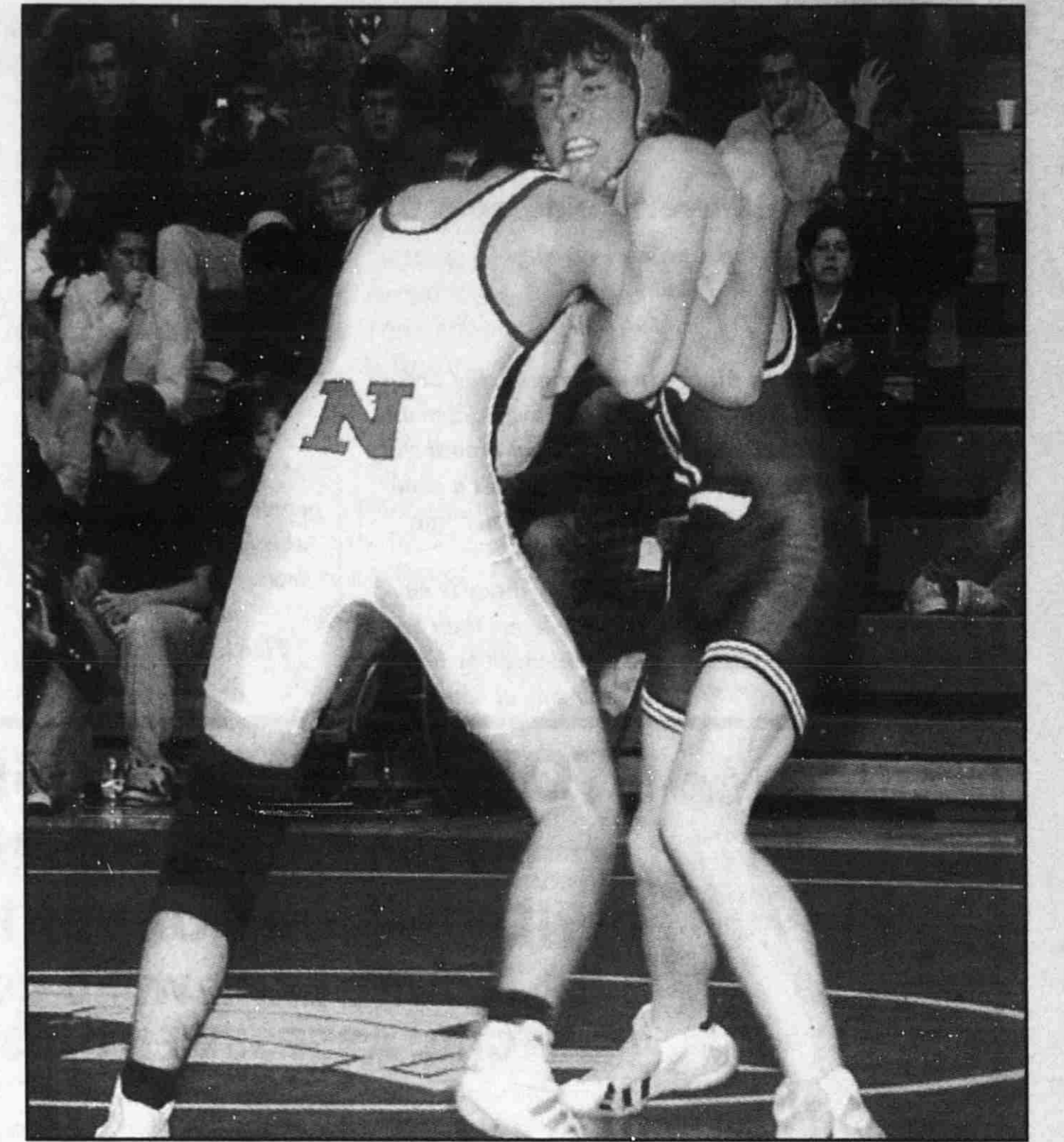
The score was 34-27 and Fuller made a tough coaching decision. Lowell

would forfeit at 189, giving the victory to Alex Phillips, and bumping Brock Graham up to a 215 match against Northview's Brian David.

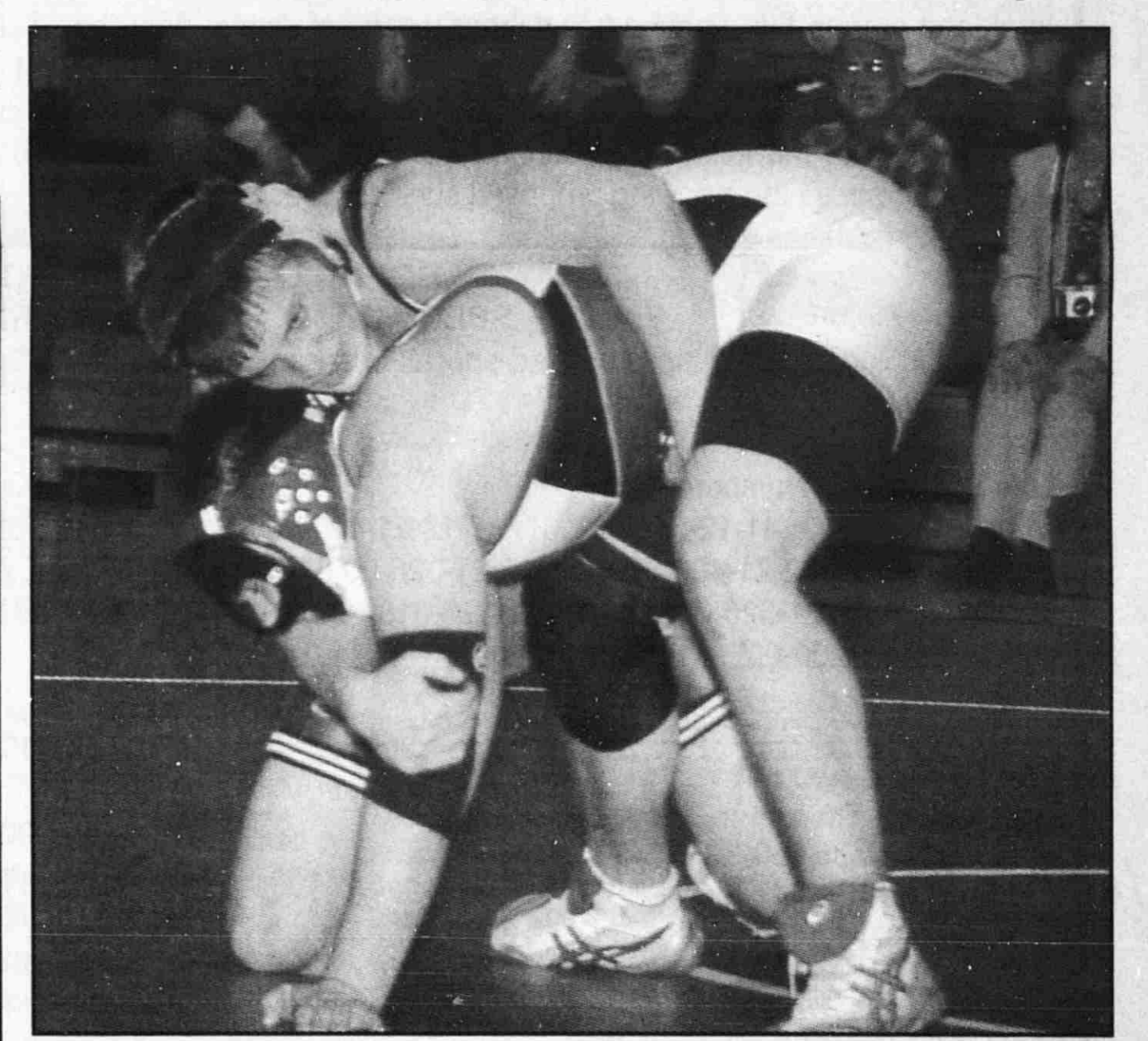
"We couldn't afford to lose both matches and Brock beat that kid (David) last year," Fuller said.

The match was deadlocked through the first period. The wrestlers locked arms and pushed each other around the mat, neither able to find an opening and take advantage. Graham scored a point on a breakaway in the second period and another on a penalty called against David. Though David had a size advantage, Graham started pulling some moves in the third period, scoring on a takedown. With a penalty called against Graham, the final score was 4-1, giving Lowell the three points it needed to seal the victory.

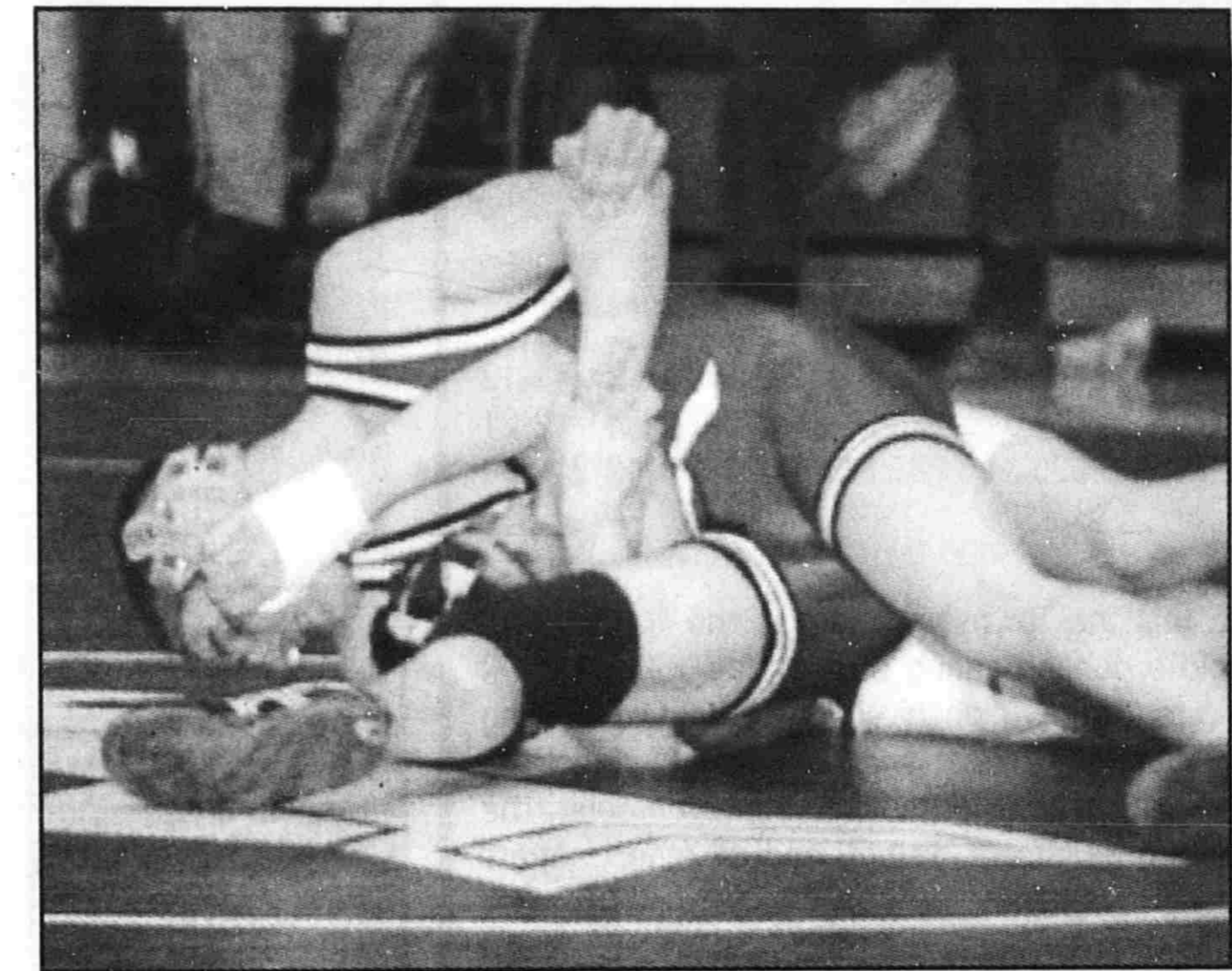
Lowell's next match is Thursday at Greenville. They'll need to win this one to keep alive a chance for a share of the OK White title. On Saturday, the Red Arrows will travel to the Goodrich Tournament.



Lowell's Ryan Karasiewicz works on a takedown against Northview's Ben Wayward. Karasiewicz won the match, pinning Wayward in the final seconds of the first period.



Lowell's Brock Graham tries to break down Northview's Brian David. Graham was bumped up to the 215-pound match from 189 and won.



Lowell's Mike Thomas pinned Adam DeVries in 4:58. DeVries almost had Thomas stuck, but Thomas battled back to claim the victory.

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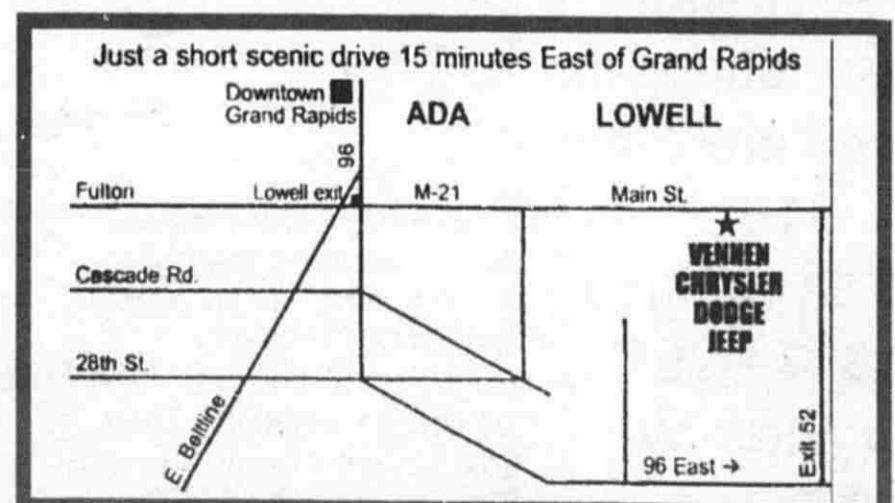
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