

# The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, February 16, 2005

## Chinese New Year Celebration

Preschool students at the Franciscan Life Process Center celebrated the Chinese New Year last Wednesday by parading through the building and snacking on rice cakes. Pictured is parent Joan Wei and student Riley Conlan, 5, leading the parade in a dragon costume created the previous week by Franciscan Friends' volunteers. The children played noisemakers to symbolically "scare away" the old year. The rice cakes eaten were also symbolic. "Rice means grow, cake means big, so rice cake means you will grow big or you will prosper," said preschool teacher Charlie Knudstrup. The activities ushered in the year of the rooster. "We're going to have to do some rooster things - I'm not sure what but we'll cook something up," Knudstrup said.



## Two candidates compete for seat on school board

By Dan Schneider

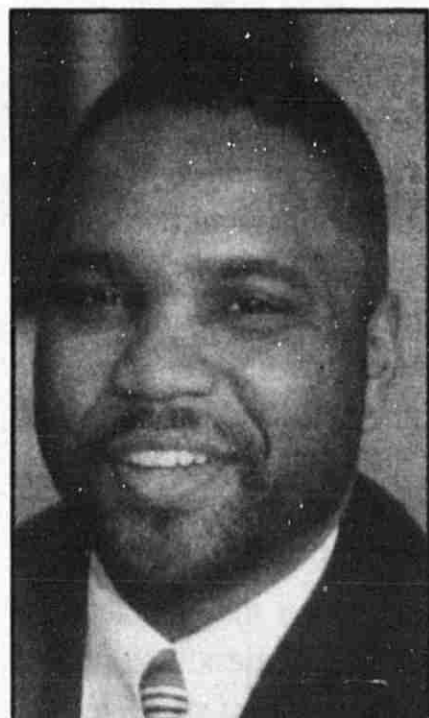
**S**terling Massey and James Turner are the two candidates who have filed petitions to run in the Lowell Area Schools board of education election in May.

Treasurer James Reagan is not running for a third term on the board.

Massey, 44, of Lowell, is director of treatment services for West Michigan programs at Project Rehab. A trained social worker, he spent 14 years as a child welfare worker and currently specializes in substance abuse treatment. He is running for the school

board seat because his children attend school in this district.

"The most important reason is I have three



Sterling Massey

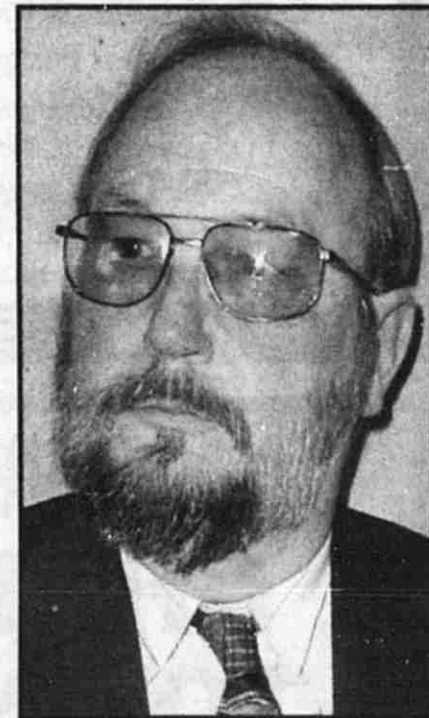
young children in the school district," he said. "As a parent, I feel I have a responsibility to do as much as I can to help with their education."

Massey currently serves on the district's champions of diversity committee, on the cost containment committee and as a district key communicator.

Turner, 57, of Lowell, is a retired Grand Rapids Water Treatment Plant operator. He ran for 86th district state house of representatives last November on the Democratic ticket.

"That was unsuccessful but I still feel I owe something

to the community," Turner said. "I definitely want to be part of making the decisions for my grandchildren. We're going to have some tough



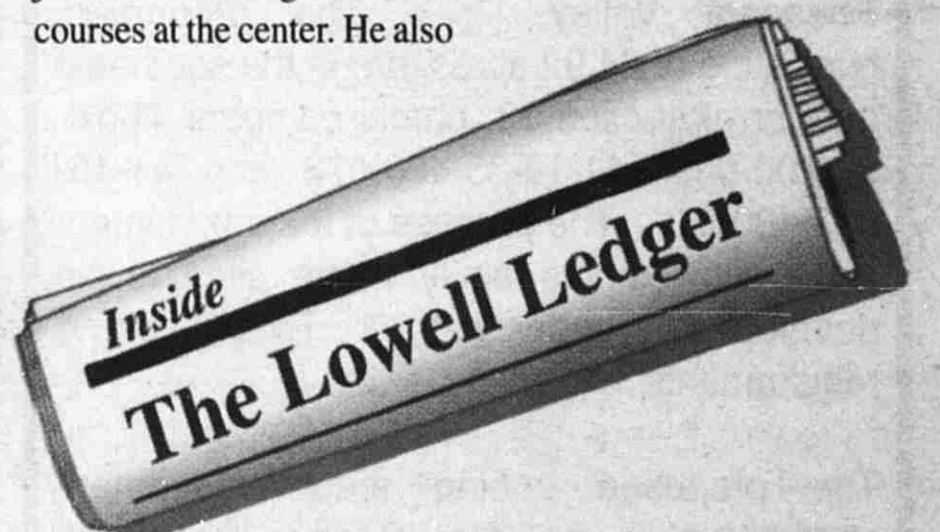
James Turner

decisions ahead as far as funding, and I want to make sure the funds we do have are spent in the classroom."

Turner has seven grandchildren in the district. He is a member of the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center, which has a role in determining curriculum for job skills training and GED courses at the center. He also

has family background in education as his father was president of the Newhall Public School District and then of the subsequent Wyoming Public Schools District.

The school board election will take place on May 3.



## Business owner eyes vacant city lot for expansion

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

A local business owner is seeking to purchase a vacant lot from the city in hopes of expanding his restaurant. Jeff Altoft, who owns Blackwater Café with Bif Altoft, came before the Lowell City Council last week to see if the city would be interested in selling a vacant lot at 111 Riverside. The lot is located next to the café at 109 Riverside. Altoft said the parcel, about 38 by 40 feet in size, would allow him to add handicap bathrooms and a new kitchen.

City manager David Pasquale said he discussed selling

the lot with Tom Richards from Lowell Light and Power. Richards informed Pasquale that he did not think Light and Power would need the lot, but wanted a chance to discuss the sale with his board.

The city owns the parcel and if a decision were made to put it up for sale, a bidding process would take place with the property being awarded to the highest bidder.

The council decided to postpone any final decision on selling the lot until its March 7 meeting, giving the Lowell Light and Power Board an opportunity to discuss the potential sale.

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Boardmember...Page 4*

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# Lowell woman named to GVSU board



By Dan Schneider

Noreen K. Myers of Lowell was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for Grand Valley State University (GVSU). Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced a slate of appointments to state university boards Friday, Jan. 28. A lawyer in private practice, Myers graduated from the university in 1972.

"It's very different," she said of the university now. "When I was there the president used to sit down and have coffee with the students. Not that he wouldn't do that now, it's just back then there was no one else to talk to." Responsibilities of the GVSU board range from academic affairs to financial management of the university. One of its recent decisions was to establish a policy of 50/50 ownership of intellectual property between the university and the artists working on the faculty.

The board of trustees at GVSU is composed entirely of governor's appointees. Michigan's state universities operate independently of the state legislature.

"In Michigan, the legislature doesn't really have any control over the universities, unlike most states," Myers said. Her term on the GVSU board will expire Dec. 31, 2012. "I'm pleased it's that long because I feel like I can accomplish more and have a more significant role in the future of the university," she said.

Myers' other board memberships include the board of the Michigan Political Leadership Program at Michigan State University and the West Michigan Progressive Women's Alliance Board.

# School board approves amended budget, reviews technology

By Dan Schneider

The budget report given Monday at the Lowell Area Schools board of education meeting indicated that, financially, times are still tight and likely will remain so.

The board approved an amended budget for the current school year.

Revenues from federal and local sources were higher than expected when the original budget was adopted. However, this was not enough to offset state and interdistrict revenue sources that fell short of expectations. Combined with an increase in expenditures over the original budget, the amended budget taps just under \$210,000 further

into the fund balance than anticipated when the original budget was approved. Lowell Area Schools assistant superintendent for finance and personnel Connie Gillette said budget cuts of \$1 million will likely be necessary for the 2005-2006 school year. Among concerns for the district's future finances, she said, is a struggling state economy. Half of the \$600 million the state allocates for funding schools is in the state's general fund, which makes it vulnerable to cuts.

Gillette also feared that funding cuts to the Kent Intermediate School District could result in the ISD providing fewer services in the future. Gillette also addressed funding inequalities among districts in the state. School districts are funded on a per-pupil basis. LAS gets \$6,700 per pupil, which falls short of the state average of \$7,031.

Also approved by the board was an increase in the price of the district's driver's training program. Citing increased costs for car leasing, the district will now charge \$280 for the course. "This is revenue-neutral," said Lowell Schools superintendent Shari Miller. "We're not going to make money off of this, but we don't want to lose money either." A report given by Dee McKendrick of the Cherry Creek Safe Routes to School program indicated that the pilot program has so far been successful.

Our district's approach to improvement includes system-wide input and involvement toward sustainable, successful changes. Several recurring themes surface throughout the improvement process in LAS. • We are moving forward in a way that recognizes past efforts and builds on them.

• We are building on existing strengths of the district and staff. • In many ways we are reshaping district culture, admittedly a difficult shift, but one that will yield the greatest results for our students.

## CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to receive and review the various Assessment Rolls for 2005 at City Hall on: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2005 AT 10:00 A.M.

A second meeting, for the purpose of hearing appeals and a continuation thereof, will be held at City Hall on: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2005 FROM 9:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M., AND 1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., if necessary

Table with 4 columns: Property Type, Ratio, Multiplier, and Assessor/Mayor Name. Rows include Commercial, Industrial, Residential, and Personal Property.

C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor James Marfia, Assessor

Advertisement for ICNB Hometown Banking, featuring a photo of Marilyn McDougall and text describing services and contact information.

Advertisement for PEBBLE BEACH APARTMENTS, detailing features like heat, water, blinds, carport, and monthly rent starting at \$525.

# Viewpoint



After years of bickering about what to do with the laundry room, the wife and I finally settled on a plan. Build a wall that creates a hallway to the back bedroom and also blocks the view of the laundry room from the living room, front porch and foyer. I know that sounds easy, but even Bob Vila's Evil Twin realized the project wasn't quite that simple.

It dawned on me the other day that I am the victim of a classic reverse psychology ploy. It is not surprising that I am dull-witted enough to fall for such a scheme. It is surprising that I have figured out what happened.

We have lived in our current home for close to three years. The house is about a dozen years old. An older couple designed the house. They were well into their seventies at the time. Needless to say, many of the design features of the house are dated. Given the age of the original owners, some of the design decisions may have been dated when the place was new.

Thanks in part to my wife's addiction to the Home and Garden Channel, we have been picking away at bringing the place into vogue. We can't afford to go whole hog and gut the kitchen and baths. We have settled for fresh paint, new window treatments, some updated light fixtures, etc. Yes ... this is becoming a Bob Vila's Evil Twin column ... sort of.

The focus of this column is the laundry room. It is huge, as big as an average bedroom. That's a good thing. It is conveniently located off from the kitchen. Unfortunately, it is also conveniently located off from the spare bath, spare bedroom, foyer and living room. That's right, it is smack in the middle of the house. Let's all gather round and watch grandma iron clothes.

You literally walked through the laundry room to get to the bedroom suite at the rear of the house. If you came to our front door, to your right are eight feet of casement windows that look straight into the laundry room. I hate to speak ill of the departed, so I'll let my daughter's eloquent reaction to her first tour of the house speak for me.

## To The Editor

Dear Editor, I owe many thanks to Bob Ford, owner of Hahn Hardware. I worked for Bob when I was in high school and for a year of college. The only reason I quit was that I transferred to a college out of the area. I would come back on weekends and "fill in" where I could. He taught me many things about the hardware business. Repairing and replacing screens and windows, threading pipe, cutting glass, even rekeying door locks, among many other essentials. He showed me and the other employees hands-on how to solve a problem, get the customer what they needed, and get them on their way. If it was a five-cent screw or a 45 dollar metal coupler, Bob would have it. If he didn't have it, he would get it! He instilled in me many hardworking ethics that I carry and use today. I thank him and the Ford family for all that he and they have done for me and my family, as well as the community of Lowell and surrounding areas. Hahn Hardware will be missed. Thanks Bob!!! Paul Pelon IV

The washer and dryer need to be scootched over to accommodate the wall. That meant tearing out cabinets, a sink, countertop, then re-installing same ... just over to the left a foot or so. Then there was the wall itself. Framing, twelve-foot sheets of drywall hauled upstairs, wiring, trim, paint, etc. This was a pretty big project for a spare time wood butcher.

I procrastinated for months. Could have gone years. Then the reverse psychology thing got me. My wife started suggesting we hire a carpenter to take on the project. I didn't flinch, mainly because I knew full well she would have serious trouble finding anyone to take on a job this small, yet so complex. She then started telling me she didn't want me to do it myself because it is such a visible location and she didn't think I could finish the drywall to her standards.

She kept up with the argument that she didn't want me to do the job because my drywall finishing skills stink. I can be very slow on the uptake. Finally, I realized I was being ridiculed, got mad and ordered materials. I then took hammer and crowbar to the cabinets. I hadn't taken into account a pending visit from my mother-in-law, so there was also a tight deadline hanging over my head to complete the project. As they say, "There is a sucker born every minute!"

I had all the tools out for this one and worked at a feverish pace. I even took to using my wife's hairdryer to speed up drying stubborn areas in the drywall compound. Fortunately the job moved along without too many setbacks and I was done in just over a week. By done I mean, new countertop installed, sink in place with running water, lights that work, shelving assembled and pictures on the new wall.

So, how did Bob Vila's Evil Twin do with the drywall seams, corners and screw holes? Smooth as a baby's bottom! My wife even picked out an eggshell finish paint, which tends to highlight flaws in the drywall. No problem! That reverse psychology stuff really works.

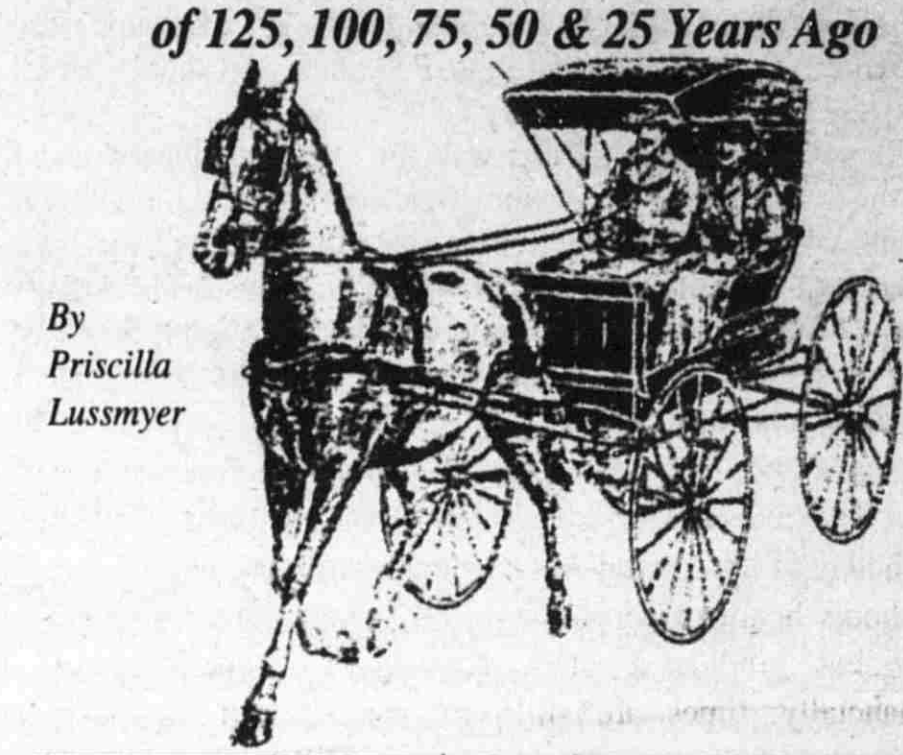
You know, sometimes I get up early on Tuesday morning to write this column and wonder why I keep doing it week after week. All I can figure is that way, way back, nearly thirty years ago when I started this thing, somebody must have told me I couldn't do it.

There is one more party that has not been mentioned in the debate ... it's the land owner. He/she have probably come to realize that farming just does not merit keeping the land anymore, or maybe it has not been farmed at all. At any rate, to keep the property so others can look at and enjoy it while still paying the taxes and insurance on it has lost its luster.

My suggestion would be that all interested parties pool their finances and buy the property. Then they still could enjoy the creeks, presettlement wetland, wildlife, etc., and do their part to curb more urban sprawl which, by the way, they contributed to when they moved to the area. By doing this, they could pay the taxes, insurance and keep their capital tied up while keeping the area open for all to enjoy. Oh and another thing, don't put up any of those disgusting "no trespassing" signs either.

Bradley Potter  
Dear Editor, Back in the '20s and '30s when I was growing up in Lowell and the taxes were 1000 percent lower than they are today, Ron Finch was the football coach for Lowell High. Bert Charles delivered groceries by horse and wagon. Our ice for our ice box from Springer's pond was delivered by horse and wagon. The sidewalks were fairly new and were built by Archie Lewis and his son Mike. The city of Lowell removed the snow from the sidewalks with a homemade snowplow (made by Mr. Tanner) and removed the snow so us children did not have to walk on the snow-covered gravel streets. I read in the Lowell Ledger that the property owners now are responsible for removing the sidewalk snow. I ask  
To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 14

## Ledger Entries



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL FEBRUARY 18, 1880 "It is vulgar to keep time to music with your foot." Post office clerks had a Valentine dance last Saturday. We've had a few days of sugar weather. The Alton correspondent says that children are coughing but nobody wants to admit to whooping cough. J.C. Train broke through the ice on the dam yesterday and very nearly drowned.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEBRUARY 16, 1905 The west side house of John Roth burned this morning. Insurance on house and lot: \$850. It's that time of year. Boylan's has 12-quart sap buckets for 11 cents each. Lowell Lumber just received another (train) carload of Portland cement. R. D. Stocking is closing out guns very cheap, for cash. Traffic on the Grand Trunk and Pere Marquette railroads is running about an hour late, due to large amounts of snow.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO FEBRUARY 13, 1930 Deputy Knapp is looking for the real owners of two bags of clover seed offered by King Milling by strangers. The Legion and school celebrate Lincoln Day in a high school assembly program. Lowell schools will take part in a national essay contest on highway safety. The thief who stole quantities of properties from Cascade Township summer cottages is caught with a houseful of loot.

The Ledger serial: "The Crippled Lady of Peribonka." 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEBRUARY 17, 1955 The new Department of Sanitation, Tom Moore, Supt., puts the new \$8,000 "Parkmaster" sanitation truck into service. Lowell's sanitary landfill also is inspected and compared with an old-fashioned eyesore dump in Boston Township. Norman Gotschall explains the expanded placement service for giving high school students paying jobs. State highway discussions center around building toll roads or freeways; if Pres. Eisenhower's vast Federal Highway proposal passes, freeways win. The high school has a new Guidance Department, with student secretaries.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER FEBRUARY 13, 1980 Paul Harvey focused on Saranac on his daily radio show Feb. 12. Sign on the Herbruck Poultry Farm egg truck: "Hit me and the yolk's on you." The post office will be closed Feb. 18 in honor of Washington's birthday. Note: how many of us remember that the date we memorized as schoolkids was the 22nd? Congressman Hal Sawyer says that Congress, now lining up pork barrel water projects to benefit the southern and western states, claims that the country is headed for a water crisis. Winter is back with a vengeance, but the DNR warns that ice is still thin.



# More arrests made in December drug house case

By Dan Schneider

A 42-year-old Lowell man was arrested last Thursday after turning himself in on drug possession charges. It was the fifth arrest in a drug house bust by Lowell police last December.

He was arraigned on charges of possession of cocaine and fentanyl, a prescription pain killer.

"ERs commonly use it," said Lowell police detective James Hinton. "I guess it's a kick above morphine."

His was the last arrest police sought in connection with a drug house bust at 1381 Jane Ellen St. in Lowell

on Dec. 16. Both charges are four-year felonies. Fentanyl is a type of pain killer.

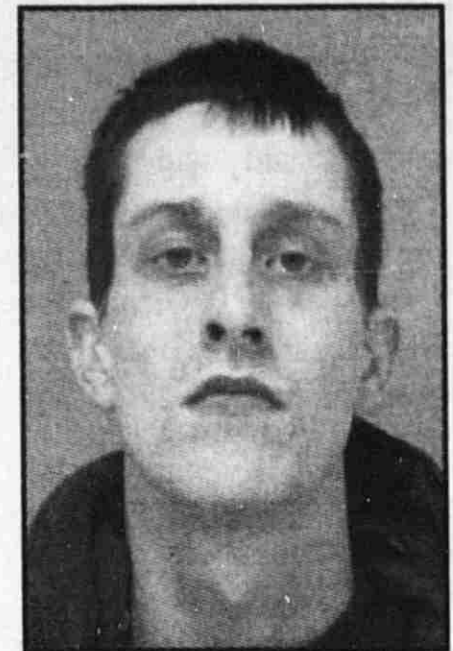
Arrested the night of the raid were homeowner Lenora Ruth Oom on charges of cocaine possession and operating a drug house, and Gary Michael Vermeulin, 34, of Lowell, on a charge of cocaine use.

Police at the time said up to three additional arrests were expected in the case.

The first of these came Jan. 27, when Grand Rapids Police arrested Sam Herman Bright, 41, of Kentwood, on a warrant issued by the LPD. Bright was charged

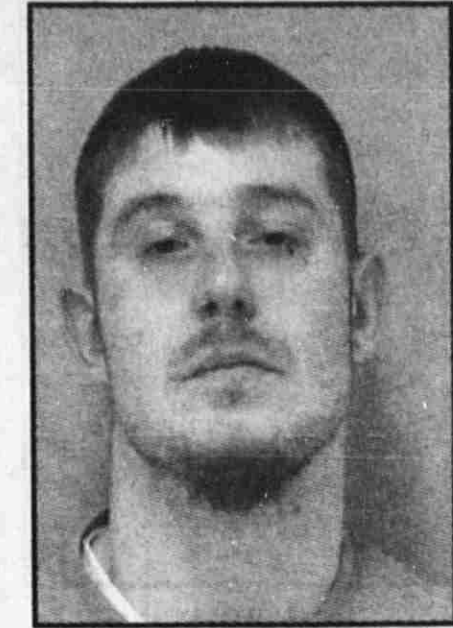
with possession of cocaine and possession of heroin.

The morning of Feb. 7, Kent County sheriffs arrested Gregory Alan Emelander, 24, and David Burdick,



Gregory Alan Emelander

24, both of Lowell, during a traffic stop. The deputy obtained identification from



David Burdick

Emelander, ran a computer check, and found he had an outstanding warrant from

the Lowell drug house raid. The deputy searched the car and found a stolen handgun under the front passenger seat. Both Emelander and Burdick were arrested and detained on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon in a vehicle. The deputy also found stolen items from houses in Saranac, Belding and Lowell, as well as other places in Ionia and eastern Kent counties.

"It looks like part of their theft was targeting prescription medication in those homes," said Roger Parent, Kent County Sheriff's Department public information officer

He hoped that the arrest of Emelander and Burdick would give police some answers in several recent break-in cases around the area. "We're definitely clearing up some of our break-ins and we're not sure how far we're going to be able to go back with these," Parent said.

From the LPD drug house warrant, Emelander was charged with use of cocaine and oxycodone, another prescription painkiller. Burdick was not connected with the Jane Ellen Street drug house bust.

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# City establishes one price for cemetery lot repurchase

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

City residents wishing to sell their cemetery lots back to the city will discover they'll be getting a better price for them.

At the Lowell City Council meeting last week, the council agreed to change the current cemetery rules and regulations on repurchasing lots at Oakwood Cemetery. The change would create a uniform price for all lots whether they are owned by residents or non-residents. The city will pay \$150 to buy back a lot.

Under former guidelines, the city paid up to 30 percent of the current price for lots or grave spaces. Residents paid \$250 for a lot and would receive \$75

if selling it back to the city. Non-residents paid \$500 for a city cemetery lot and would receive \$150 if reselling it back to the city.

City manager David Pasquale said the move would simplify the repurchasing process plus provide some benefit to residents with the increase amount. The change also

eliminates the inequity between resident and non-resident owners by establishing a uniform purchased price, Pasquale said. Under the law, a person cannot sell a lot to a third party. People interested in selling off their cemetery lots must sell them back to the city.

## School board, continued... From Page 4

"They were quite exhausting," he said.

The tests this year included extra questions added by the testmakers on a trial basis.

Some changes in the MEAP schedule are in store for next year. Students in grades 3-8 will take the test in the fall. Fifth and eighth graders will take the science test. Sixth and ninth graders will take the social studies

test, which means this year's eighth graders will be tested in social studies two years in a row.

"They'll see a very similar test to what they took this year," Kasper said.

Miller gave a presentation on technology improvements in the district. Cherry Creek Elementary saw the largest increase in computers, roughly doubling the number at the school

this year. New computer labs have been installed at the middle school and high school. Unity High School is in the process of acquiring and setting up hardware and software for digital imaging.

Changes are also being made in the district's technology instruction with the development of a middle school technology curriculum. A K-12 technology curriculum has also been given to teachers for review.

Miller listed the Lowell Area Community Fund, the Education Foundation, and Altior, Inc., which donated several 17-inch computer monitors to the district, as resources that have helped the progress of the district's technology capacity.

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# LHS freshmen take on ambitious community outreach projects

By Dan Schneider

Both halves of the Freshman Center at Lowell High School are undertaking service learning projects with the intent of learning curriculum while helping underprivileged

neighborhoods and youth in Grand Rapids. The East House will spend April 21 and 22 doing work at Camp Mel Trotter. The West House will spend the same two days on the southeast side of

Grand Rapids, working on cleanup projects and making improvements to a local park. Mel Trotter Ministries was founded in 1900. Located on Commerce Street in the Heartside Neighborhood of

Grand Rapids, the nonprofit organization helps homeless and disadvantaged people with services like prepared meals, drug and alcohol treatment, and medical treatment. Mel Trotter also runs a summer camp outside of Hopkins.

"The camp is committed to reaching at-risk and underprivileged kids," Mel Trotter community youth director Andrew Foster said. "We provide a summer camp to kids who wouldn't otherwise have that opportunity."

He called Camp Mel Trotter the preventative arm of Mel Trotter Ministries. Its goal is to get kids on a positive life-track so they won't need Mel Trotter's other services as adults.

"We're attempting to reach kids before they get into drugs and alcohol, before they have children out of wedlock," Foster said.

The 180-acre camp has a lake, boats, woods, cabins, a mess hall ... everything that goes with the summer camp experience.

"We almost solely rely on volunteers to keep the place in shape," Foster said.

The work Lowell students will undertake includes installing new floors in cabins, assembling park benches and picnic tables, and generally cleaning up camp sites and trails after the winter. They'll be getting the camp ready for science and nature instruction and other summer camp activities.

"This will be one of the larger groups that we've hosted," Foster said. "The kids in Lowell will be doing just a litany of things that they signed up to do."

In addition to working at the camp, the group will stay overnight and take part in team building exercises led by camp staff and Lowell High School teachers.

The opportunity to do work at the camp basically walked in to East House, as

Foster made a presentation at the school shortly after organizers decided they wanted the freshmen to do a large service learning project. But the camp only had work for so many hands.

"We on the West side had to come up with something different," said Ben Botwinski, Freshman Center teacher. Botwinski lives on the southeast side of Grand Rapids, which includes some of the poorest neighborhoods in the city. Lou-Ann Brown, crime prevention organizer for the Southeast End Neighborhood Association (SEENA), had organized community cleanup events in the past but had a hard time getting enough volunteers.

Botwinski heard her present this at a SEENA meeting he attended and the West House started putting a project together. They'll do projects ranging from yard cleanup—especially for seniors—to building a community garden. They'll also make improvements to Martin Luther King Park. In large part, SEENA will establish the itinerary, which may additionally include passing out smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

The Lowell freshmen will join with freshmen from Ottawa Hills High School.

"We'll have roughly 400 kids in the park for those two days, working on the south side," Botwinski said.

These students also will take part in team-building exercises. Part of the goal is to widen the students' cultural perspectives.

"We're looking to broaden the idea of community for these students," Botwinski said. "We think the kids out here would benefit from seeing what it's like on the other side of the tracks."

Both houses of the Freshman Center will be seeking parent-volunteers to help with the projects.

The adults in both cases will likely lead small work groups. In addition, both houses will need donations and support from the community to help them accomplish these projects.

This is the second year Lowell Area Schools has undertaken service learning projects. Service learning is a teaching method that uses community projects to accomplish curriculum objectives.

"The students are learning their classroom material and they're helping other people at the same time, so it's a very hands-on kind of learning," service learning coordinator Carla Stone said.

Lowell is one of 26 districts in the state taking part in service learning. The program is funded by federal Learn and Serve grants administered through the Michigan Community Service Commission.

Last year was a pilot year for the program at Lowell. Two teachers did projects to test it out. This year, Stone was deluged with more than 50 applications for projects.

"I was amazed when I got all the applications from our teachers," Stone said. "We've got some very creative teachers at our schools."

Service learning projects have been taking place all year long. Every building in the district has participated or will in the future. Fifth grade students at Alto Elementary, for instance, baked cookies at Christmas time for seniors at Schneider Manor. Every teacher at Murray Lake Elementary is undertaking an environmentally-themed project. The freshmen will be taking on the biggest projects this year.

"I think that was very ambitious of them in terms of all the things they intend to do," Stone said.

# Choral group to perform

The Lowell Area Arts Council will present North American Choral Company White Nights on March 6 at 3 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

White Nights is a choral concert with orchestral music featuring youth singers, ages six - 18, performing music from Estonia and Finland given to the North American Choral Company during their concert tour to the Baltics last spring.

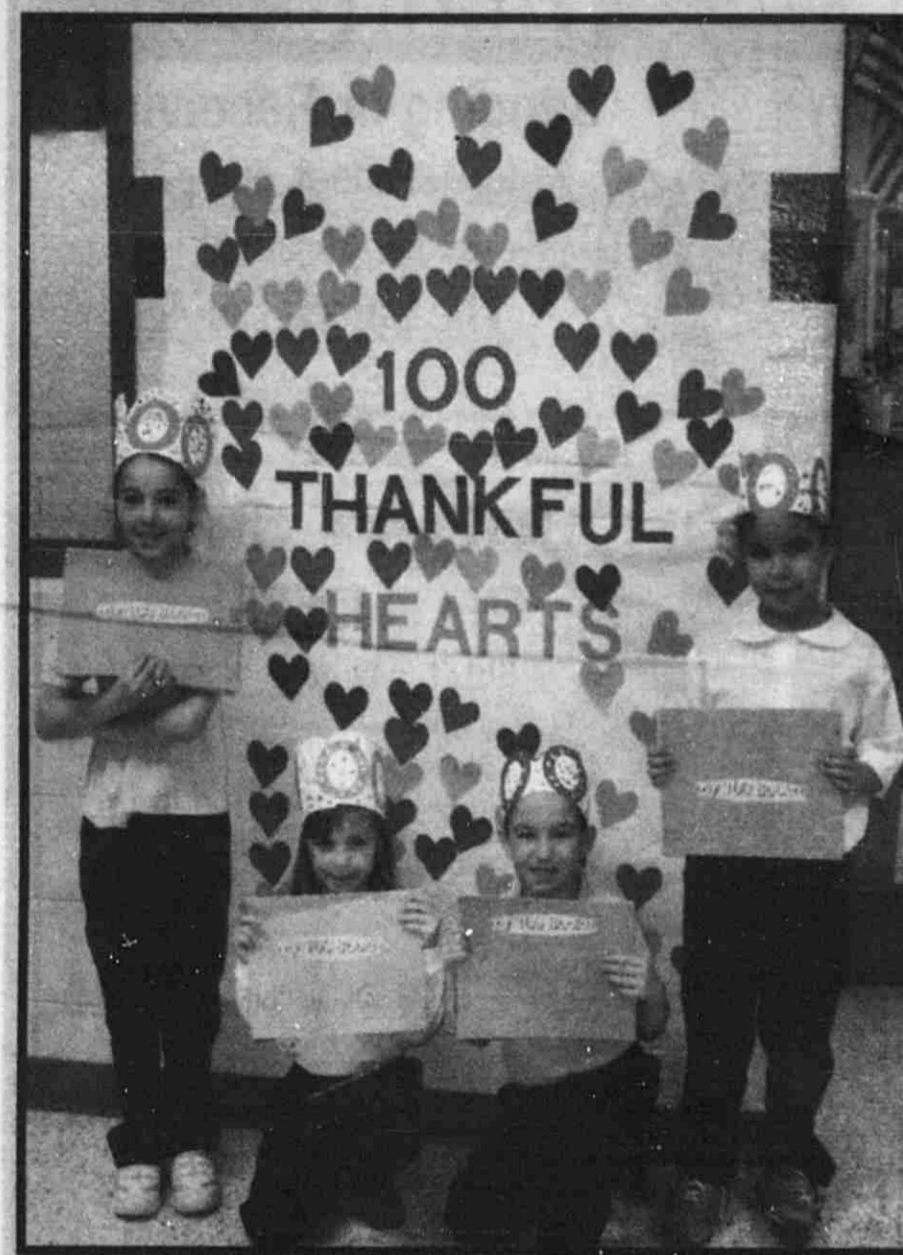
Two of the company's ensembles, Mandala and Caritas will perform at this Sunday afternoon program along with Veljo Tormis, a great Estonian composer. His arrangements of Estonian folk songs for choirs are performed all over the world. Caritas will perform excerpts from the song cycle "Ingrian Evenings," words and tunes from a culture which has all but died out. Mandala will perform Tormis' "Spring Sketches," a humorous collection of short impressions of spring.

Finland will also be represented at this concert. Selections will include "Water Under Snow is Weary" by Hari Wessman and "Finlandia" by Jean Sibelius. Instrumental music of the region will be performed by the Clifford Music Group.

Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 LAAC members and seniors, \$8 students or groups of 10 or more. Call or visit the Lowell Area Arts Council at 897-8545, 149 S. Hudson, Lowell, or visit the web site at www.lowellartscouncil.org.



# Counting the school days



The first and second grade students at St. Patrick School celebrated "100 Day" on Friday, Feb. 11. The children had special cupcakes, made special hats and decorated a poster with 100 hearts of thanks. Math activities dealing with 100 were done throughout the day. Pictured are first graders Emma Heffron, Ondine Eardley, Mason Misiak and Jasmy Lee.

# Pennies add up for Murray Lake students



Luke DeBoer, a student in Mary Helen DeLiefde's class at Murray Lake Elementary, brought in a sack full of pennies to donate to the Tsunami Relief Fund. The third grade teacher asked her students to ponder the question, "How many pennies in all? Each student, using his/her estimation and problem-solving skills, estimated the amount of pennies in the glass bowl. Then the students were divided into small groups and given a

scoop of pennies to devise a plan to find the group's total was 1,839 cents or \$18.39 after the class total amount. The grand combined their findings.

Nothing worthwhile comes easily. Half effort does not produce half results. Work, continuous work and hard work, is the only way to accomplish results that last.

- Hamilton Holt

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# STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005 - 4:00 p.m. Lowell city hall - council chambers 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 Docket #04-AP-4

THE STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN VERGENNES TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF LOWELL

APPROXIMATELY 177 ACRES LOCATED IN WEST HALF OF SECTION 34, TOWN 7 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, VERGENNES TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, STATE OF MICHIGAN. THE LAND IS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS LYING NORTH OF FOREMAN ROAD, SOUTH OF VERGENNES STREET, EAST OF ALDEN NASH AVENUE, AND WEST OF THE MID MICHIGAN RAILROAD TRACKS.

This notice is a general description of the area proposed for annexation. A copy of the legal description and map of the proposed area to be annexed may be obtained from the State Boundary Commission Office by calling (517) 335-3439.

The public hearing will give the residents of Vergennes Township and the City of Lowell an opportunity to contribute information and testimony on the proposed annexation and the following criteria:

Population; population density; land area and land uses; assessed valuation; topography, natural boundaries and drainage basins; the past and probable future urban growth, including population increase and business, commercial and industrial development in the area, need for organized community services; the present cost and adequacy of governmental services; the probable future needs for services; the practicability of supplying such services; the probable effect of alternative courses of action on the cost and adequacy of services, the probable increase in taxes relation to the benefits expected to accrue; and the financial ability of the municipality to maintain urban type services.

Additional written comments or information on this docket may be submitted during the 30 day period following the public hearing for consideration by the Boundary Commission. These written comments must be mailed to the address below and postmarked no later than April 4, 2005.

The meeting site is accessible and includes handicapped parking. Persons with disabilities who require additional accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the State Boundary Commission Office at 517-335-3439 at least seven business days in advance. In order to enhance accessibility for everyone, individuals attending the meeting are requested to refrain from wearing heavily scented personal care products.

After considering the record, the Commission may approve the petition as filed, deny the petition, or approve the petition with boundary adjustments.

# Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.

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92 cents of every dollar received goes right back out to aid local families in need.

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WED., THURS., FRI.: NOON - 6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

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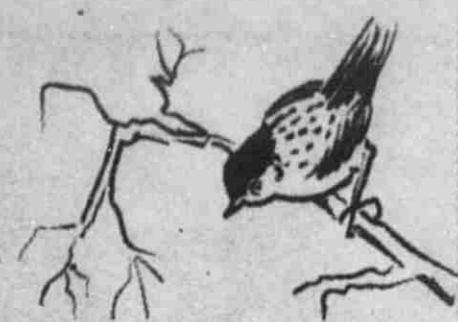
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## Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



### A NEW SEASON

Deep snow and brutal cold temperatures this winter kept many of us by the fireside. Our desire to get out and about has not been overlooked by the promoters of a variety of shows that focus on warm weather activities. These shows appeal to people with such varied interests as home building and remodeling, cars, boats and golf.

A show that will definitely draw the interest of hunters is coming to Grand Rapids in February. The Huntin' Time Expo West will be held at the Delta Plex Feb. 18-20. The show features lots of hunting equipment, clothing, new products and free educational seminars among other attractions. Guides and Outfitters from around the world will be on hand to answer questions and to book hunts for hunters who are seeking that hunt of a lifetime. This show gets bigger every year. Even though we may have seen most of it before, those of us who are serious hunters will probably be there. There is always something new to see and learn.

The Sport, Fishing and RV Show is coming again to the DeVos Place March 17-20. This show has been an

annual event in Grand Rapids for many years and includes tackle vendors, outfitters, displays of fishing boats and recreational vehicles. A lineup of seminars presented by popular outdoor personalities will provide valuable information on a variety of outdoor topics. A stage show, as well as wildlife art and a great taxidermy display, is part of the program. People that camp, hunt, fish, travel or are even thinking about getting involved should find this show helpful. Shoppers can compare products and even make purchases. It is always fun and interesting to check out new stuff and talk with folks with similar interests.

Both of these shows draw large crowds and are always fun and interesting to attend. The best part is getting out and looking forward to a new season.



## Alto Cub Scouts tour the LPD

The Alto Cub Scout Troop #3180 Bear Den toured the Lowell Police Department on Feb. 2. They learned about crime prevention, what to do if they see something suspicious, and how to make note of a suspect's physical appearance to describe him/her later.

The scouts also took an in-depth tour of the facility and of a squad car and its equipment. At the end of the tour, they even got to see the police respond to an emergency call for a traffic accident! The scouts appreciate the great tour by Officer Cal Kamphuis.

## Communities benefit from Silent Observer's Fast 50 Program

Silent Observer had another successful year in 2004. Crime-solving tips led to the solution of 107 serious crimes which is an 84 percent increase over last year, and \$12,225 in reward monies was authorized. Many of the crimes would

have gone unsolved if Silent Observer had not been available. Silent Observer's Fast 50 Program, a program for middle and high school students, also had a stellar year. The program allows students to report instances of drugs, weapons, vandalism, major theft, arson and threats to the regular Silent Observer tip-line. With 56 schools in Kent County participating, Fast 50 tips led administrators to 95 students involved in a variety of offenses, from confiscating weapons to reprimanding for drugs brought to school.

Silent Observer was established in 1972 by the Grand Rapids Police Department and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce. The tip line, 774-2345, is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The program benefits the entire community, and community members from all over Kent County use Silent Observer to report crimes ranging from homicide to narcotics and persons with outstanding warrants.



In The Ledger

WE ACCEPT



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I'd like to hear your views about how best to represent our community on this board. I invite you to send them and any related questions or comments to my e-mail address [Sters1@aol.com](mailto:Sters1@aol.com). I'll respond as quickly and completely as possible. Meanwhile, I'm working to arrange a schedule of discussion groups for those interested, to occur at various times as the election (May 3, 2005) draws near. I'll keep you posted.

Let me have your vote. You'll be glad you did.

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT STERLING D. MASSEY, 3221 BEWELL AVE., LOWELL

Good for the body is the work of the body, good for the soul is the work of the soul, and good for either the work of the other.

- Henry David Thoreau

Hello,  
My name is Sterling D. Massey  
I'd like to represent you on the Lowell School Board.

I've secured this ad to provide a brief summary of my related experiences and training for your review and consideration as you cast your vote.



#### Personal History:

- Lowell Township resident since 1995.
- 3 children who attend elementary school in the Lowell District
- Married to a Grand Rapids Public School Teacher
- Participated with various Lowell Schools committees and work groups during the past 4 years

#### Education:

- Master's of Arts Degree in Marriage, Family and Child Therapy
- Bachelor's of Social Work, with Child Welfare concentration

#### Professional Experience

- 23 years in as a Social Worker, 14 of which are in Child Welfare
- 8 years as Director at a nonprofit behavioral health firm
- 3 years as adjunct instructor at a local University—Behavioral Sciences

#### Platform

Providing the best education for Lowell's children necessitates:

1. Effective communication
2. Substantial input from all vested parties
3. Good will
4. The Commitment to objectively view all sides of every issue.
5. The understanding that IT STARTS WITH US ALL.

## SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD January 17, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the December 20, 2004 Regular Meeting and January 5, 2005 Special Meeting were approved. The meeting agenda and a list of invoices were also approved.

#### Motions approved:

- Motion to approve Kent County Road Commission work order for 2005 minor road projects in the amount of \$40,150.00
- Motion to adopt Resolution 2-2005 regarding the purchase of new voting equipment
- Motion to adopt Resolution 3-2005 authorizing an alternative starting date for March Board of Review
- Motion to adopt Resolution 4-2005 authorizing the Clerk to administer School Elections
- Motions to approve Community Development Grant Fund allocations of \$3,000 each for Rockford Ambulance and North Kent Transit
- Motion to amend the Escrow Deposit Policy to raise minimum deposit from \$500 to \$1000
- Motion to approve Comcast Franchise Agreement

Complete minutes are available on the township web site at [www.vergennestwp.org](http://www.vergennestwp.org), or at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

The next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Vergennes Township Board is February 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township Hall located at the corner of Parnell Road and Bailey Drive.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

## Challenges upset Lowell gymnasts before Monday night's comeback

By Dan Schneider

Lowell gymnasts faced tough competition from two strong teams last week at home.

The Red Arrows fell to Forest Hills by a score of 136.325 to 126.4 last Tuesday night.

"They did very, very good," Lowell coach

Michele DeHaan said. "A couple girls really shined tonight who haven't been in the spotlight before so that was really good to see."

That included freshman Rochelle Bieri who had only one fall on beam, scoring 7.45 with the routine.

"To cut it down to one fall was really tremendous for her," DeHaan said.

Senior Amanda Rau performed her beam routine without a fall.

"This was the first meet for her in high school that she's ever stuck a beam routine," DeHaan said. "For her, to not fall at all, that's a great job."

Lowell's top scorers on vault were Rau (8.5) Jenna Dickerman (8.2), Rebecca Underwood (8.0) and Kelli Kowalski (7.9).

Dickerman had the top score on bars with 8.05. That was after injuring her foot on her second vault attempt. She later sat out the beam and floor events. Rau scored 7.6 on bars followed by Underwood (7.55) and Leannah Seese (7.05).

Underwood had Lowell's top score on beam with 8.35 followed by Rau (8.05), Kowalski (7.55) and Bieri (7.45).

On floor, Lowell's top scorers were Rau (8.7), Seese (8.0), Kowalski (7.9) and Alicia Weeber (7.55).

The Red Arrows hosted the Kenowa Hills Knights and lost 137.85 to 131.075.

Lowell's top scores on vault were 8.65 by Rau, 8.6 by Dickerman, and 7.95 by Kowalski and Underwood.

Top scores on bars by Lowell were made by Rau (7.25), Dickerman (8.15), Underwood (7.7) and Seese (7.5).

Lowell's top scorers on beam were Underwood (8.55), Dickerman (8.5), Kowalski (8.05) and Weeber (7.55).

On floor, Lowell's top scorers were Rau (8.875), Dickerman (8.85), Kowalski (8.05) and Weeber (7.9).

On Monday, Lowell competed against Ludington, defeating the Orioles 130.625 to 106.75.

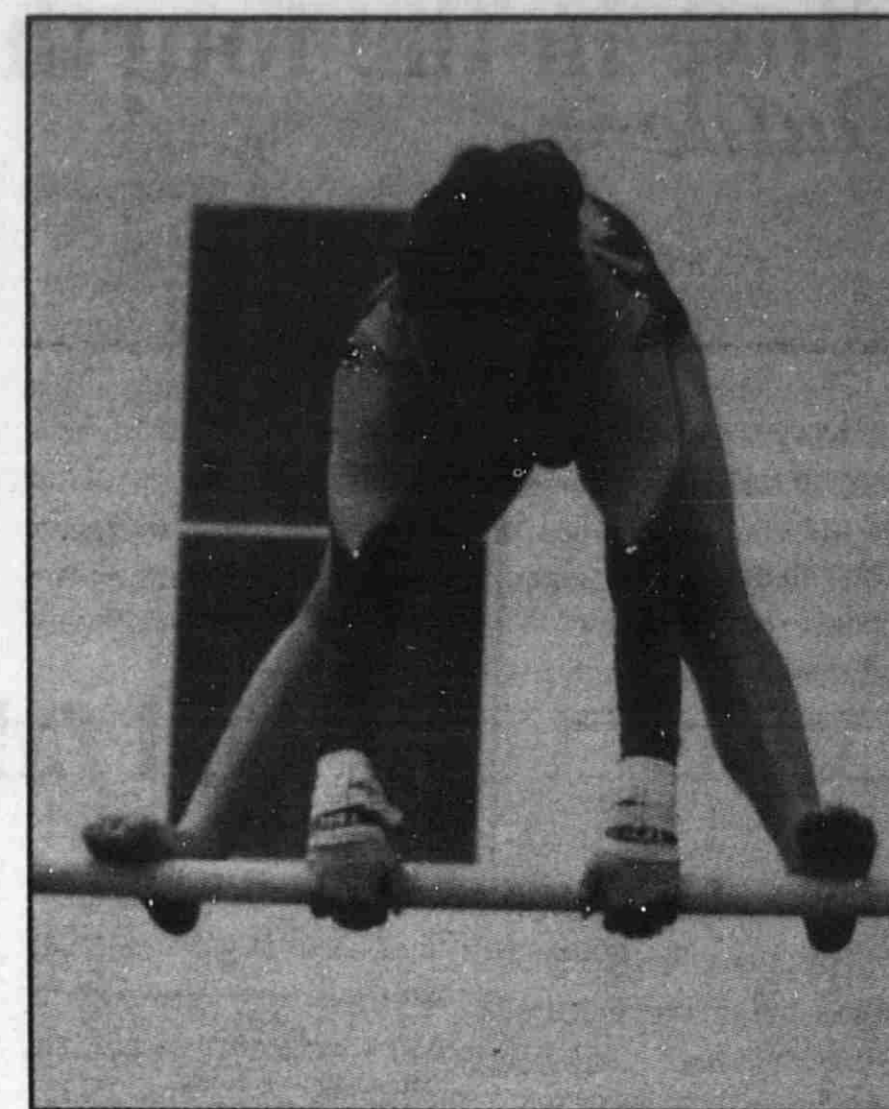
Rau had Lowell's highest score on vault with an 8.7 followed by Dickerman (8.65), Underwood (8.2) and Kowalski (8.1).

Top scorers on bars were Dickerman (8.55), Rau (8.25), Underwood (7.5) and Seese (7.5).

Lowell's top scorers on beam were Rau (8.6), Underwood (8.0), Dickerman (7.3) and Kowalski (6.9).

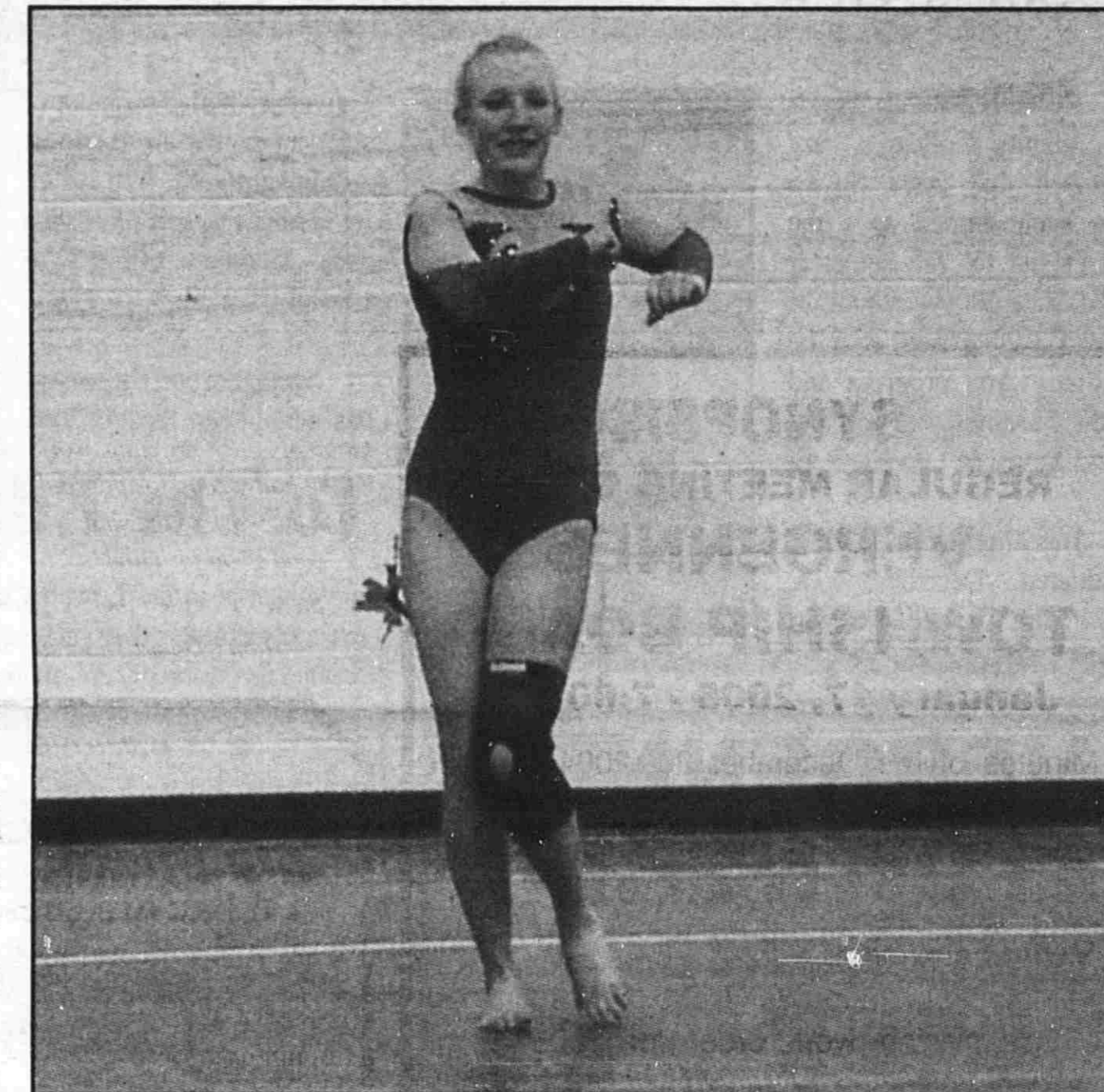
On floor, Rau and Dickerman had Lowell's top score of 8.85 followed by Underwood (8.525) and Seese (8.15).

Lowell hosts Mona

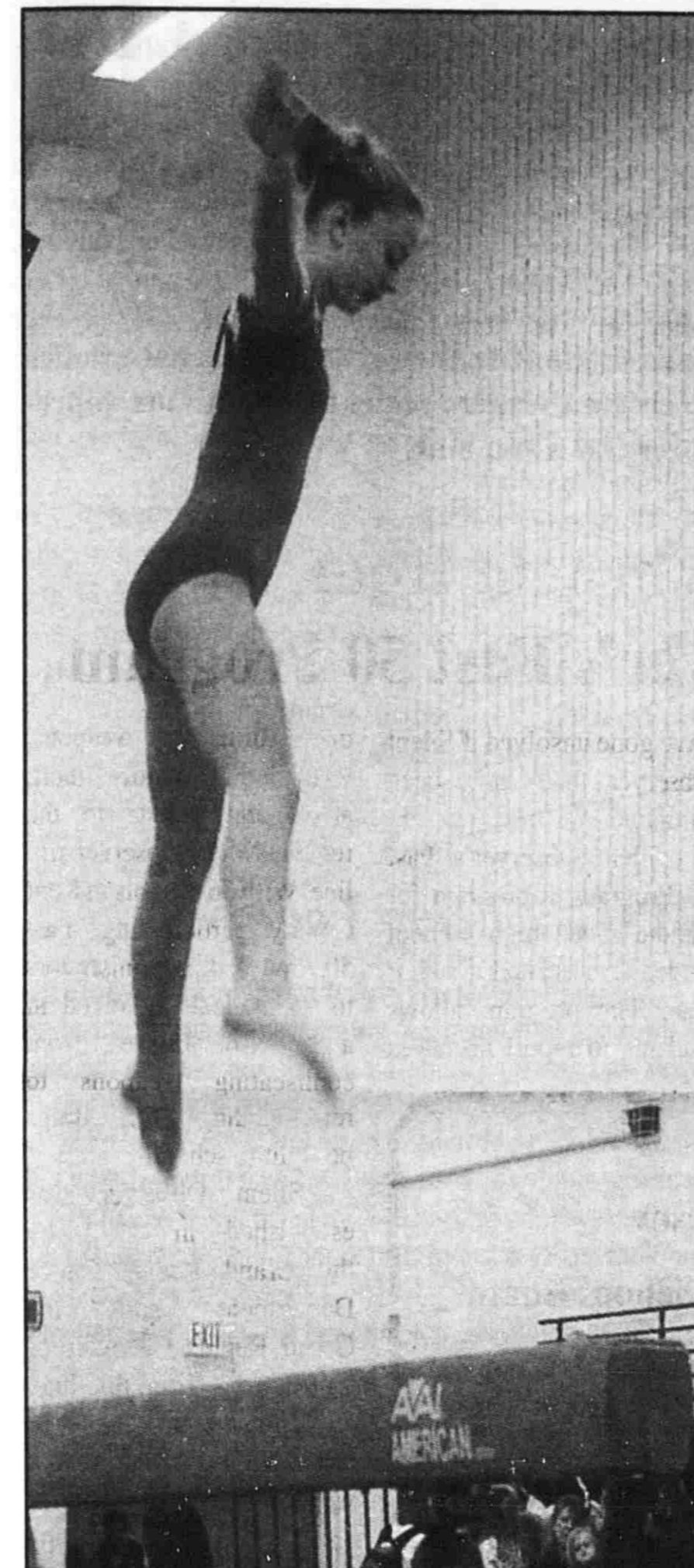


Rebecca Underwood on bars against Forest Hills.

Shores tonight at 7 p.m. conference meet Saturday at and will compete in the Rockford.



Lowell's Leannah Seese mid-floor exercise last week against Forest Hills.



Lowell's Rochelle Bieri performs her beam routine at the Feb. 2 meet against Holland.

# A CROWN

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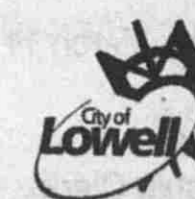
TEL. 897-4835 • 147 North Center Street • Lowell

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, February 28, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- To rezone parcels #41-20-02-342-001 (424 Chatham) from R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) and #41-20-02-342-002 (119 Lincoln Lake) from PF (Public Facility) to C-1 (Neighborhood Business).

Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk  
616-897-8457

# Close in the fourth but Arrows can't stop the Wildcats

*By Dan Schneider*

Again it came down to the final minutes in Lowell's 57-49 loss at Northview. The game was tied at 47 with two minutes to go. "We had some untimely turnovers and they scored a bucket and then we started fouling," said Lowell coach Jeff McDonald. "We can't put the nail in the coffin."

Turnovers have plagued the Red Arrows many times this season. At Northview, Lowell turned the ball over 23 times while Northview only lost it 12 times. Of course, it also didn't help that Northview's leading scorer Spencer Olsen hit six consecutive free throws in the last two minutes of the game. He was a perfect eight of eight from the line that night and scored 19 total points for the Wildcats.

Lowell led 14-10 after one quarter of play and was up 25-22 at halftime. Northview had a 39-35 advantage after the third quarter, but Lowell fought back to take the lead with 2:30 left to play in the game.

"Once again we played a good team, we were on the road, it was a crazy atmosphere," McDonald said. "We feel like we can play anybody, we just haven't been able to finish."

Mike Koster led Lowell in scoring with 19. Brad Shea had 10 points, Josh Hettinga followed with seven.

Lowell is 6-10 overall this season and 4-7 in the league. The Red Arrows hosted Greenville Tuesday night and travel to Unity Christian on Friday.

# Lowell volleyball falls in tough match with Unity Christian

*By Dan Schneider*

The Lowell volleyball team ended up on the losing side of another marathon match last Thursday at Unity Christian.

The Red Arrows lost in five games. Lowell won 25-22 in the first game but was hampered by slow starts thereafter, losing games two and three 25-22 and 25-17, respectively. The Arrows came back from a 14-point deficit to lose game two by only three points.

"We started slow each game," said Lowell coach Gigi Peal. "We were always just digging back and digging back."

Lowell won game four 25-19. But another slow start doomed them in game five, where the Arrows lost 15-7.

"It was a tough one," Peal said of the match in general. "We played really well, they played just a little bit better."

Two of Unity Christian's servers gave Lowell trouble they weren't accustomed to having this season.

For Lowell, it was the third OK White match that went to five games this season. Lowell beat East Grand Rapids in a five-game match and lost at Kenowa Hills in five games.

"Five-game matches are the trend in our conference this year," Peal said. "There are four or five closely matched teams."

Lowell's Kristin Johnson had the most kills on the night with 18. Taylor Verdon had 36 assists and three aces.

Lowell hosts the OK White conference tournament this Saturday. It starts at 9 a.m. With the third seed, Lowell will first be matched up against Northview, who beat the Red Arrows in three close matches Jan. 27.

"That was an unfortunate turning point in our season and I know the girls are excited to play that match again," Peal said.

## College News

Recently Grand Rapids Community College announced that Sara Soyka has been named to the dean's list for fall semester 2004. The 2001 graduate of Lowell High School is in the Culinary Arts program and is the daughter of Mark and Vicki Soyka of Lowell.



Jonathon Frank Milley

Jonathon Frank Milley graduated December 18, 2004 from Central Michigan

University with a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration.

He is the son of Joshua and Dianne Milley of Lowell.

Spring Arbor University has announced its fall 2004 dean's list. To qualify, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester.

From Lowell is Kathleen Sullivan, a freshman and daughter of Cheryl Pratt.

## To The Editor, continued... From Page 5

The question to the Lowell City Management! With all the extra tax dollars they receive, why can't they provide this service to the taxpayers, then the police dept., etc., can go about their duties and arresting the real criminals.

Wayne Kingdom (now an OKIE)

To the Editor, I'm grateful you provide this space. I had considered buying a page for my lengthy letter last week about our utilities' development on N. Washington. I understand your need to edit but some of those missing points still seem important to us.

Thanks again, Gary Dietzel

Dear Editor, Even though we have only lived in Vergennes Township for a short time, we could see immediately what a special place it is. Residents seem to love and value the rural character of the area, and I've noticed that many children of older residents never move away. They make their own homes here. Development will certainly happen, but I wonder in what way a high density development squeezed into the bend of a trout creek will make this a better place for our children and grandchildren?

Marianne Menger

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on **TUESDAY, February 22, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.** at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- An ordinance to amend Sections 11.5-3 and 11.5-5 of Chapter 11.5, "Historic District," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall and at the Englehardt Public Library during scheduled hours Monday through Saturday.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk (616) 897-8457

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

### ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL AND TOWNSHIP WATER CUSTOMERS

The City of Lowell Water Treatment Filtration Plant will not be softening nor fluoridating the water from January 12 through February 28, 2005 due to work being done on the clarifier.

Any questions, please contact the Water Treatment Filtration Plant at 897-5234.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

# Lowell bowling boys and girls roll over the competition

*By Dan Schneider*

Both Lowell bowling teams beat East Grand Rapids Monday night at Lowell Lanes.

The boys won their match 29-1. Anthony Everitt rolled the high game of the night with a 196 in game one.

The girls won 21-9. Cassie Bodus rolled the high game of the night with a 164 in game one.

Lowell traveled to Hudsonville for the Hudsonville Invitational Saturday. The girls' team finished eighth with a total pin score of 2672. Hudsonville claimed first place with 3210. The boys finished 10th with a total pin score of 3486. Host Hudsonville took first place in the boys' division, too, with a total pin score of 4263.

Both teams struggled last Wednesday at Unity Christian. The girls lost 22-8 while the boys lost 28-2.

"We missed a lot of spares in that game," said Lowell boys coach Rocky Eickhoff.

Both Lowell bowling teams beat Kenowa Hills last Monday, Feb. 7.

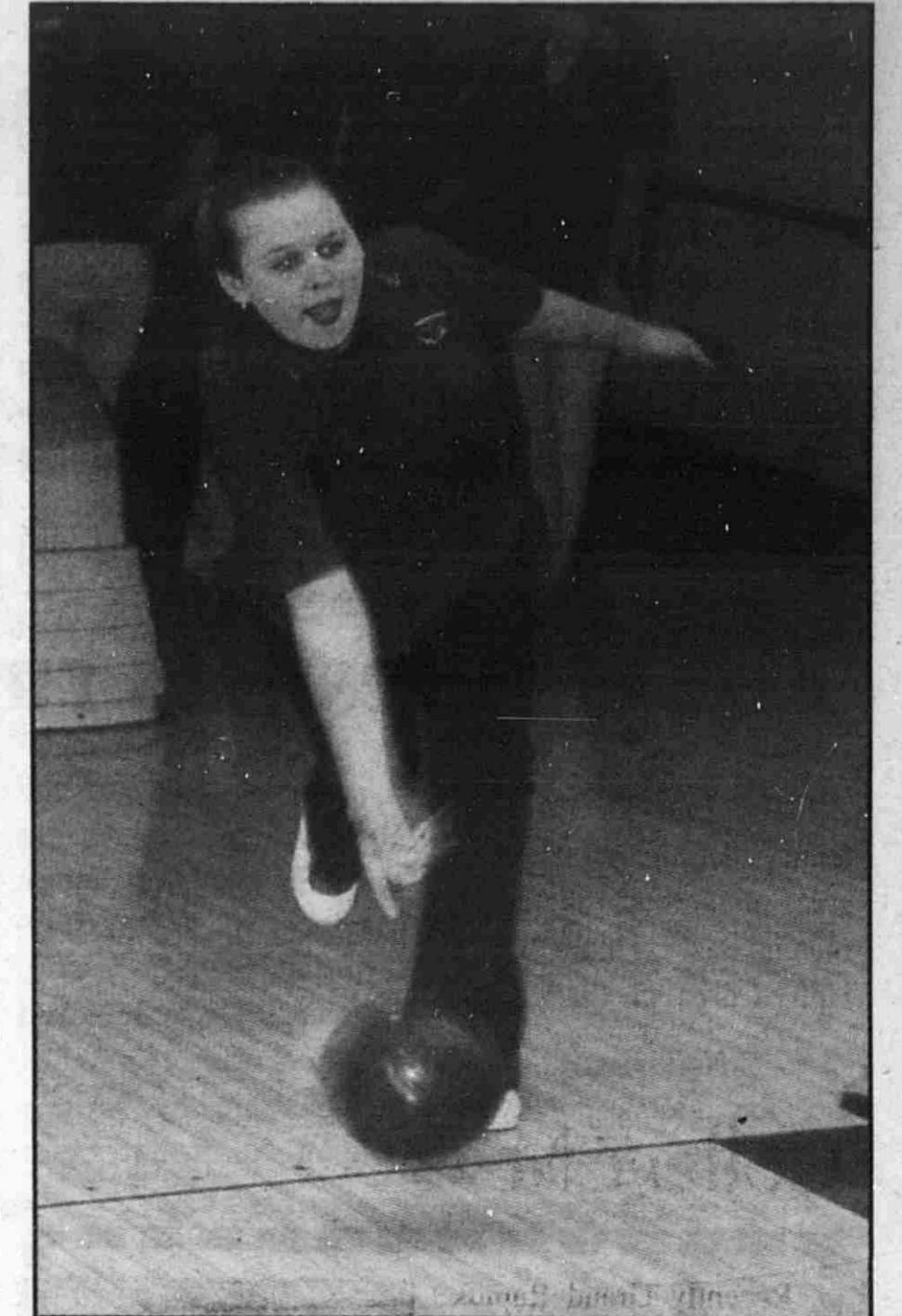
The girls won their match 19-11.

Ashley Nawrocki rolled the high game for Lowell with a 191 in game two. Erin Soules rolled 145 and 139.

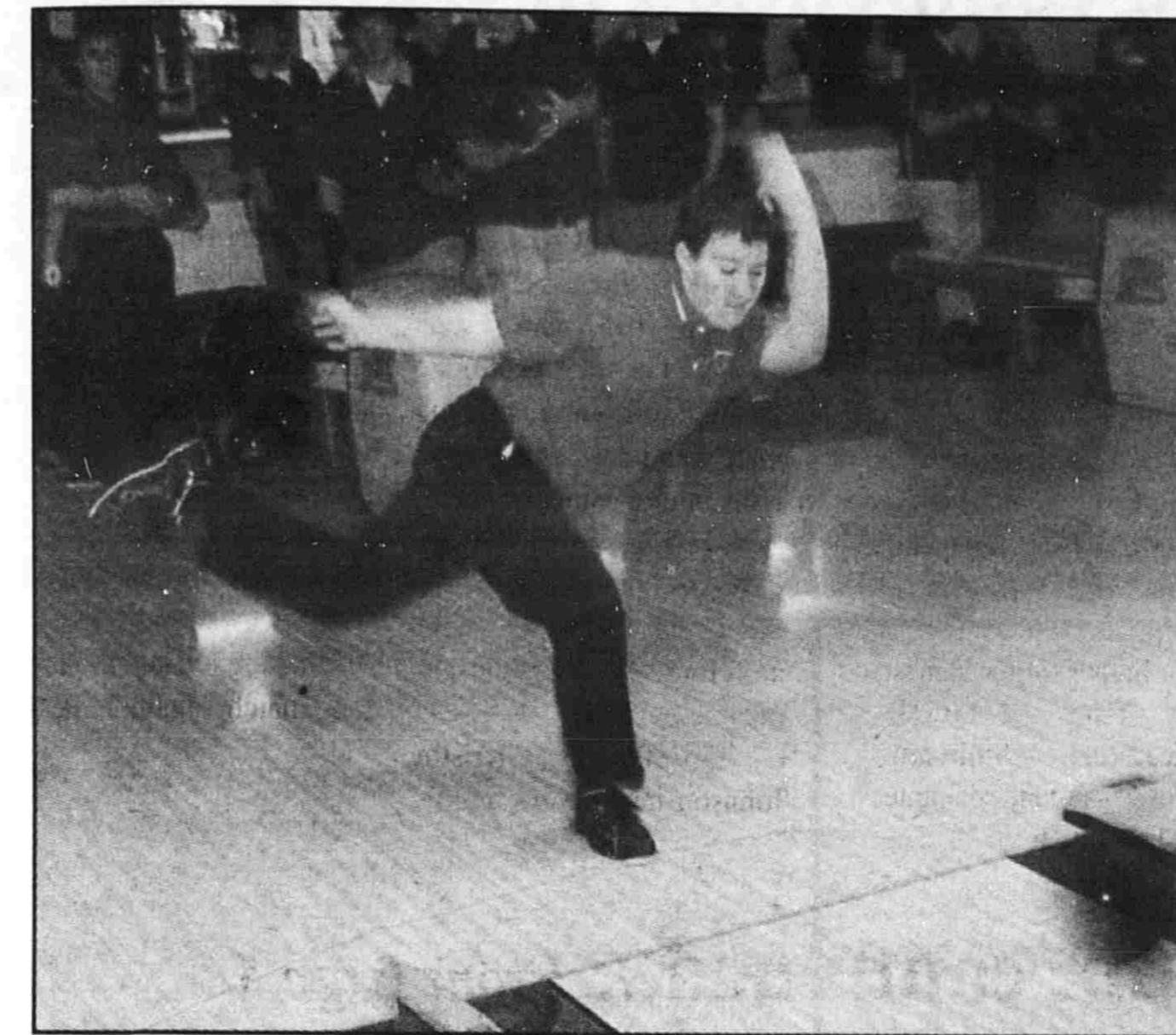
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Lowell's Anthony Everitt rolls during warm-ups for Monday's match against East Grand Rapids. Everitt had the high score of the night with a 196.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2005 Between the hours of 11 a.m. and 12 noon

To receive the assessment roll And TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2005 Between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon

From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll and Hearing all claims Additional Hearings will be scheduled For 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. if required.

You may appeal your assessed valuation in person or by letter addressed to The Board of Review, 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809

Written appeals must be received by March 4, 2005

Those wishing to appeal in person should call the Township office at 691-8450 before March 15, 2005 to prearrange an appointment.

	Tentative Ratio	Tentative Multiplier
Agriculture	50.00	1.0000
Commercial	50.00	1.0000
Residential	50.00	1.0000

Tentative Equalization Factor Is 1.000000  
James Marfia Assessor, Grattan Twp.  
Frank Force Supervisor, Grattan Twp.

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## THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU

We would like to THANK the COMMUNITY along with AREA BUSINESSES for their GENEROSITY. Because of you, the benefit that was held for Anna Organek on January 28 was a great success - raising over \$10,000 to help pay for Anna's medical expenses. If it weren't for the MEN OF THE LOWELL MOOSE - this benefit would have never happened. Therefore THANK YOU will never be enough!

- |                            |                       |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
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| Brann's Steakhouse         | Lake Tire             | Cousins Hallmark      |
| Brenda's Hair Designs      | Lighting Corner       | Pep Talk              |
| Cannonsburg Wood           | Lowell High School    | JCS Appraisals        |
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| Champion Fitness           | Plainfield Lumber     | Austin Mortgage       |
| City Looks Hair Salon      | Quail Ridge Golf      | Michigan Title        |
| Cottage Bar                | Showboat Auto         |                       |
| Deer Run Golf Course       | eja Salon             |                       |
| Discount Tire              |                       |                       |

Sincerely Anna Organek & Family



# Close in the fourth but Arrows can't stop the Wildcats

By Dan Schneider

Again it came down to the final minutes in Lowell's 57-49 loss at Northview. The game was tied at 47 with two minutes to go. "We had some untimely turnovers and they scored a bucket and then we started fouling," said Lowell coach Jeff McDonald. "We can't put the nail in the coffin."

Turnovers have plagued the Red Arrows many times this season. At Northview, Lowell turned the ball over 23 times while Northview only lost it 12 times. Of course, it also didn't help that Northview's leading scorer Spencer Olsen hit six consecutive free throws in the last two minutes of the game. He was a perfect eight of eight from the line that night and scored 19 total points for the Wildcats.

Lowell led 14-10 after one quarter of play and was up 25-22 at halftime. Northview had a 39-35 advantage after the third quarter, but Lowell fought back to take the lead with 2:30 left to play in the game. "Once again we played a good team, we were on the road, it was a crazy atmosphere," McDonald said. "We feel like we can play anybody, we just haven't been able to finish."

# Lowell volleyball falls in tough match with Unity Christian

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell volleyball team ended up on the losing side of another marathon match last Thursday at Unity Christian. The Red Arrows lost in five games. Lowell won 25-22 in the first game but was hampered by slow starts thereafter, losing games two and three 25-22 and 25-17, respectively. The Arrows came back from a 14-point deficit to lose game two by only three points.

"We started slow each game," said Lowell coach Gigi Peal. "We were always just digging back and digging back." Lowell won game four 25-19. But another slow start doomed them in game five, where the Arrows lost 15-7. "It was a tough one," Peal said of the match in general. "We played really well, they played just a little bit better."

Two of Unity Christian's servers gave Lowell trouble they weren't accustomed to having this season. For Lowell, it was the third OK White match that went to five games this season. Lowell beat East Grand Rapids in a five-game match and lost at Kenowa Hills in five games. "Five-game matches are the trend in our conference this year," Peal said. "There are four or five closely matched teams."

# College News

Recently Grand Rapids Community College announced that Sara Soyka has been named to the dean's list for fall semester 2004. The 2001 graduate of Lowell High School is in the Culinary Arts program and is the daughter of Mark and Vicki Soyka of Lowell.



Jonathon Frank Milley

Jonathon Frank Milley graduated December 18, 2004 from Central Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration.

He is the son of Joshua and Dianne Milley of Lowell. From Lowell is Kathleen Sullivan, a freshman and daughter of Cheryl Pratt. Spring Arbor University has announced its fall 2004 dean's list. To qualify, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester.

That was an unfortunate turning point in our season and I know the girls are excited to play that match again," Peal said. Lowell's Kristin Johnson had the most kills on the night with 18. Taylor Verdon had 36 assists and three aces. Lowell hosts the OK White conference tournament this Saturday. It starts at 9 a.m. With the third seed, Lowell will first be matched up against Northview, who beat the Red Arrows in three close matches Jan. 27.

# To The Editor, continued... From Page 5

the question to the Lowell City Management! With all the extra tax dollars they receive, why can't they provide this service to the taxpayers, then the police dept., etc., can go about their duties and arresting the real criminals.

The utilities' plan will probably require a couple of acres of the pines, buildings, larger driveways, water, septic, more lights and fencing. Being on a dead end road on the edge of its service area, it is a two-mile round trip to be on Main Street. This is a substantial waste of time and fuel. And the nearness of it to the river, the Boy Scout Cabin, sliding hill, and the state land praised by Calvin College's recent survey for biodiversity is a detriment to the future enjoyment of this accessible area.

To the Editor,

I'm grateful you provide this space. I had considered buying a page for my lengthy letter last week about our utilities' development on N. Washington. I understand your need to edit but some of those missing points still seem important to us.

These points are not minor. They should be part of a large public discussion.

Thanks again, Gary Dietzel

# CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on **TUESDAY, February 22, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.** at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- An ordinance to amend Sections 11.5-3 and 11.5-5 of Chapter 11.5, "Historic District," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall and at the Englehardt Public Library during scheduled hours Monday through Saturday.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk (616) 897-8457

Dear Editor, Even though we have only lived in Vergennes Township for a short time, we could see immediately what a special place it is. Residents seem to love and value the rural character of the area, and I've noticed that many children of older residents never move away. They make their own homes here. Development will certainly happen, but I wonder in what way a high density development squeezed into the bend of a trout creek will make this a better place for our children and grandchildren?

Marianne Menger

# CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

**ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL AND TOWNSHIP WATER CUSTOMERS**  
The City of Lowell Water Treatment Filtration Plant will not be softening nor fluoridating the water from January 12 through February 28, 2005 due to work being done on the clarifier.

Any questions, please contact the Water Treatment Filtration Plant at 897-5234.

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

# Lowell bowling boys and girls roll over the competition

By Dan Schneider

Both Lowell bowling teams beat East Grand Rapids Monday night at Lowell Lanes. The boys won their match 29-1. Anthony Everitt rolled the high game of the night with a 196 in game one.

The girls won 21-9. Cassie Bodus rolled the high game of the night with a 164 in game one. Lowell traveled to Hudsonville for the Hudsonville Invitational Saturday. The girls' team finished eighth with a total pin score of 2672. Hudsonville claimed first place with 3210. The boys finished 10th with a total pin score of 3486. Host Hudsonville took first place in the boys' division, too, with a total pin score of 4263.

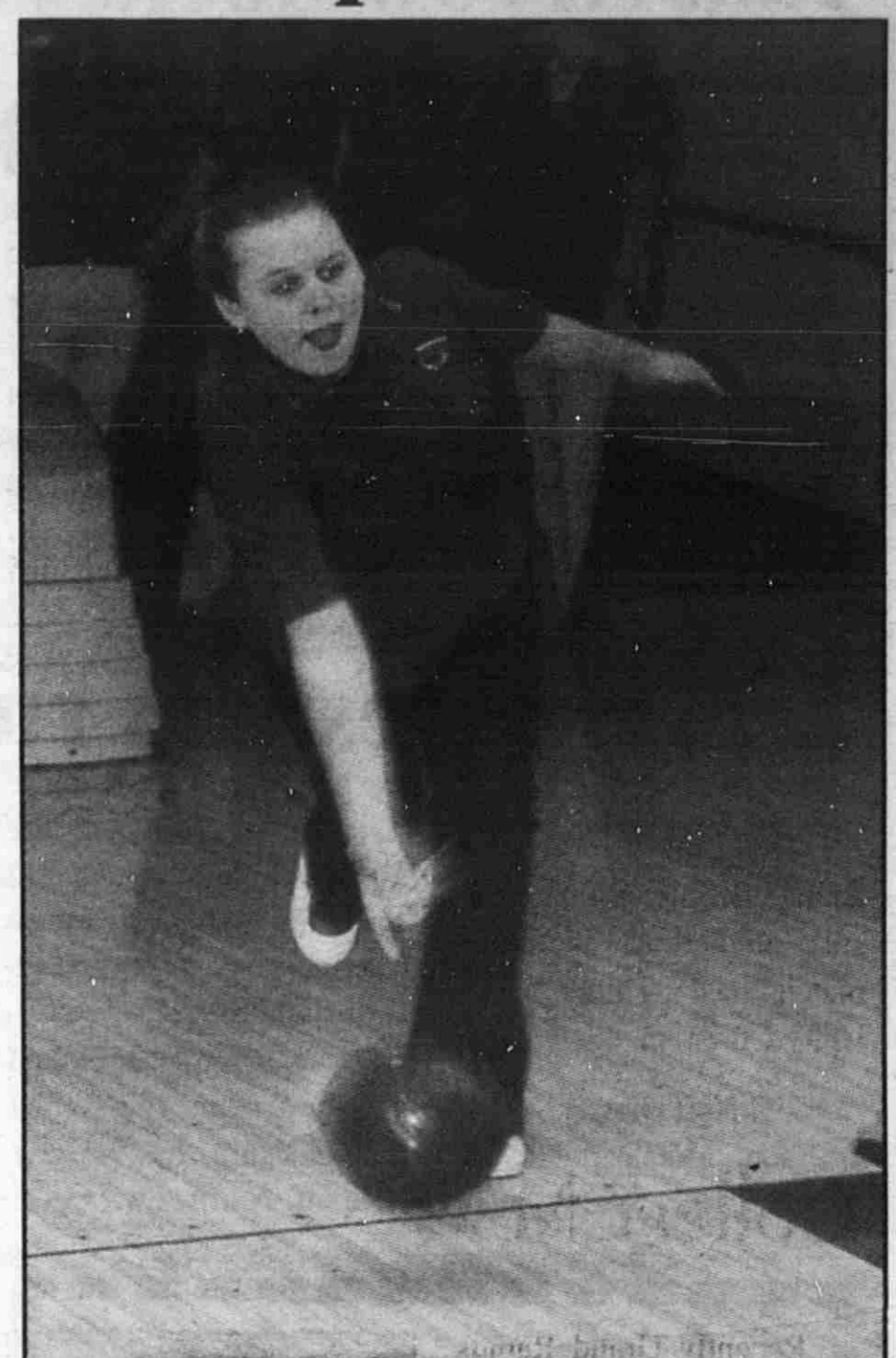
Both teams struggled last Wednesday at Unity Christian. The girls lost 22-8 while the boys lost 28-2. "We missed a lot of spares in that game," said Lowell boys coach Rocky Eickhoff.

Both Lowell bowling teams beat Kenowa Hills last Monday, Feb. 7. The girls won their match 19-11. Ashley Nawrocki rolled the high game for Lowell with a 191 in game two. Erin Soules rolled 145 and 139.

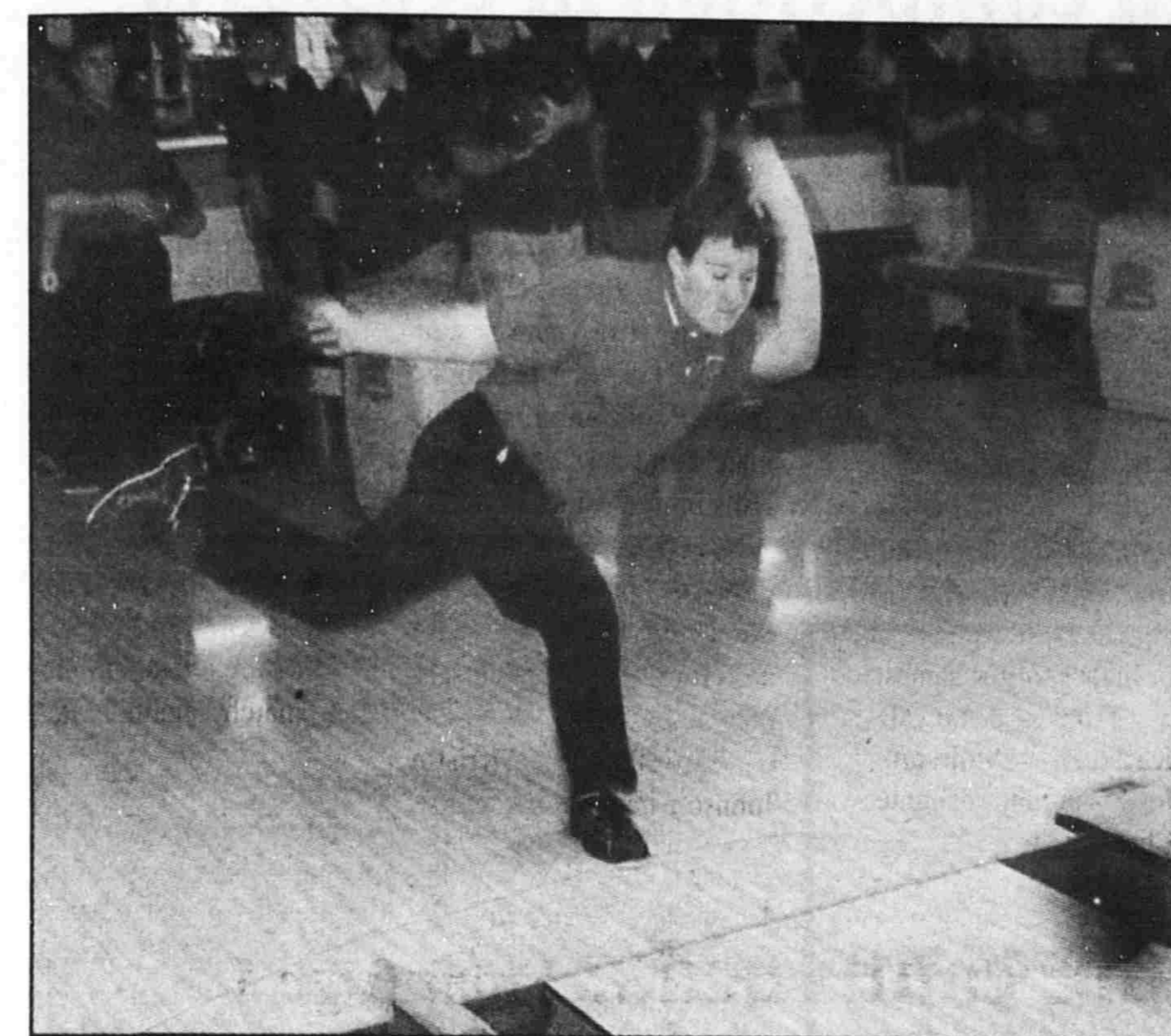
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# THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU

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If it weren't for the MEN OF THE LOWELL MOOSE-this benefit would have never happened. Therefore THANK YOU will never be enough!

### Area Sponsors Were:

- Lowell Moose
- Advantage Asphalt
- AIS Equipment
- Applebee's
- Arrowhead Golf Course
- Black & White Store
- Box Office Hits
- Brann's Steakhouse
- Brenda's Hair Designs
- Cannonsburg Wood
- Carleton Equipment Co.
- Celebration Cinema
- Champion Fitness
- City Looks Hair Salon
- Cottage Bar
- Deer Run Golf Course
- Discount Tire
- Durkee Lumber
- Executive Maintenance
- Fuze
- FCC Construction
- Grand Rapids Gravel
- I-96 Speedway
- J. McClure Auto Body
- Gary's Country Meats
- Lake Tire
- Lighting Corner
- Lowell High School
- Monsma Marketing
- One Trick Pony
- Plainfield Lumber
- Quail Ridge Golf
- Showboat Auto
- eja Salon
- Terra Verd'e
- Thomet Chevrolet
- United Rental
- Universal Brick
- VanGuard Fire Supply
- Village Motor Sports
- West Michigan Tree
- Wittenbach
- Cousins Hallmark
- Pep Talk
- JCS Appraisals
- Five Star Real Estate
- Centennial Mortgage
- Austin Mortgage
- Michigan Title

Sincerely Anna Organek & Family

YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU

THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU

# Red Arrow hockey rebounds against Hudsonville, 5-1

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell-Caledonia hockey team traveled to Hudsonville last Friday where they won 5-1 against the Eagles.

Lowell-Caledonia was first on the scoreboard, scoring 3:18 into the first period with Ted McCoy assisting Cory Kelly on the goal. Hudsonville scored late in the first period to tie the game. The score remained tied throughout the second period. Then McCoy scored a goal with an assist by Pat McMahon and Steve Napper just 22 seconds into the third.

"After we scored, that

caused them to open up their game and we scored a flurry of goals in the third period," said Lowell-Caledonia coach Mike Ballard.

McCoy scored another goal from an assist by Kelly and Jay Ryan, then completed the hat trick late in the period on an assist from Kelly.

Tim Kelly scored the final goal for L-C on an assist from Justin Ellegast and Ken Hayes. L-C had 16 shots on goal in the third period after having 15 shots on goal in the first two periods.

"They played well," Ballard said. "I'm trying to use some of the younger players a bit earlier in games to get an idea of next year."

The win was a rebound for Lowell-Caledonia after an 8-2 loss to Grand Rapids Catholic Central Monday, Feb. 7. On Feb. 3, L-C shut out South Christian 6-0.

L-C has two home games this week. The first is Friday against Grand Haven. A win in that game will put Lowell-Caledonia in second place in tier 3 of the OK league. Saturday's game is against Forest Hills Northern. Both games will be played at 9 p.m. at the Standard Federal Ice Arena.

# Lowell wrestlers run into tough competition in crossover

By Dan Schneider

Lowell placed four wrestlers in championship matches at Saturday's OK White conference tournament at Northview.

Joe Mendez defeated Sparta's Rob Yahmarkt 6-

3 in the 135 weight final to claim his fourth conference championship in four years at Lowell.

Ray Seese was pinned :33 into the 103-weight championship by Navarre Hale of Northview. Cedar Springs' Micah Carter pinned Lowell's Rob Karasiewicz in 1:01 in the 119 match. Lowell's Matt Francisco lost a 9-6 decision to Northview's David Duhan in the 171 championship match.

"Individually, we had some strong performances," Lowell coach Dave Stre-

jc said. "Overall, I just got the sense that the boys just didn't go there to do business."

Lowell finished fifth in conference with a team score of 125.5 behind OK White champions' Sparta (215), Greenville (188), Northview (155) and Cedar Springs (152). Some Lowell wrestlers were still overcoming the flu, but Strejc said the team will need to step it up as they enter district competition this week.

"If this is where we are going to stay with our intensity, it's just not going to happen," Strejc said. "They're just going to have to get that old-fashioned work ethic out, put their nose to the grindstone and wrestle like they want to be there."

The Lowell wrestling team traveled to Middleville last Wednesday for a crossover match with the first- and second-place teams in the OK Gold conference. They had a rough time of it there.

Lowell was wrestling without Rob Karasiewicz at 119, and a number of Red Arrow wrestlers were wrestling through flu as Lowell fell to Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg 43-33 and Hastings 46-20.

"We wrestled well against Middleville and they were kind of facing the same stuff with some kids out with the flu," said Strejc. "And when we went up against Hastings, we just hit a brick wall. We just couldn't get it together. We had sever-

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**BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW**

The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE on

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2005 11:00 A.M. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2005**  
9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON  
1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.  
6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.  
(EVENING HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005**  
9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

For the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims. You may appeal your assessed valuation one of (2) ways: By letter addressed to the Bowne Township Supervisor and received by him prior to March 7, 2005, or by appearing in person on one of the dates the Board of Review meets.

The tentative real property assessment ratios and assessment Multipliers are:

Agricultural Ratio	47.04	Multiplier	1.0629
Commercial Ratio	41.46	Multiplier	1.2177
Industrial Ratio	49.25	Multiplier	1.0152
Residential Ratio	47.86	Multiplier	1.0447

Dennis McKelvey-Assessor  
Christian Wenger-Supervisor  
Bowne Township

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• Daylight basement	• Crown molding
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• Spacious lot	• Open floor plan
• Large Kitchen, pantry	• 1 acre lot, walkout

Location: Clear Meadow Estates; 52nd St, 1 mi east of Whitneyville Rd., Lowell Schools

For more information contact:  
616/262-0424  
woodsbuildershomes.com

**Correction**

The Feb. 9 Lowell Ledger ran a photo titled "Free-throw Champs." The name of one of the winners, Katie Holzhueter, was inadvertently omitted from the picture which recognized Lowell students who participated in the Knights of Columbus Free-throw Championship.

**HELP WANTED**

Auto dealership looking for New Car Clean-Up and Lot Maintenance Man Full-time Position

See Stew at:

**THOMET** 1250 W. Main  
CHEVROLET BUICK Lowell 897-9294

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

# Lowell High School Honor Roll 2nd MARKING PERIOD

- Asterisk After The Name Designates All "A's" Or Ap Equivalent.
- 9TH GRADE**
- Nicholas Abdo  
Nicole Baker  
Tyler Barkacs\*  
Zachary Baum\*  
Travis Bergy\*  
Andrew Bewell  
Rochelle Bieri\*  
Justin Boss  
Eric Bouwhuis  
Frederic Brandt  
Logan Brenk\*  
Chandel Bronkella  
William Bryan  
Breanna Bueche\*  
Alyssa Buikema  
Renee' Buist  
Kelsey Callihan  
Brittany Clark\*  
Kathryn Collins  
Mackenzie Conley  
Andrea Converse\*  
Cody James Dalton  
Andrew Davis\*  
Devin Decator  
Crystal Dietz  
Samantha Dilling\*  
Ethan Drain  
Anthony Dubbink  
Ian Durkee  
Marissa Endres  
Rebecca Finnie\*  
Megan Fitzpatrick\*  
Keri Fosburg  
Andrew Gerig\*  
Alexandra Gibbs  
Leara Glinzak\*  
Cory Hagerman  
Lauren Hanson  
Rebecca Happie  
Alexander Harrington  
Chelsea Harrison\*  
Mikhaila Hart  
Melissa Hawks  
Kenneth Hayes\*  
Anthony Herrera  
Deanna Hewitt\*  
Joshua Hobria  
Jasmine Holliman  
Eric Holmgren\*  
Benjamin Johnson  
Heather Jousma  
Timothy Kalman  
Stephanie Kehoe  
Kimberly Kline\*  
Andrew Kuhn  
Andrea Kulhawik\*  
Drew Kyllonen\*
- Patricia Lawrence  
Gabrielle MacDonald  
Megan Majestic\*  
Katlin Manszewski  
Katelin McElroy\*  
Brett McMahon\*  
Jane McNaughton\*  
Jessica Meyer  
Eric Meyers  
Daniel Mooney  
Ellen Mork  
Sarah Mosher  
Kristin Nagy\*  
Ashley Nawrocki  
Jacob Nawrocki\*  
Lauren Nelson  
Casie Pedley  
Sara Poelstra  
Marie Richardson  
Katie Riddle\*  
Cody Riemersma  
Peter Rissi  
Maranda  
Ruegsegger\*  
Adam Schollaart  
Michael Schumm  
Spencer Sellner  
Kimberly Senneker  
Katherine Slatten  
Alexis Strouse  
Tricia Thuston  
Gabrielle Tremblay  
Ashley VanderHeide  
Mary VanderLaan  
Amy VanEns  
Amber Waldron\*  
Heather Walendzik\*  
Ryan Wenger\*  
Timothy Wernet\*  
Kourtney  
Wittenbach\*  
April Wolf\*  
Andrew Wright  
Marylou Yowaish  
Melissa Zuiderveen\*
- Hannah Gerig\*  
Hollie Gunderson\*  
Shay Hacker\*  
Brandon Hall  
Kassandra Hanrahan  
Charlie Hathaway\*  
Lindsay  
Hoogenboom\*  
Allen Huber  
Lisa Johnson  
Lindsey Jousma  
Karen Judd  
Stephanie Kempker\*  
Tyler Kent  
Michael Kleinpaste  
Christian Koning\*  
Kelli Kowalski  
Samantha Kozlik  
Cody Krueger\*  
Gwynedd Lammus  
Samantha Lancaster  
Anna Lane\*  
Brittany Lyman  
Michael McElroy\*  
Eric Mundt  
Rebecca Myers  
Tasha Nauta  
Michael Nichols  
Bradley Nordman\*  
Andrew Nozal  
Andrew Oesch  
Morgan Olin  
Ryan Padgett  
Sapna Patel  
Lance Perkins  
Cassandra Phillips  
Margaret Pratt  
Culver Redd  
Deborah Reinbold  
Colin Rich  
James Richardson\*  
Samantha Rinke\*  
Adam Rios  
Michael Roth\*  
Kathryn Rottier\*  
Kara Schloop\*  
Taryn Schumacher\*  
Raymond Seese  
Andrew Sejat\*  
Timothy Sinen  
Caitlin Sirowatka\*  
Erin Soules\*  
Zachary Steckler  
Kory Stevens  
Terrah Tawney\*  
Margaret Tichelaar  
Stacey Underwood  
Austin Vandenhout  
Lauren Vandermark  
Amanda Vezino  
Kevin Vuong  
Stephanie Wade\*  
Patrick Walsh
- Jonathan Wenger  
Tiffany Whittington  
Nathan Willemstein\*  
Sara Williamson  
Kristen Wolfe  
Kaylee Yonker  
Megan Zinke
- Laura Maki\*  
Kelly Malling\*  
Seth Mayhew  
Kristen McAlpine\*  
Austin McGregor\*  
Megan Meade  
Samantha Mol\*  
Joshua Morrison  
Elizabeth Mosher  
Amy Mundwiler\*  
Megan Murphy  
Autumn Nethercott\*  
Aric Newsted  
Alison Nugent  
Erin Nugent  
Robert Onan  
Amber Osborne  
Mark Pepper  
Rachel Plotner  
Rebecca Plummer\*  
Kathleen Riley  
Benjamin Ritzema\*  
Nicole Shepard  
Lori Smith  
Ashley Spicer\*  
Blake Spoelman\*  
Krystina Story  
Danielle Sturgis  
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