

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 31

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, June 8, 2005

Lowell's 2005 graduation prevails over threatening weather

By Dan Schneider

As weather threatened to disrupt the 127th annual commencement exercises at Red Arrow Stadium on Sunday, diplomas were handed out in a faster than normal manner to the Lowell seniors.

Class president Rebekah Woods read the names of the graduates while school board members handed out diplomas as they quickly filed on and off the stage.

A brief but heavy downpour forced the event inside at about 2:30 p.m. But the crowds soon overwhelmed the capacity of the main gym, prompting a mass exodus to Red Arrow Stadium where Lowell High School principal Scott Vashaw announced the program would be shortened to avoid impending rain.

"We're going to forego the speeches," Vashaw said when it came time to give his opening remarks.

But the graduating class of 2005 was able to make the traditional procession down the hill and into Red Arrow Stadium. The band played "Pomp and Circumstance." The senior band members also joined the band to play Custer's "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" for their traditional final song.

To move along the ceremony, Vashaw read the names of those students receiving special recognition while the students remained in their seats.

Two seniors were, however, able to give their speeches. Amber Klinge thanked her parents for pushing her to succeed in school and remembered and thanked the friends she made in school. Megan Stubbs summed up where the class has been and where they are going.

"Now we are presented with an opportunity to test the foundations we've been building for the last four years," she told her classmates. "Expand your horizons beyond Lowell and become a person who actually pursues those changes you want to see."

Salutatorian Kevin Eggebeen and valedictorian Abbie Debiak were unable to give their addresses following the presentation of diplomas due to the weather. Their speeches will be video-recorded on the DVD being made of the graduation, as well as air on Lowell Cable Channel 20.

Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller also dispensed with her address to the senior class. The traditional passing of the spade was left out of the program as well.

After the last of the diplomas was distributed, Vashaw presented the graduating class of 2005, and the graduates threw their hats into the cloud-darkened sky.

At right, a graduate's-eye view of the commencement proceedings. Lowell High School principal Scott Vashaw is at the podium.

More graduation day pictures and the class of 2005 on pages 17-28



Howard farm permanently preserved in Vergennes Township

By Dan Schneider

The Howard farm at the corner of Parnell Avenue and Two Mile Road in Vergennes Township has been planted with crops for more than 150 years.

Tim Howard has been

Last week, Howard mowed down a broad swath of the hay off Parnell Avenue. On Friday morning, politicians, people from government and community organizations, some farmers and other interested people showed up and parked on

land to be protected under the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program.

Carla Gregory, assistant state conservationist for field operations with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) spoke about the beginning of that federal organization during the dustbowl days of the 1940s. At that time, farm soil was blowing off the Great Plains

Farmland, cont'd., pg. 10

"The vista you see is the vista it will always be."

-Tim Howard

farming the land for the last 30. His great-great-grandfather took up the land grant for the farm in 1842 when he came over from Ireland.

The land is 106 acres of rolling hills. Currently planted with wheat and hay, it used to grow a lot more-corn, soybeans, sometimes black beans--but Howard, 63, is looking at retirement.

It's good farmland, Marlette and Capac loam. Both soil types are considered prime agricultural soil.

the mowed land. They were there for the dedication of the Howard farm as the first



Kent County Commissioner Jack Horton (from left), U.S. congressman Vern Ehlers, and Carla Gregory of the Natural Resources Conservation Service hand landowner Tim Howard a sign denoting that the Howard farm is being preserved under the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights program.

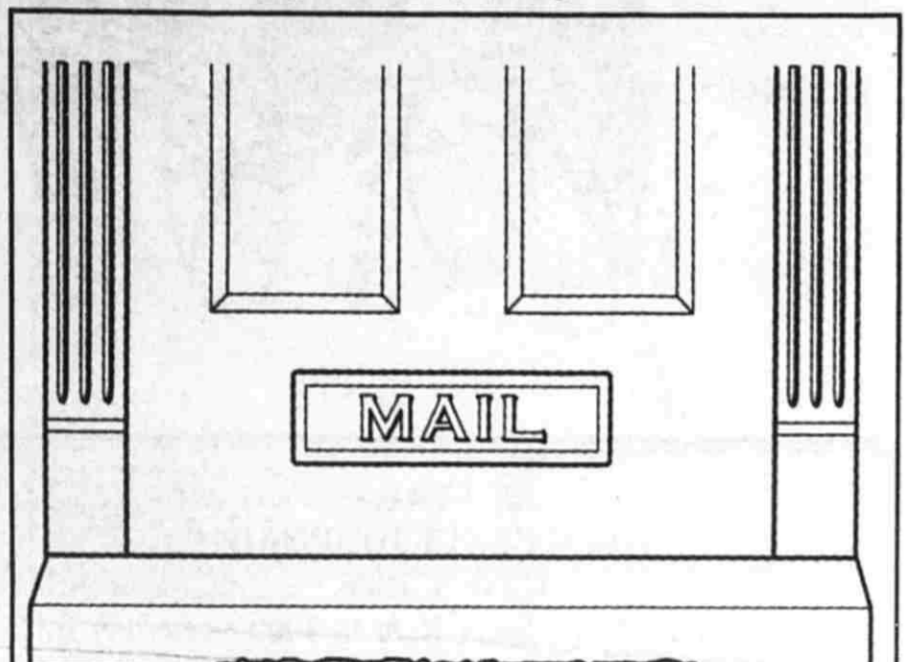
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Reflections of faith

Asst. Pastor: Rev. David J. Noonon Sr.
Christian Life Center

WE MUST ROW!

Can't you just see it? Here is a person in a row boat being tossed in the waves toward a wall of jagged rocks. Looking a little closer we find that the oars are just dangling in the water while the person is praying for God's urgent help. Can you imagine the cry that goes out to God as the



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boat is dashed upon the rocky shore? "God, why didn't you help me?"

I have lost track of the number of times I have heard people cry these words: "I prayed, but God didn't help me!" Many times as I heard those words I could see that their oars were dangling uselessly in the water. They prayed for a financial miracle but refused to budget their finances. They prayed to lose weight but refused to exercise. They prayed for deliverance from addiction but refused to turn to a support group. They prayed for God to help them control their temper but refused to become accountable for their actions. The list goes on and on.

Now, on one hand, I do support the idea that "God helps those who help themselves." But I also know that God loves to help those who cannot help themselves. That is the point of the Gospel. We could not save ourselves from our sinful ways so God sent His Son to do it for us. That is why we can have faith that God will hear us when we call upon Him.

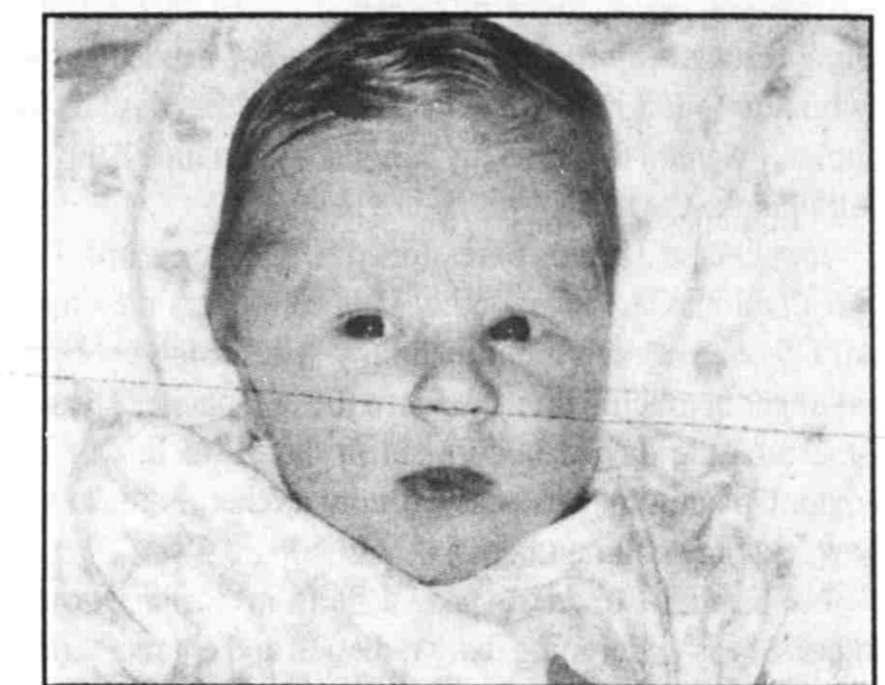
However, the Bible teaches us in James 2:17 that "faith without works is dead." Some years ago I became aware that, although I had become a Christian, I still did many things that were not becoming a Christian. I desperately wanted to change. I prayed fervently for help from God. Then one day I began to look up all the scriptures I could

find that dealt with these issues. (There are a bunch of them, trust me!) I wrote them out on sheets of paper and read them over and over. I also wrote them on 3 by 5 inch cards and kept them in places where I would see them and read them. Some I even memorized. Things changed and I came to a place where I could control my actions and become the kind of person other people liked to be around.

You see, I had some oars to put in the water. God gave me a brain, He gave me ability to read and comprehend. He gave me the ability to memorize. He even provided the Bible so that I could have His wisdom. I still needed God's grace and power. I received it when I put the oars in the water. I received it when I began to row. I received it as God helped me to row away from the jagged rocks of life. We must row!

Lord, help me to keep rowing and to keep my eyes upon you.

New Arrivals



Grace Rosalie Richmond

Mark and Sherry Richmond of Lowell are proud grandparents are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Rosalie. She was born Saturday, May 14, 2005 at Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus, weighing 9 lbs. and measuring 21.5 inches.

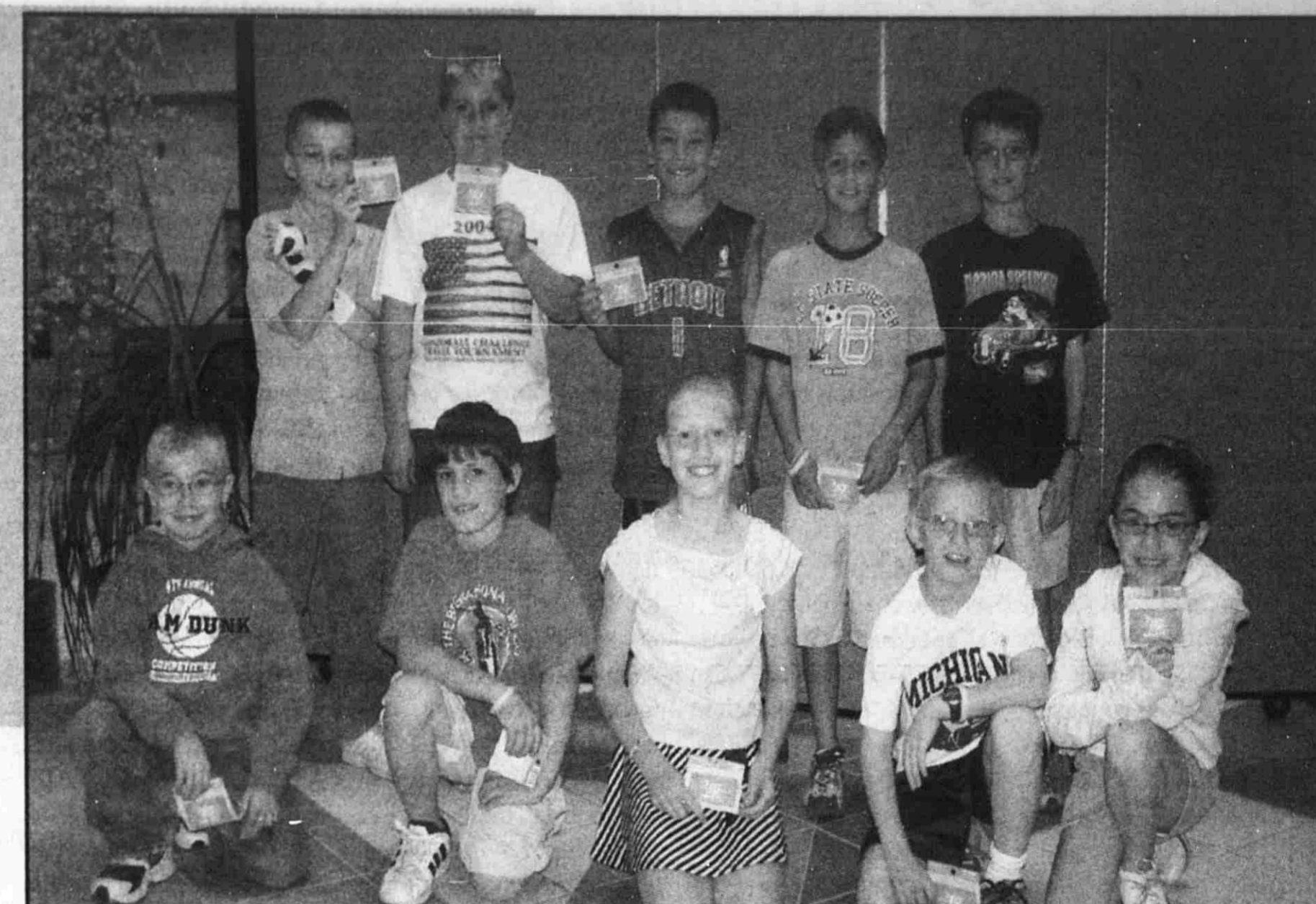
Got an Announcement to make?

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

Elementary accelerated readers

Ten students in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program at Murray Lake Elementary received \$10 Meijer gift cards for the month of May. The students' names were randomly drawn from a box full of AR slips. Meijer donates \$100 worth of gift cards each month. Pictured are May's lucky winners: Top - Josh Burns, Luke Stephens, Justin Castro, Kyle Bowers and Sean Khodl; bottom - Billy Baughn, Dylan Brower, Audrey Rasch, Thomas Mahalic and Katie Wissman.



Happy Birthday

JUNE 9:	Dimpna Hill Brown, Kristina Parish, Doris Plummer, Josh Fongler.	JUNE 11:	Joseph Vezino, Jeanne Boss, Terri S. Fonger.	JUNE 14:	Kyle Manszewski.
JUNE 10:	Jim Stone, April Decker, Courtney Tulppo, Gus Geldersma.	JUNE 12:	Benjamin Zoodsma, Jenny Engle, Noah Green.	JUNE 15:	Joey Hunt Jr., Courtney Baker, Rachel Heinicke, Caran Schalow, Katlin Manszewski.
		JUNE 13:	Holly Fetterhoff, Vivian Hoskins.		

FLPC musical event

The Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC) presents "Country Sonata: A Fresh Bouquet of Music, Art & Edibles" in partnership with St. Cecilia Music Society (SCMS) on Saturday, June 18.

Five stations at the FLPC will offer food, art and music between 5 and 8 p.m. Multiple artists will work on weaving, basket making and drawing, while more than 30 individual and group musicians perform a variety of music ranging from lutes to concert ensembles.

Proceeds from the event will benefit various music and art programs of FLPC and SCMS. For more information call 897-7842. Individual tickets are \$25.

Doyles attend NARFE convention

Charlie and Dee Doyle attended the state convention of the National Active & Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) on June 2-4 in Lansing. Charlie Doyle was the postmaster at the Lowell

1990 and is currently the public relations officer for NARFE. The National Active & Retired Federal Employees is the only association dedicated to protecting the earned retirement benefits of federal employees, retirees and their survivors. Founded by 14 federal workers in 1921, NARFE has become an effective and highly respected legislative voice for federal workers and retirees.

Veggies Tales come to VBS

Elmdale Church of the Nazarene will be offering Vacation Bible School with a Veggie Tales theme this year. The evening activities are for children, ages four through 12, the week of June 13. Veggie Tales Values will include bible stories, crafts, music and games ... even refreshments!

If you are interested in participating, call 868-7292.

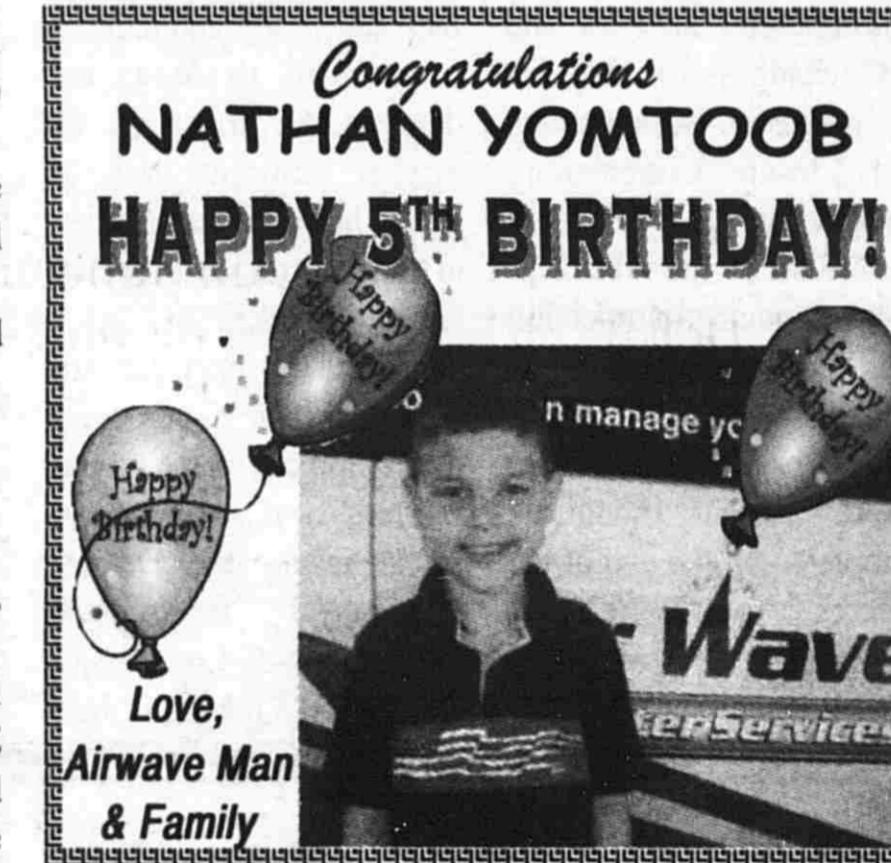


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SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.
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Across the street from the Venden Dodge dealership.
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10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service;
Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.

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Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor
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Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
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Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.
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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)

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington • 897-8800
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.
PASTOR KEN ANDERSON
Staffed Nursery Provided
Barrier-Free Entrance

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897-5648
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Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.
(Sept. - April)
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WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
"XL" Youth: 7 p.m.

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Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.
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404 North Hudson • 897-5906
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Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
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Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
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Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA (School year) 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
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Reverend Deacon Mark O. Fleet, Clergy In Assistance
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Corporate Web Page.....http://www.ecna.org
May the Lord fill you and bless you this day!

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SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.
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CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES
Pastor Robert L. Hubbard
Phone: (616) 897-1267
website: www.aplightthouse.com

Michigan to Benefit Overall from Base Closure Process

With Senator Carl Levin

The name sounds bureaucratic - Base Realignment and Closure. The acronyms form an alphabet soup - BRAC, DOD, TACOM, DLIS, DRMS. The process seems mysterious and convoluted. What exactly is BRAC and what does it mean for Michigan and our country?

At the end of the Cold War, the United States had more military facilities than our national security required. There was a great deal of wasteful expenditures as a result. To bring our military facilities more in line with our security needs, Congress passed legislation creating independent base closure commissions. Four previous base closure rounds have closed or realigned military facilities across the country.

Four years ago, Congress authorized an additional base closure round for 2005. Closing unneeded

installations and getting rid of excess infrastructure are essential parts of building the light, mobile military that we need to respond to today's increasingly diverse and complex national security challenges.

Making wise use of taxpayer dollars also demands that we close unneeded facilities. Our uniformed military leadership has strongly urged closing unneeded bases because we can use these resources to better protect our troops and give them the resources they need in conflicts overseas and on the front lines in the war on terrorism.

In May, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld released his list of facilities slated for closure or realignment. The next steps include a review of the list by the Government Accountability Office; hearings and analysis and any changes to the list by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission; certification of the base closure list by the President; and acceptance or rejection of the complete list by Congress on an "all-or-none" basis. The entire BRAC process should be completed by the end of the year.

Overall, Michigan did reasonably well in the

Defense Department's base closure recommendations. We will see a net increase of 125 jobs. Our facilities with the largest numbers of employees - the Detroit Arsenal, the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center in Battle Creek and Selfridge Air National Guard base in Macomb County - remain in a strong or stronger position for the future. The Detroit Arsenal, home of the Tank Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), was hailed in the Department of Defense (DOD) report as the "intellectual capital" for automotive and ground vehicle research and development.

The Defense Department also praised the "synergies gained from having a critical mass located in southeastern Michigan." There are many examples of that synergy. For instance, TACOM engineers teamed with scientists and engineers from across the automotive industry to develop a common computer with advanced commercial technologies for the Army's ground vehicle fleet. The Army is now modernizing its vehicles with these advanced computers. Engineers at the facility also worked with their university and industry counterparts to design and develop flat armor for the Stryker armored vehicle, which helps protect soldiers in Iraq from rocket-propelled grenade attacks.

TACOM manages and maintains over 90 percent of the equipment on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan. As a result, the Defense Department recommends that the BRAC Commission make TACOM the Joint

Ground Vehicle Center, a move that will add 600 jobs to TACOM and make the Detroit Arsenal the DOD's Center of Excellence for Ground Vehicles.

The Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center in Battle Creek is home to two other exceptional organizations - the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS) and the Defense Reutilization Management Service (DRMS). DLIS serves as a logistics hub for tracking parts and getting those parts to our troops. DRMS is responsible for disposal of excess equipment for the entire Department of Defense, as well as America's allies in NATO and around the world.

While all of these are positive changes, the Secretary's recommendation also proposed moving some jobs out of two existing

facilities in Michigan, which always puts a strain on the communities involved. Selfridge Air National Guard base is one of the few facilities in the country to have all five branches of the military and the Department of Homeland Security on-site.

Although the Secretary of Defense's recommendation preserves most of the facility, he proposed closing the Army Garrison at Selfridge, which is the only support facility for the hundreds of military workers at the Detroit Arsenal. This would represent a significant loss to this genuinely joint facility.

Additionally, the Secretary of Defense recommended closing the Battle Creek Air National Guard base. The recommendation would transfer the base's 110th

Fighter Wing to Selfridge, which would partially offset the proposed retirement of the F-16 and C-130 aircraft currently stationed at Selfridge. This transfer would cost Battle Creek 206 full-time civilian jobs and 68 military jobs and affect almost 900 part-time members of the Michigan Air National Guard.

I am working with my colleagues to determine the best way to address the proposed closures. Michigan stands tall in our contributions to our nation's security. We can be proud of the dedication and extraordinary professionalism of our military and civilian personnel at each of our military facilities. Overall, the DOD recommendations reflect on that important contribution.

College News

Washtenaw Community College graduates for December 2004 and candidates for April, June and August 2005 were honored at commencement on May 21.

From the Lowell area was **Nicole R. Tegg**.

Albion College students were recently named to the dean's list at the completion of the spring 2005 semester.

From the Lowell area are **Christina Getz, William Harrison, Kelsey Scheider, Matthew Scheider, Jennifer Wagner and Stephanie Wagner**.

Students named to the dean's list must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester. This GPA must be based on at least three units in graded courses and a minimum of four units completed during the semester.

Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., recognized some of its finest athletic efforts from the past season while inducting the senior class into the N Club last week.

From the Lowell area was **Michael Gustafson**, who received the Billy McKinney Award. It is presented to a male student-athlete who has exhibited exemplary leadership qualities, constant effort, and a positive attitude that, in his coach's estimation, makes him a "coach's dream." Gustafson, a swimmer and the male speaker at the banquet, is a two-time Academic All-Big Ten.

Before we agree to do anything that might add even the smallest amount of stress to your life, ask yourself: What is my truest intention? Give yourself time to let a yes resound within you. When it's right, I guarantee that your entire body will feel it.

-Oprah Winfrey

Show Us Your Smile!

MAY SMILES OF THE MONTH:

"No Cavities" Club Members

Ben Peterson	Colin VanderWarf	Caleb Kaufman
Jon Nichols	Jeremy Bergin	Collier Kaufman
Shelby Strah	Adam Jones	Shelby Young
Licia Feuerstein	Margaret Griffith	Conner Bergin
Freddy Griffith	Doug Nordman	Keegan Shears
Martin Brubaker	Grace Barber	Tyler Smoes
Max Listro	Emma Listro	Kaylee Wold
Karlee Derosha	Beth Listro	

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

Notice is hereby given that Donna M. Lamancusa, Frank S. Nawara, Jr., Michael C. Nawara, and Dorothy Nawara, heretofore doing business as Partners under the firm name of Ball Park Hardware Real Estate Partnership at 1030 West Fulton, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504, have dissolved their Partnership as of May 2, 2005, by mutual consent. Donna Lamancusa has sole authority to sell partnership assets, pay and discharge all liabilities of the partnership, collect and receive all moneys payable to the partnership, perform existing contracts and act in any manner necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership.

Dated: May 2, 2005

Donna M. Lamancusa
 Frank S. Nawara, Jr.
 Michael C. Nawara
 Dorothy Nawara

John D. Mitus,
 Attorney at Law
 410 Bridge Street, N.W.
 Grand Rapids, MI 49504
 (616) 774-4001

Young athlete travels to China in hopes of fulfilling her dreams

Mariah Moore is a martial artist and Olympic hopeful.

At age 11, Moore is on her way to reaching her goals. Originally, she set her sights on one black belt. Along the way she began to set bigger goals for herself. Her motto is, "I never try anything. I just do it."

Moore caught the eye of China's Grand Master Wu Bin last summer at a very special camp for up and coming young martial artists called Masters of Wushu. Following camp, she received a highly coveted and very personal invitation to represent the USA as one of the top athletes in the country and to train with Wu Bin and his world-class coaches at his renowned Wushu Training Center in Beijing, China. Moore travels to Beijing on June 10; her trip will include a visit to the Great Wall and the Shaolin Temple.

The Lowell Middle



Mariah Moore with her many trophies and pictured above competing at a Fabiano tournament in Holland, Michigan.

School student has also trained with Grand Master Bong Jornales, a native of the Philippines who has practiced martial arts for over 35 years. "It meant the world to me when Grand Master Bong told me that I was special and that he was proud of me," said Moore.

Grand Master Bong will be traveling to China with Moore to coach her alongside Grand Master Wu Bin.

In the martial arts community, most people never have the honor of and only dream of meeting a Grand Master. Remarkably, Moore trains with two! Both masters concur that Moore is special.

Moore trains in the Japanese style of martial arts, Ro-Ken Karate which has its roots in Kyokushinkai Kan, in the Jornales System Sandatahan Arnis Sikaran, which is Filipino, and in Wushu which is a Chinese

style of martial arts. She attends Lowell Ro-Ken Karate with Sensei Aaron Bailey where she helps teach the beginner class and then attends her own advanced class. She also takes Chinese language classes once a week with coach Rebecca Liu, Master Wu Bin's personal interpreter. Saturdays are reserved for competition at local, regional, state and national level tournaments.

"Sometimes my Sensei is really hard on me but each time I reach one of my goals or I take first place in a tournament, it makes all the bruises, sweat, tears, and even my cracked ribs worth it," she said.

In March, Moore attended a five-state national tournament and completely swept her division, taking first in forms, weapons, sparring and in the three strike combination.

Recently, she was invited to join the Amateur



Athletics Union. In April, she competed against hundreds of young martial artists in her first AAU Tournament, the regional 8 state qualifier for Nationals. She placed second in Kumite (fighting), earning her an invitation to compete in the Junior Olympics held in New Orleans in July.

In May, she competed in a tournament to benefit cancer research, "Take a Kick at Cancer," in Whitehall. She was the only girl, sweeping her division in this competition as well as taking first in Kobudo, Kumite and Kata.

The honor student concluded by saying, "My friends just don't get it. They think karate has taken over my life. What they don't understand is karate is my life. It's part of me. It's in me. I couldn't get through one day without it."

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Farmland preserved, continued ...From Page 1

as far east as Washington D.C. The NRCS got started with the goal of protecting soil. "We now embark on a new mission of protecting the use of the soil," Gregory said.

Since the Food Security Act of 1985, the way the NRCS has endeavored to protect the use of farmland is through the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP). The program offers matching funds to buy

casements on farm land. The easements ensure the land will remain in agricultural use perpetually, and will not be sold to developers.

Other sources contributed funding for purchasing the easement on the Howard Farm. Bowne Township, Grand Rapids Community Foundation, Lowell Area Community Fund and the Steelcase Foundation all contributed toward purchasing

easements on the farm at a rate of \$4,167 per acre.

U.S. congressman Vern Ehlers was on hand at the dedication to speak about the importance of keeping land in agriculture.

"We are the breadbasket of the world at this point," Ehlers said. "And if we squander our resources and use up our best land, then what are our children going to do?"

"As the population grows, these problems get more serious," he added.

Before Ehlers or Gregory spoke, Lowell's county commissioner Jack Horton thanked a long list of people who contributed to getting the Kent County PDR program on its feet. Included were township

elected officials, farmers, employees of government agencies, the Michigan State University Extension Service and some farmers. Horton has been an advocate for PDR in the county commission since the idea was introduced.

The PDR program was established in Kent County in 2002. Since then, 73 farmers have filed applications to have their farms preserved. The Howard farm became the first farm to be finalized on April 15.

Howard is the fifth generation to farm the land. He wanted to help make sure it would be there for his sons. "It's just been on my mind for a long time and once the program came

in place, it was the thing to do," he said.

It also does him good to know the land won't be filled up with houses.

"The vista you see is the vista it will always be," Howard said.

The sixth generation, Matt and Patrick Howard, work in non-agricultural jobs. Matt Howard currently lives in Ohio. Both sons plan to keep the farm going.

"I would like to come up here in 10 years or so and start farming," Matt Howard said.

He envisions a small-scale farm on the land, something organic and intensive.

"Having the land preserved really opens up a

lot of options," he said.

He expects the particulars to become clearer as the market for locally produced, sustainable agricultural products develops.

"So much of agribusiness today is serving a global market," he said. "I'd rather serve a local market with what it needs. Again, what that will look like, I'm not sure."

Applications for the PDR program are available at township offices or by contacting Kendra Wills, staff person to the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board, at 336-2028. This year's application cycle is open through June 30.

Youth Fair, continued ...From Page 3

include football, T-ball, the motorcycle run, a boat launch, and a bluegrass festival to name a few.

"We need to be good stewards of the piece of property and do what's right for the community as a whole," Pfaller said.

Oetman said he was willing to supply the labor to paint the building if the city would be willing to buy

the paint. He, in fact, was willing to work on many of the projects proposed but he needed the city's blessing before he could do anything.

The group is aware of financial issues, having had state monies cut from its program as well, and it has become better at seeking out sponsorships to obtain financial support from

outside sources.

The fair board has been effective in putting in about \$100,000 worth of repairs on the King Memorial Building, Oetman said. Constructing a new youth community building on the property is another project on their agenda.

Camping rentals have also been taken over by the group, with the city receiving

10 percent of the revenues as part of a deal in turning over the rentals. Oetman said this was the first he was aware that the city had not received the 10 percent and suspected it was because all of the funds available were being put into the King Memorial Building. He said he would look into the matter.

The contract between the city and the 71-year-

old organization comes to an end in 2006 and Oetman suspected there would need to be changes made in that contract, but the fair group prefers to continue to grow at its current location.

The council referred the matter back to the Parks and Recreation Commission to review what projects could be completed now and what would be long term.

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phone call to the MISS DIG System, a free service that coordinates with Michigan utilities to mark the approximate locations of underground lines and pipes.

Unfortunately, this news still has not reached many home gardening and landscaping enthusiasts.

MISS DIG, cont'd., pg. 29

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Lowell softball wins district championship

By Dan Schneider

In a thrilling 2-1 win over Northview Saturday, the Lowell varsity softball team claimed its first district title in 17 years.

Lowell advanced to the district final by scoring 19 runs in three innings in a mercy-rule win over Grand Rapids Central. Ashleigh Inman had three hits in that game; Becky Plummer had two. She struck out all nine batters she faced.

Plummer threw a lot more pitches in the 11-inning district final. A lot of them were strikes. She struck out

22 batters and walked only one.

Northview was the first on the board, scoring on a suicide squeeze in the second inning.

Lowell answered in the fourth as Plummer singled and stole second. Brittany Bueche, down 1-2 in the count, hit a base hit to score Plummer.

Lowell had Plummer on third with two outs in the ninth inning, but couldn't get her in. The score stayed tied until the top of the 11th.

Inman led off with a double to left field. Andrea

Dewey sacrifice bunted her to third. Plummer drew an intentional walk. Bueche batted in the winning run, knocking a single over the heads of a drawn-in infield.

With two outs and a runner on second in the bottom of the 11th, Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse called for Plummer to intentionally walk Northview's star hitter Kristie Cornell. But Cornell reached out over the plate to hit a ground ball to second.

"It was an outside ball that wasn't out far enough and my heart skipped a jump," Rodenhouse said.

But he didn't have to worry. Katie McElroy fielded the ball and Cornell was out at first.

"A pretty exciting game, two good teams," Rodenhouse said. "We have all the respect in the world for Northview, we just came out on top."

The win gave Lowell its first district softball championship since 1988 and only the third in school history. Lowell won its first district softball title in 1981.

Last Wednesday, Lowell defeated Mona Shores in both games of a

doubleheader. The Arrows won the first game 6-0. Plummer struck out 12 and walked one. They scored one in the first, three in the third, and one run each in the fifth and sixth innings. Bueche had three hits, Dewey had two. McElroy had one hit for two RBI.

Game two was a 13-7 victory. With McElroy on the mound, Lowell secured a 5-0 lead. Then Mona Shores advanced 7-5. With Plummer on the mound, Lowell scored two in the fifth to tie it and then six runs in the sixth to put it away.

Plummer got the win. McElroy had four hits including an RBI in the game. Inman had three hits for three RBIs; two were doubles. Bueche and Plummer had two hits each. Lowell had a total of 16 hits in the game.

"We had our hitting shoes on," Rodenhouse said.

Lowell will play Muskegon Reeths-Puffer Saturday at Rockford in the Division 1 regional semifinal. That game starts at 10 a.m.

Lowell baseball finishes season as district runners-up

By Dan Schneider

The baseball season ended Saturday with Lowell as district runners-up at Northview.

In the first game of the day, Lowell beat Grand Rapids Central 8-7 in extra innings.

The Red Arrows carried a 6-3 lead into the sixth inning. Then Central scored

four runs in the top of that inning. Lowell scored a run in the bottom of the sixth.

Jay Ryan walked the first batter in the seventh inning, but the next three Rams went out and Central went down 1-2-3 in the eighth.

Ryan Kalman walked to lead off the eighth inning. Tyler Meppelink bunted him

to second. Matt Meppelink walked; he was followed by Spencer Quinn who hit a single to score Kalman and win the game.

Ryan pitched all eight innings for the win for Lowell.

In the district final against Rockford, Lowell had a tough matchup. Ram pitcher Spencer Klukowski

threw one walk in an otherwise perfect game as Rockford won 14-0.

"That pitcher's not going to beat himself, you gotta beat him," said Lowell coach Justin Miller.

Arrow pitcher Zach Burger had a one-hitter going until the fifth inning. Lowell was only down 2-0 before Rockford got

10 hits on Burger and his replacements.

Last Wednesday at Mona Shores, Lowell lost the first game of a doubleheader 16-2. Ryan took the loss.

Lowell scored five runs in the fifth inning of the second game. But in the end Mona Shores won 11-6.

Matt Meppelink and Spencer Quinn went two

for four hitting in that game. Burger took the loss.

During warmups for game one, Lowell's top hitter Jason Welsch twisted his ankle and broke his arm trying to catch himself with his glove hand.

"I think that affected the kids' morale," Miller said.

Lowell ended the season with a 10-20 record.

Lowell lacrosse concludes season with best record yet

This year's Lowell varsity lacrosse season ended May 31 with an 8-5 loss to Portage Central in the Division 2 regional quarterfinal.

Portage Central, who split a pair of regular-season contests against Lowell, went on to lose 21-1 to East Grand Rapids in the semifinal.

In Lowell's last game of the regular season, the host Red Arrows lost 13-3 against Okemos.

The team finished the season with a record of 5-12-1. That is the best record in the three-year history of lacrosse at Lowell High School.

This was the first year the Michigan High School

Athletic Association has sponsored a tournament in the sport of lacrosse.

Lacrosse is also in its first year as a full varsity sport in Lowell. A varsity and a junior varsity team were fielded this year. Middle school teams also competed.

Lowell soccer falls to Northern in district final

Huskies overcome early deficit to end Red Arrows' season



Lowell's Brook VanEck (left) tries to get the ball away from Northview during last Tuesday's district opener.

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell girls varsity soccer team fell short of a district title by a 3-1 loss to Forest Hills Northern Saturday in Greenville.

Lowell scored a goal early by Amy Oberlin. But the Red Arrows couldn't match the Huskies' intensity for the whole 80 minutes of

the Division 2 district final.

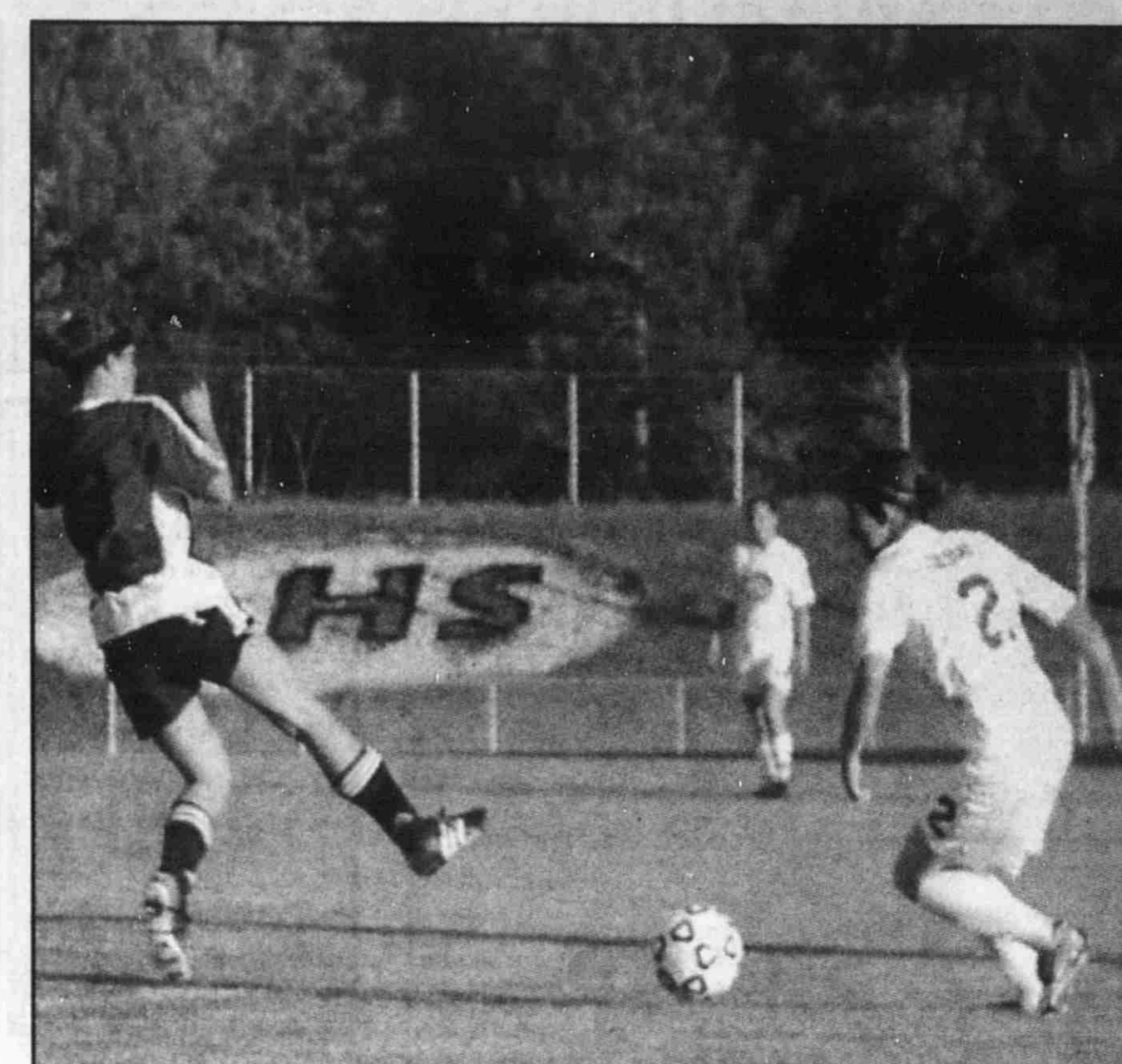
Lowell made it to the final by an 8-3 win last Wednesday at Mount Pleasant.

Last Tuesday, in their last home game of the season, the Red Arrows benefited from putting relentless pressure on the goal.

In a 3-0 victory over the Northview Wildcats, Lowell scored two of its goals off of rebounds.

"We came to the net pretty hard tonight," said Lowell coach Paul Legge. "As the game progressed, we really attacked the net."

Lowell's first goal came with 11:48 left in the



Lowell's Abbie Debiak (right) sets up to make a pass inside past Northview's Jessica Clark.

first half. Tara Ormistan scored on an assist by Emily Gerrard.

"That was a great finish out of Tara Ormistan," Legge said. "That was big for us, a big spark off the bench."

Lowell's next goal came with 46 seconds remaining in the first half. The Arrows followed a shot and Gerrard scored on the rebound. Rebecca Underwood got the assist on the goal.

Underwood's "all over the place," Legge said. "She has speed, she's always on the ball and she has more heart than 10 other players."

Underwood scored Lowell's third and final

goal on a rebound header 10 minutes into the second half. Abbie Debiak was credited with the assist.

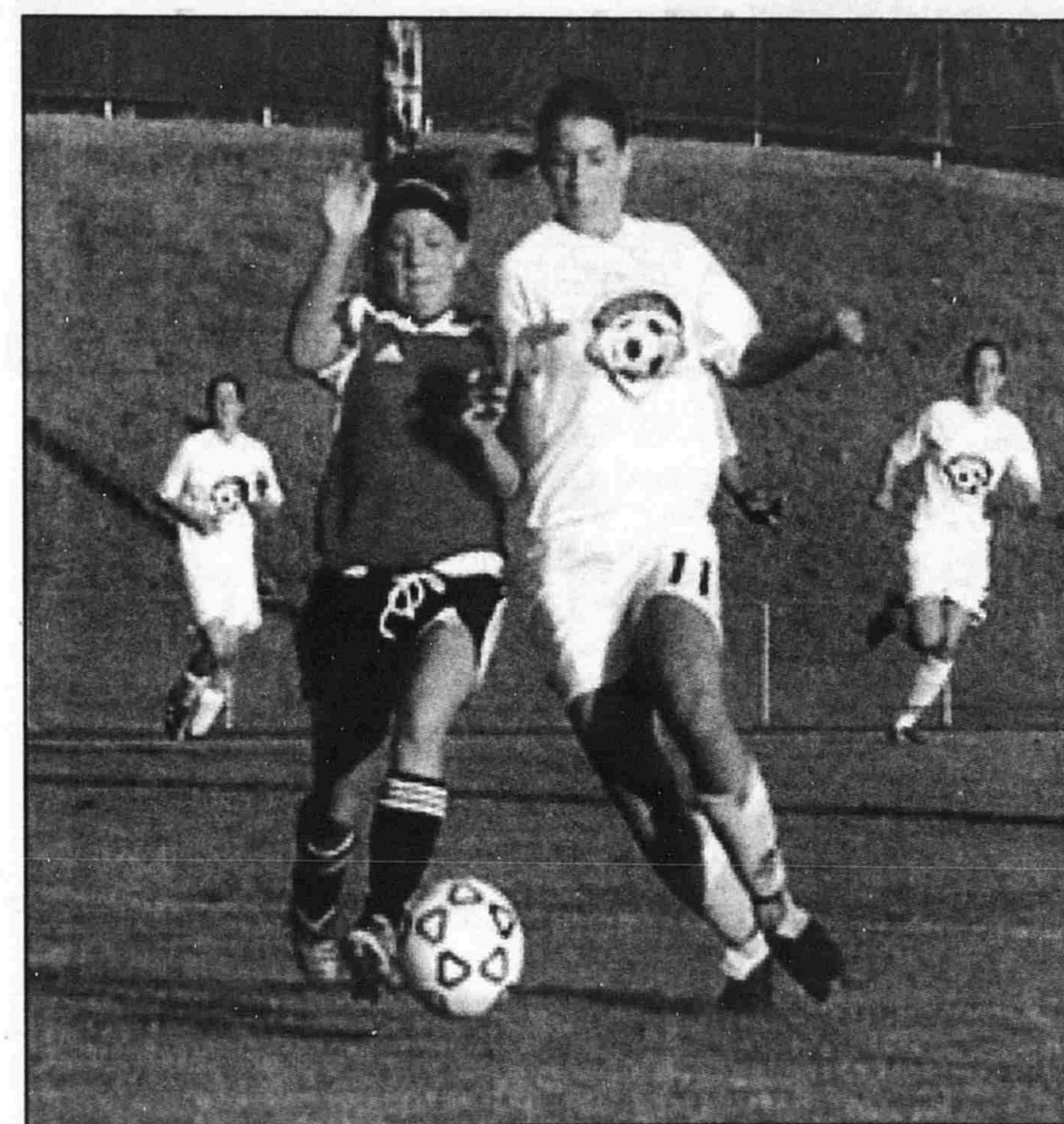
The Lowell defense, meanwhile, gave the Red Arrows their 12th shutout of the season. Legge credits junior Erin Beddows with

anchoring that group. "Erin Beddows is as good as any defensive player I've seen at the high school level," Legge said. "She just locks things down."

Lowell finished the season with a 16-3-2 record.

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Amy Oberlin (right) fights for the ball during last week's action versus Northview.

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COMING EVENTS

Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

TUES.: Cub Scout Pack 3188 at 1st United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m. Cubmaster Bruce Doll, 897-9782 / email: bruce@imagesofvision.com.

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

TUES.: Women's Community Bible Study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/craft time 9:45-11:15 a.m./women only at 7:15 p.m. Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Call 897-7060 or 897-7555.

1ST TUES.: Grattan Historical Society at O'Brien Room of Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. Public invited.

1ST TUES.: Diabetic Support group, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd. 897-2760 or 897-9160.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

1ST & 3RD TUES.: Lowell Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

2ND & 3RD TUES.: Quake-Zik Sportsman's Club, 11400 Foreman Rd. at 8 p.m. New members are welcome.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ... because mothering matters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Call 897-8304.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Saranac Needlers, needleart/quilting bee, 5-8:30 p.m., 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac. All are welcome. Contact Bev or Melissa, 642-6466. Light dinner is provided.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Knights of Columbus #7719 at St. Mary School at 7:30 p.m.

3RD TUES.: Parents of children w/AD/HD at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE/ E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda: 874-5662; teen group: Sarah 281-6588.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Ages 8-13. Call 897-8694.

WED.: Rotary meets at noon, Lowell Masonic Temple, 119 Lincoln Lake. 7:30 p.m.

WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON upstairs at 1st Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson St.

WED.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-10 p.m. Larry 754-7104.

1ST WED.: GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th St. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759.

2ND WED.: Kent County Youth Fair Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., King Memorial Youth Center, 4-H Fairgrounds. Call 897-6050.

2ND WED.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE. 6:30 p.m. meeting/program: Carol Beard-how to handle and sew on Lycra fabric. Olga 616-975-9977/ June 231-780-1249 for more information.

2ND WED.: Lowell Women's Club, noon in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

2ND WED.: Support group for Peripheral Neuropathy, 4 p.m., St. Paul's Anglican Catholic Church, Grand Rapids. Dorothy 897-9794.

3RD WED.: GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, Alpine NW, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759.

THURS.: Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St. 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before the meeting. For info. 1-800-651-6000.

THURS.: Saranac Area Musicians and Singers practice at Saranac High School Band Rm. Choir: 6-7 p.m./band: 7-8. Kathy Maatman, 897-5981.

THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. 897-7842.

THURS.: St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30-8 p.m. 897-9393.

1ST THURS.: Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. Spectrum Health Kent Community Campus, 750 Fuller NE.

1ST THURS.: 4-H drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir room. Call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Monterey Grill at 7 p.m.

2ND THURS.: N.A.R.F.E., 1:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

2ND THURS.: Loyal Order

of the Moose, men's meeting at 7:30 p.m.

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

3RD THURS.: 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac. "Family Team Building Activities and summer picnic. 7-8:30 p.m. Call 642-6466 for info. and to preregister.

3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Call Dawn at 862-8841.

3RD THURS.: VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 3 p.m.

3RD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents group, Franciscan Life Process Center. Call 897-7842.

3RD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing; meeting 7. Support for pregnant/breastfeeding women, Ada 752-8300.

2ND & 4TH FRI.: GR area Scrabble Club at Meijer Cafe, Knapp's Corners, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759.

FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call Pat or Judy at 897-7842.

2ND SAT.: Ada Historical Society, 10:30 a.m. at Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

2ND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

FRI., SAT. AND SUN.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM: Tues., Sat. & Sun. 1-4; Thurs., 1-8. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.-Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri.: 9:30-5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30-1:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. Call 647-3920.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Sat. 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. 1-5 p.m.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.-Fri.: 12-5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday / a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. 897-8545 or www.lowell

arts council.org.

dinner at 5:30 p.m. Adults: \$8; ages 5-12, \$2.

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS: (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues./Fri.: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 & 8-9 p.m.; Sat./Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m.; (NA) Mon./Thurs., 6-7:30 p.m. 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

FLAT RIVER OUT-REACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.-Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037.

WED., JUNE 8: Snow United Methodist Church, 3189 Snow Ave., ham

SAT., JUNE 11: Foodmobile at Lowell Fairgrounds, 10-11 a.m. Bring box or bag. Distributed by F.R.O.M. Mostly produce.

WED., JUNE 22: Community CPR class hosted by Lowell YMCA, 6-9:30 p.m. Call 897-8445.

THURS., JUNE 30: LHS class of '45 reunion at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor.

THURS., JUNE 30: Lowell Rotary Club bus trip to Tigers game vs. White Sox. \$57. Call Charlie Doyle at 897-7532 for details.

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LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
897-5949

MON.: 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 10 a.m. Out & About.

TUES.: 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study.

THURS.: 9 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.

FRI.: 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WED., JUNE 8: Bosnia Shoppers. 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.

THURS., JUNE 9: 12:45 p.m. Shop Greenville, Wal-Mart & Dollar Tree.

FRI., JUNE 10: 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., JUNE 13: 12 p.m. Pancake Lunch; 12:45 p.m. Games at Center; 12:45 p.m. Food Pantry "A-N"

TUES., JUNE 14: 4:30 p.m. Terrific Tuesday.

WED., JUNE 15: 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast at Steak & Shake; 12:45 p.m. Buffalo Barn.

THURS., JUNE 16: 8:30 a.m. Trufant Flea Market.

FRI., JUNE 17: 12 p.m. Birthday/Anniversary Lunch; 12:45 p.m. Bingo; 3 p.m. Bowling.

MON., JUNE 20: 9 a.m. Tour Jiffy Mix Plant.

TUES., JUNE 21: 4:30 p.m. Terrific Tuesday.

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Combination Rate \$18.90

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2x3 Combination Rate \$18.90

This Business Card Size Is... \$16.60

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LAAC exhibit coincides with Artrain's Lowell visit

By Dan Schneider

Four train cars filled with Native American art arrived in Lowell Friday. The train is called "Artrain USA" and the name of the

"Heart of a Drum" opened Sunday; the exhibit features native-themed art. "We asked for anything related to the American Indians of the Great Lakes

artwork that was respectful and carried the beliefs and traditions of the Native Americans of the Great Lakes area," Eldridge said. "I think it's a pretty good

His work depicts Native American life before the arrival of white settlers.

Later this month on June 25 and 26, the Grand Valley American Indian Lodge will hold its second annual Restoring the Circle through the Buffalo Pow Wow at the Lowell Fairgrounds.

The staff at Artrain U.S.A., which is based in Ann Arbor, noticed the call for artists for the "Heart of a Drum" show. The train travels the country on a four-year tour with each of its exhibitions. Its goal is to bring art to rural communities that are isolated from big-city art museums. The first time it came to Lowell in 1976, the group of volunteers who helped coordinate its visit later helped found the Lowell Area Arts Council.

It happened that Artrain had an opening in its tour schedule between stops in Ludington and Mendota, Ill. The opening coincided with the opening of "Heart of a Drum."

Lorain Smalligan, executive director of the arts council, found out about the possibility of bringing Artrain here in February. Another cooperative effort was set in motion to make the train's visit a reality.

King Milling Company juggled its freight schedule to free up some rails west of South Hudson Street on which to set the train. Lowell Light and Power agreed to donate the electricity the train needs to operate. The FLPC is donating space for the Artrain staff to stay in. Employees at Bieri Autobody are making other parking arrangements so school buses can park in its lot for school tours.

The art on board the train is contemporary work by Native Americans all over the country. It is intended to shake up people's ideas about native art.

"Manytimespeoplehave these preconceived notions of what Native American art should look like and by the time you step off the train, your preconceptions are blown out of the water," said S. Kay Young, a Detroit artist whose work is featured on the train and in the arts council's show. "There are a lot of other images in the show that are kind of smack-you-in-the-face images."

Young is Eastern Cherokee. She works in digital photography, capturing images at pow wows that are often wild and abstract.

"I just slow down the shutter speed, turn on the fill flash and yeeha, that's what I got," Young said.

She is fascinated by motion in her work, and in it she has captured elements of her culture that are deeper than her subjects. She once brought some of her paintings to a group of tribal elders.

"I asked them what they saw and they saw faces that I hadn't previously seen," Young said. "And they said, 'What you've captured is spirit dancers.'"

Donations from the Lowell Area Community Fund and the Look Memorial Fund covered most of the cost of the visit. The arts council will be accepting donations to cover some unexpected expenses.

The Artrain was open for school tours Tuesday. It is open to the public Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10-5. The Lowell Area Historical Museum will also be open during those hours to showcase its historical exhibit of the history and lifeways of Native Americans from the Lowell area.



The Artrain parked along the rails west of South Hudson Street.

exhibit on board is "Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture." In its fifth visit to Lowell, the train arrived to coincide with an activity at the Lowell Area Arts Council related to Native American culture.

area," said curator Gary Eldridge.

The eclectic exhibit features work by Indian and non-Indian artists.

"The call (for artists) was intended to bring in

mix of Native Americans and others."

The Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC) is currently featuring a retrospective exhibition of paintings by Bill Kubiak.

Wall blends city and nature

By Dan Schneider

The new wall that replaced the old swing set along Riverwalk Plaza next

to Unity High School was dedicated Monday.

The wall is covered in mosaic tile. It's a project

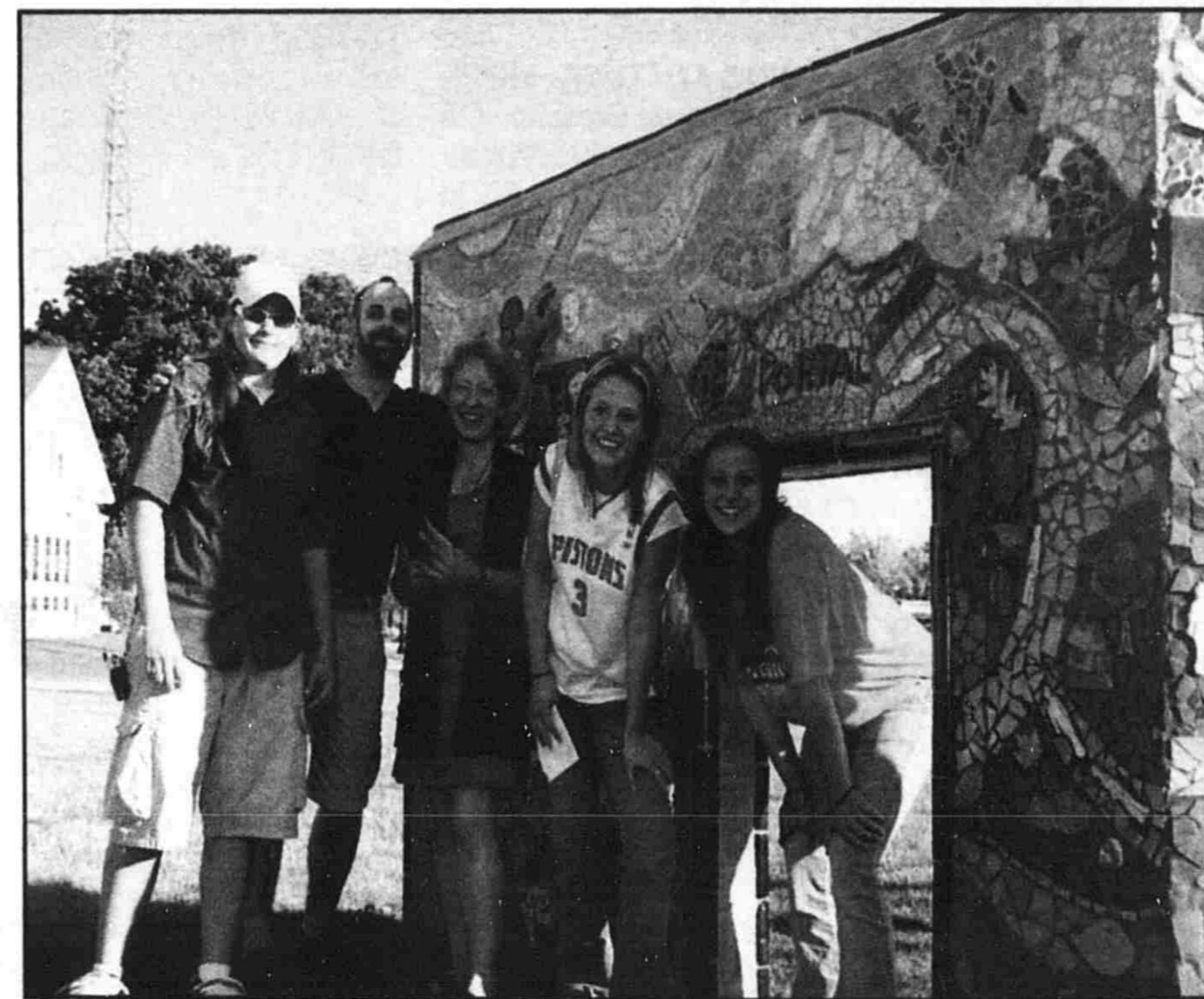
Unity students worked on this winter and into the spring under the direction of artist-in-residence Mary Kuilema.

One side represents the Flat River and nature; the other side represents Unity High School and the city. Unity students made the tiles on the wall and put them together into a mosaic.

"Every student at Unity has either put a piece of their art on this wall or helped put it together," said Unity student April Polaski, during the dedication.

"These are the buildings we saw in the background when we were looking at it," Unity student Lenora Gilbert said, pointing to the representation of downtown Lowell on one facet of the wall.

The other side shows blue tiles, fish and a turtle.



Unity High School student Amanda Witherell (from left), teacher John Stempien, artist-in-residence Mary Kuilema, and students April Polaski and Lenora Gilbert with the mosaic wall they helped create along Riverwalk Plaza.

"We just wanted to put mostly what we thought was in the river," Gilbert said. On the side depicting

the city, there's also a big representation of the high school itself. A lot of students did self-portraits which populate the red rectangle; teachers' portraits hover above.

"One of the things the students wanted on the mural was their school," Kuilema said.

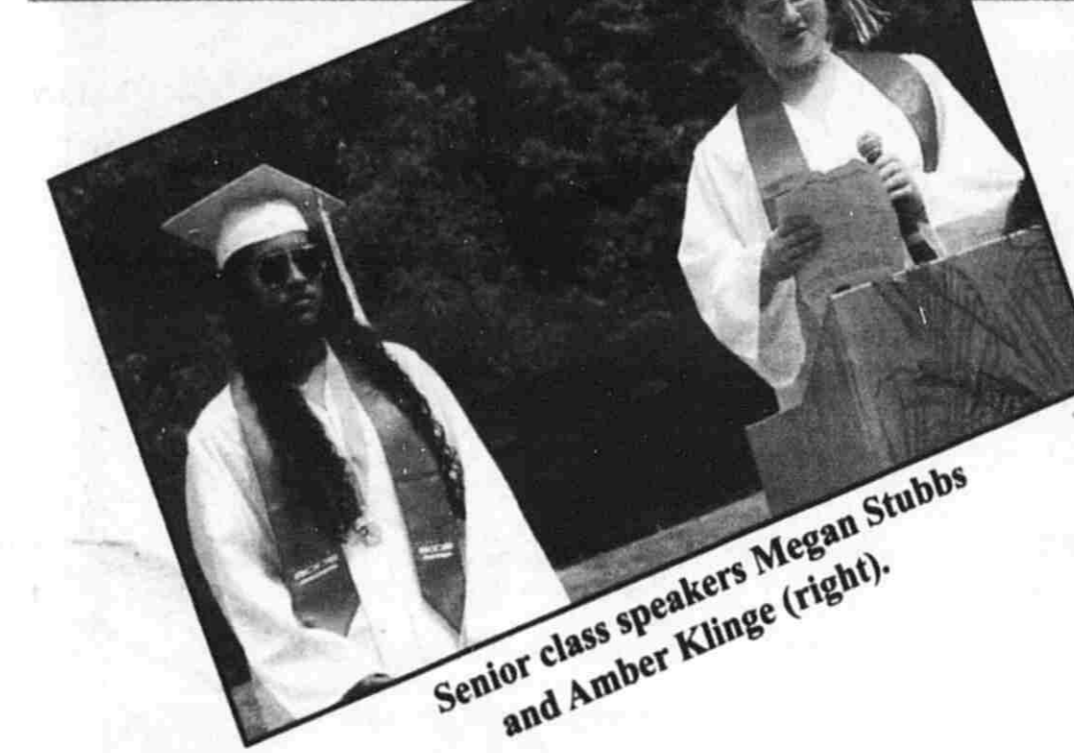
A door cuts through the middle of the wall with the word "portal" set in tiles above it.

"My idea is it's a passageway because high school is a passageway ... it's transitory," explained the artist-in-residence.

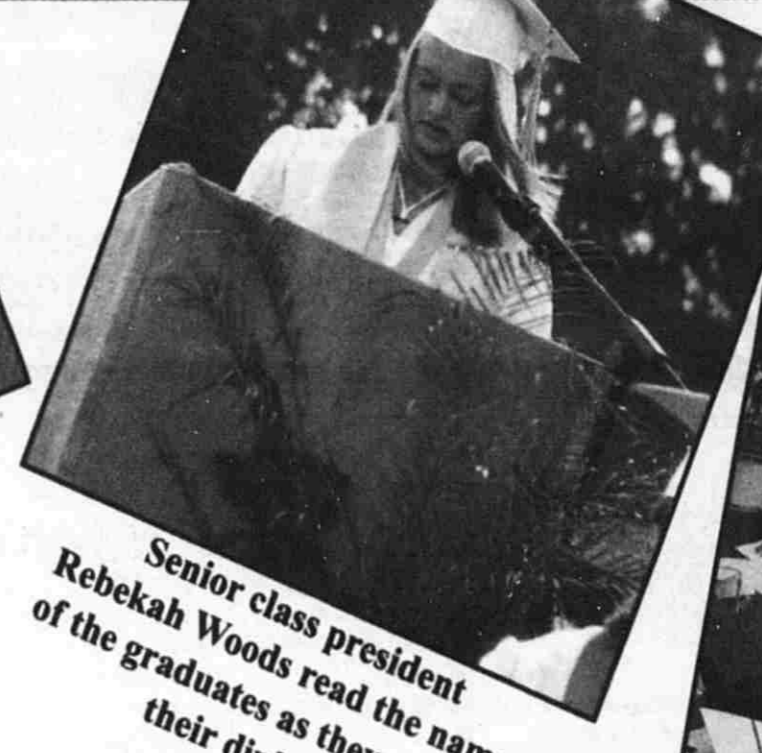
The students' artwork is now a fixture alongside the river.

"It will continue to be a source of pride for your school and your community," said Lowell Area Schools board of education president Nancy Hopkins, during the dedication.

The Ledger Presents The Class Of 2005



Senior class speakers Megan Stubbs and Amber Klinge (right).

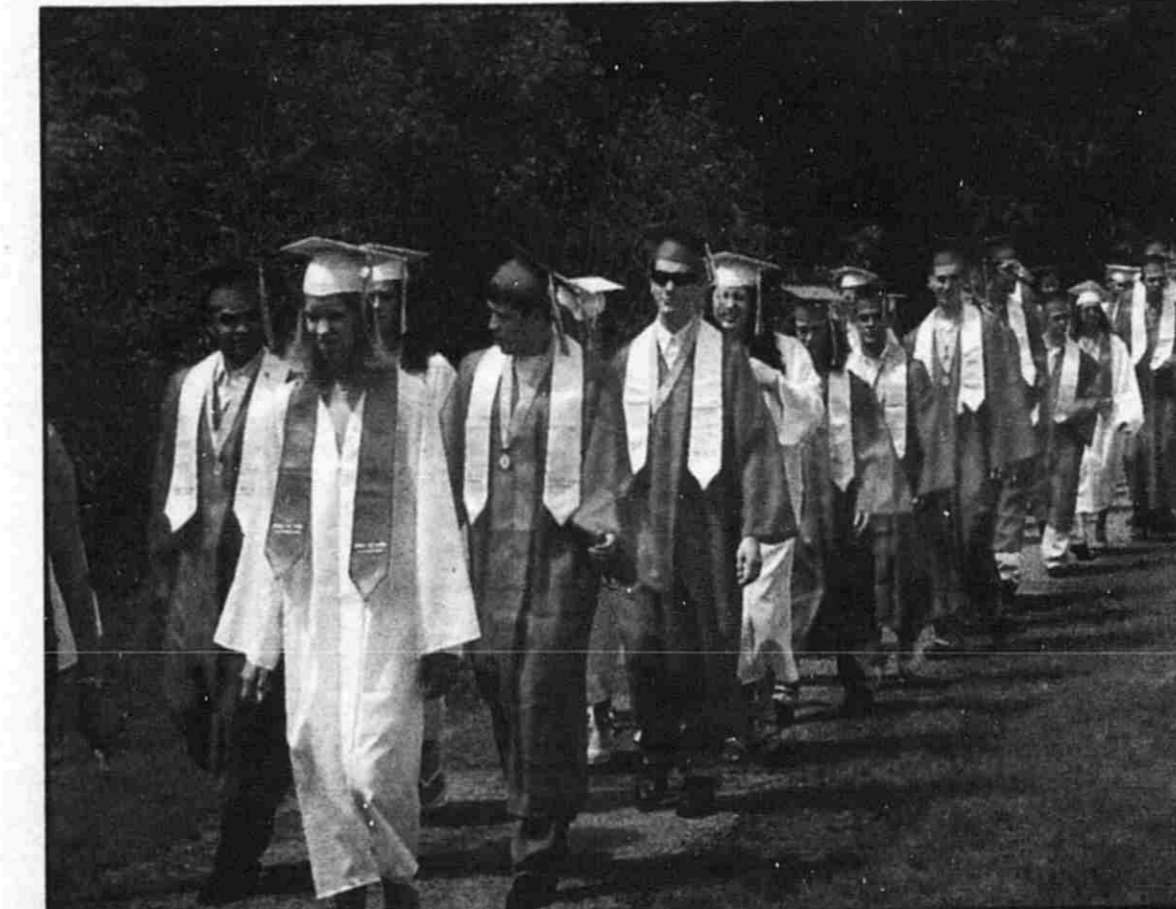


Senior class president Rebekah Woods read the names of the graduates as they received their diplomas.



At left, graduates make their way to the stadium.

Storm clouds gathered as the 2005 senior class lined up to receive diplomas.



Graduating band members played one last song: Custer's "Just a Closer Walk With Thee."



One tradition spared was the graduating class's walk down the hill to Red Arrow Stadium.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF SPECIAL USE APPLICATION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a request for a special use permit from Quality Express LLC, to allow a car wash and oil change facility at 11729 Fulton Street SE, permanent parcel number 41-20-04-401-046.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2005

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

**WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 Alden Nash Avenue SE
Lowell, MI 49331**

Information about the proposed project and a site plan are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

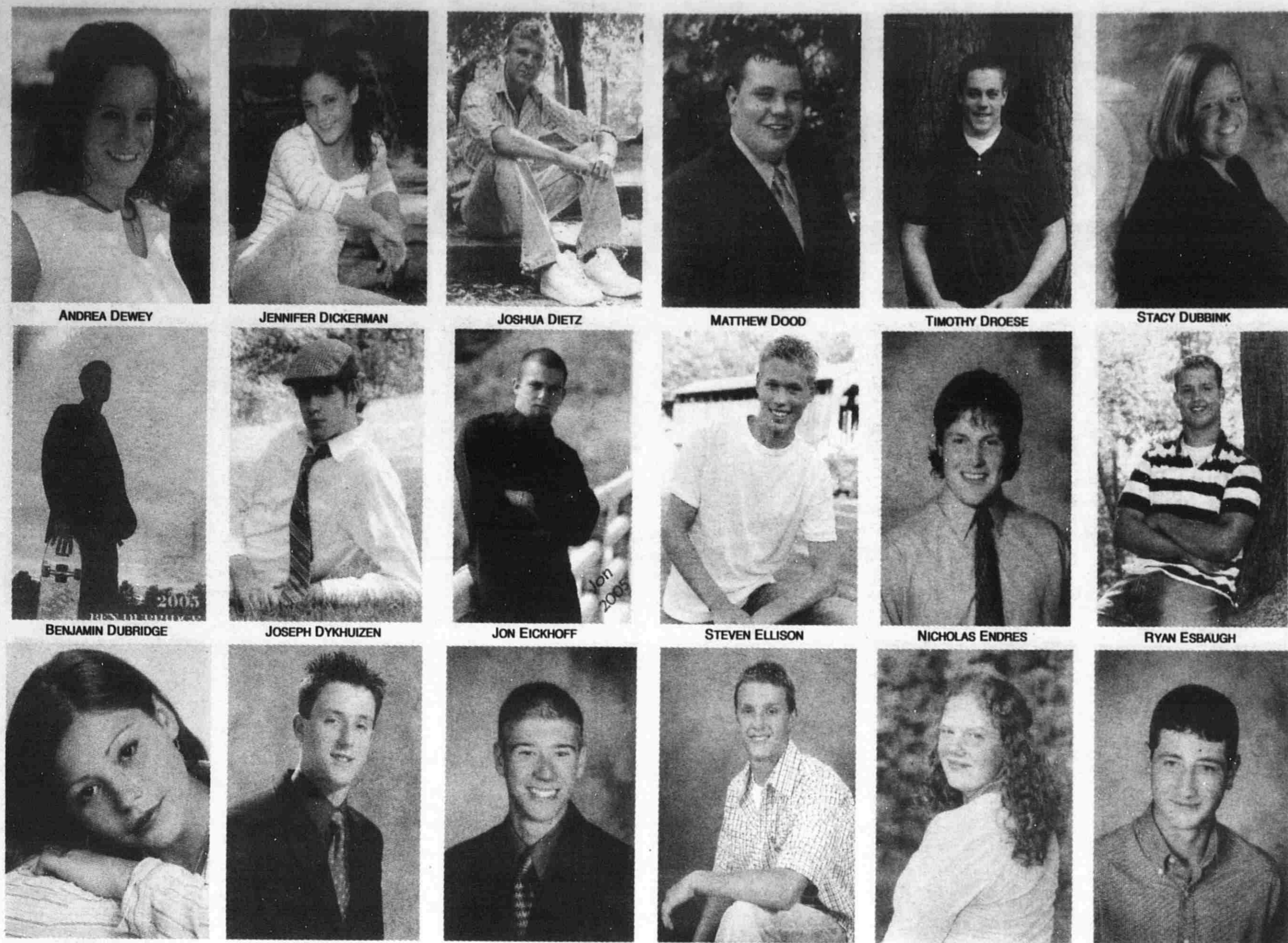
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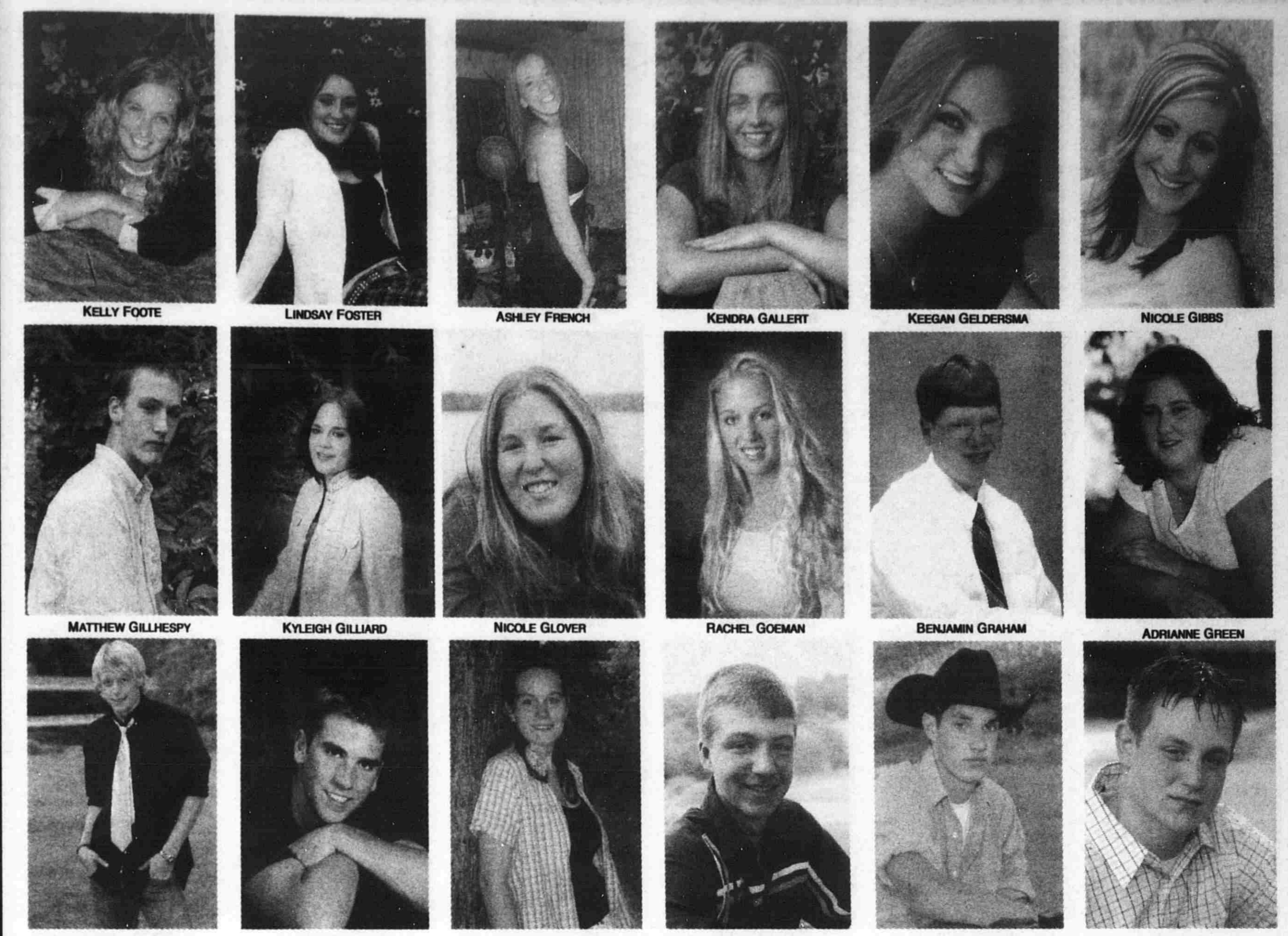
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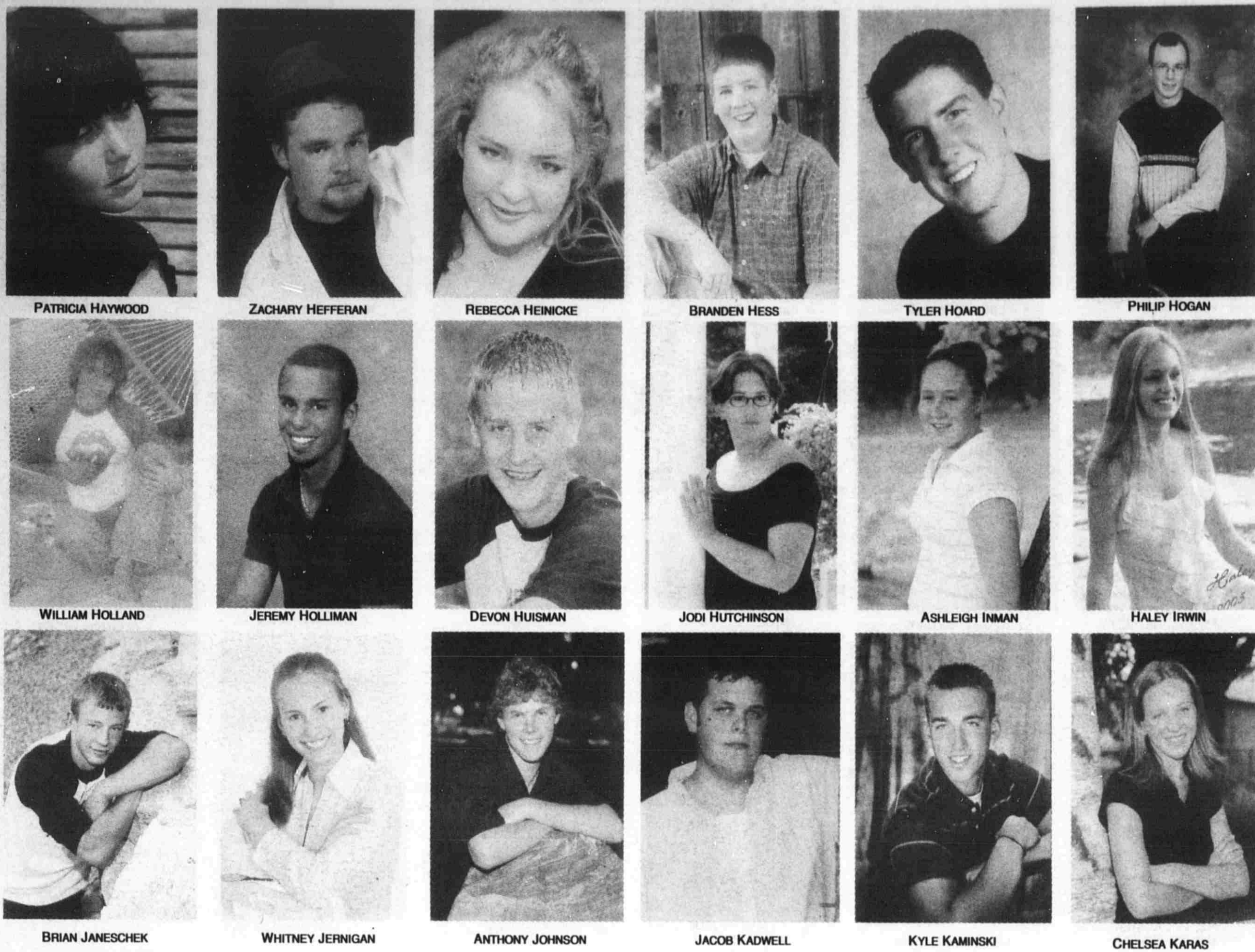
Your Did It! You Are On Your Way!



CONGRATULATIONS 2005 GRADS!
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 All The Best!



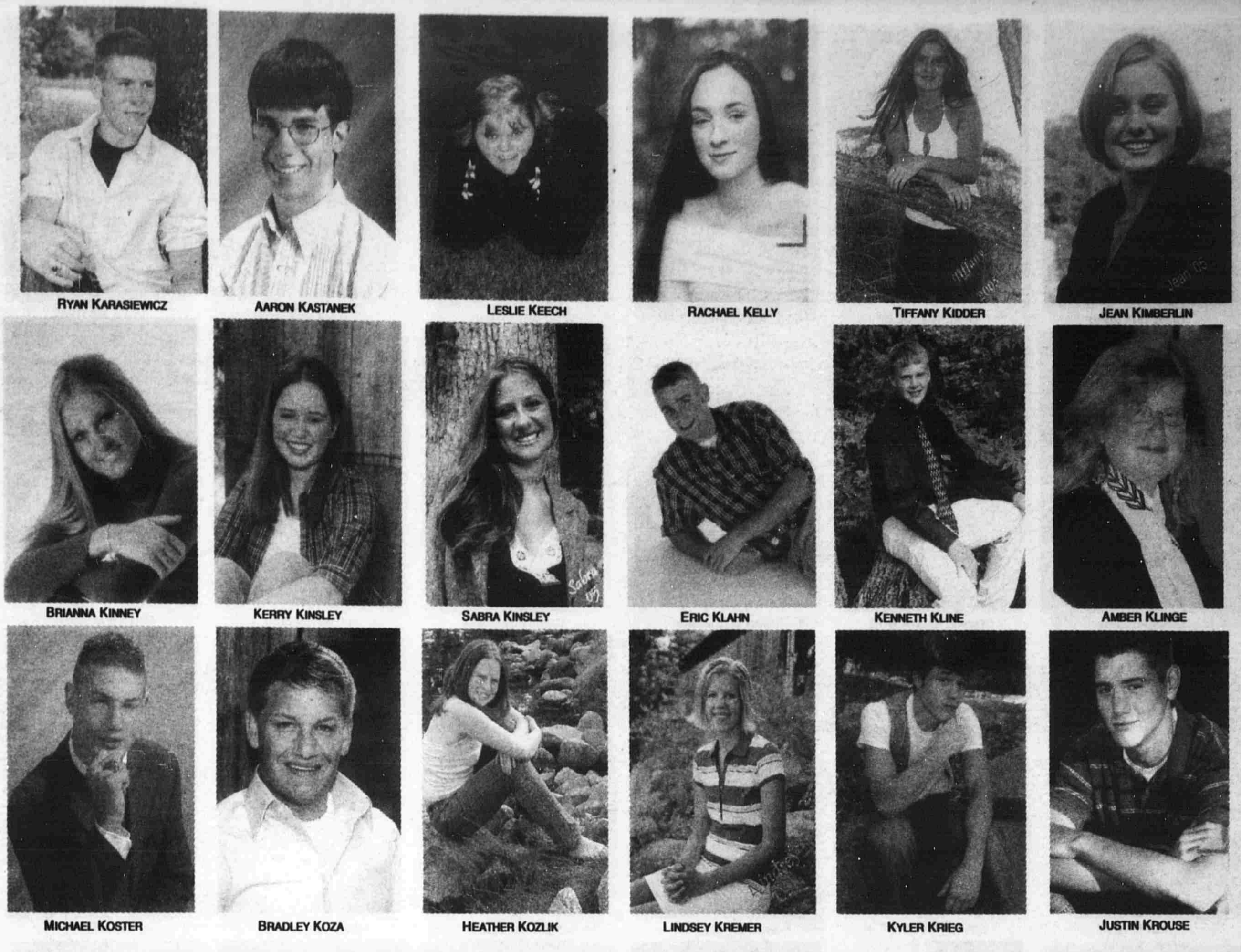
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 BRIAN JANESCHEK WHITNEY JERNIGAN ANTHONY JOHNSON JACOB KADWELL KYLE KAMINSKI CHELSEA KARAS

Miracles sometimes happen, but more often they're made of faith and will and hope and imagination, to say nothing of sweat.

-Tom Waldman, screenwriter



RYAN KARASIEWICZ AARON KASTANEK LESLIE KEECH RACHAEL KELLY TIFFANY KIDDER JEAN KIMBERLIN
 BRIANNA KINNEY KERRY KINSLEY SABRA KINSLEY ERIC KLAHN KENNETH KLINE AMBER KLINGE
 MICHAEL KOSTER BRADLEY KOZA HEATHER KOZLIK LINDSEY KREMER KYLER KRIEG JUSTIN KROUSE

The Ledger Applauds The 2005 Lowell High School Graduates

Congratulations

Hooray, graduates! You've made it. Diplomas in hand, you're equipped to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Whether you're heading for further education or planning to start in on your career, we wish you all success and future happiness.



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L.A. TRIM
 140 N. Washington St.
 Lowell
 897-6546

HATS OFF TO THE Class of 2005! YOU MADE IT!
Congratulations & Best Wishes In All That You Do!

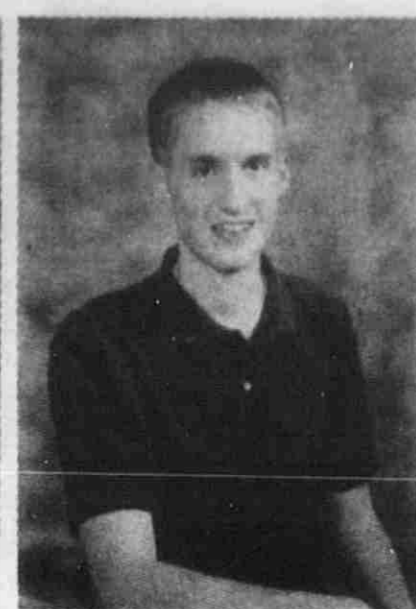




CHRISTINA KUHN



DUNCAN LAMMUS



ANDREW LEITZ



ZACHARY LIGMAN



KYLE MANSZEWSKI



KAYLIE MARTINEZ



ERICK MASTERS



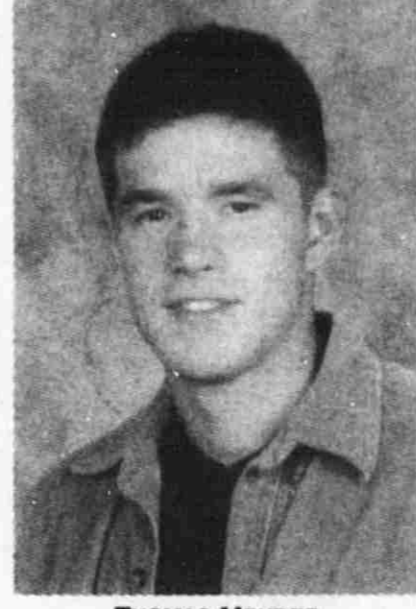
DOMINIC MASTROVITO



SARAH MCCARRICK



CHRIS MEELUWSEN



THOMAS MENDEZ



ANDREW MERCER



ANDREA MEYERS



JOSHUA MEYERS



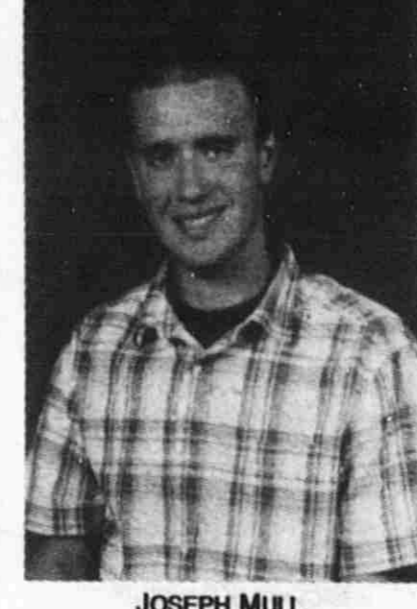
BRANTLY MOORE



DREW MORRISON



FRANK MULDER, JR.



JOSEPH MULL



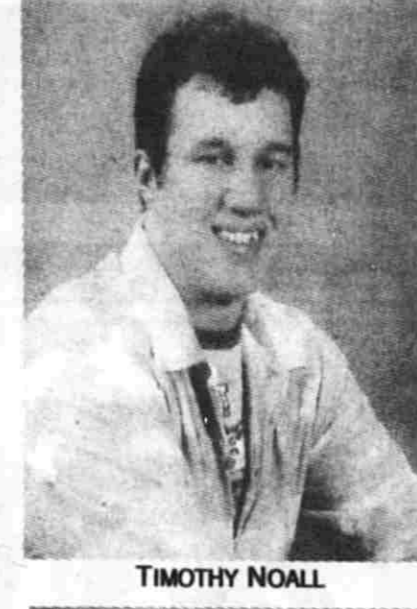
PAUL MUNDT



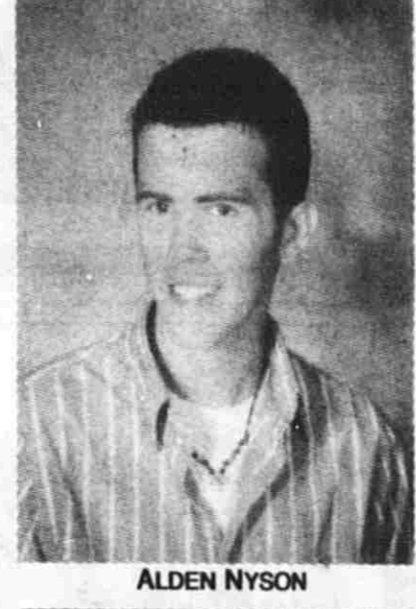
LORRI MYERS



JASON NEARING



TIMOTHY NOLL



ALDEN NYSON



NICHOLAS OLSON



SARA ONAN



BRITTANY PABON



JAKUB PALA



RYAN PAULSON



ROBERT PAYNE



SCOTT PERDARIS



MANDY PHILLIPS



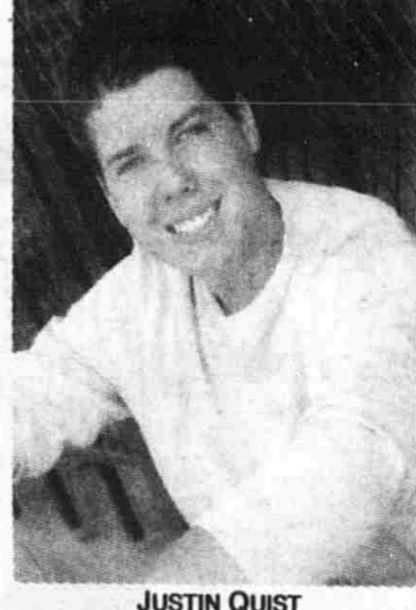
MICHAEL PRATT



KARIS PRILL



SPENCER QUINN



JUSTIN QUIST



JOHN RASCH



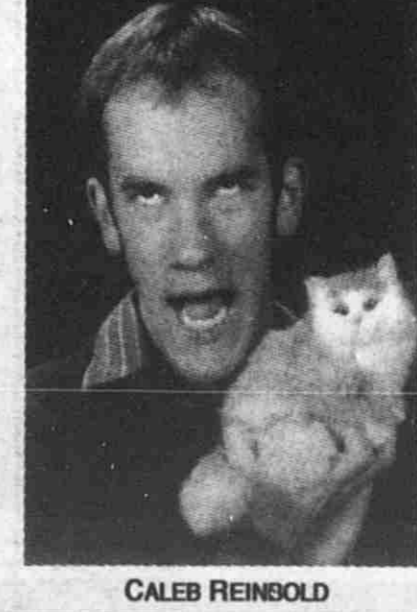
ALYSSA RASH



AMANDA RAU



ROBERT REEDY



CALEB REINGOLD



AMBER REMPALSKI



AIMEE RICHARDS



SUZANNE RICHARDSON



AMANDA ROBERTS



CHAD ROOSIEN



TIMOTHY ROSS



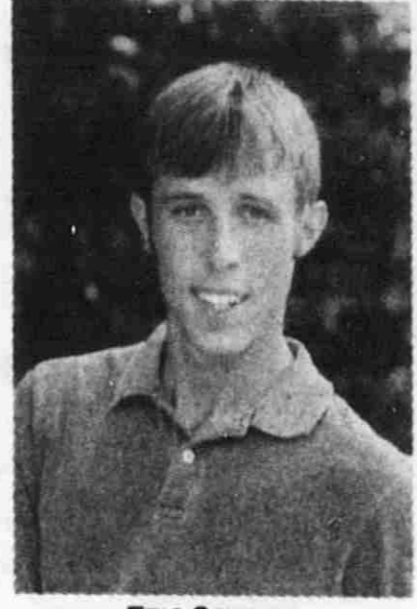
DAVID ROTH



MAGGIE RYAN



KAYLA SCHUIVENS



ERIC SCHUMM



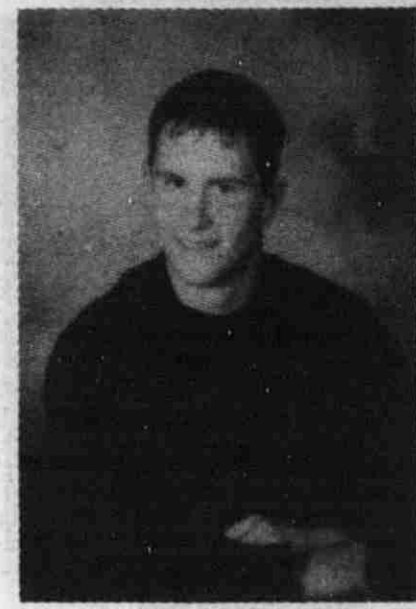
SHAUN SCUDDER



DAVID SEFTON



JOSEPH SEIF



KYLE SELLI



KYLE SERNE



STEPHANIE SHERRY



MEGHAN SILVERMAN



ANDREW SMITH



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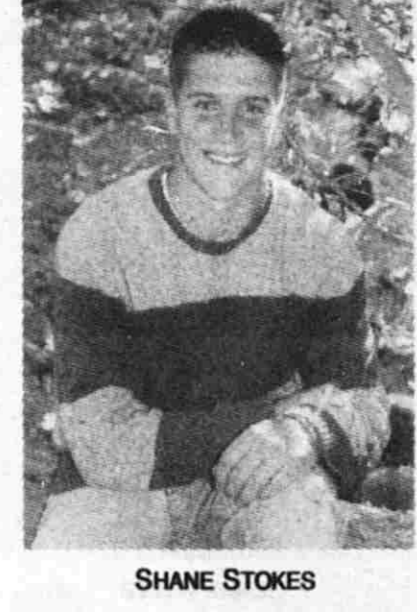
JESSICA STEPHENS



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SHANE STOKES



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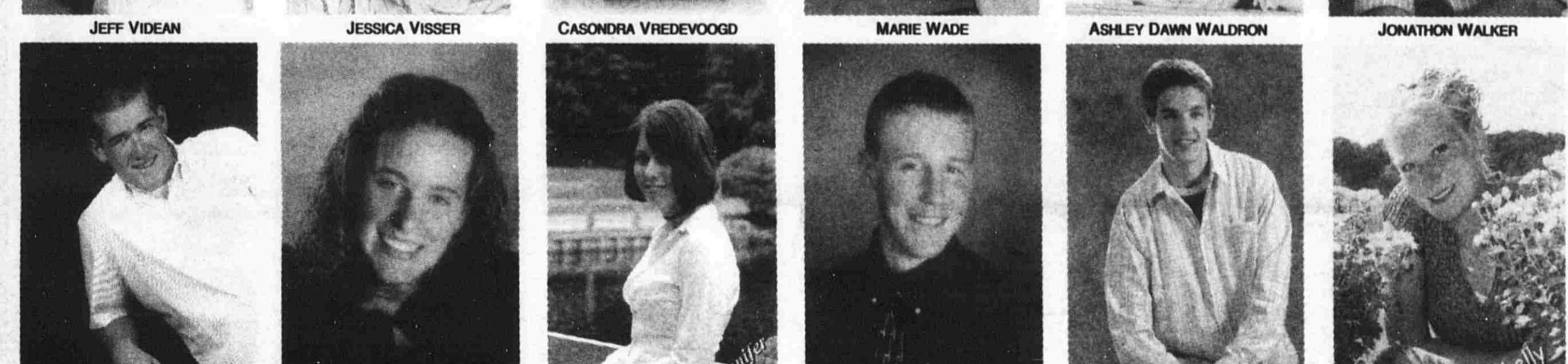
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DANIEL TUINSTRA KIMBERLY VANDENBERG ANNA VANDERHART KYLE VANDERLAAN MATTHEW VANENS TAYLOR VERDON



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There is only one success—to be able to spend your life in your own way.

-Christopher Morley

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LHS GRADUATES NOT PICTURED...

- | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| SHANNON ALGER | BENJAMIN BAUGHMAN | ANTHONY COZZAGLIO | JOSIAH HULL | BENJAMIN RAIMER | JENNIFER TOZER |
| ALVIN AQUINO | LAURA BAUM | DRAGAN CUCUK | ANDREW HEWITT | KYLE SMITH | LUIS VERA |
| KATIE BAKER | SHAUN BOWEN | STEVEN DANLEY | AARON MASON | LAUREN THOMAS | TRACY WARREN |
| NICOLE BAKER | ANTHONY BRONKELLA | BRANDON EIDENIER | MATTHEW | TRAVIS | MICHAEL WILDEY |
| KOLTON BASHORE | STEVEN CHILDS | ALEXANDER FONTAINE | MEPELINK | TICHELAAR | ANDREW ZERBE |
| REBECCA BATT | NATHAN COOKE | REESE GERARD | AMY OERTLIN | | |

**UNITY HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2005**



JEFFREY WOLFE JR CHRIS KACOS TIFFANY CORNELL JILL CRISSMAN HEATHER TROXEL



JAMAL DHAYNI DAWN CROWE

Congratulations!

Well Done!

ERIN RENEE CRAIG

Congratulations Ernie

You'll Do Great!!

Love,
Dad, Mom
& Nikki



Lowell/Caledonia
Varsity Hockey
Salutes our
Graduating Seniors

- Will Holland
- Pat McMahon
- Jeff Moore
- Mike Baron
- Ted McCoy
- Corey Kelly
- Dave Sweeney

*The very spring and root
of honesty and virtue lie
in the felicity of lighting
on good education.*

-Plutarch (A.D. 46?-A.D. c. 120)

Congratulations Taylor

Graduation June 5th and
Happy 18th Birthday, June 12th

We love you lots!
Dad, Mom and Ryan



Congratulations Meghan!

You make us so very proud

Best Wishes at Hope and may God Bless and Protect

Love,
Mom, Dad & Zach



From one Marine to Another - We're proud of you Kyle!

GOOD LUCK!

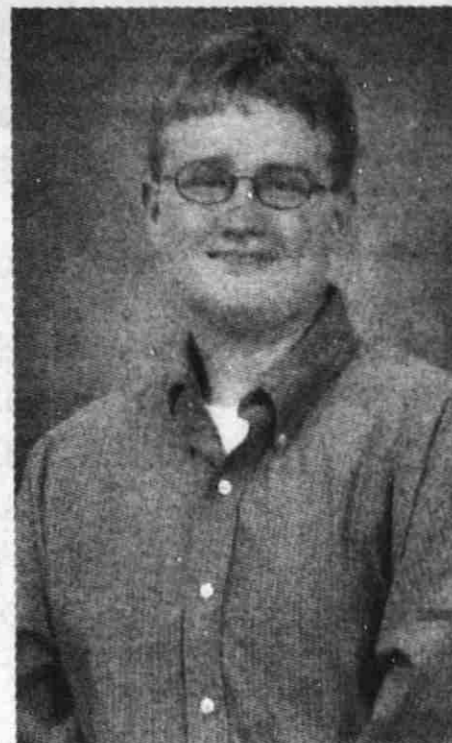
Dad, Deb & Jeremy Kaminski



CLASS OF 2005 SUMMA CUM LAUDE



ABIGAIL LEIGH DEBIAK
(4.115) VALEDICTORIAN
Abbie, the daughter of John and Cindy Debiak, will be attending Northern Michigan University in the fall. She is unsure of her area of study at this time. Extracurricular activities included soccer, cross country and Varsity Club.



KEVIN THOMAS EGGBEEN
(4.107) SALUTATORIAN
Kevin, the son of Kim and Diane Eggebeen, plans to attend Michigan State University in the fall and will be studying bio-chemistry and molecular biology. He would like to become a research chemist. Extracurricular activities included LAS Outreach, International Club and Model UN.



SAMUEL JAMES GIRWARTHAUTH
(4.039)
Sam, the son of Andy and Kathleen Girwarnauth, will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall to study genetics and molecular/cell biology. Activities in which he participated were Prayer Zone, Model UN and church.



NICHOLAS MARTIN MYERS
(4.038)
Nick, the son of Martin and Leslie Myers, will attend Grand Valley State University to study biology. He plans to work as a medical researcher. Activities included marching band and pit band.



KEVIN ANDREW GILLMAN
(4.022)
Kevin, the son of Dave and Barb Gillman, will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to study kinesiology, the study of muscle movement. Extracurricular activities in which he participated were soccer, basketball and Model UN.



TIFFANY TAYLOR VENNEMAN
(4.010)
Tiffany, the daughter of Leonard and Carol Venneman, will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall but is undecided on her area of study at this time. Activities included marching band (drum major) and SADD (peer resistance team).



KATHERINE ANN SERNE
(4.002)
Katie, the daughter of Patrick and June Serne, will study animal science at Michigan State University in the fall. She plans to become a veterinarian. Extracurricular activities included FFA, Women's Club and band.



AMY JEAN OBERLIN
(3.975)
Amy is the daughter of Mark and Lois Oberlin. She will attend Liberty University in the fall to study exercise science and fitness pro with plans of becoming a physical therapist. Extracurricular activities she participated in were soccer, basketball and FCA.



REBEKAH JEAN WOODS
(3.971)
Rebekah, the daughter of David and Jean Woods, has plans to minor in Spanish at Hope College in the fall but is undecided on her major area of study. Activities included cross country, track and field, and ice hockey.



ROYA MARIE ESHRAGH
(3.969)
Roya, the daughter of Shawn and Winnie Eshragh, will study foreign language at McGill University in the fall. Extracurricular activities in which she participated were Model UN, Yearbook and Jr. Rotary.



AMANDA SUE GUNBERG
(3.964)
Mandi, the daughter of Jim and Sally Gunberg, will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to study history. She plans to become an archaeologist or historian/archivist. Activities she participated in were tennis, golf and Model UN.



BRANDON BURTON LAWRENCE
(3.961)
Brandon, the son of Burt and Deb Lawrence, will be attending Grand Rapids Community College in the fall to study exercise science. He hopes to become a personal trainer. Extracurricular activities included varsity tennis and Jazz band.



EMILY KATHERINE GERARD
(3.959)
Emily is the daughter of John and Lori Gerard. She will be attending Taylor University in the fall to study biology and hopes to become a physical therapist. Activities in which she participated were soccer, cross country and student council.



JULIE ELIZABETH DUNN
(3.955)
Julie, the daughter of Rick and Kathy Dunn, will attend Michigan State University in the fall. She is undecided on her area of study at this time. Extracurricular activities included FFA, equestrian team and cheerleading.



HEATHER LEE VANDERHEIDE
(3.952)
Heather, the daughter of Mark and Tamara VanderHeide, will be attending Cornerstone University in the fall to study music. Activities she participated in were band and Bible quiz.

Planting with wildlife in mind can be enjoyable and rewarding

By Vern Stephens,
Wildlife Division

Do you long for the sudden burst of color from spring flowers and welcome the cool shade of rustling leaves on a hot summer day?

Are your senses heightened by the sight of a butterfly hovering over bright flowers, the tune of songbirds and the flavor of blueberries and apples?

All these delights are as close as your own backyard. By landscaping with native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses, you can enhance the beauty of your yard, improve the energy efficiency of your home, reduce your yard work, improve the environment and attract a variety of wildlife.

The demonstration site created by the Department of Natural Resources at their Private Lands Office at Rose Lake in East Lansing illustrates how you can increase the enjoyment of your yard while providing valuable wildlife habitat. "Providing quality wildlife habitat becomes increasingly important in the face of urban sprawl,"

said Bruce Warren, wildlife technician at the Private Lands Office. "Backyard habitats help reform some of the fragmenting effects that you get with urban and suburban development."

According to Warren, the larger and more diverse the habitat, the more wildlife it can support. However, it isn't necessary to have a large amount of land in order to improve the habitat quality of your yard. "Many landscaping projects can be confined to a small area, a butterfly or wildflower garden for example, yet improve the habitat quality of your yard and, indeed, your neighborhood," Warren said.

Planning is the first and most important stage in backyard habitat landscaping. Managing Michigan's Wildlife: A Landowner's Guide on the DNR Web site is a good starting point. The four steps of a good plan are:

- List species of animals and plants native to your area.
- Set objectives by deciding what species of wildlife you want to attract.
- Identify and map your yard's current features

including vegetation, buildings, powerlines, cables, etc.

• Design the individual landscaping project.

When landscaping for wildlife, keep in mind the four basic habitat requirements: food, water, cover and space. Trees, shrubs, vines, flowers and grasses all provide food and cover for wildlife. Rock, brush and compost piles also provide valuable cover. Streams or ponds, rain gardens, rain and dew provide the water component.

Plant diversity includes using an array of plant types such as trees, shrubs, vines, flowers and grasses. Structural diversity includes such things as placing together plants of contrasting

textures, like evergreen and deciduous shrubs with perennial wildflowers, trees and shrubs of differing ages, or using plants of varying heights to create a stepped appearance.

"Avoid straight lines in your design," he said. "Clumps and curves add diversity, texture and mystery."

Consider bloom times of each species of plant to offer year-round color and nectar source. Trees and shrubs provide unparalleled habitat for wildlife. Conifers, such as spruce, cedar or pine, offer excellent cover for wintering songbirds.

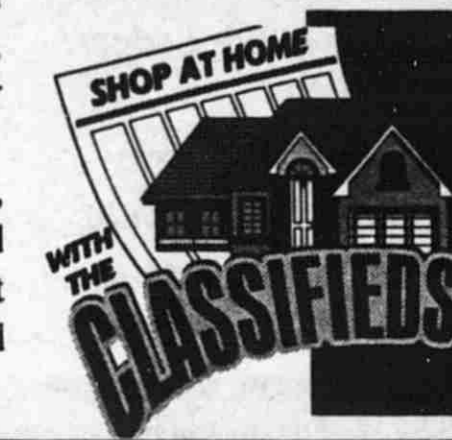
Fall foods such as oaks, hickories, hazelnuts and dogwoods are important for migratory birds and

winter residents. In winter, wildlife use trees and shrubs that retain their fruit, such as crabapples, hawthorns, northern bayberry and highbush cranberry.

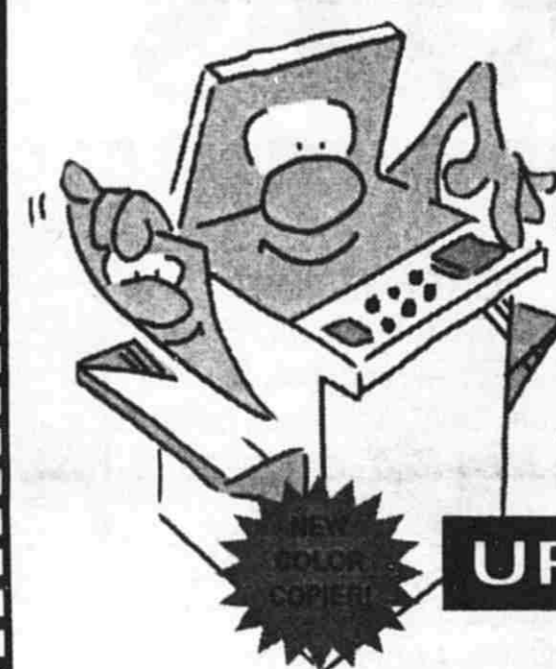
Do not overlook dead trees and limbs for their contributions. "Many songbirds, such as bluebirds, chickadees and flickers will use cavities in old or dead trees," Warren said. "If you don't have an old or dead tree, consider installing nest boxes for specific species."

Converting a portion of your yard to wildflowers and native grasses will reduce your mowing time, add beauty and diversity to your yard, as well as furnish food and cover for wildlife. Prairie grasses, or warm season grasses, grow rapidly during summer, using water and nutrients more efficiently than typical lawn grasses.

Perennial wildflowers require little maintenance, no fertilizer or pesticide and provide excellent sources of food for wildlife.



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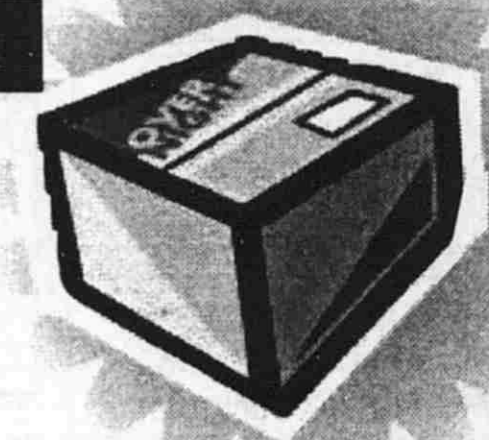
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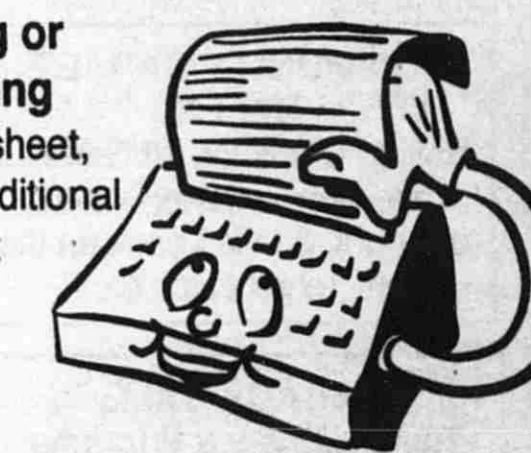
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MISS DIG, cont'd. ... From Page 11

According to industry sources, an increasing percentage of dig-in damages come from landscaping projects. Most damage prevention experts agree that part of the problem is the mistaken assumption by many homeowners that utility lines are buried far below the surface.

"We are noticing a rise in the number of damages due to landscaping projects," said Darryl Ellington, damage prevention process manager for DTE Energy. "Many people might think 'I'm not going that deep,' but they can misjudge very easily."

Michigan law requires that an area be staked and lines exposed by hand before any digging with power equipment occurs. The law applies to everyone, from large construction companies to homeowners.

Cutting through service lines can be dangerous. "It's not very hard to ignite that gas - a metal shovel head hitting a rock can spark," explained John Roberts, a damage prevention leader for Consumers Energy. "All new residential services now have plastic lines. If cut by accident, the static electricity in the plastic can also ignite the gas."

Cutting through service lines can damage your wallet as well. According to Dave Savoy, a Consumers Energy claims manager, dig-in incidents involving their utility lines cause about \$750,000 worth of damage every year. "A claim can run a couple thousand dollars per incident," he said. "If you're digging without first staking and hand-exposing, you can be responsible for the cost of repairs."

The costs for damaging an underground line can be more than monetary. When emergency response teams are occupied with avoidable incidents like broken utility lines, it can hamper their ability to respond to other calls.

Advice to homeowners with landscape projects? It's always better to be safe. Make the call to MISS DIG - it's free and it protects you and others.

Homeowners can request free staking through MISSDIG by phoning 1-800-482-7171 or online at www.missdig.org. Allow three business days for staking to be completed. The MISS DIG System is available 24/7 for emergency and non-emergency requests.

LAMINATING

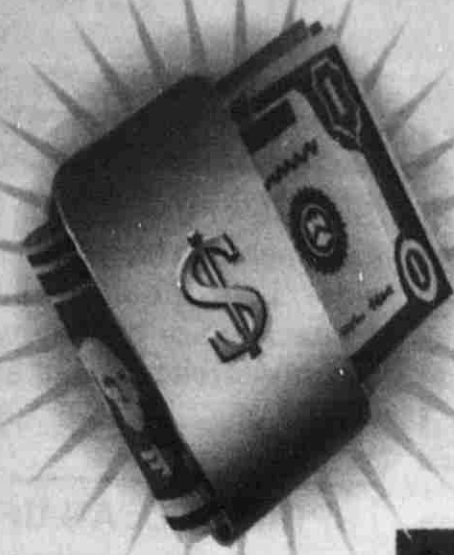
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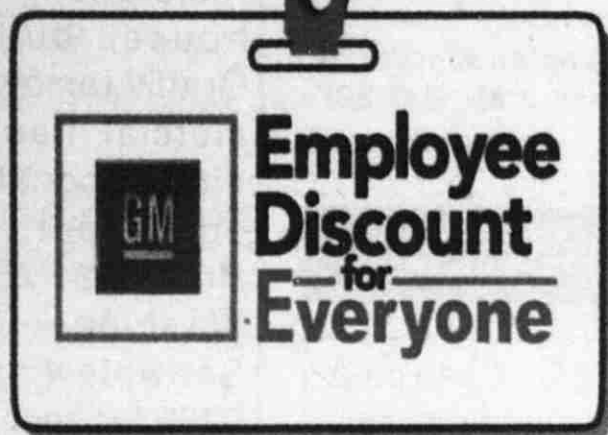
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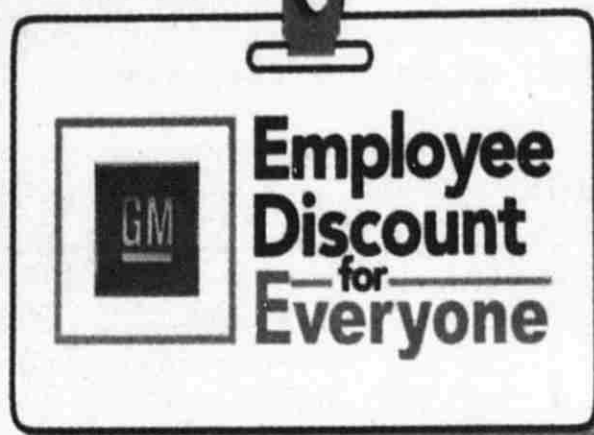
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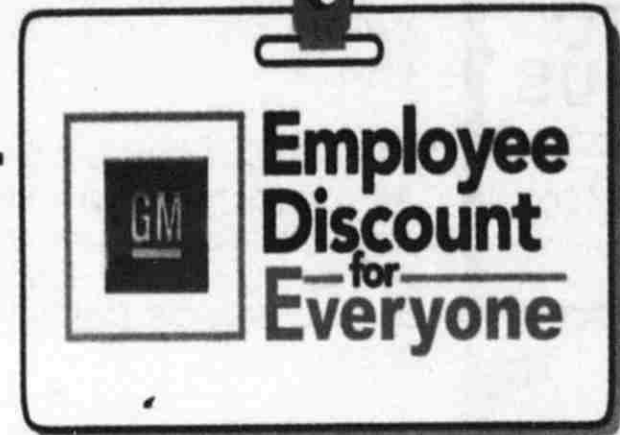
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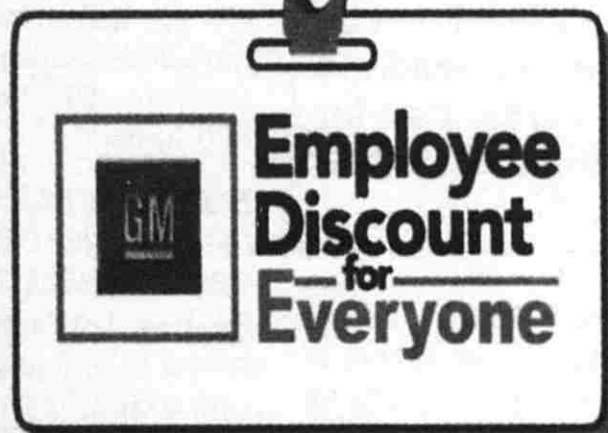
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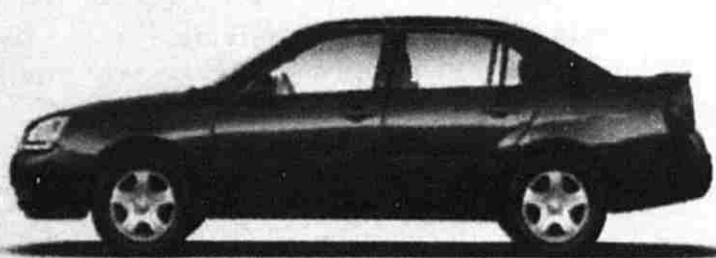
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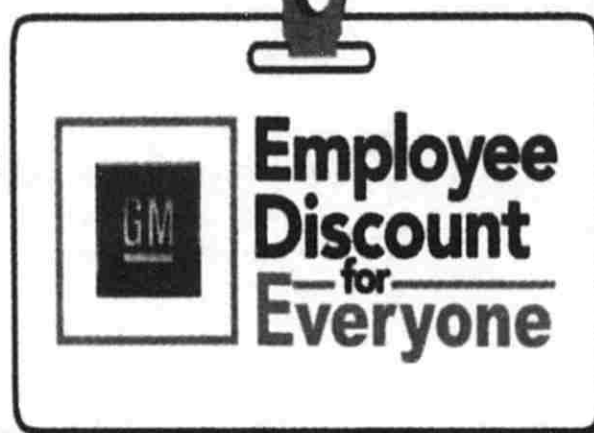
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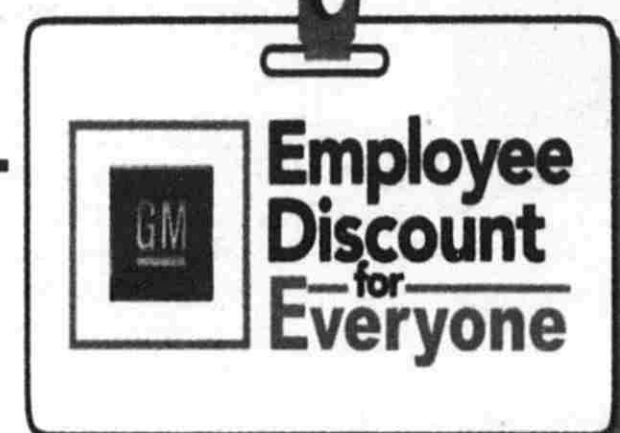
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