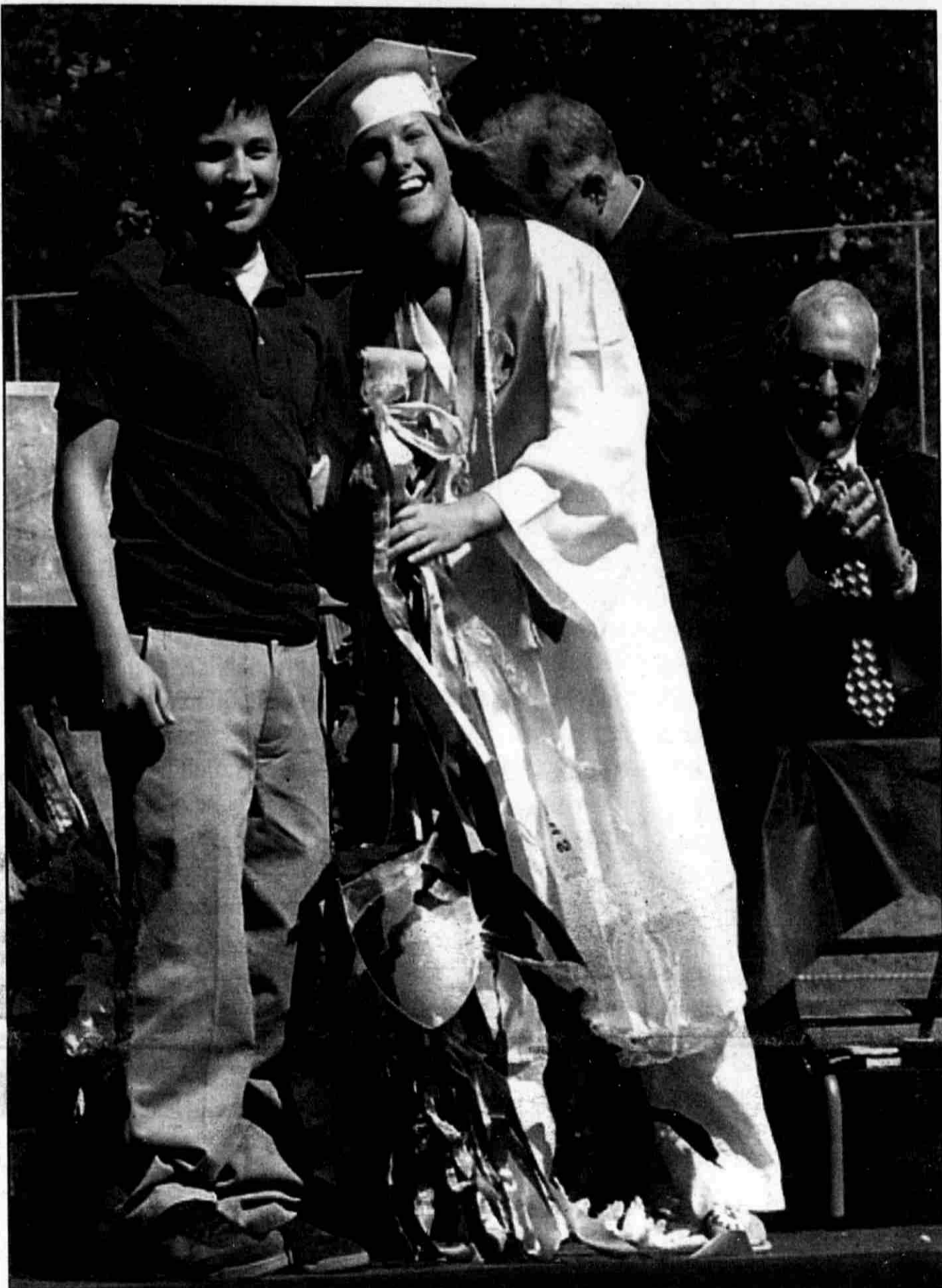


# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 31

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, June 7, 2006



In the Lowell High School tradition, Class of 2006 president Nikita Miles passed the spade to class of 2007 president Kevin Vuong.

## The Class of 2006 passes the spade on to future grads

By Dan Schneider

The 128th Lowell High School annual commencement exercises were held Sunday at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium. The stands were packed as the community gave the class of 2006 a ceremonial sendoff into the vast world. The sun shown down on the crowd and the graduates through a nearly cloudless sky. High school principal Scott Vashaw remarked on the contrast with last year's graduation day, when looming storms greatly shortened the proceedings and cut out his remarks entirely.

"I have taken the liberty of taking last year and this year and rolling them both together into one very long presentation," Vashaw said.

He actually kept his remarks fairly brief, but

they were long enough to highlight several of the accomplishments of this class, and of Lowell High School students in general, during their time at Lowell.

"We have both a national merit semifinalist and a national merit finalist," Vashaw said.

He touched upon this year's boys and girls basketball teams, both of which made academic all-state, and the girls soccer and softball teams which had both recently become district champions.

He mentioned Lowell High School's recognition from Newsweek magazine as being in the top 5 percent of more than 18,000 U.S. high schools. He said that was "based on a lot of staff who have been trained and prepared to deliver a very rigorous curriculum of

academic courses and the students who have the guts to take them."

He commented that Lowell has been recognized as a model district for character building in the state. He concluded with four things he saw as the key to the success of the school and the class of 2006.

"We have great kids here. This year's class is no exception," Vashaw said, listing them as reason number one.

They were followed by parents, then staff.

"Our teachers are second to none," Vashaw said.

And fourth, the community.

"I can't think of a time we've asked the community for something we needed

*Graduation, cont'd., pg. 17*

## Farmers' market proposed for downtown Lowell

By Dan Schneider

Some folks in Lowell have been putting together ideas with the intent of creating a farmers' market in Lowell.

The idea has bounced around a bit in the past, but the group that met last Thursday at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce hopes July 6 will be the opening day for a market

in Lowell. That group included local farmers, a retired couple interested in ramping up production in their vegetable garden and selling the produce, chamber executive director

Liz Baker and Lowell Fairgrounds manager Ron Wenger.

The city council had a favorable reaction to the proposal at Monday's meeting. A vote on the issue

is scheduled for June 19.

Past efforts to establish a farmers' market in the city were stymied by prohibitive zoning ordinances. But farmers' market organizers thought the Lowell Fairgrounds, with its special accommodations for agriculture-related activities, would be an appropriate site.

Duane Rasch, a Vergennes Township farmer

who spends several days a week selling at Lansing-area farmers' markets, thought one would be feasible in Lowell.

"It seems to be a craze right now, so I don't see why it couldn't work if we got enough vendors," Rasch said. "It might not take off right away, though, so don't get discouraged."

*Market, cont'd., pg. 4*

## City inches toward final agreement with townships on Cook property

By Emma Palova  
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council approved a preliminary agreement under the Conditional Land Transfer Act (P.A. 425) for the development of Cook property in Vergennes Township on Monday.

Representatives from the city of Lowell, Vergennes and Lowell townships have been meeting to address a

proposal for an urban residential development of 300 units on 177 acres located on the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes roads. If built, the development will consist of a mix of single family, attached condos and apartment buildings.

As such, the development would have significant impact on the city and the two townships in terms of providing a full range of urban services, according to city manager

David Pasquale. The preliminary agreement provides for the division of municipal powers, functions and responsibilities to allow joint administration of the development area, said Pasquale.

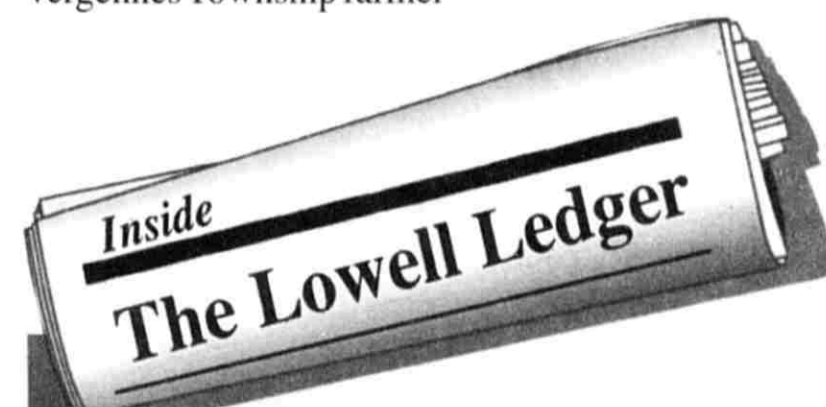
Although a joint agreement on the urban services area remains to be hammered out, the proposal stipulates the city will provide water, sewer, public safety, fire protection, utilities, roads, street maintenance

and snow removal in the development area. The city will retain billing for the services.

"This is just in its infancy," said council member James Pfaller. "We need to go further on a joint agreement on the urban services area. We came up with an agreement that will work."

Pasquale said the agreement provides the framework for more formal

*Agreement, cont'd., pg. 9*



*Vandalism At Dealership ... Page 3*

*Memorial Nearly Complete ... Page 4*

*Pretty Up Your Pooch ... Page 16*

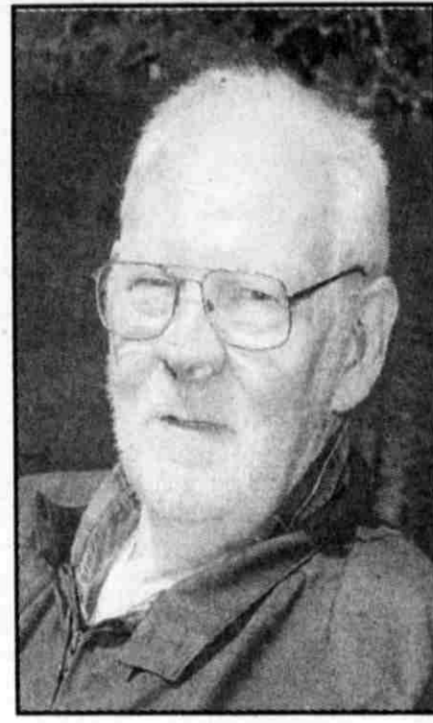
*Class of 2006 ... Pages 18-29*

# Obituaries



**ANIBLE**  
George Edward Anible, aged 74, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, June 4, 2006. Ed loved the outdoors and worked outside all of his life with VanOrden & VanEss and the last 30 years with Utility Contracting Company. He loved to go on his pontoon boat and fish on Murray Lake. Ed was also

an avid snowmobiler. He could fix anything and was definitely a handyman in all areas. Ed built and raced stock cars at The Speedrome and Berlin Raceway. He was preceded in death by his parents George W. and Retha Anible, son Timothy DeHaan, brother Philip Anible. He leaves his loving wife of 45 years, Jane; sons Patrick and Daniel Anible, Daniel (Deborah) DeHaan; daughter Sandra (Harold Lewis) DeHaan; brother Bob (Marilyn) Davis; sisters Sally Meinke, Nancy (Casey) VandeMeer; several nieces and nephews; eight grandchildren; many great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be Thursday, June 8, at 11 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Rev. Randy Meyers, Calvary



**ANIBLE**  
Philip John Anible, aged 68, of Lowell, left this world to walk with the Lord on June 1, 2006. Phil had a great philosophy on life, a

passion for racing, football, wrestling and his family. He was loving and caring of his family and always there to talk and listen. Phil's wife, children and grandchildren were a source of great pride to him. Phil raced and built stock cars and enjoyed this special interest with his dad, brother and two sons. Phil was a 25-year employee of Altico and took great pride in his job. He was preceded in death by his parents George W. and Retha I. Anible of East Grand Rapids, Jim and Ellen Fox, Tom Fox, Mary O'Connor, Jay O'Connor, Ken Meinke, Bobby Schafer, Casey VanderMeer. He is survived by his wife and best friend of 33 years, Dorothy; sons Ron Fox, Jim and Kyle Anible; grandchildren Mike, Jon, Wyatt; brother Ed and Jane Anible, Bob and Marilyn Davis; sisters Sally Meinke, Nancy and Casey VanderMeer; many special in-laws, nieces and nephews, Carol Fox, Katie Wilson, Pattie and Bob Harberts, Bobbie and Dale Minier, many friends. Mass of Christian burial was offered June 5 at St. Patrick Church, Rev. Rock Badgerow presiding, Interment St. Patrick's Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice or Lowell Athletic Boosters, or the MDS (Leukemia) Research in lieu of flowers.

(Roxanne) Childs, David (Maria) Childs, Shawn (Heidi) Childs; sisters Robin (Jarrin) Salzwedel, Dawn (Dan) Mielke; parents-in-law Angel and Juanita Chavez; many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Tuesday at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Fr. Steven Cron of Cathedral of St. Andrew officiating.



**EDWARDS**  
Arleen May Edwards, of Holt, passed away on May 25, 2006 at the age of 78. Born on May 4, 1928, in Lowell, the daughter of Fred J. and Elma M. (Wilcox) Roth, Arleen graduated from M.S.U. with a master's degree in education and retired from Elliott Elementary School in Holt after 22 years of teaching. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Holt and embraced Holt as her home and took great pride in being a member of the community. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Gordon L. Edwards in 2005; and her brother Alan Roth. Surviving are three children Vicki Edwards, Rick (Sandra) Edwards and Greg (Theresa) Edwards; seven grandchildren Sarah, Susan, Annamarie, Alexis, Brian, Stephanie and Brent; five great-grandchildren; brother Ralph Roth; many nieces, nephews and other extended family members. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, May 30, at First Presbyterian Church of Holt, with the Rev. Gus Nussdofor officiating. Interment in Maple Ridge Cemetery, Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Holt or to Sparrow Hospice Services.

**EMERY**  
Raymond E. Emery, aged 86, passed away May 26, 2006, in Sarasota, FL. He is survived by his four children Beverly and Bill Halstead of Sarasota, Raymond Emery Jr. of Kentwood, Trudy and Scudder DeVries of Lowell, Abe and Sue Emery of Gaffney, SC; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren. Cremation has taken place in Sarasota. Memorial services were held in Sarasota by Vamo United Methodist Church on June 2 and also a private memorial in Baldwin, MI.

**HODGMAN**  
Robert G. Hodgman, aged 73, of Belding, passed away May 26, 2006. Robert is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Virginia Hodgman of Belding; children Annette and Kenneth Blanchard of Lowell, Karl Lindquist of Orleans, Connie and Brad Mulford of Saranac, Daniel and Carmen Lindquist of Palo; sisters Vivian and Ed Harrell of Belding, Carol Gladding of Ionia; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Memorial services were held Thursday at Shiloh Community Church with Rev. Kenneth Harger officiating. Anyone wishing may make memorial contributions to Shiloh Community Church.

**TAGUE**  
Mrs. Wyvona "Y" Tague, aged 87, of Alto, formerly of Syracuse, IN, and Palmetto, FL, went to be with her Lord in heaven where she rejoins her husband Paul on Wednesday, May 31, 2006. She was born February 26, 1919, in Syracuse. She is survived by her sister Catherine Tague; nephews Larry Tague, Mark (Lisa) Tague; great-nieces and nephews Dana (Scott) Preston, Lance (Heidi) Tague, Sara Tague; several great-great-nieces and nephews. The funeral service was held Saturday at Stroo Funeral Home, with Rev. Richard Baukema, Sr. officiating. Interment in McClintic Cemetery, Syracuse. Memorial contributions may be given to Hospice of Michigan.



**CHILDS**  
Brian K. Childs, aged 41, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly June 2, 2006. He is survived by his wife Maria; children Dan (Molly) Nevarez, Tony (Sara) Nevarez, Britni Childs, Dylan Childs, Steven Childs; grandson Diego Antonio Nevarez; parents Clyde and Leona Childs; brothers Clyde William Childs, Stephen (Sandy) Childs, Ken

## LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

The Virginia Saur Living Trust, dated April 30, 1999. Date of Birth: March 1, 1917

FILE NO. 06-181,531-DE

FILE NO. 06-181,418-DE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Estate of MARY E. GIETZEN, deceased  
SSN: 364-24-5674

Estate of CARRIE E. WRIGHT, deceased  
SSN: 385-24-2612

Your interest in the Trust may be barred or affected by the following:

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, CARRIE E. WRIGHT, who lived at 43 Lexington SW, Grand Rapids, MI died 02/19/2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to JAMES A. WRIGHT, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

May 31, 2006

Craig Avery P10311  
3875 West River Dr., P.O. Box 327  
Comstock Park, MI 49321  
616-784-5080

Karen S. McFadden P-57043  
Attorney for Trustees  
403 W. Main  
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May 31, 2006  
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Phillip Schiffer  
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Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
616-361-6088

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## Rotary raises funds for reading



Alto PTO members, from left, DeAnne Lobbezoo and Judy Rozell, are with Lowell Rotary Club member Jim White, Bushnell and Cherry Creek Family Links finance coordinator Jessica Marks and Lowell Area Schools director of library media services Christine Beachler who is also representing Murray Lake Elementary parents. White received checks from the four on behalf of the parent organizations which contributed to the Rotary Club's Literacy Through Award-Winning Books project. With help from a \$5,000 matching grant through the Lowell Area Community Fund, Rotary raised \$10,000 to purchase books for the libraries of all six schools in the Lowell district.

## Cars damaged at local dealership

Several cars were damaged at Wittenbach Pontiac GMC over Memorial Day weekend. Police said someone walking along the sidewalk scraped the hoods of the vehicles parked nearby, causing an estimated \$3,300 worth of damage. The act was clearly done with malicious intent, police said. A specific time is not known, only that the vandalism occurred sometime over the weekend.

Lowell police sergeant James Hinton said the crime would have been a difficult one to eyewitness. "Even if you were driving by, it could just look like someone was walking by and putting their hand on the cars," Hinton said. "It would be pretty hard to spot."

Police are asking anyone with information to contact either the Lowell Police Department at 897-7123 or Silent Observer at 774-2345.

## Mental health worker arraigned on criminal sexual conduct charges

A Hope Network employee was arraigned last Wednesday on charges of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a mentally disabled person.

Free on bond, Sarah Marie Cooper, 23, of Lowell, awaits a June 14 preliminary hearing in the case.

The incidents allegedly took place during the month of July 2005 at Cooper's residence. They were brought to police's attention in mid-April after the client, a resident at the West Lake Hope Network facility, alerted another employee there.

A misdemeanor offense, is punishable by up to two fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct involving fine. years in prison and a \$500 mentally disabled person

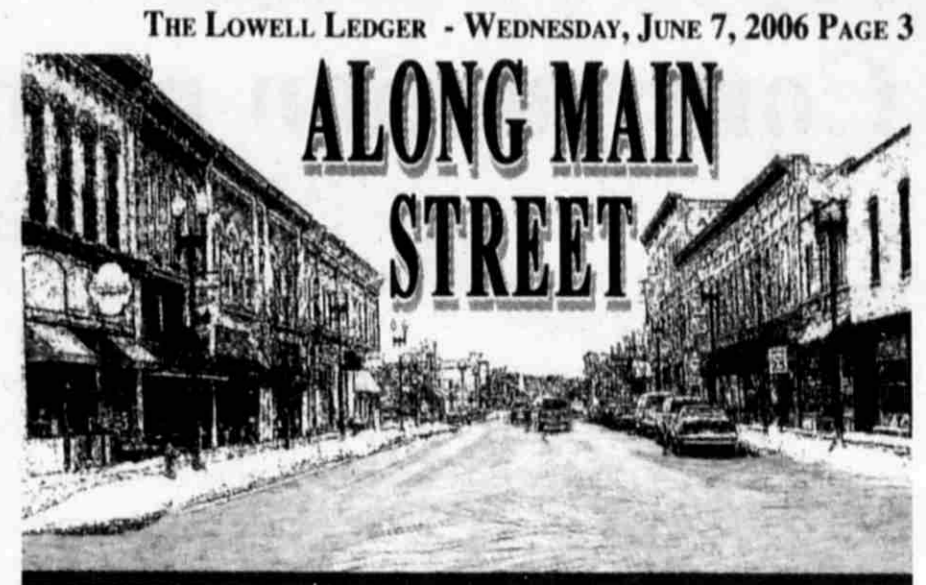
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O THE BREAK-UP (PG-13)  
MON-TH 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30  
O X-MEN: THE LAST STAND (PG-13)  
MON-TH 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30  
O DA VINCI CODE (PG-13)  
MON-TH 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10  
O OVER THE HEDGE (PG)  
MON-TH 11:20, 1:35, 3:50, 6:15, 7:10, 9:05  
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**GUIDED HIKE AT WITTENBACH/ WEGE CENTER**  
Join the Land Conservancy of West Michigan on Thursday, June 8 at 7 p.m. for a naturalist guided hike at the Wege Natural Area, a 61-acre forested preserve. Across the street from Lowell High School, park at Wittenbach Science Center.

**LOWELL LIFE WALK**  
The Alpha Women's Center of West Michigan will host their annual fundraising event on Saturday, June 17, beginning at 9 a.m. at 2251 W. Main. For more information call Christina Malone at 616-742-0242 or www.alphaawc.org.

**CHAMBER FUN GOLF LEAGUE**  
Come to the Double R Ranch Mondays between 6 and 7 p.m. for mixed golf league. No experience necessary. Call 794-0520 for details.

**ST. PATRICK'S ANNUAL FESTIVAL**  
Festivities begin Saturday, June 24 at 4351 Parnell NE, Ada, with Las Vegas tent, ice cream social, live band; continue on Sunday with chicken barbecue, games, live band, and raffle.

**CLASS OF 1986 REUNION**  
Check out www.lowellmi.net or call Michele at 866-7276 for more information on their 20th reunion Aug. 19.

**40TH REUNION**  
The Class of 1966 will have their 40th reunion on Saturday, July 29 at the VFW Hall, 3116 Alden Nash from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. \$10 a person, food is provided, just bring a beverage. Still looking for about 25 classmates. Call Dave Rogers 772-781-7432 or email emdar51@aol.com or call Janet (Stevens) Boerema at 897-7361 with information.

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# Construction nearly complete on high school memorial

By Dan Schneider

It's something no high school should have to have. But it's something Lowell High School has had need for too many times in the past ... a place to go to mourn or remember

classmates who died before their time. That's the gift the Lowell High School Class of 2006 is giving back to the school. It is a two-tiered deck with white railings that overlooks woods and Red Arrow Stadium. It is far

enough away from the bustle of the school building to be a quiet place to sit and think. It is the kind of place of place they probably still need now.

Senior class president Nikita Miles remembers being in school in November

of 2004, when she and her classmates were grappling with Lancaster's death. "What can students do in that time of mourning," Miles said. "There were counseling opportunities and you talked with your friends, but it was in the LPAC (Lowell Performing Arts Center) and we didn't think that was appropriate enough."

Wilterink, co-owner of Lowell Granite Company, which has helped the monument come to fruition. "Unfortunately, we've had a lot of families in town lose kids ... it means an awful lot not only to the families, but also to the students."

The deck is an addition the class of 2006 wanted to make.

"We wanted to make it so if something like this would happen in the future, we could have a place to go," Miles said. "It's close to the school and it's not in the school. It was far enough away that you could take a step back."

The project has received a lot of community support. A grant of \$5,000 came from the Lowell Area Community Fund. Anonymous donors have given \$4,000.

VanderKlok Builders has donated many hours of labor constructing the deck and installing the railings. Andy VanderKlok, a member of the class of 2006, has done much of the work alongside his father, Bill VanderKlok.

Later, at the beginning of their senior year, the student council started making plans to build a more appropriate place.

"A lot of people in our student council were close to him," Miles said of Lancaster. "There had been talk of a monument."

Miles took the lead on the project. "I wanted to make sure it was something that could represent all the students who passed away," Miles said.

There will be a monument next to the deck, five feet tall and made of red granite imported from India.

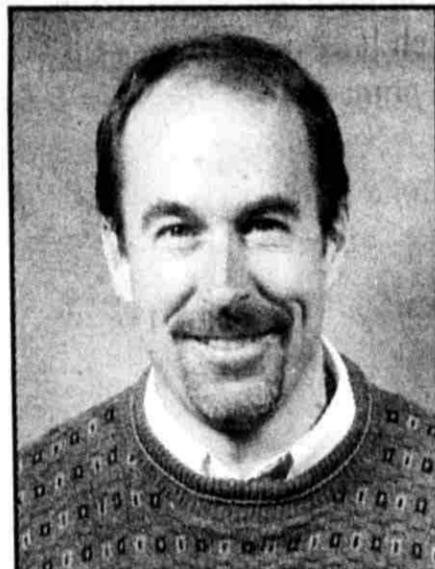
"We have been working on this for years," said John



Bill VanderKlok, left, Jack VanderKlok, right, and Andy VanderKlok, top, install a railing on the observation deck, part of a memorial at Lowell High School for classmates who have passed away before their time.

## Business Matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Kim Schwacha received Realtor of the Month in May. This award recognizes Schwacha for his outstanding success and achievements.



## Market, continued ... From Page 1

Farmers' markets have long existed in larger cities, such as the Fulton Street Farmers' Market in Grand Rapids. But successful ones have also begun in smaller towns like Rockford and DeWitt.

The Lowell Farmers' Market would set up south of the beef barn on the fairgrounds at the site formerly occupied by the Barton house. Next to the intersection of Bowes Road and South Hudson Street, the site would be highly visible to motorists. The fair's future plans involve building a new sheep barn nearby, one that could be designed to accommodate farmers' market stalls. But until that barn is built, farmers would need to bring their own canopies

for their produce stand. Though none of the plans are firmly established, the farmers' market group had several ideas about how the market should be run.

Lowell Farmers' Market would be open Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m.

"We feel we couldn't compete with Grand Rapids so Saturday might not be an option," Baker said.

But the Thursday evening time would give the market the potential to draw customers from among the people already in town for the Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts. Evening hours may also be a better fit for people's work schedules.

"A lot of people,

working two jobs in the family, don't necessarily have time to shop in the morning," Baker said.

Rasch said evening hours can work well for farmers.

"It's hot when you're setting up, but it's nice selling in the evening," he said.

It also allows farmers to pick their produce the morning of market day, rather than the night before.

Produce will be the main focus of the market, though arts and crafts vendors will be allowed to sell there. At least at first, farmers will not be restricted to selling Michigan-grown produce.

# Viewpoint



cozy corner

the fall hunting season. The problem was, I lived in town. Even though squirrels were abundant in the neighborhood, hunting them was frowned upon, even way back then.

I solved the problem by taking my shotgun and shells to school and stowing them in my locker during the day. When school was out, I'd ride the bus home with a classmate and hunting buddy who lived north of town. We'd hunt 'til dark, I'd spend the night and ride the bus, with my shotgun, back to school in the morning. Again, it was stowed in my locker all day. That's the kick in the pants ... just try getting away with that in this day and age.

I should mention that I did need a note from home. Not to bring a shotgun to school, but a permission slip to ride the school bus.

My barber is about my age and an outdoorsman. A few months ago something in our conversation prompted me to tell my story about riding the school bus with a shotgun. He got a good laugh out of it and completely agreed with my assessment that it vividly contrasts today's world with the one we grew up in.

After his chuckle, my barber then said, "That's pretty good, but I've got one better than that." This, I had to hear.

My barber lived outside of town, rode the bus and went to school in Caledonia. He says one of the kids that rode his bus was the son of a local "git 'er done" kinda guy. One of this dad's talents was working with dynamite. If a farmer needed a stump or big rock blown out of the way, he was the go-to-guy in the area.

According to my barber's story, when the father had a blasting job he would call in a dynamite order at the local hardware. That alone is a blast from the past. It has been a long time since you could walk into the local hardware and leave with a bunch of dynamite. Oh, and pardon the "blast from the past" pun ... I couldn't resist. On with the story. To save his father a trip to town, the son would pick up the dynamite order during his lunch hour, stow it in his locker for the afternoon and bring it home on the school bus that night.

I nearly ended up with a Mohawk haircut from laughing so hard. Can't you just picture a school kid boarding a bus for home with a case of dynamite under his arm and a Roy Rogers lunchbox in his hand?

As with my story, there was one small gesture to authority. My barber says the bus driver made the kid leave the case of dynamite behind the driver's seat. You know, safety first.

Dynamite on a school bus does trump my shotgun story. But they are both great illustrations of how times have changed in forty years or so. And, I might add, I don't think things have necessarily changed for the better. For example, Katie Couric is no Walter Cronkite.

## Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lusmyer

125 YEARS  
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL  
JUNE 8, 1881

James Courtney of Grand Rapids gets the contract to build Train's new block.

It was almost cold enough to snow Monday morning. About 20 town bands are having a tournament in Lansing today.

A hard winter plus the present dry spell mean smaller crops, especially peaches.

100 YEARS  
THE LOWELL LEDGER  
JUNE 7, 1906

Doctors say the skin disease in town is the mild form of smallpox, and only one case reported last week.

There are 16 graduates in the Class of "Naughty-six."

A "flood of petitions" from the meat packers tries, and fails, to keep the president from making public the stockyards/meat-packers investigation.

Two drinking fountains have been installed on Bridge Street.

75 YEARS  
THE LOWELL LEDGER  
AND THE ALTO SOLO  
JUNE 4, 1931

Hollywood announces no more films with racketeering, gang life and gunplay.

Annual school picnics coming: grades 1-6 at Recreation Park, 7-8 at Fallsburg Park and upper classes at Bostwick or Baldwin.

With General Bean Co. locating here, construction of a 3-story building next to the elevator and installation of the new electric eye bean sorters, already 2000 acres of beans have been contracted for.

Robert Jacoby borrows a horse to cultivate potatoes in town; returning with two riders in a light wagon, the horse runs away through three yards, ending in Dr. Shepard's garage.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER  
JUNE 7, 1956

Main Street businesses are asked not to sweep sidewalks into the street, which is swept at 3 a.m.

Don McNaughton's house was moved overnight from Main to North Hudson, one of three moves making room for the new Kroger's.

Gas tax refund forms are available to farmers, good for 2¢/gallon.

The new 60-hour state driver-training course graduates its first LHS class with teacher Carrol (Chris) Burch.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER  
JUNE 3, 1981

This week's special School Board meeting is to revise layoffs in view of seniority "bumping."

Water rates will go up to 54 cents a thousand gallons this year, with further increases the next two years.

Get your tickets for the Boxcar Willie show on the 15th at the Amphitheatre.

Carl Kloosterman and Kelly Dickerson win state honors in shot put.

## To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Alpha Women's Centers of West Michigan is so excited to be part of the Lowell community. The dedication and hard work the residents of Lowell put in to getting this pro-life pregnancy care center up and running should be commended.

Alpha has been offering pregnancy-related resources and guidance to at-risk families in the West Michigan area for over 21 years. Alpha offers pregnancy testing, ultrasound testing, post abortion and sexual healing Bible studies, an Earn While You Learn parenting program, abstinence

education to local schools, and material assistance for mothers and mothers-to-be, all free of charge.

Our clients are encouraged and supported by a team of caring volunteers. They are taught responsibility and parenting skills while given the opportunity to earn the material assistance they need. It is the prayer of the Alpha board and staff that we will not only meet the need present in your community, but most of all that we will be a blessing to the many scared young women that walk through our doors.

Sincerely, Mark Blocher  
Executive Director Alpha Women's Centers of West Michigan

## Letters... We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: [ledger@lowellbysersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbysersguide.com). Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

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**Come and see our new WATERFALL!**

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**JUNIOR LEAGUE • AGES: 6-16**  
**Begins Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM**  
Cost: \$45.00 Registration fee; \$6 green fees each week.  
*Includes: Basic instruction each week, 9 holes, T-Shirt, end of season cook out, and discount card.*

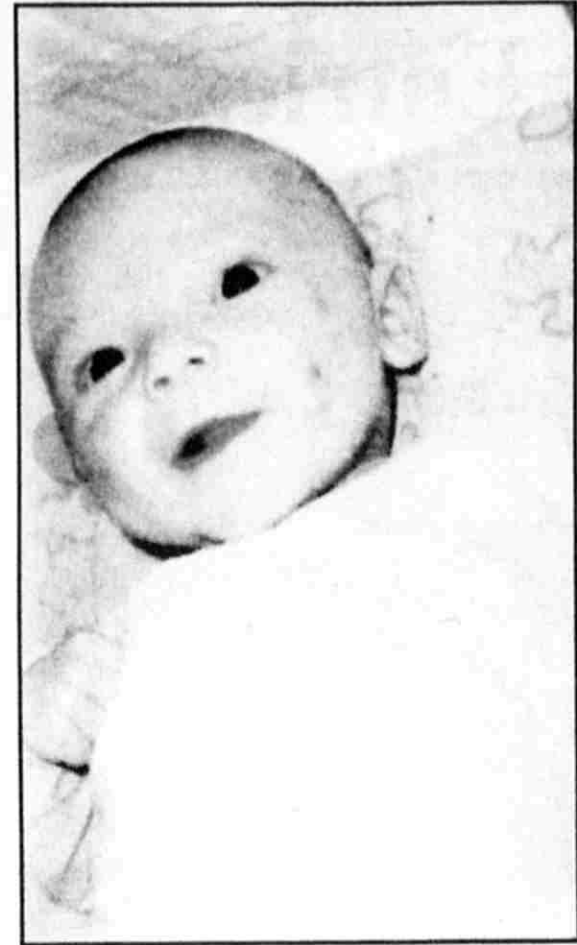
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# New Arrivals

## Pollert-Conant



Carl Joseph Pollert Conant

Jason Conant and Clare Pollert are happy to announce the birth of their son, Carl Joseph Pollert Conant. He was born March 8, 2006 at 7:41 p.m. weighing 8 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 21 inches.

Proud grandparents are Deb and Dan Pollert of Cascade and Carol and Don Conant of Lowell.

# West Michigan Walks for Life

Alpha Women's Centers of West Michigan will be hosting their annual awareness and fundraising event, Life Walk, on Saturday, June 17. The Lowell Life Walk route, approximately 2 to 3 miles, begins at the Alpha Women's Center, 2251 W. Main St. at 9 a.m. There will be activities for the kids, as well as refreshments before and after the event.

"This event gives community members an opportunity to walk in support of life, while raising much-needed funds for the

life-saving work of Alpha Women's Centers of West Michigan," said Mark Blocher, executive director of Alpha Women's Centers of West Michigan.

Life Walks will also be held at the Alpha Women's Centers in Cedar Springs, Grand Rapids, Hastings and Newaygo.

For more information on the walk route go to [www.alphawc.org](http://www.alphawc.org) or contact Christina Malone at 616-742-0242.

## Estate planning seminar offered

Senior Neighbors is pleased to present a free estate planning seminar in Lowell on Wednesday, June 14 from 10 - 11 a.m. at the Lowell Middle School. Lowell Senior Center members, their families and the Greater Lowell community and their friends are invited to attend and learn about the importance of wills and estate planning to seniors and their families.

A brief presentation on Senior Neighbors will be followed by an estate planning talk presented by

Jay Rosloniec, a lawyer with McShane & Bowie, P.L.C. Questions and answers will follow. Seminar participants are invited to stay after the seminar for punch and cookies, and to chat with Rosloniec and representatives from Senior Neighbors.

Less than 50 percent of American adults have prepared a will. Without a will, you may surrender control of your property and assets to the courts, and your wishes may not be known or fulfilled at your passing.

climbing out of the ground. As the weeks have passed, they are growing and filling in the space quite nicely. By the way, I did a Yahoo search and discovered there are over 600,000 webpages that mention the lowly hosta. Perhaps I should not say they are "lowly" since there are at least 400 varieties, which means they are both hardy and very popular. I discovered that there is actually a National Hosta Convention in Philadelphia in a couple of weeks. One website boasts over 10,000 photos of hostas.

I'm happy that our hostas came back so quickly. Winter in Michigan can seem to drag on forever. But the hostas know better. You don't see them poking their way out of the snow. When the hostas come up, spring has arrived. It seems like a parable to me. Life can change so suddenly, and often for the better. One day all you see is brown dirt and dried-up leaves. That dirt and those leaves may stay there, unchanged, for weeks or months. Then one day there are green leaves everywhere. The essence of hope is to believe that beneath the dirt, the green leaves are making their way to the surface. Just because you don't see them today doesn't mean they won't be there tomorrow.

To everything there is a season ... and a reason. God can change things for the better, and sometimes he does it very quickly. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 6 to "Consider the lilies (or the hostas) ... how they grow, they neither toil nor spin."

## At Your Local Library



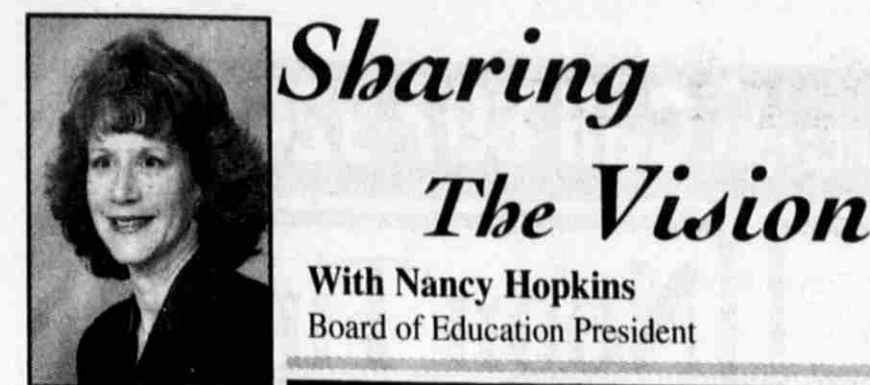
### "RUFF READERS" PROGRAM

Books, dogs and kids come together in a "paw'sitive reading experience at several Kent District Library branches this summer. Children ages six and up are invited to schedule a session to cuddle and read aloud to a trained therapy dog and handler. All dogs and handlers are certified through the West Michigan Therapy Dog Association.

The Englehardt branch will offer the program on Saturdays beginning June 17 and run through Aug. 5, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Call 647-3920 to register for a 15-minute session.

## Happy Birthday

- JUNE 8:**  
Barbara Brown, Mark Essich.
- JUNE 9:**  
Dimpna Hill Brown, Kristina Parish, Doris Plummer, Josh Felling, Mary Ellen Miller, Jerry Spencer
- JUNE 10:**  
Jim Stone, April Decker, Courtney Tulppo, Gus Geldersma.
- JUNE 11:**  
Jeanne Boss, Terri S. Fonger, Dick Sturgis.
- JUNE 12:**  
Benjamin Zoodsma, Jenny Engle, Noah Green.
- JUNE 13:**  
Holly Fetterhoff, Vivian Hoskins.
- JUNE 14:**  
Kyle Manszewski.



## Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins  
Board of Education President

The end of the school year is a time to reflect and celebrate. Parents of the 2006 graduating class can listen to their children talk about their plans - be it college, trade school or employment. While parents may be working on letting go, there is good news: students graduating today have navigated their way through issues, demands, temptations and decisions that yesterday's graduates never even contemplated. Through all of this, our students have been successful and are leaving their high school years excited and confident about the future.

As a school and larger community, we have worked hard to help all of our students receive a quality learning experience and the opportunity to reach their full potential.

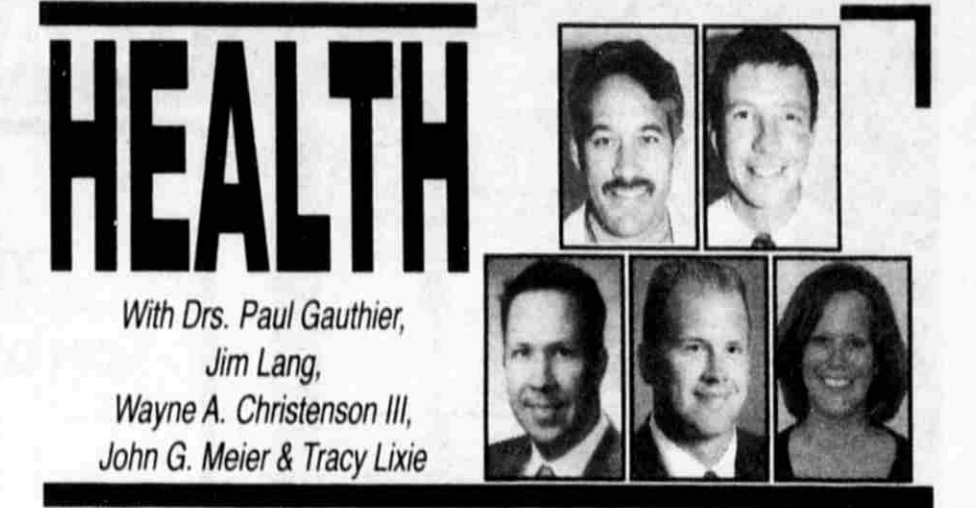
We thank our students, parents and staff for helping make the 2005-06 a very successful school year.

Lowell Area Schools continues to be a place for students to thrive; we have the qualities parents most often look for in a school system. Lowell is a desired location for families, thanks to our talented staff, motivated students and supportive parents and community. All of us, residents and employees, should take pride in our many successes.

The Board of Education also thanks Pat Murphy who served as our interim superintendent for eight months. We appreciate him sharing his experience to oversee the district on a daily basis, his guidance through successful contract negotiations and his work with incoming superintendent Greg Pratt to ensure a smooth transition of district leadership. We wish him well as he returns to a more leisurely pace and many relaxing hours on the links!

Congratulations to all 2006 graduates, and best wishes for a bright future!

Comments may be made to the Board of Education at [boardofed@lowellschools.com](mailto:boardofed@lowellschools.com)



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

### HEART PALPITATIONS

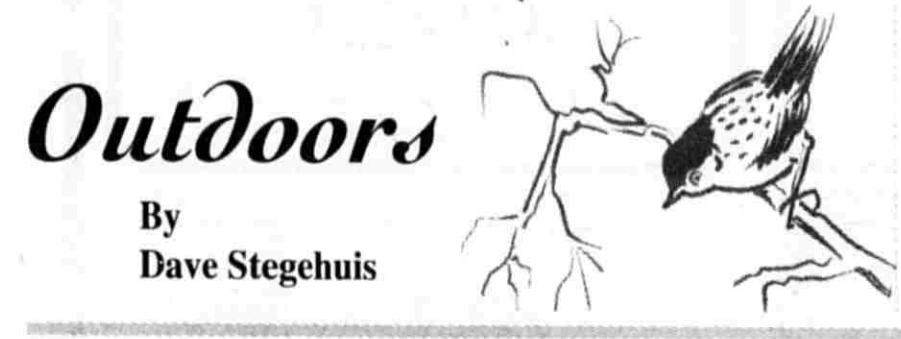
Heartbeats that are hard and fast are called palpitations. Your heart is like a pump - each time it beats, it pumps blood through your body. When you exercise, it is normal to feel your heart "pounding" as it beats faster. But if you have palpitations, you might feel your heart beating fast while you are sitting still or moving slowly.

Many things can cause palpitations. Some of these things have to do with your heart, and some of them do not. However, doctors sometimes cannot find the cause of palpitations. About one in every seven people have no identifiable cause for their palpitations.

If the palpitations are related to the heart, they may be caused by an irregular heart or arrhythmia. You may also have palpitations if you have problems with the valves in your heart.

Non-heart related causes of palpitations may be related to certain medicines, herbal supplements, or illegal street drugs. Medicines that can increase heart rates are decongestants and certain inhalers for asthma. Caffeine and alcohol can cause palpitations. Panic disorders or thyroid diseases can also cause rapid heart rates.

Your doctor can examine you and do certain labs and EKG testing to determine the true cause of your palpitations. While most causes of palpitations are not serious in nature, anyone who suffers from rapid heart rate should be evaluated medically.



## Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis

### WEATHER OR NOT

Everybody talks casually about the weather, but the subject becomes a critical issue when participating in outdoor activities. For example, as I write this article, it is 9:00 a.m. and lightning bolts occasionally light up the dark gray western sky. The plan was to go out walleye fishing at 5 a.m. on Little Bay De Noc, north of Gladstone in the Upper Peninsula. I will fish in the rain, wind and cold, and sometimes all of the above, but never in an electrical storm. Open water is a very dangerous place to be when thunder rumbles even if it sounds like it is far away.

In the work-a-day world, we may watch a weather report on television and then dress accordingly for predicted temperatures or allow more travel time if the roads are snow covered. For fishermen, however, weather conditions will determine if one even goes out. Campers can tell you exactly how much it has rained and air temperatures for the last several days. A golfer is aware of the velocity and direction of the wind. Deer hunters, if they regularly bag deer, are always mindful of wind direction, and how wet or cold it is if they are sitting for a while. Sailors must monitor wind direction and velocity, wave heights, and weather predictions. Their lives depend on it. Successful farmers

are experts at analyzing weather forecasts and using the information to plant and harvest.

Most of us live in such a technically controlled environment that we hardly notice weather conditions except in extreme circumstances like floods and hurricanes. This is just another example of how our modern lifestyle has removed us further from the natural world.

The next time you spend some time in the outdoors, make it a point to focus on the weather conditions, and notice how it affects you and your surroundings. It's like the "stop and smell the roses" analogy.

Well, the sky is clearing, but the wind is still blowing strong out of the south. I think we will launch the boat and drift live bait north of Sanders Point. The peninsula should provide some protection from the wind. The bay will be calmer there. Warmer air temperatures and the heavy rain probably warmed the water in the bay a degree or two which could be enough to encourage the fish to bite. We will soon know whether or not the plan will come together.

*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 require visitation on destination for a celebration.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS</b></p> <p>If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell</p> <p>Across the street from the Vernem Dodge dealership 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011</p> <p>Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b> Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b> SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website <a href="http://www.aplighthouse.com">www.aplighthouse.com</a></p>
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services.....8:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor Jonathan &amp; Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups &amp; "XL" Youth Sunday evenings <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 <a href="http://www.stmary-lowell.com">www.stmary-lowell.com</a></p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO YOUTH - CALL BRAD BERING: 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTRY FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21</p> <p><a href="http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org">www.goodshepherdlowell.org</a></p> <p>Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremre, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: <a href="http://www.fbcloowell.org">http://www.fbcloowell.org</a> Rev. David G. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB J.C.....Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurlan Meredith</p> <p>9:45 A.M.....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	

**Lowell Area Early Childhood Community Playground**

... a new playground for children 2-5 years  
donated by the Lowell Area Community Fund  
300 High Street, Lowell

We would like to thank the Lowell Area Community Fund for their generous grant and the following volunteers and businesses for their help in installing the new community playground Saturday, May 20.

**Thanks for making a safe place for our community's youngest children to play!**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Simon and Kara Kelley - Parents                 | Eric Mundt - SADD student           |
| Glenn Beimers - Grandparent                     | Shawn Spivey                        |
| Jantina Wasciuk - Lowell Area Schools           | Dave Thompson - Rotary              |
| Cassie Switzer - Unity H.S.                     | Theresa Mundt - SADD student        |
| Cory Weeks - Murray Lake student                | John Sterly - Rotary                |
| Brenda & Sawyer Buck - Murray Lk. Teacher & son | Dick Bryan - Rotary                 |
| Andy Dewitt                                     | Lindsay Aiken - SADD student        |
| Rhonda Delnick - Lowell Area Schools            | Caitlin Sironat - SADD student      |
| Kurt Lardie - Huntington Bank/Rotary            | Jane Sanders - Parent               |
| Jim White - Rotary                              | Dawn Ward and Jesse - Parent        |
| Steve Bukala - Parent                           | Phil Schneider - Rotary             |
| Jim and Kathy Cole - Lowell Area Schools        | Steve - Hats from Stock Lumber      |
| Louie Glinzak - SADD student                    | Tim Bergy - Lowell Area Schools     |
| Michelle Dewitt - Parent                        | ACE Hardware - Discount on concrete |

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## Agreement, continued ... From Page 1

contracts between the involved parties.

Vergennes Township will provide land use planning and regulation, including land use approvals, building inspections, code enforcement and zoning enforcement for the development. For the purposes of voting, all qualified electors residing in the development area will be considered electors of Vergennes Township.

The taxable value of the development will be under the taxing jurisdiction of the city. The city will annually pay Vergennes Township two mills on the taxable value within the development.

The term of the agreement is for ten years with a ten-year renewal. An urban services review board consisting of city and township representatives will review the agreement after five years. The board will address concerns in the development area.

A separate agreement between the city and Lowell Township will address the provision of water and sewer services to the development under the Urban Cooperation Act (P.A.7). The agreement will assure that residents of the development pay the same rates as the city.

Lowell Township will take possession and maintenance of the water and sewer lines installed to the development under the existing agreements between Lowell and Vergennes townships.

The city can either pay fees to Lowell Township for the use of its water and sewer infrastructure, or provide the sewer and water capacity to service the development at reduced rates. The township would recoup its costs through the sale of water and sewer services to the development. Once the preliminary agreement is approved by the townships, a formal agreement will be drafted.

"We're ready to go," said Pasquale.

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# BUSINESSES & SERVICES

### Council defeats budget, charter dictates approval

By Emma Palova  
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council defeated the proposed budget for next year on a 3-2 vote, but the budget was approved according to the city charter.

Although the council voted not to adopt the budget because of equipment fund operating at a loss, the 45-year-old city charter dictated its approval by the first meeting in June.

So, the city council set a work session for June 12 to review the budget for cost containment, and to make adjustments. The council also agreed to continue to review the city charter and to prioritize suggested changes. Any changes to the charter will have to be approved by the voters in one of the four annual elections. The revisions to the charter will most likely be placed before the voters in one of next year's elections. The last charter amendment was done in 1999.

However, any major changes to the city charter would require a nine-member board commission, and a review by the attorney general.

"Let's keep it below that threshold," said council member James Pfaller.

The major budgetary concern was the equipment fund operating at a \$38,000 to \$45,000 deficit with no funds to purchase new equipment. The council members were concerned about the safety of people operating the outdated vehicles.

"At that rate we will never be able to replace the equipment," said Pfaller. "I am concerned for the safety of people using the equipment."

Even though monies could be transferred into the equipment fund from other revenue generating funds such as the water fund, city manager David Pasquale said he doesn't want to put other funds into jeopardy. "There's not enough monies to make a purchase," he said.

According to treasurer Suzanne Olin, the fund barely covers the costs for fuel, salaries, health care and utilities. Council member Alan Mathews suggested taking funds out of the water fund, putting them into the equipment fund, and

replacing equipment based on a schedule.

"It will take a while to build it up," he said, "but we can lease."

So, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is reviewing the option of contracting out street sweeping operations. A new street sweeper could cost up to \$200,000.

"I have concerns about outsourcing," said mayor Charles Myers, "what it does to staff."

The general fund balance has fluctuated from the initial \$11,000 to \$39,000, and to the final \$60,000. The fund balance was increased

by diverting some purchases and changing employees' health care coverage, overall limiting the amount of expenditures.

However, Pasquale said limiting expenditures could result in limiting services such as seasonal cemetery help.

Myers suggested quarterly adjustments to the budget when it's running off. "I want to see quarterly adjustments when we're not on track," he said. "It's a lot to consume now."

According to Pfaller, the city should be looking at event reimbursement and increasing revenues by

charging for police service at the biggest events such as Riverwalk, Harvest Festival and Kent County Youth Fair. Pfaller suggested revisiting the fire agreement with the townships, as well as charging non-residents \$25 for the use of city parks.

"I would embrace some kind of a share," said Myers.

A new revenue generating service at the City Hall is the processing of passports at \$30 per passport. According to clerk Betty Morlock, the city will work with the schools to provide passports for mission trips. Residents

complete a form, and bring their photos. "It's quick and easy," Morlock said.

"The public likes it." The city gets back \$7,200 from the Kent District Library millage that generates \$7,200 or \$1 per square foot per year.

The council set the same millage rate as last year at 15.83 mills, and 0.25 mills for the Lowell Area Historical Museum.

In related business, the council ratified a 2.5 percent cost-of-living increase for the third year of contract with the Lowell Police Officers Association.

### DDA will allocate \$25,000 annually for marketing of Lowell

By Emma Palova  
Contributing Writer

next place to be."

"It's not limited to downtown, and it's not about retail," Yankovich said. "It's a three-year community wide commitment."

Yankovich said the marketing committee of the DDA also has the support of the Lowell Area Schools and the townships. So far, the promotional efforts have been tied to the concerts with direct mailings targeting major markets in Ada/Cascade, Kentwood, Caledonia and Ionia.

Other projects for next year may include having a Lowell Parade of Homes. Chamber executive director Liz Baker said the money needs to be available for marketing purposes, since the city already has the brick and the mortar in place. "If we don't promote, they're not going to come," she said.

According to Baker, area developers have vacant homes, and the schools are not growing as expected.

Council member James Pfaller opposed the amendment because of the tight city budget. "What's there to promote if we can't maintain the city?" he asked.

In other business, the council also approved a \$50 fee for conducting a marriage ceremony by

mayor Charles Myers. The fees will go into the city general fund. Residents taking advantage of the marriage services do not have to be residents of the city. They need a valid marriage license and witnesses.

Council member Jeanne Shores, who used to perform the ceremony for free as the former mayor, opposed the fee.

"I like to think my time has value," said Myers.

### Business Matters

Michael J. Willett has been named office manager at ICNB's Lowell office, according to President James D. Fast.

In this position, Willett will oversee the daily operations of the Lowell office, as well as service consumer, mortgage and commercial loans.

With 15 years of banking experience, he most recently served ICNB as vice president - business lender, focusing on expanding business opportunities in the Greater Grand Rapids market. Willett will continue that focus in addition to his office manager duties.



Michael J. Willett

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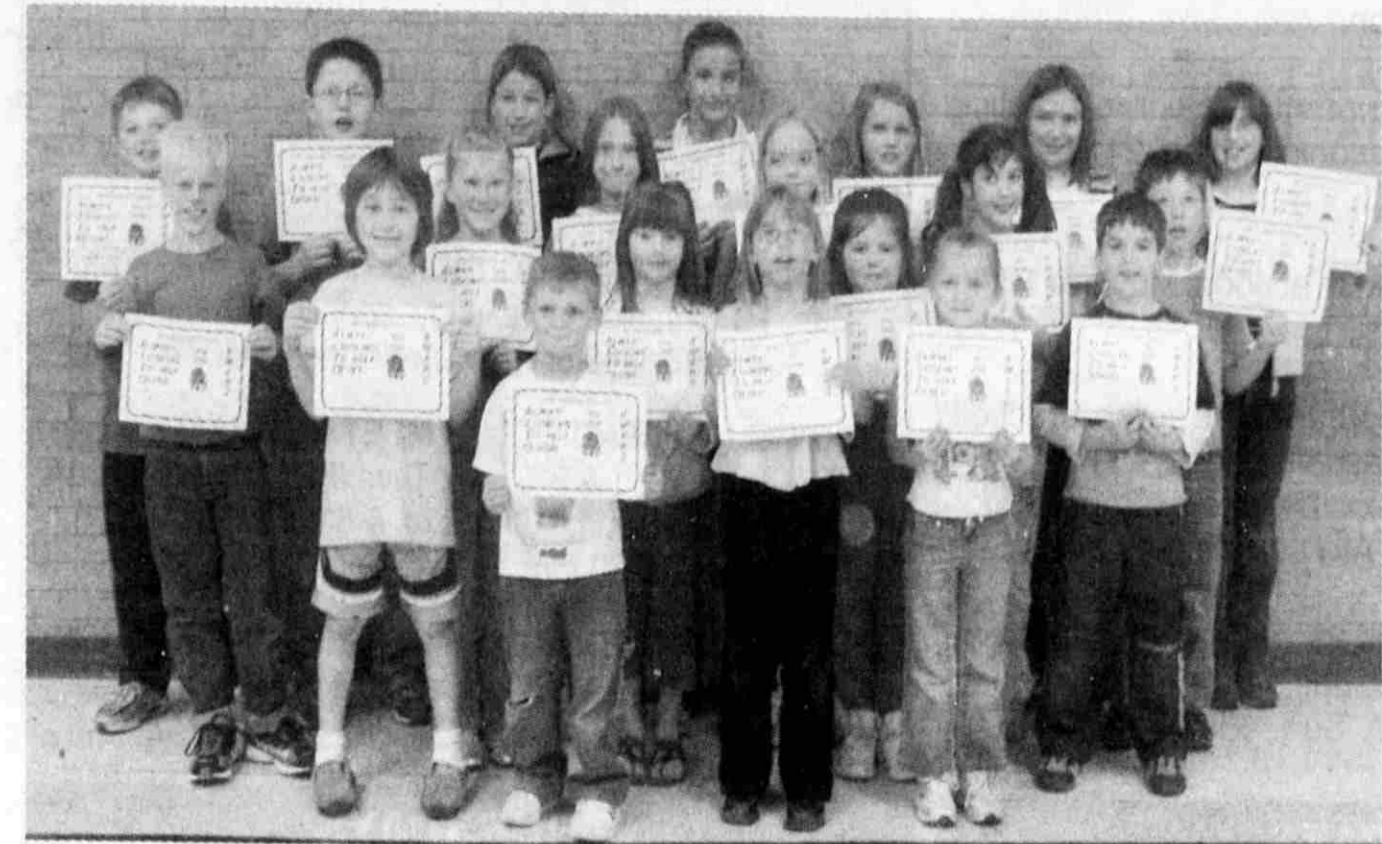
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### Alto award winners always looking to help others

Students at Alto Elementary recently received awards for always showing respect to others. They were recommended for this award by students and teachers because they show kindness and caring for all other students in the classroom and on the playground.



Week #2 Carsen McDonald, Haley Godbold, Anna Litchfield, Shelby Mutchler, Baylee Bennett, Courtney Schmidt, Krystal Sheldon, Will School, Alex Smith, Sadie Richardson, Maria Blough, Tanner Barnes, Danielle Ordway, Grace Paiz, Jeremy Kargl, Kyle Cater, Levi Churches, Cuerstan Blough, Emmalee Blough, Sydney Powell, Avry Mutchler, Christi Kargl, Cody Selli, Morgan Groendyke, Andrew LeFebre, Annelise Kolp, Katie Taylor, Kaedon Jordan and Macy Potter.



Week #3 Garret Taylor, Cody Harden, Ryan Stevens, Isaac Ysseldyke, Briana Oesch, Keegan Solon, Nick Longway, Parker Reed, Louis Raymond, Keagan Barnes, Rowan Ysseldyke, Katie Peterson, Maya Aalsburg, Blake Posthumus, Liam Kelley, Kaleb Stoltzfus, Sara Misak, Dakota Miller, Ben Lobezzo, Madeline Ziegler, Makyla Branagan and Sam Schwierking.

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Week #1: Alex Powell, Austin DeWard, Elle Coble, Josh Gee, Austin Rife, Perry Bencker, Conner Smithee, Emily Grochawalski, Sawyer Olesko, Heaven McQueen, Katie Haan, Reuben Wattenhofer, Brittany Branagan, Hannah Halfman, Hailey Hoevenaar, Erin Smithee and Michael VandenHout.

### College News

Central Michigan University has announced its spring semester honors list.

From the Lowell area are Andrew Benedict, Jacquelyn Benedict, Karl Bouwhuis, Matthew Brown, Casey Eng, Jeremy Goff, Rachel Swift and Lyndsey Trierweiler.

From the Alto area are Samantha Pleva and Jessi Sterk.

To be included on this list a student must earn a 3.5 or higher grade point average.

Several local students have been named to the Albion College dean's list

for the spring 2006 semester.

From Lowell are Kristin Befus, William Harrison, Jennifer Wagner and Stephanie Wagner.

To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester. This GPA is based on at least three units in graded courses and a minimum of four units completed.

Hope College recently announced its dean's list for the second semester of the 2005-06 school year. To be named to the dean's list, a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

From Lowell are Rebekah Woods and Audrey Converse.

From Alto are Amanda Danielson and Matthew Paarlberg.

Seth Thomas Hay, of Lowell, participated in a commencement ceremony on May 6 in recognition of completing requirements for degrees at Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University. He received a BFA in visual communication digital media and achieved academic honors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale.

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District No. 029  
Bear Swamp Drain

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41-24-01-300-002	41-24-02-300-024	41-24-11-400-004
41-24-01-300-003	41-24-02-400-002	41-24-12-100-001
41-24-01-300-007	41-24-02-400-004	41-24-12-100-003
41-24-01-300-010	41-24-02-400-005	41-24-12-100-004
41-24-01-300-011	41-24-02-400-008	41-24-12-100-005
41-24-01-300-012	41-24-02-400-009	41-24-12-200-003
41-24-01-300-013	41-24-11-100-002	41-24-12-300-001
41-24-01-300-014	41-24-11-100-003	41-24-12-300-007
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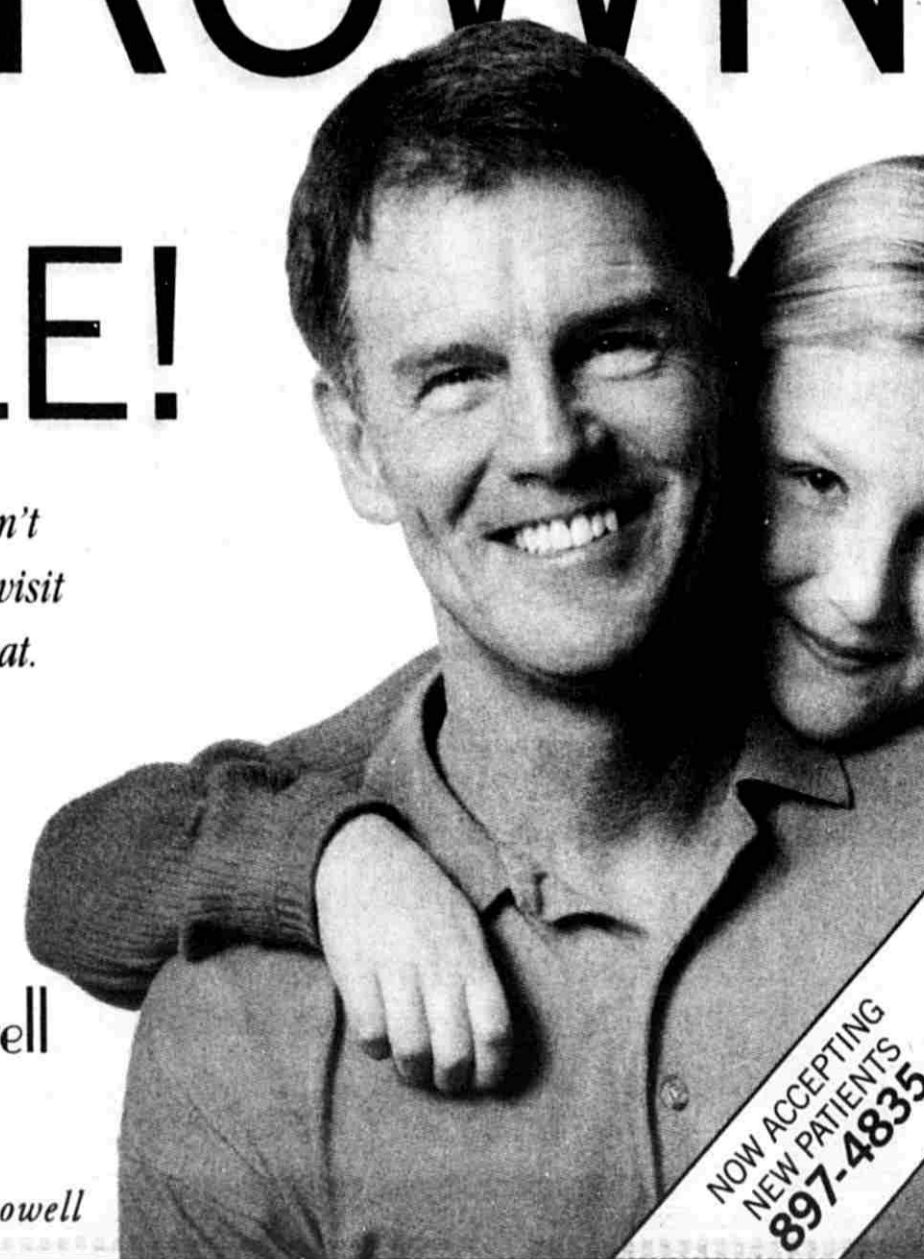
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# Rugby team finishes first season at Lowell High School

## Lowell one of three new teams in league this year

By Dan Schneider

Lowell High School's rugby team, a new club, finished out its first season May 24 with a match against Kenowa Hills.

The sport has drawn a lot of immediate interest in Lowell since getting started this winter. Though only six players attended the first practice, that number doubled by the next practice and soon there were 35 players out for the team.

"It was out of nowhere, they just all turned out one day," coach Nick Whitrow said. "We actually have one of the largest squads on the west side of the state now, which is a good credit to the school."

Their record for the first year might not show it—Lowell played seven games without a win and lost by a wide margin in that final game against Kenowa Hills—but the Arrows were competitive against other first-year teams in the area. In a game against Grandville, a first-year team and the eventual Division 3 state champion, Lowell only lost by four points.

"The way I look at it, we were four points off from a Division 3 championship squad," Whitrow said.

An earlier meeting with Kenowa Hills had more palatable results.

"We played them earlier on in the year and we lost 12 points to 10," Whitrow said. The team, or "side,"

as rugby teams are also called, showed steady improvement over the season in fundamental skills.

"Every game they looked a little better and a little better, and by the end of the year they were starting to look like a pretty good side," Whitrow said.

Lowell played in a league with Kenowa, Grandville, Forest Hills, Rockford, Traverse City and Grand Rapids Catholic Central. With 10 years of experience in rugby, Catholic Central was the toughest team in the league.

"They're well more advanced than we are," Whitrow said.

But that can change over time. Most of the players from this year's team were sophomores and juniors.

"With us being a young side, I can see in a few years Lowell being quite a strength," Whitrow said. "It's one thing that with work, with effort, you can get good at it."

That rugby doesn't necessarily require a lot of natural athleticism may be one reason it appealed to such a wide range of players in Lowell.

"The thing with rugby is you don't need to be a particular size or shape or a particular speed," Whitrow said. "There's a position for everybody."

He hopes in the future to get some Lowell football



The Lowell High School rugby team played its first season this spring, competing in seven matches.

players interested in rugby and build a connection between the two sports at the high school. Catholic Central has a similar arrangement. It hasn't hurt their football team, which went to the state finals last season.

Whitrow, a certified rugby coach from England, plays for the Grand Rapids Gazelles. They're an amateur team that competes nationally at the Division 1 level (one level below the Super League). The Gazelles are fostering high school rugby teams in West Michigan to build a local talent pool to potentially add to their ranks later on. Most

of the teams on the west side of the state have a connection to the Gazelles.

As more West Michigan

high schools start up teams, Lowell has the potential to establish some rugby rivalries in the coming years.

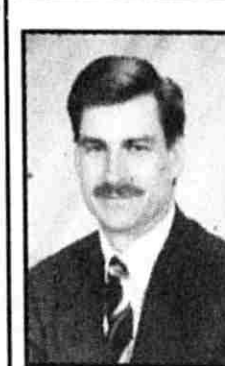
There are plans to establish a squad at East Grand Rapids High School, for instance.

## Boys basketball earns Academic All-State honors



The 2005-2006 boys varsity basketball team earned Academic All-State honors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.499. The team finished fifth in the state behind Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, Okemos, Alpena and Clarkston.

Pictured front row, left to right, are: Josh Hettinga, Mike McElroy, Justin Harden, Kory Stevens, Mike Long, James Richardson and Brett McMahon; back row: Ryan Converse, Erin Bronkella, Ryan Lane, Colin Rich, Drew Happie, Travis Happey and Dave VanKeulen.



Mark Johnson

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# FFA awards banquet recognizes members

The Lowell FFA had its annual awards banquet May 9 in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Approximately 125 people attended the banquet that recognizes members for the contest and activities they have participated in during the past school year. Along with the awards the members have received throughout the year, outstanding members were recognized with the Star

awards, scholarships and Outstanding PAL award. The Outstanding PAL award acknowledges those high school FFA members who have done an outstanding job mentoring their elementary pal through the Project PALS program. They included Ian Blodger, Megan Meade and Casie Pedley.

The Lowell Agricultural Supporters handed out over \$1,500 in scholarships for

college and conferences. Juniors Morgan Olin and Patrick Walsh received scholarships to attend the Washington Leadership Conference, a week long program sponsored by the National FFA Organization in Washington D.C. Senior members were awarded college scholarships. Melissa Blough and Hannah Knudstrup shared the Rachel Penninga Memorial Scholarship. Adam Ingraham

and Amy Junewick were awarded the Wittenbach Scholarship and Louis Glinzak received the Peter Siler Scholarship in honor of the former FFA advisor.

The Star Awards recognize members who have achieved the most through their FFA activities and supervised agricultural experience program this past year. The Star Discovery award was given to Paula

Blough as the outstanding middle school member. In addition to participating in many FFA activities, Blough competed at the State Junior High Public Speaking contest where she received a Gold award.

The Star Greenhand award was presented to the outstanding freshman member, Rachel Folkersma. She also participated in a state contest, the Creed Speaking contest, where she received a Silver award, in addition to being involved in various activities. The Star Farmer award was presented to Morgan Olin.

She raises beef, sheep and swine on her family farm in addition to participating in the Parliamentary Procedure contest. Brian Langlois received the Star in Agribusiness award for his work at Brooknelle Pet Resort where he feeds, washes and trains the dogs. Louis Glinzak was presented with the Outstanding Senior

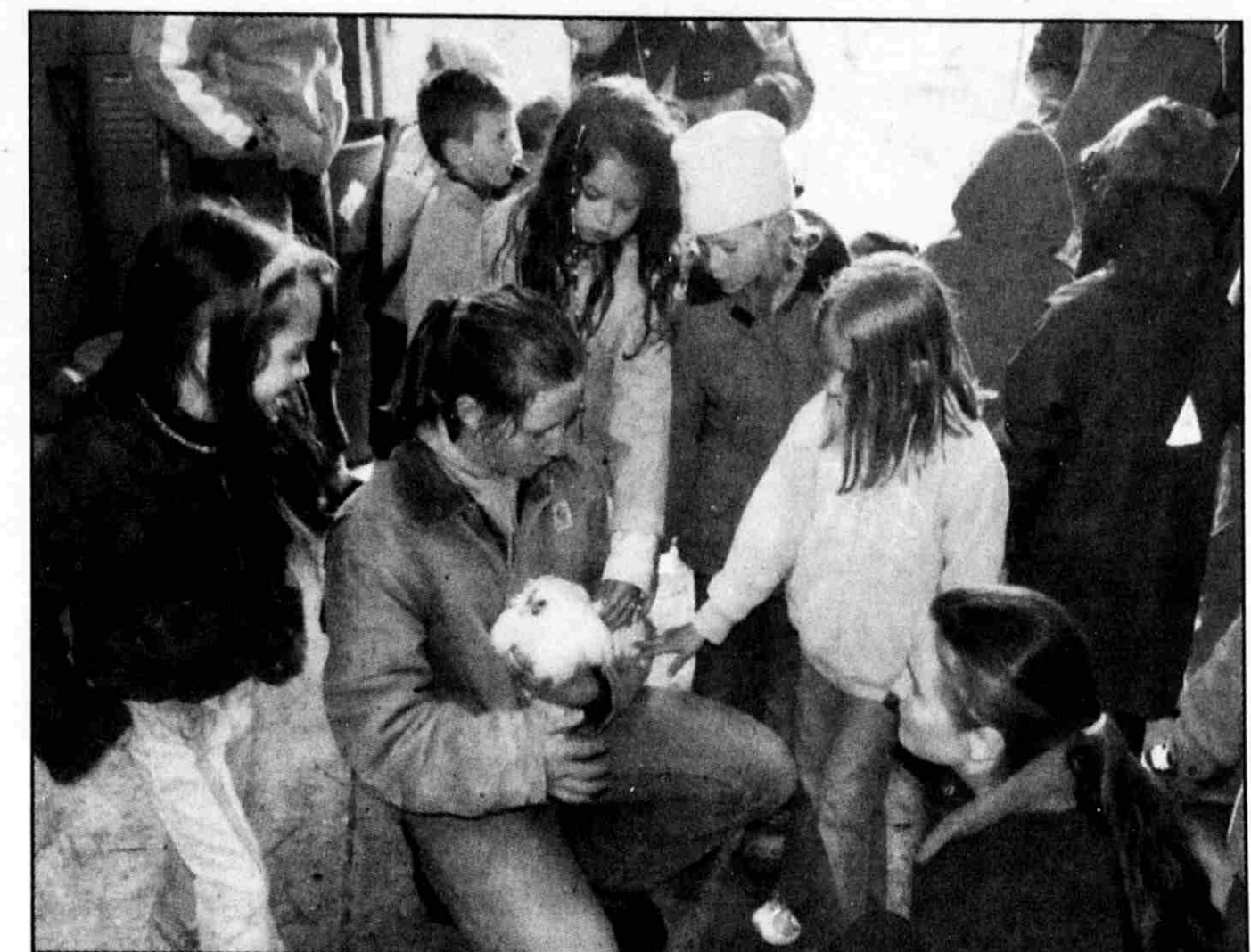
award for his leadership and dedication to the FFA throughout his high school career. He served as the chapter president for the 2005-2006 school year.

The banquet concluded with the installation of the chapter officers for the 2006-2007 school year. They are: President: Stephanie Wade, Vice President: Patrick Walsh, PALS Vice President: Katie Rottier, Secretary: Morgan Olin, Treasurer: Mike Roth, Reporter: Leara Glinzak, and Sentinel: Brian Langlois.

FFA is a national youth leadership organization that strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Lowell FFA is one of the largest chapters in Michigan with over 120 members.

## Farm Animals Day at Wittenbach Center

The Lowell FFA hosted a "Farm Animals Day" at the Wittenbach/Wege Center on Friday, May 12. In order to educate elementary students about the animals, members brought their own animals to the center: pigs, goats, cows, sheep, chickens, rabbits and even ducks were there to share with students from Bushnell and Murray Lake elementaries. At each station, FFA members told the students about the animals, answering questions about how old they were, what they ate and how to take care of them. In total, nearly 25 FFA members and 150 elementary students participated.



FFA member Stephanie Wade allows students to feel the feathers on the chicken raised by Jim Crosby as part of Farm Animals Day at the Wittenbach/Wege Center.



Ashley VanSpronsen explains how to take care of lambs to students from Murray Lake Elementary at the Wittenbach/Wege Center during Farm Animals Day.

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## New pet groomer now a part of town

By Dan Schneider

A new pet grooming business has opened on the west side of town.

Paws-itively grooming opened its doors last Tuesday in the Stoneridge shopping center. It is a full-

service dog and cat salon, capable of grooming all breeds and styles. Owners Nikki and Marc Jankowski live in Lowell, which is why they chose to open their business here.

"We wanted something local and when this shopping

center went up, we thought, man, this would be a prime location," Nikki Jankowski said.

She has 11 years of pet grooming experience. Because her husband was in the military, that experience came in a variety of places,

including Germany and California, before she began working at the Groom Room on 44th Street and at the Woodland Veterinary Clinic.

"I kind of collected everything I like about each of their services,"

Jankowski said. "I tried to incorporate it into this place."

They inquired into the shopping center early enough to have some aspects of the construction done specifically for their business. For instance, the bathing room has drains in the floors and extra insulation in the walls so dogs' barking won't disturb neighboring businesses.

However, Jankowski believes she has the right equipment to keep dogs relaxed, such as a walk-in

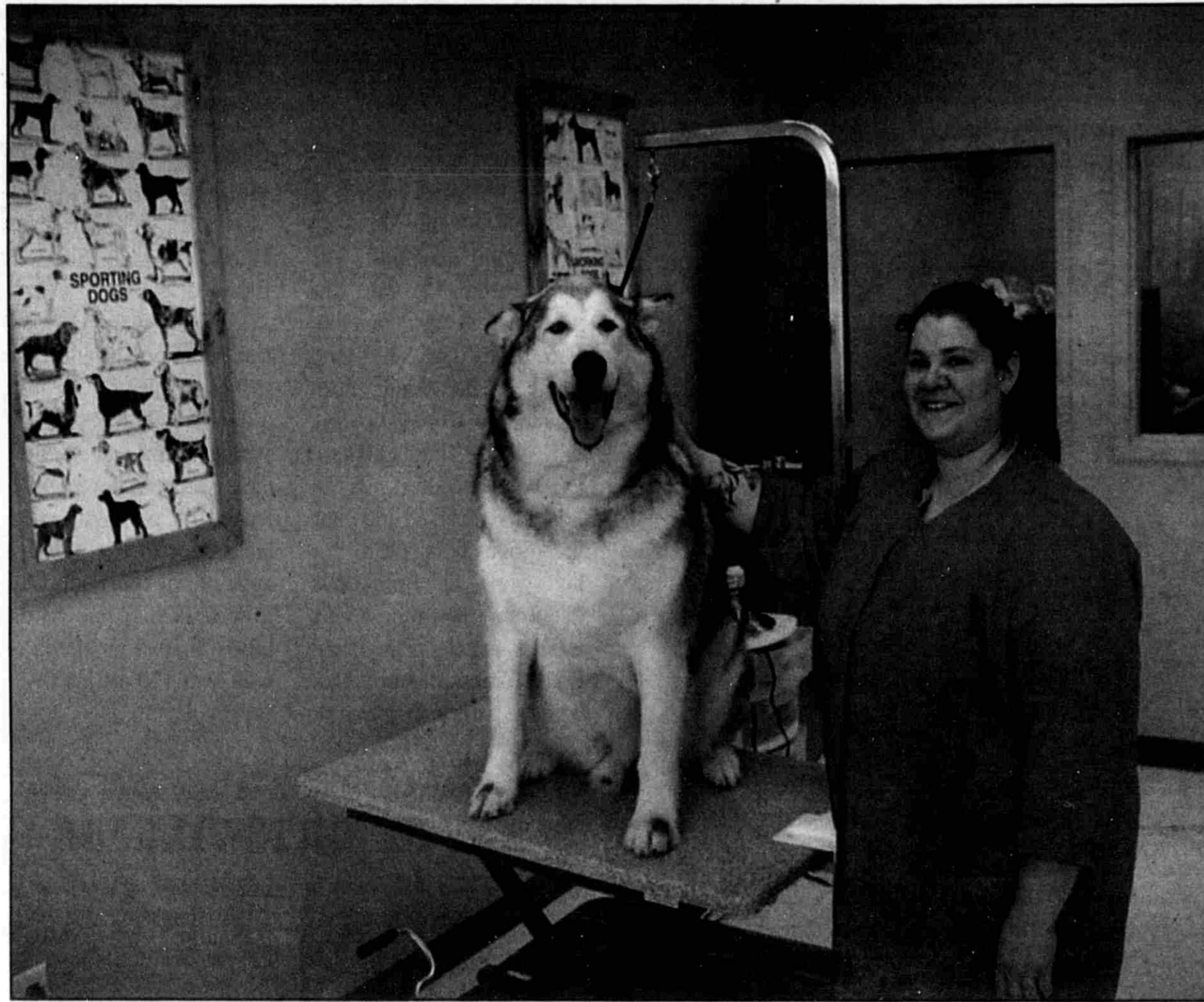
dryer and a deep-cleaning system with massager.

"I've actually had a dog almost fall asleep in that when I worked with one before," she said.

She carries aromatherapy shampoos for different coat types.

In the future, Jankowski plans to add other groomers at the shop and her husband plans to go to pet grooming school.

The shop is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.



Paws-itively Grooming owner Nikki Jankowski with her dog Yukon on one of the trimming tables at her new pet grooming business located on East Fulton.

\*\*\*

*Every artist was first an amateur.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

## Two venues host multi-media exhibition

An exhibition of assemblage works--art featuring multiple media--will be on display beginning Sunday at the Lowell Area Arts Council's Gallery and at the Franciscan Life Process Center.

The show features work by a number of local and regional artists. What they have in common is the use of several different materials in each piece, often including found objects

The exhibit kicks off with a public reception from 1 to 2 p.m. this Sunday. Then Sara Albert will give a gallery talk at 3:30 p.m. at

the Franciscan Life Process Center. The talk will focus on assemblage work by three female artists: Miriam Schapiro, Judy Chicago and Louise Nevelson.

The exhibit is called "Bits and Pieces." It is the latest summer art show collaboration between the arts council and the center.

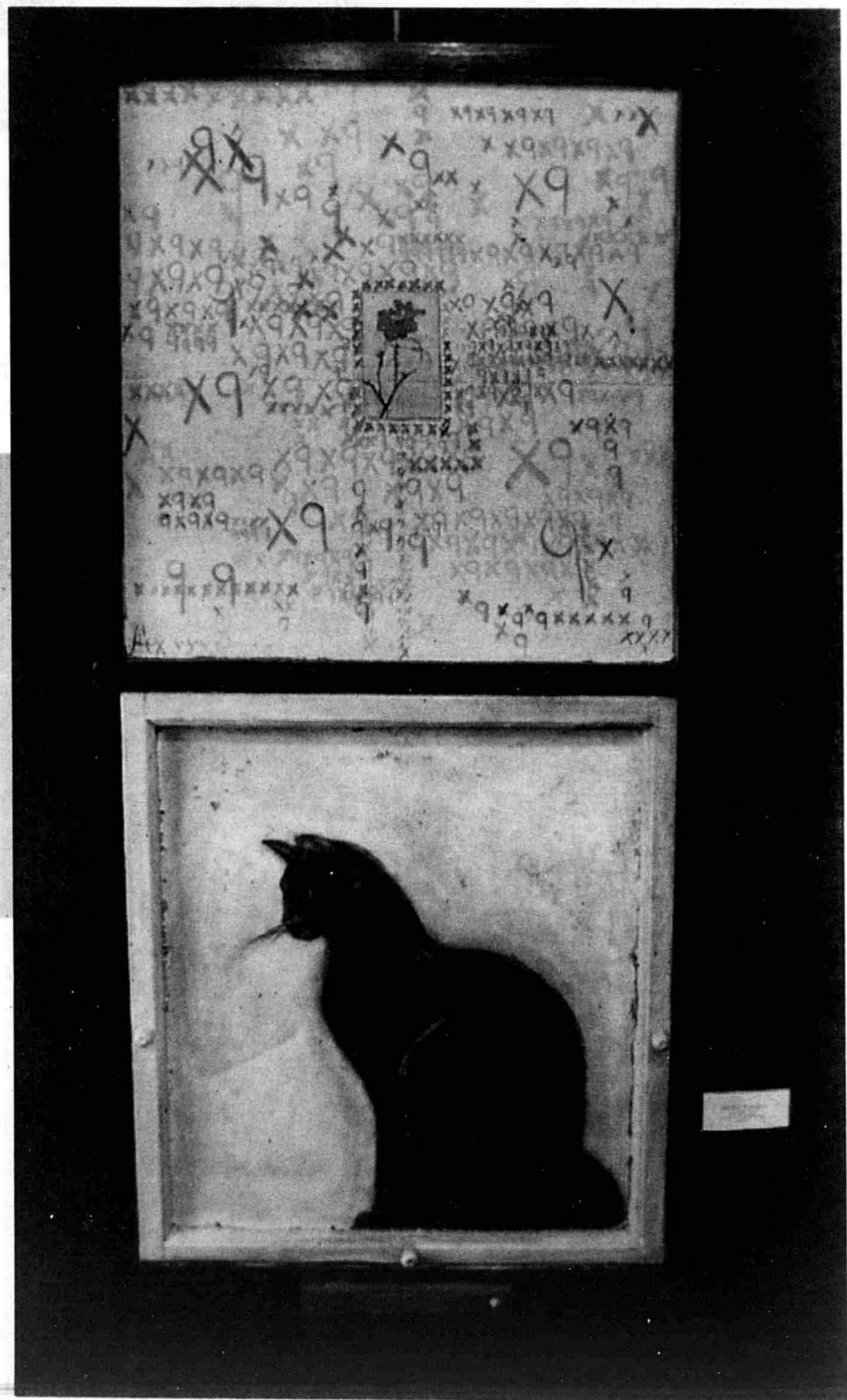
Three People's Choice awards will be given at each location. The public is invited to visit both venues and vote for favorite works.

Public participation will be taken to a higher level at the arts council gallery, where a giant canvas will

hang from the wall. The public is invited to paint on the canvas, attach objects or artworks and otherwise modify the canvas to create a community assemblage.

The arts council gallery is located at 149 S. Hudson Street. The Franciscan Life Process Center is located at 11650 Downes Street in Vergennes Township.

"Life Times Nine" by Pamela Alexander is one of the mixed-media artworks currently on display at the Lowell Area Arts Council as part of a collaborative show with the Franciscan Life Process Center.



\*\*\*

*There are painters who transform the sun to a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art and their intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun.*

Pablo Picasso (1881 - 1973)



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Do they need an extra hand?

## Graduation 2006, continued ... From Page 1

and have been told no," Vashaw said.

Following the principal's remarks, senior band members joined the band for the traditional last song performing "A Closer Walk With Thee" by Calvin Custer.

Vashaw gave special recognition to a number of students, including the 23 graduates who earned summa cum laude status.

There was a somber

moment in the ceremony when Samantha Lancaster accepted an honorary diploma for her brother, Austin Lancaster, a member of the class of 2006 who died two years ago in a car accident.

Heather Harrigan was this year's senior class speaker. She talked about her repeated attempts to condense her high school experience into a philosophical statement.

Salutatorian Marie Lazar looked at graduation, and high school in general, as a jumping off place into life.

"Sure, high school was fun, it had its ups and

down," Lazar said. "But personally, I hope it was a stepping stone to maturity, a pathway to bigger and better things."

"High school has changed all of us," Valedictorian Kristen McAlpine talked about the importance of pushing limits and developing courage.

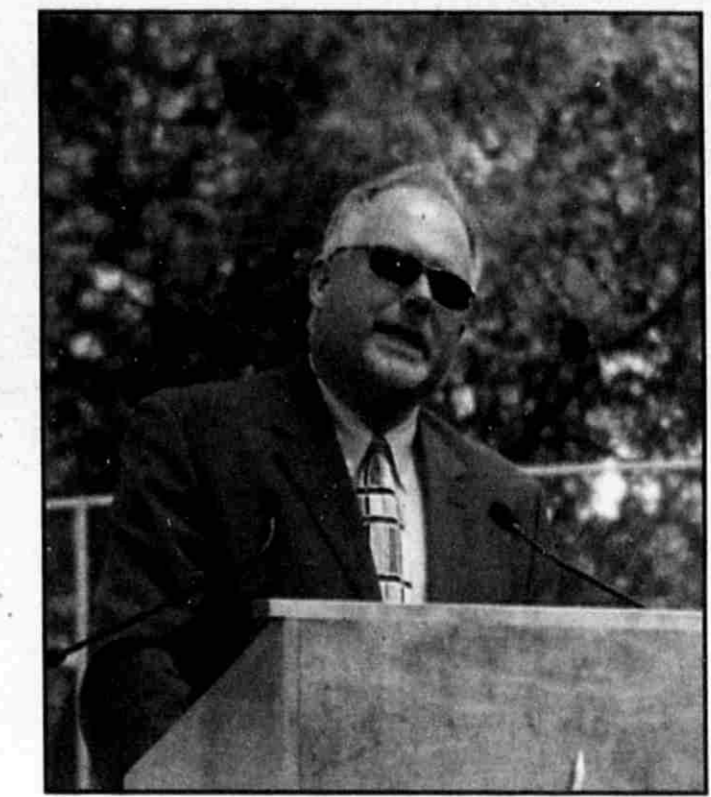
"We fail every time we let our fear prevent us from trying," McAlpine said.

"This is our time to try." She finished up with a vocal performance of Lee Ann Womack's "I Hope You Dance," accompanied by Ryder Jones on guitar.

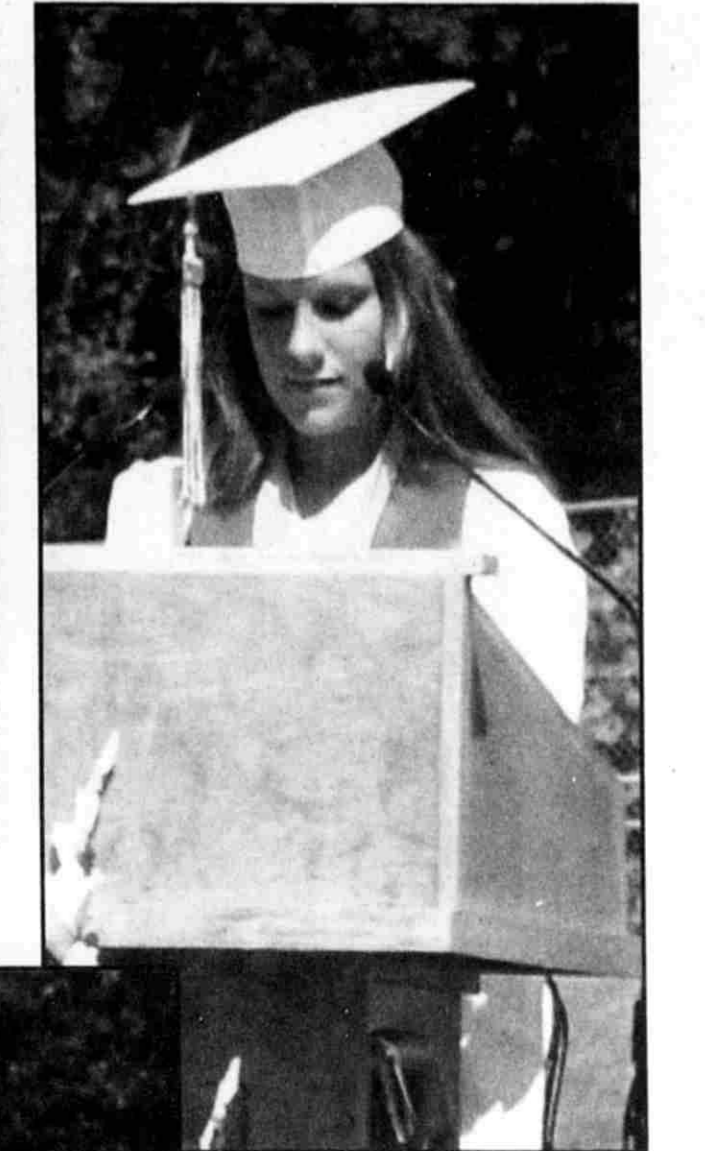
Lowell Area Schools interim superintendent Pat Murphy concluded the presentations by conveying to the graduates "thank you for everything you are, and thank you for everything you will be."

Then, Nikita Miles began the distribution of diplomas (or diploma jackets) by saying, "Let's get graduated."

After all 299 names had been read, including graduates of both Lowell High School and Unity High School, Miles made the traditional passing of the spade to the president of the Lowell High School class of 2007, Kevin Vuong.



Principal Scott Vashaw gave remarks to begin the commencement.



Valedictorian Kristen McAlpine sang the Lee Ann Womack tune "I Hope You Dance" as part of her graduation speech. Ryder Jones accompanied her on acoustic guitar.

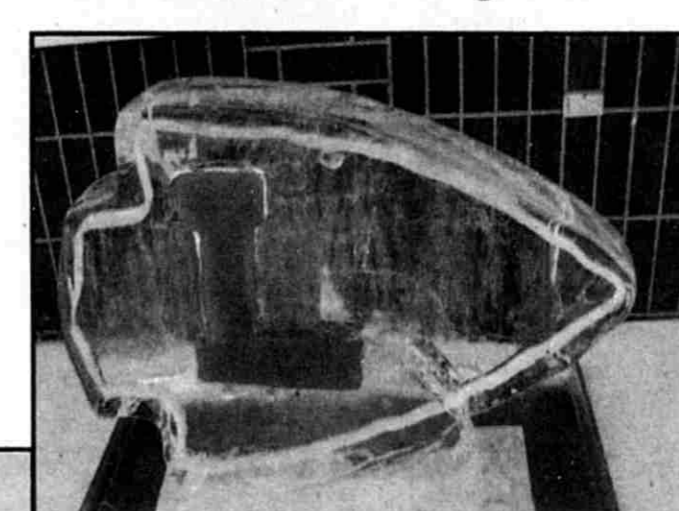


Senior band members joined the band for the traditional last song.

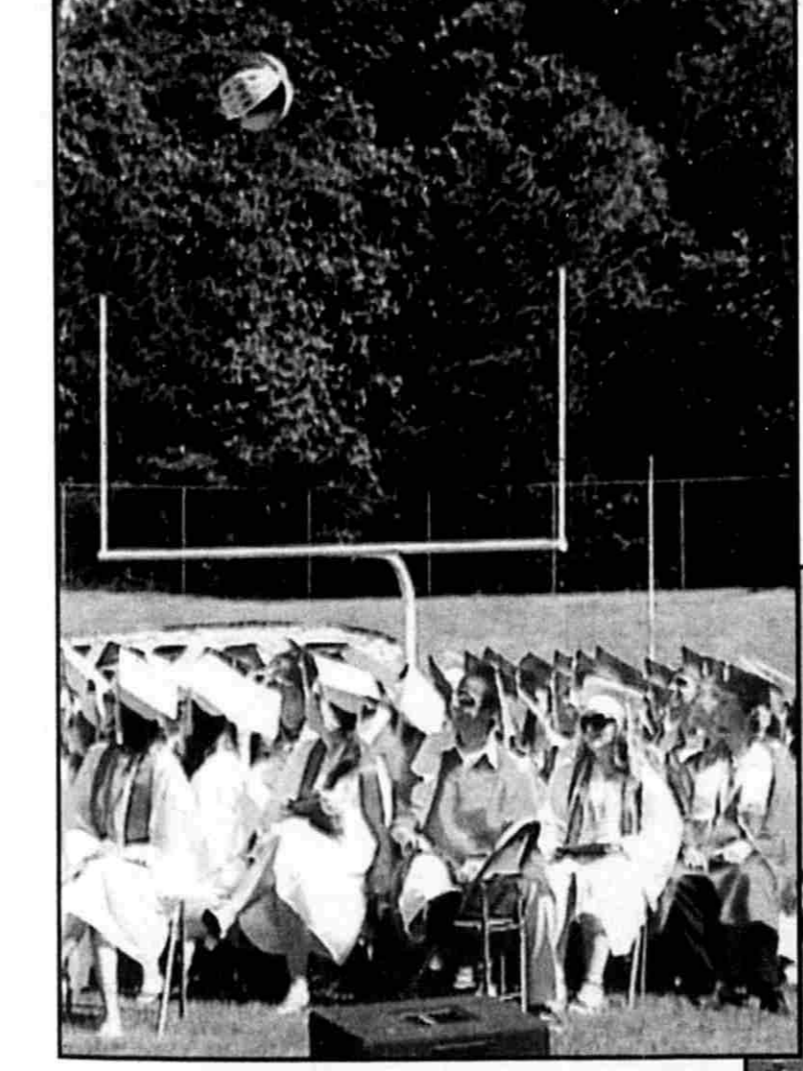


Senior class president Nikita Miles read the names of the graduates as they came forward to the podium to be recognized.

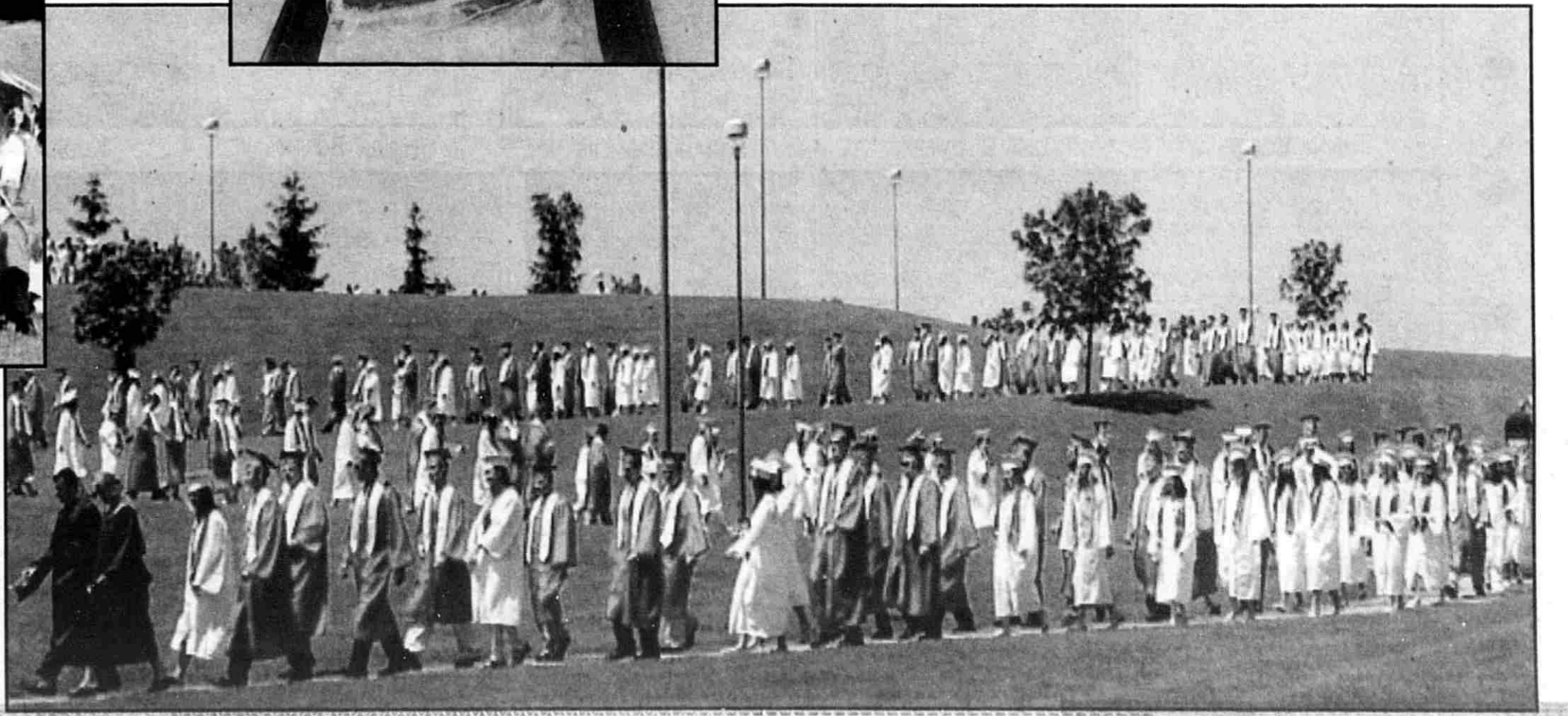
An ice-sculpture Red Arrow was created as a decoration for the graduation.

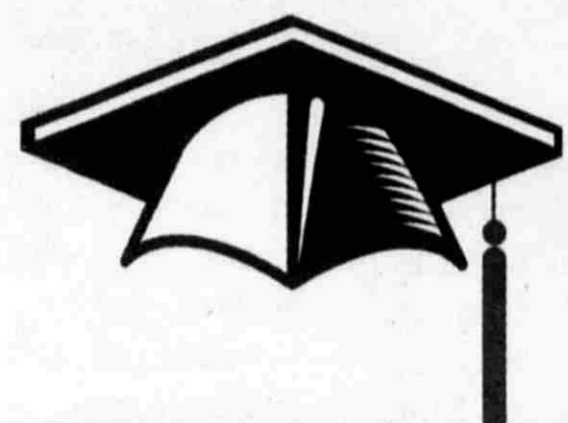


Flip flops, above, were common on the warm, sunny graduation Sunday for the traditional walk down the hill.

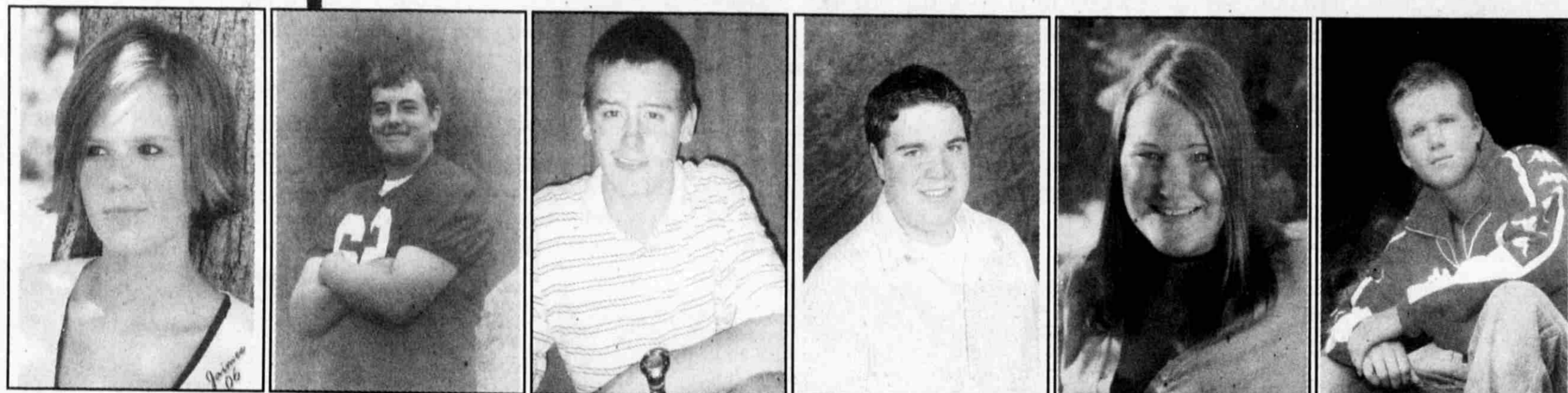


A brief appearance by a beach ball added a festive touch to the proceedings.

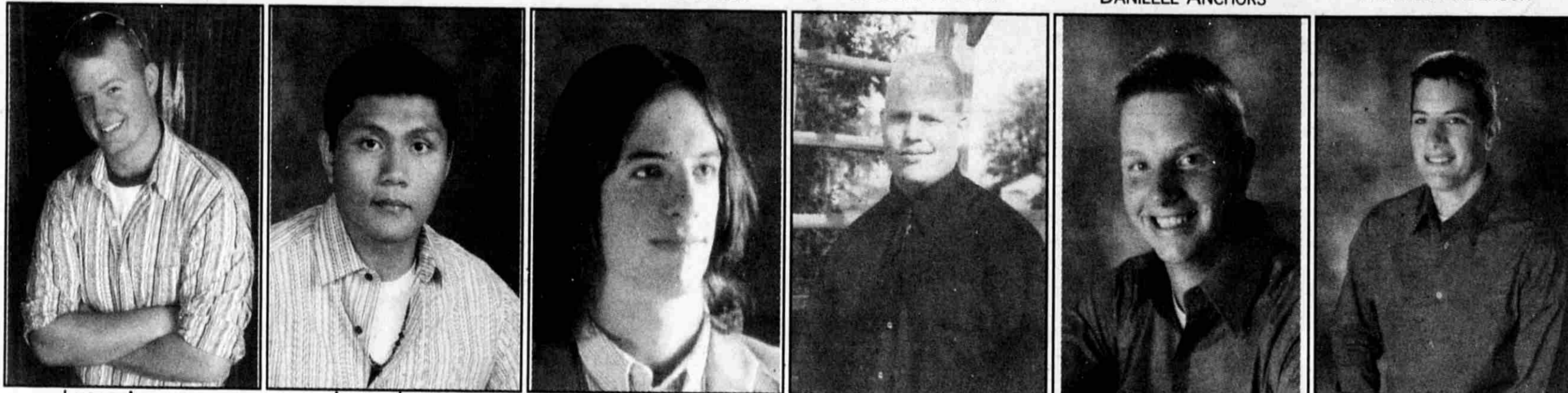




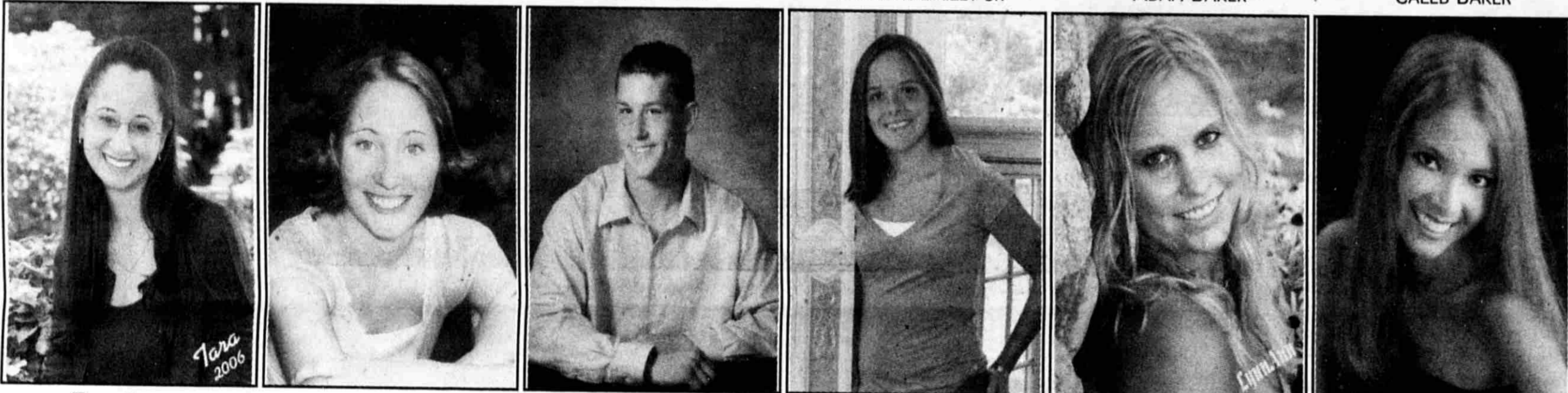
# LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2006



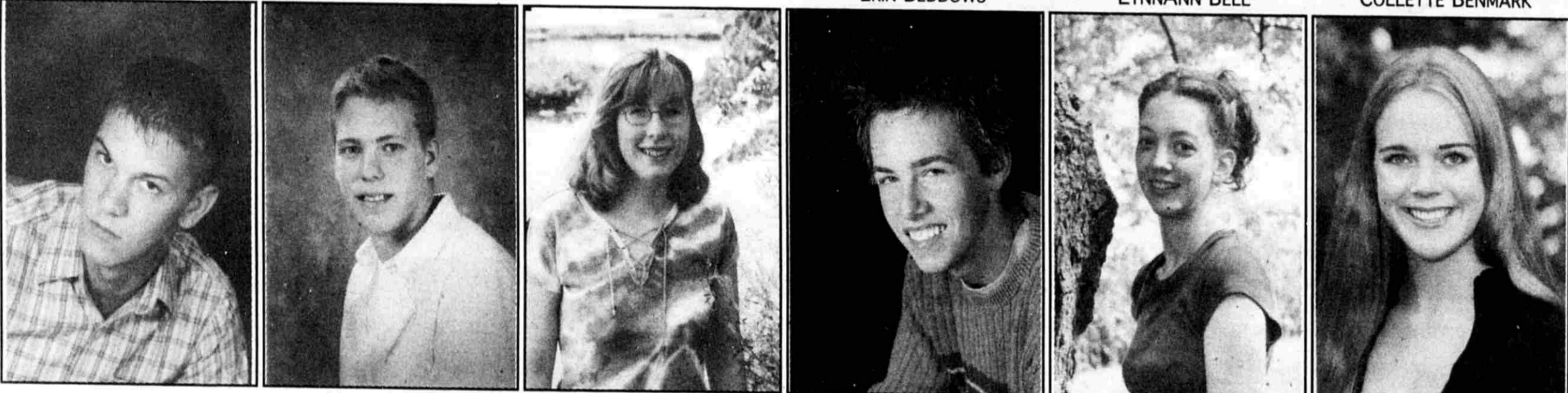
JAMIE ABRAM   ANTHONY ADRIANSE   CHARLIE ALEXANDER   BRADLEY AMIDON   DANIELLE ANCHORS   DONALD ANDERSON



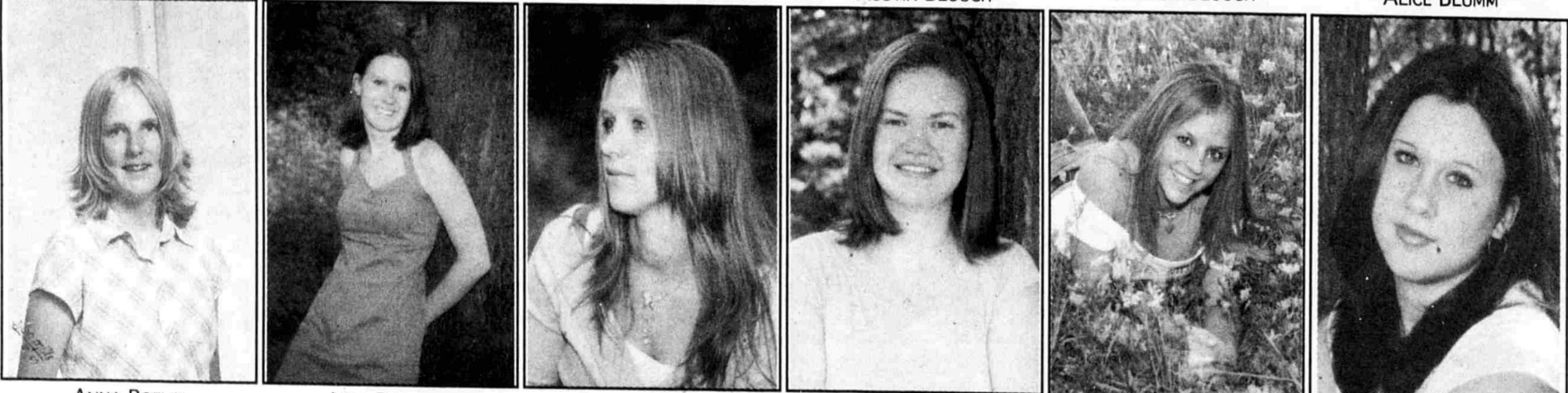
LUCAS ANSTETT   ALLAN AQUINO   KYLE AUSTIN   KENNETH BAILEY JR   ADAM BAKER   CALEB BAKER



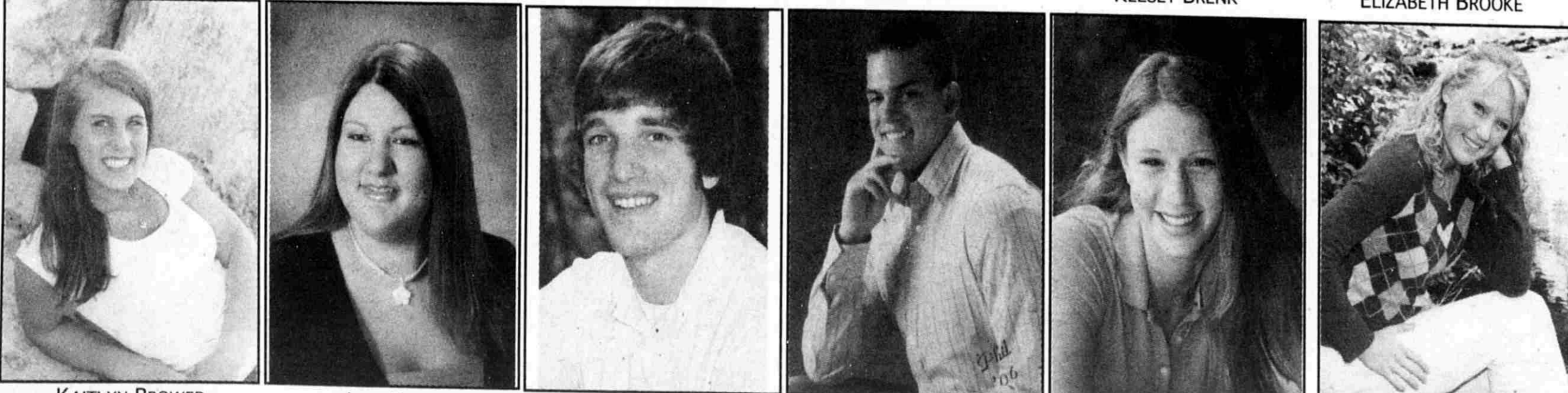
TARA BAKER   KATHRYN BARNES   MATTHEW BATCHELOR   ERIN BEDDOWS   LYNNANN BELL   COLLETTE BENMARK



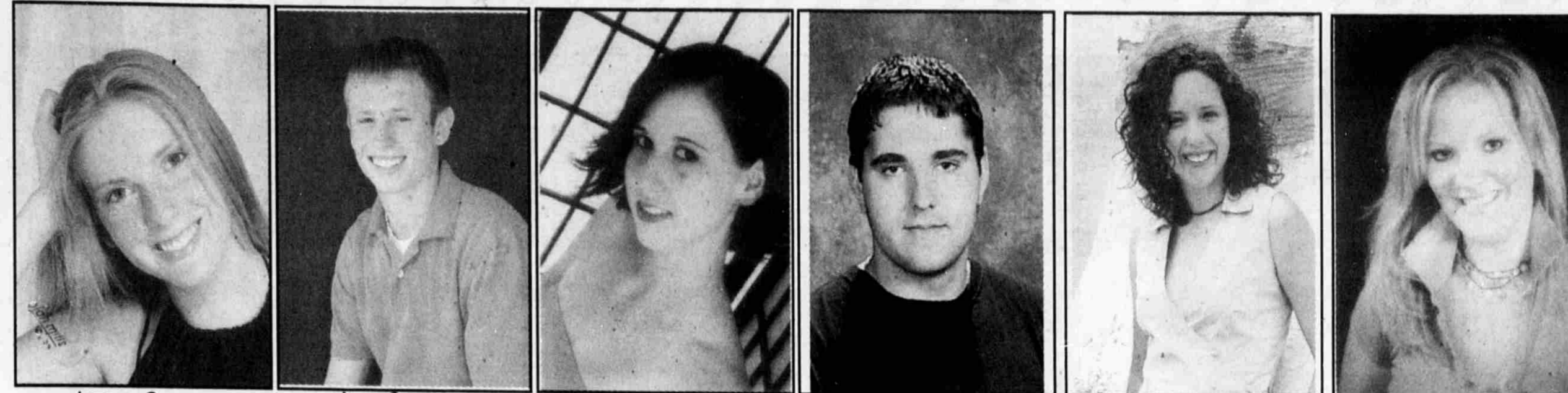
BRENT BEUKEMA   KENNETH BIERI   TIFFANY BLANCHARD   AUSTIN BLOUGH   MELISSA BLOUGH   ALICE BLUMM



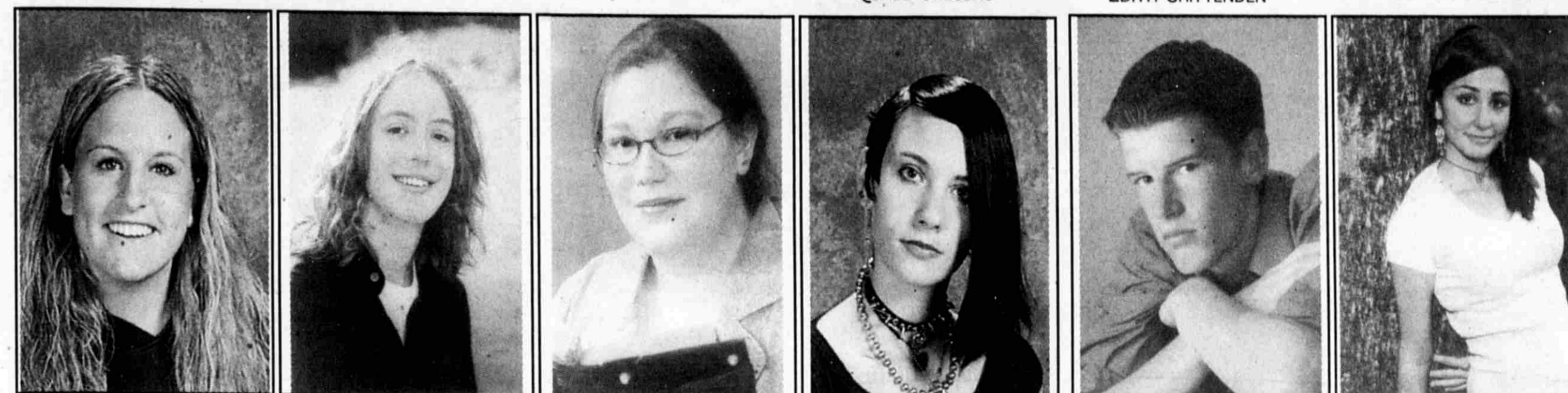
ANNA BOEVE   LISA BOOMERS   SARAH BOOMERS   HOLLY BORTH   KELSEY BRENK   ELIZABETH BROOKE



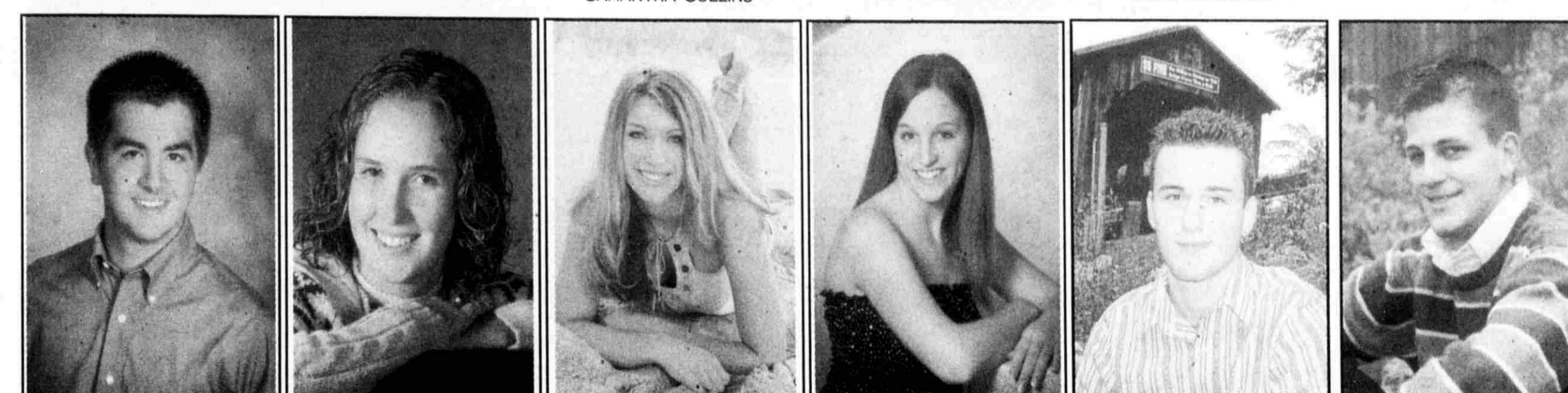
KAITLYN BROWER   LISA BROWN   ZACHARY BURGER   PHILIP BURTON   MALLEY CAHOON   MARY CALVI



JORDYN CAPMAN   ALEX CARPENTER   KIMBERLY CARRIER   QUADE CHESBRO   EDITH CHITTENDEN   BRITTA CIESLAK



ADDIE CLARK   NATHANIEL CLEMENTS   SAMANTHA COLLINS   ASHLEY COLON   RYAN CONVERSE   HOLLY COOK



BRADLEY CORLETT   LAURA CRIMMINS   CAROLJEAN CROTHERS   CAREY CROUT   TYLER DAVIS   DAVID DEE

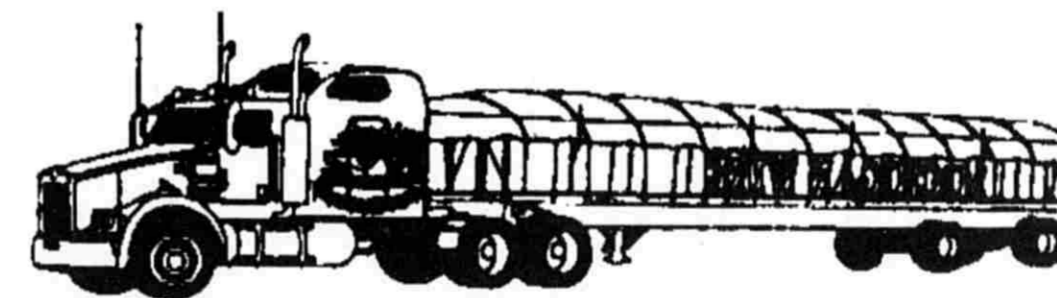


Class Colors: Aqua & Silver



# CONGRATULATIONS 2006 GRADS!

## We Wish You All The Best!



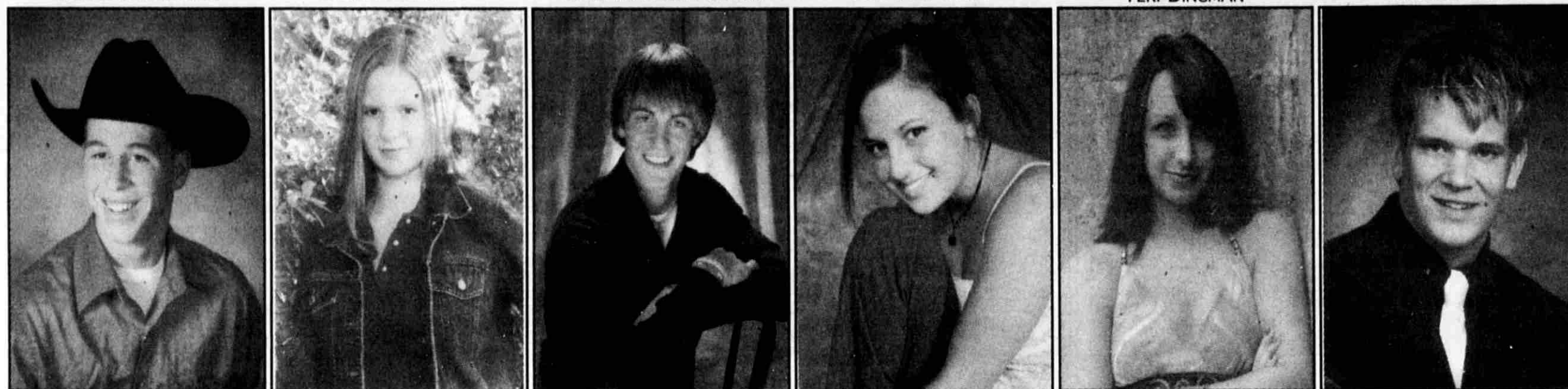
### D & D TRUCKING COMPANY

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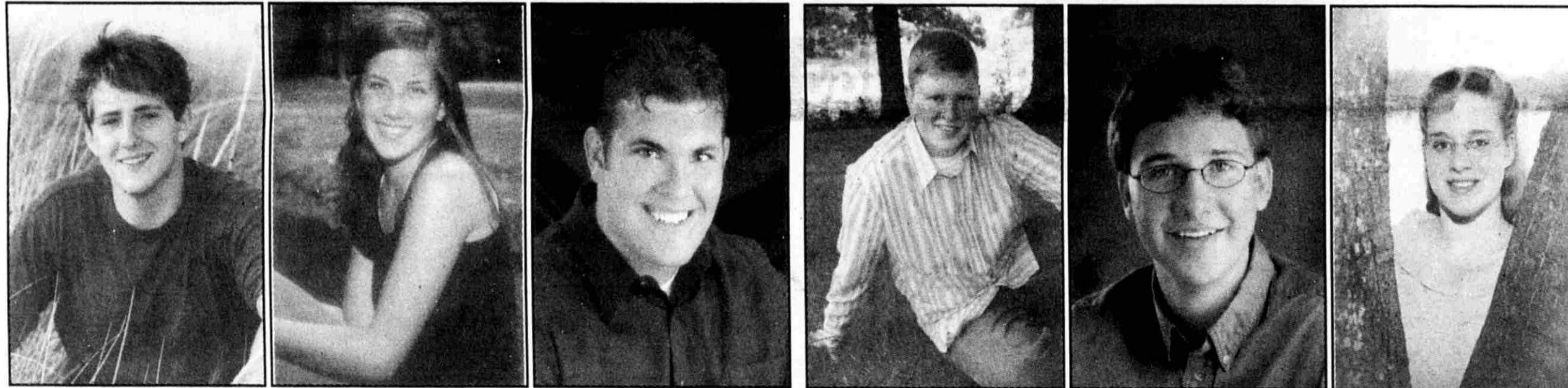
REBECCA DELIEFDE    GABRIEL DELNICK    BENJAMIN DEN HOUTER    BRITTANY DIETZ    TERI DINGMAN    THOMAS DOLL



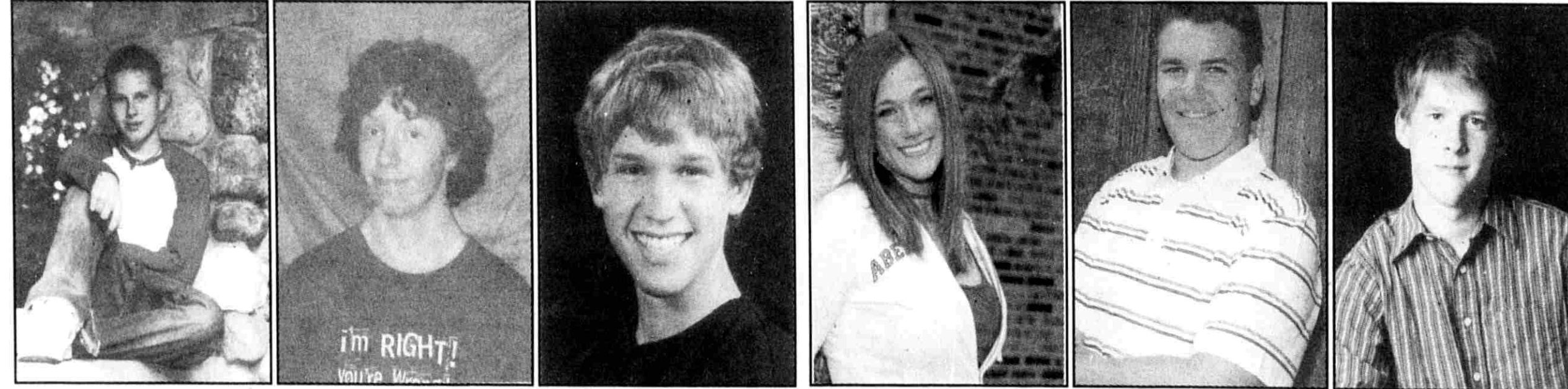
SEAN DONAHUE    ELIZABETH DRAIN    CHAD DRENTH    REBECCA DULEY    AMANDA DURKEE    JACOB ELDRIDGE



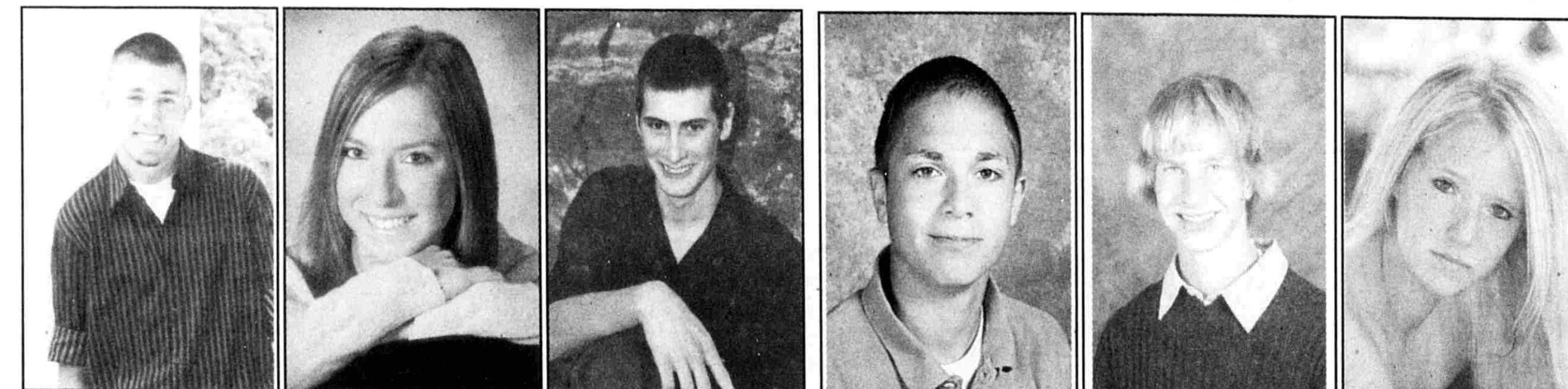
MAYA ESPARZA-SIEGERS    KYLE ESTES    ANTHONY EVERITT    AMANDA EZINGA    SHANNON FITZPATRICK    MEGAN FIZER



JOHN FLEET    BRITTANY FOLEY    TREVOR FOSS    MATTHEW FRANCISCO    NICHOLAS FREEBURG    CHELSEA FREED

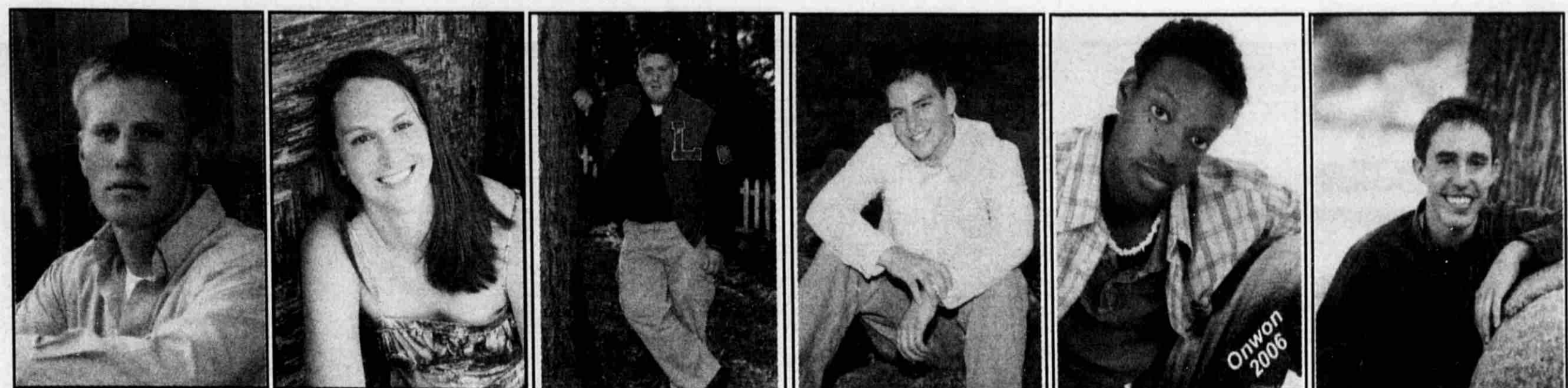


BRIAN FRY    RANDALL FRYE    NATHAN GALBREATH    JULIE GEELHOED    BENJAMIN GELDERSMA    ALEXANDER GETZ



WILLIAM GILL    JENNA GILLAN    NICHOLAS GILLHESPY    JOSHUA GILLIARD    LOUIS GLINZAK    KATIE GOLDNER

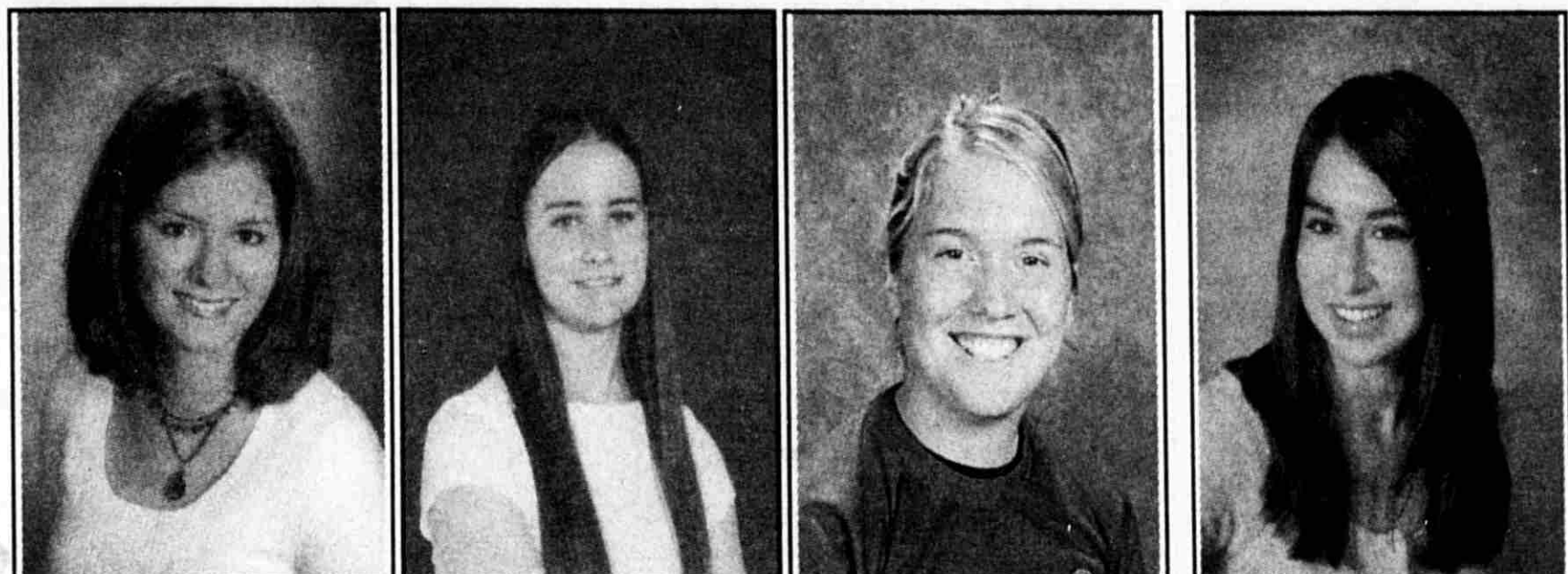
 **Class Song: Here's To The Night - EVE 6** 



BROCK GRAHAM    NICOLE GREEN    JONATHON GREGATTIS    ANTHONY GRIFFIN    ONWON GRINER    BRANDON GROCHOWALSKI



AUDREY GRUMMET    MICHAEL HANER    BENJAMIN HANSON    ANDREW HAPPIE    HEATHER HARRIGAN    ANGELA HARVEY



CHRISTINE HAYNES    ALLISON HEFFRON    COURTNEY HENSCHKE    KARINA HERNANDEZ

**4 Awesome  
Years!**  
I'll miss hangin'  
with the Class of  
**2006!**  
AAB 

 **Class Flower: Lilac** 

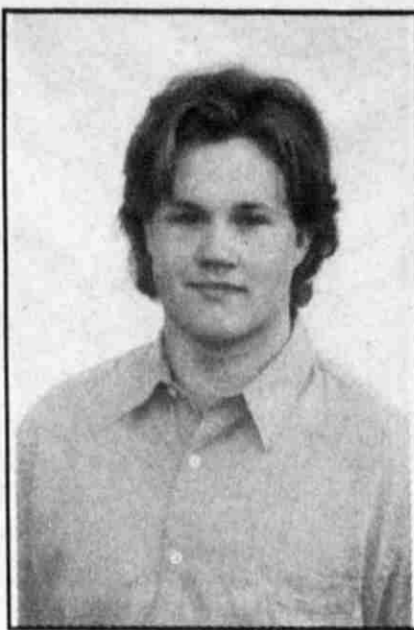
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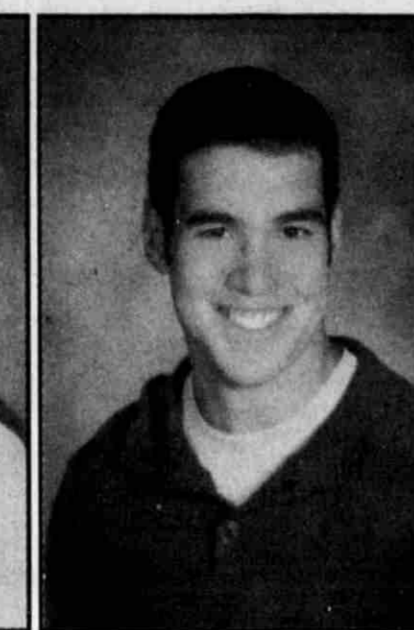
BRANDON HERRING



JOSHUA HETTINGA



ELLISE HILL



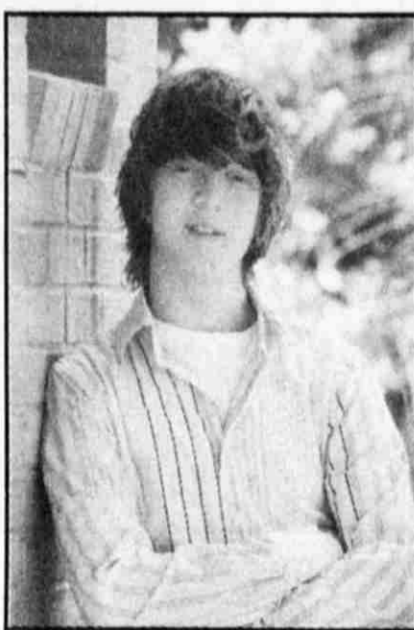
JORDAN HILL



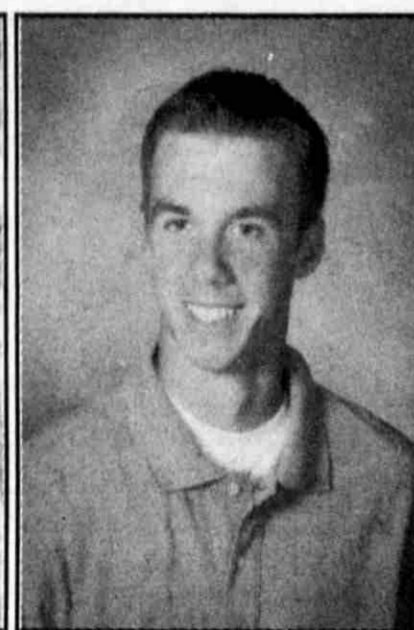
BRETT HOBRLLA



ASHLEY HOLCOMB



JORDAN HOLMGREN



ANDREW HOPKINS



ALISHA HUGHES



ERICA HUIZINGA



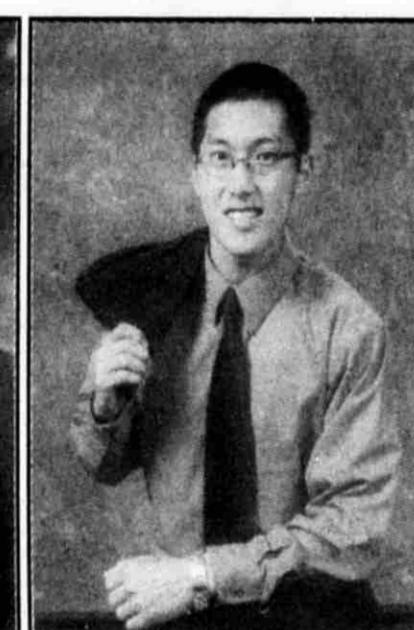
ASHLEY HUNDLEY



GREG HUYSER



JORDAN ICKES



ADAM INGRAHAM



KAYLA IRWIN



DAVID JELTEMA



KIRSTIN-ANNE JOHNSON



KRISTIN JOHNSON



CHRISTOPHER JONES



CORY JONES



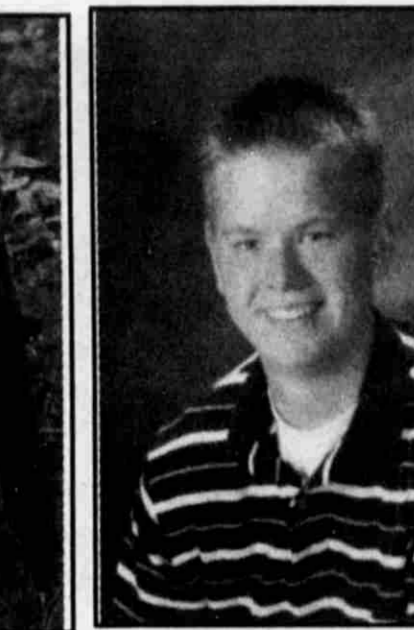
RYDER JONES



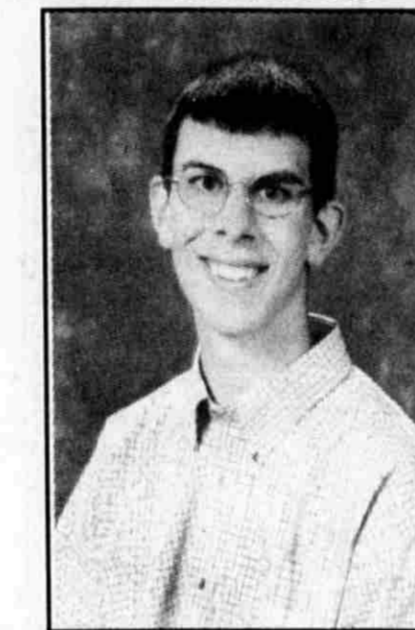
AMY JUNEWICK



RYAN JUNGLAS



RYAN KALMAN



ABBOT KASTANEK



STEPHEN KERR II



JENNIFER KETTEL



BRADLEY KICZENSKI



HANNAH KINNEY



ANDREW KLEEVES



RACHAEL KLINGE



HANNAH KNUDSTRUP



KALEY KOEWERS



KELLY KONING



CHRISTINA KOSBAR



ANDREA KOSTER



CORY KOWALSKI



DEVIN KYLLONEN



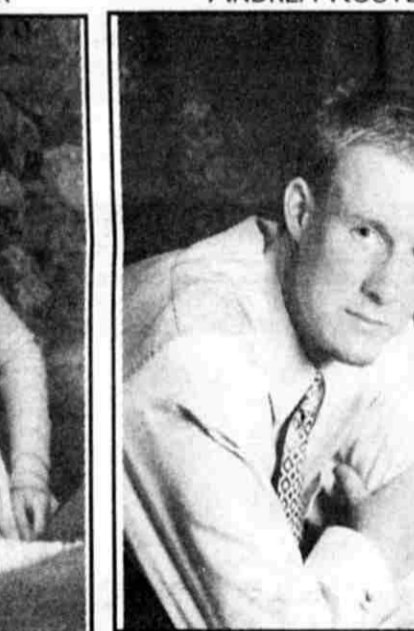
ANGELA LACHNIET



STEVEN LAFAVE



MOLLY LALONE



RYAN LANE



JON LATVA



PAULA LAWRENCE



MARIE LAZAR



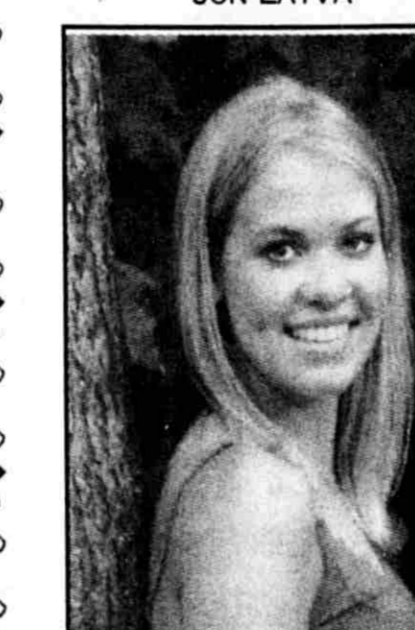
AMY LEIKERT



LAURA LEITZ



EMILY LEMKE



SARAH LESSENS



RACHELLE LIVINGSTON



MICHAEL LONG



KELSEY LUNDSTROM



JODI LUPTON



LAURA MAKI



HATS OFF TO THE  
Class of 2006!  
YOU MADE IT!

**Congratulations**  
& Best Wishes  
In All That You Do!



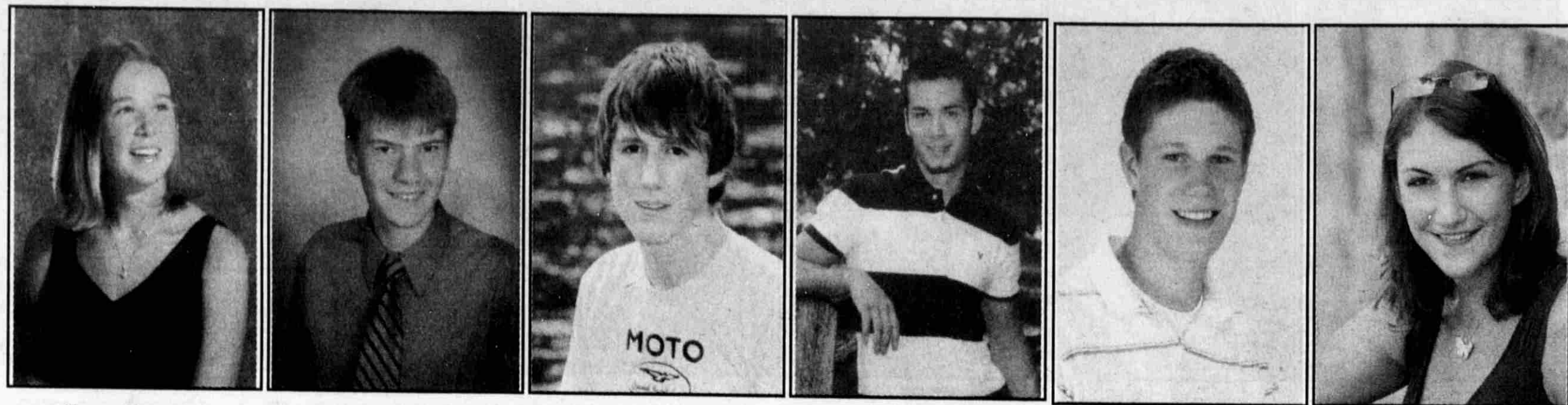
**GOOD LUCK GRADS!** Congratulations  
**CLASS OF 2006!**  
Graduation is always  
a success story.  
We're proud of you!

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Lowell  
897-6546

**HATS OFF**  
TO THE CLASS OF 2006

**KING MILLING COMPANY**  
king flour

Class Motto: "Live for the nights to  
remember & friends you'll never forget  
- Unknown



KELLY MALLING    KYLE MALONE    JOSEPH MARSALESE    STEVEN MARSMAN    SETH MAYHEW    KRISTEN MCALPINE

# CLASS OF 2006



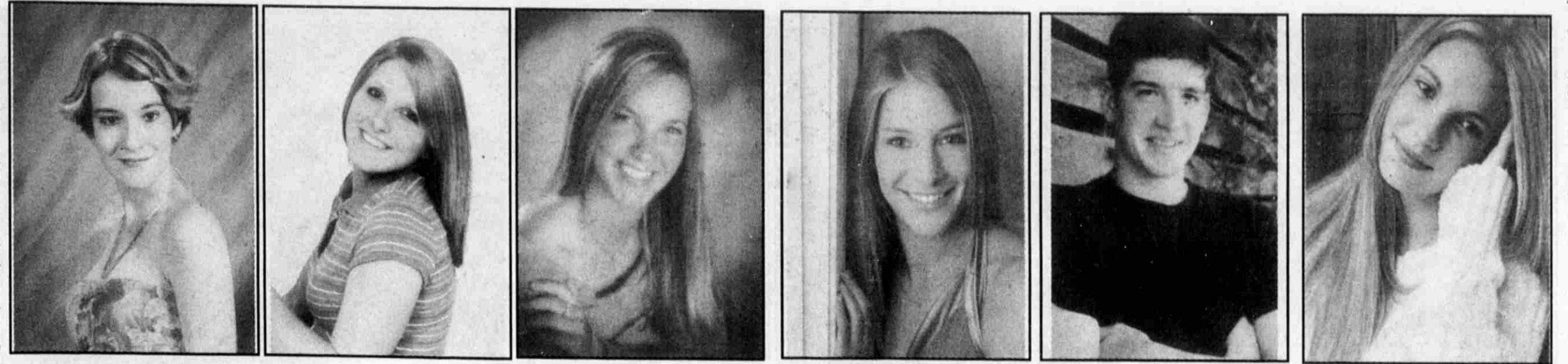
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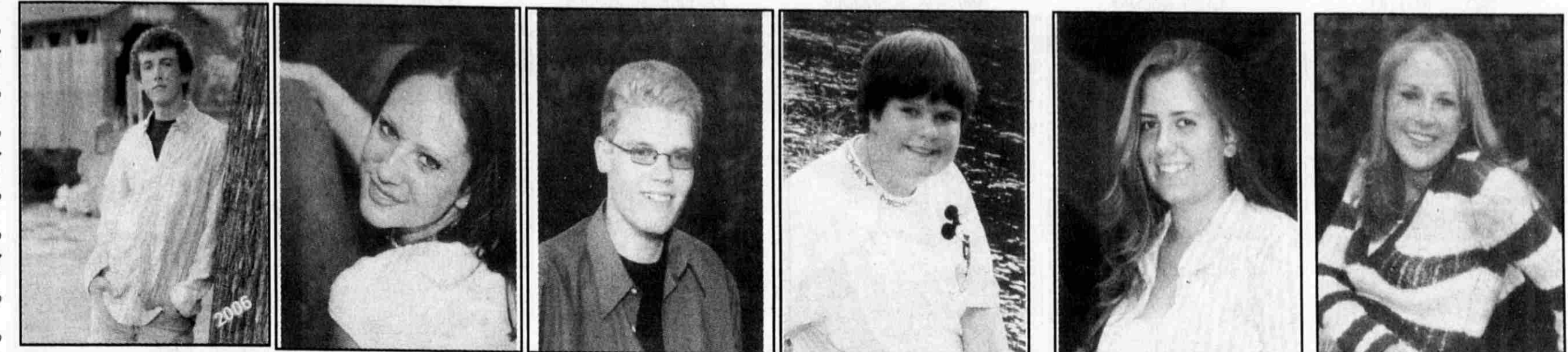
AUSTIN MCGREGOR    MEGAN MEADE    KIMBERLY MEEUWSEN



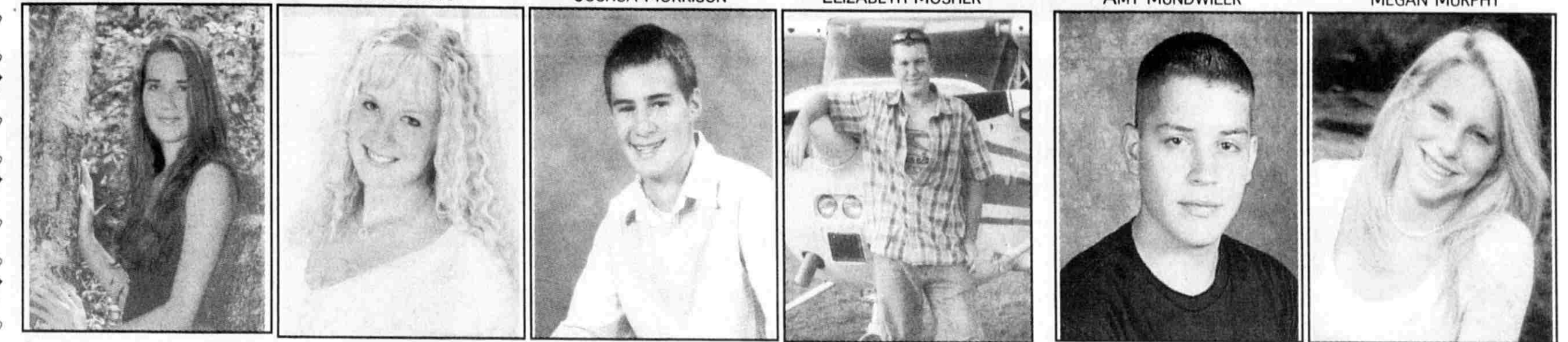
MARY MENDEZ    ASHLEIGH MENTER    NIKITA MILES



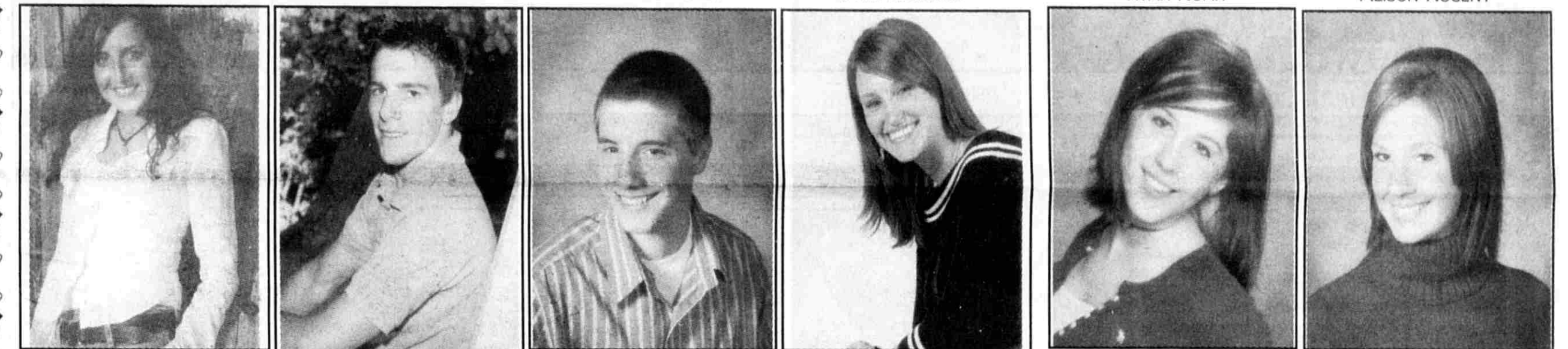
ANGELA MILLER    RANDI MILLERING    JENNA MITCHELL    SAMANTHA MOL    DEVLIN MOORE    OCEAN MOORE



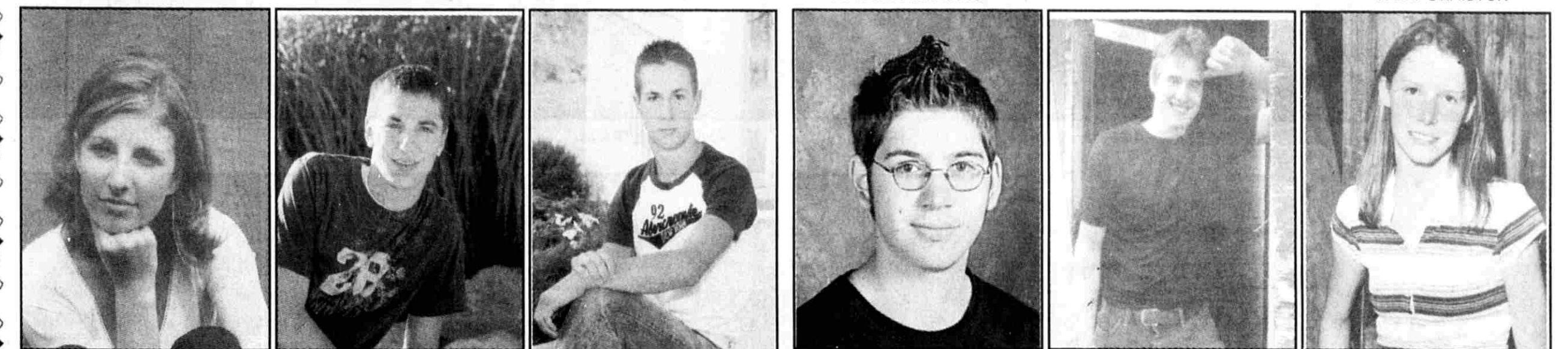
WILLIAM MOORE    DAWN MORRIS    JOSHUA MORRISON    ELIZABETH MOSHER    AMY MUNDWILER    MEGAN MURPHY



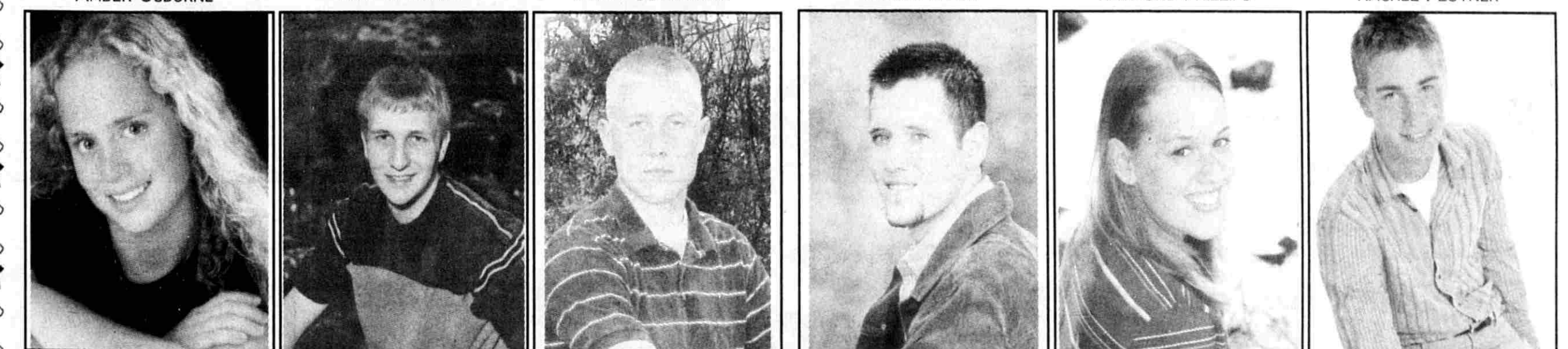
RACHEL MURRAY    AUTUMN NETHERCOTT    KYLE NEUBECKER    ARIC NEWSTED    RYAN NOAH    ALISON NUGENT



ERIN NUGENT    RICHARD NUGENT    STEVEN NUGENT    MAGGIE NURMIKKO    CAITLYN O'HAIRE    TARA ORMISTON



AMBER OSBORNE    GARY OSBORNE    BRETT OSTRANDER    MARK PEPPER    RAYMOND PHILLIPS    RACHEL PLOTNER



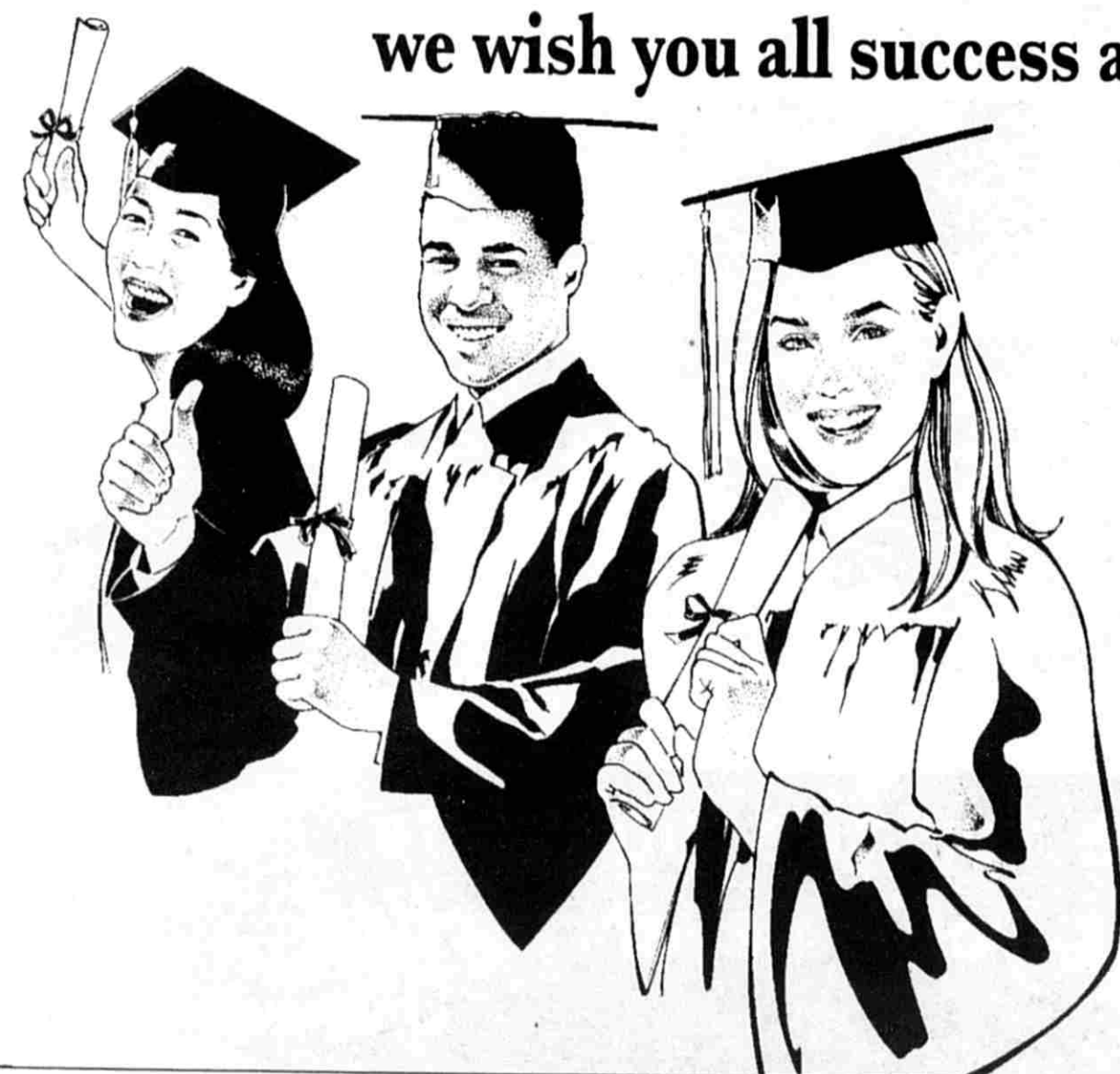
REBECCA PLUMMER    MICHAEL PRETZEL    WAYNE RACINE    CASEY RANDOLPH    LISA RASCH    JONATHAN RIDDLE



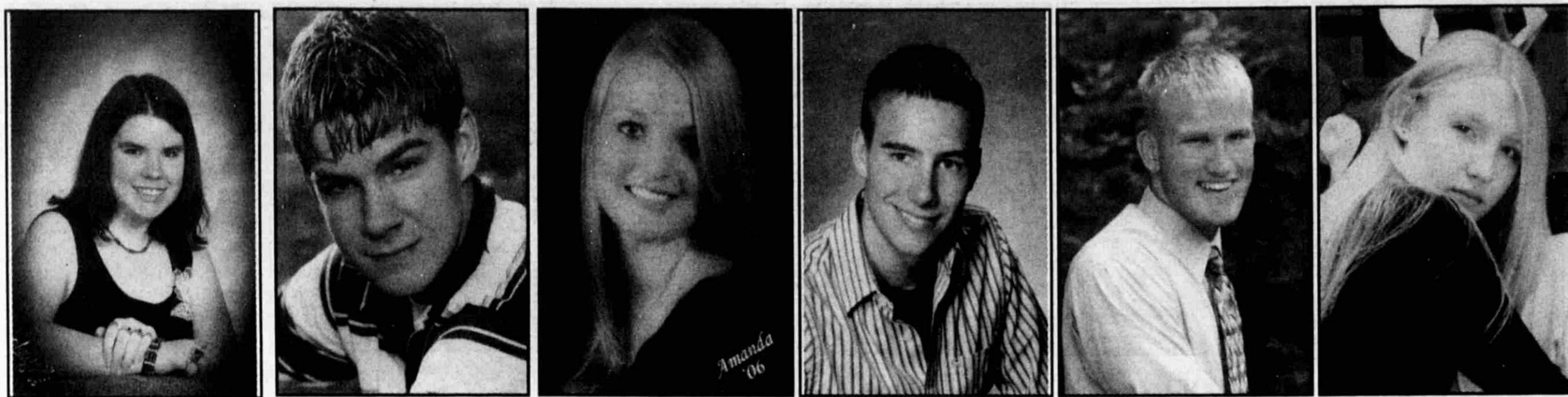
KATHLEEN RILEY    CHAD RISNER    BENJAMIN RITZEMA    BRANDI RIX    MICHAEL ROBERTS    CHRISTOPHER ROELOFS

# Congratulations

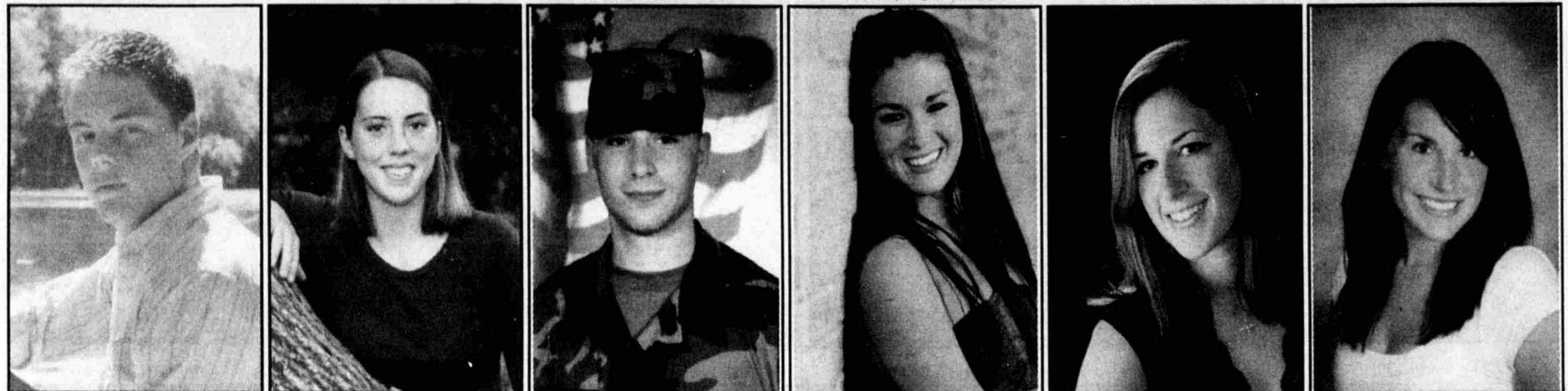
Hooray, graduates! You've made it. Diplomas in hand, you're equipped to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Whether you're heading for further education or planning to start in on your career, we wish you all success and future happiness.



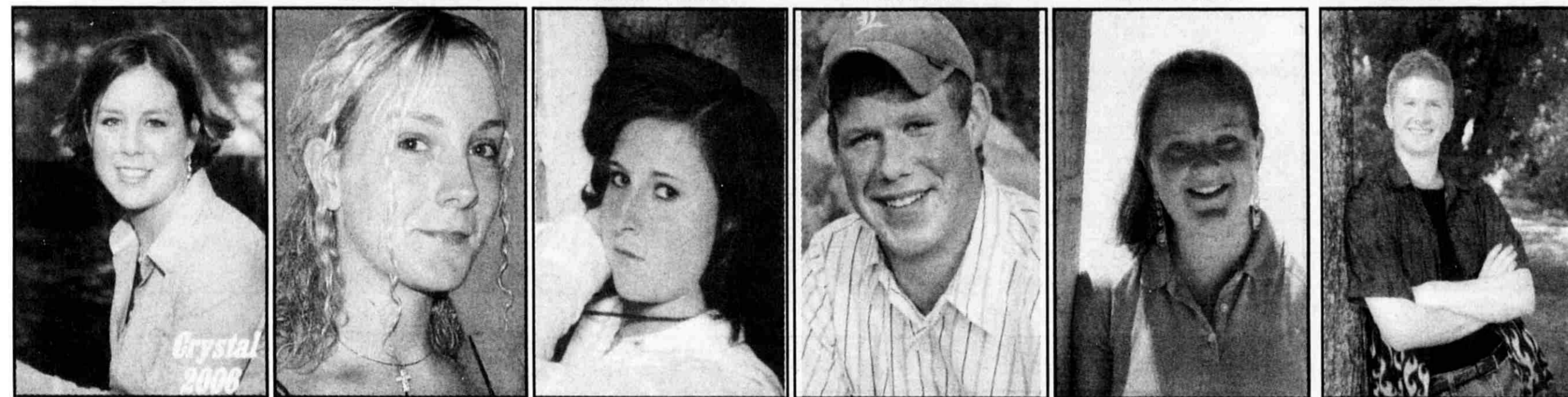
**SALUTING  
 THE CLASS OF  
 2006**  
**Michigan Wire  
 Processing**



NICOLE ROTTIER    CORY RUESINK    AMANDA SCHNEIDER    PATRICK SCHNEIDER    ANDREW SCHULTZ    LEANNAH SEESE



BRADLEY SHEA    NICOLE SHEPARD    ZACHARY SHERMAN    LINDSEY SKINNER    ASHLEY SLATER    CHELSEA SMIT



CRYSTAL SMITH    LORI SMITH    ASHLEY SPENCER    JARED SPENCER    ASHLEY SPICER    BLAKE SPOELMAN



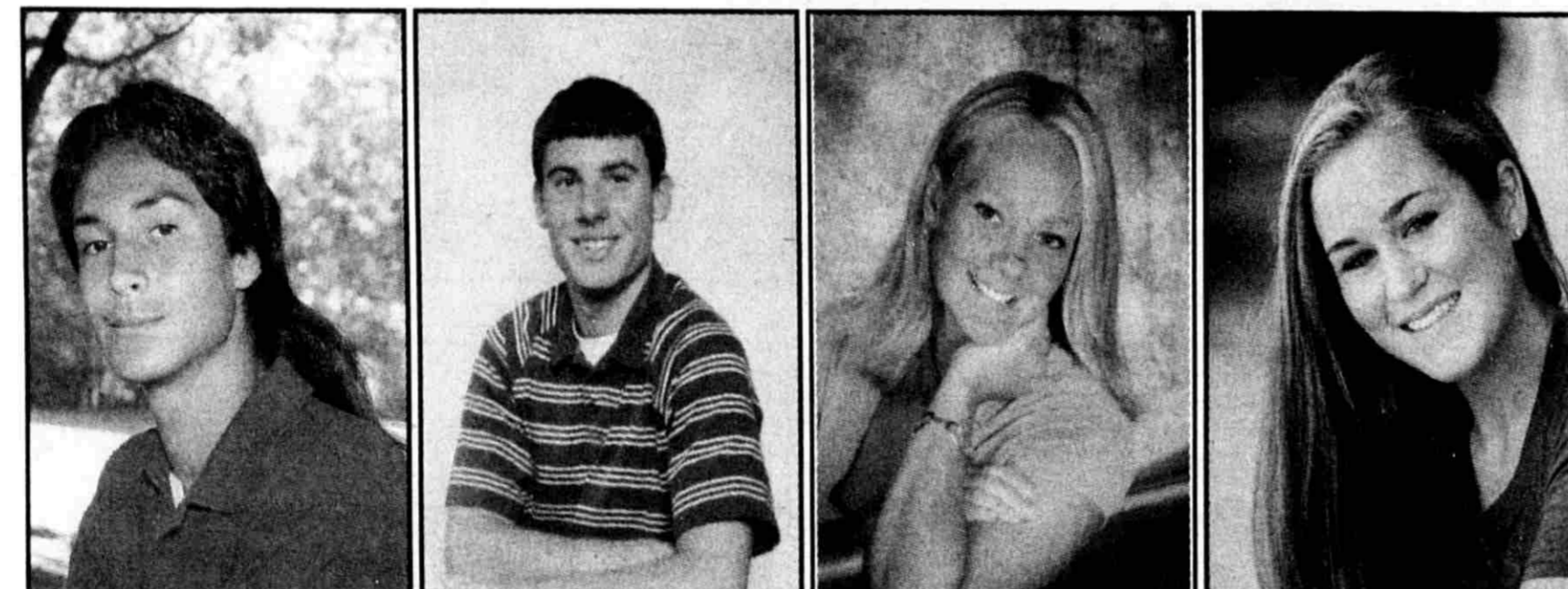
ALYSSA STEBBINS    ASHLEY STEBBINS    GREGORY STEVENS    MELANIEROSE STRAUB    DANIELLE STURGIS    RYAN SZAROWICZ



**LISA MARIE BROWN**

*We are so proud of you!  
We know that your future is bright  
because you have what it takes  
to make the world a better place.*


Love,  
Mom, Dad & Michael



JOSHUA TAPIA    MICAH TAWNEY    MELISSA TELMAN    EMILY TIMPSON

*For The Graduate...*

**Katie,**  
*You are so strong and confident and yet  
so gentle and caring. You amaze us  
with your abilities and we couldn't be  
more proud.  
Congratulations on  
your achievements.*



*God bless your future,  
Love Mom and Dad*

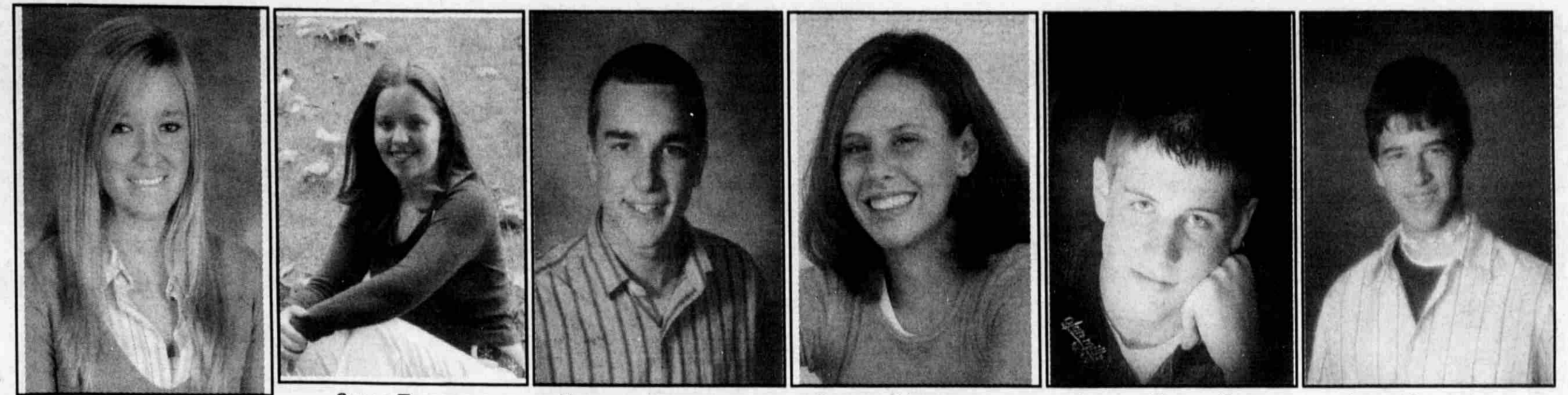
**BEN**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

We are proud of you and your accomplishments. As you continue your journey through life remember these words of advice.  
**Work hard, laugh more, and keep your honor.**

- Dad, Mom & Jon

**Nate,**  
**Good Luck at MSU!**  
*Love,*  
**Grandpa & Grandma Thomet**



ALISHA TREBIAN    SARAH TROYER    NICHOLAS TRUSZKOWSKI    REBECCA UNDERWOOD    ANDREW VANDERKLOK    JAMES VANDERLAAN



CHAD VANDERPLOEG    ADAM VANDERPOL    ASHLEY VANDERWAL    BROOK VANECK    LAUREN VANENS    DAVID VANKEULEN



MEGAN VAUGHT    ELYSE VIDETO    LINDSAY VOS    SARAH WALDORF    SHEILA WALLING    KENNETH WALSH JR

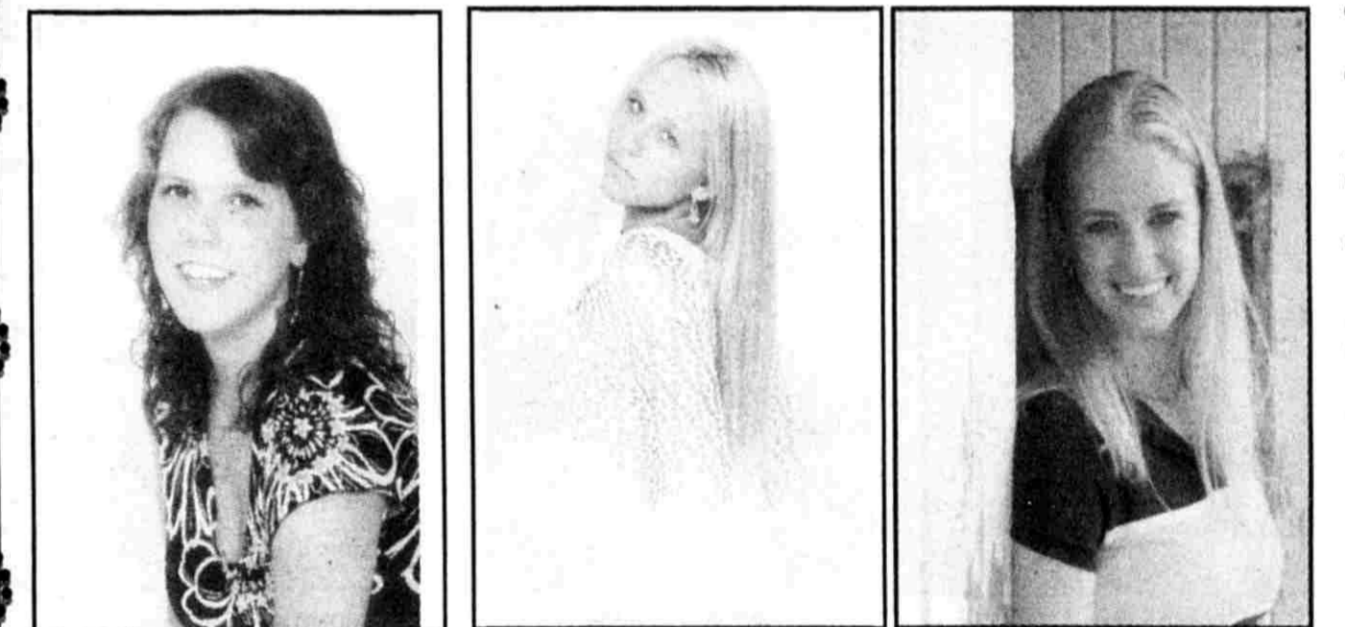
**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2006**



*Good Luck Lowell Seniors!*

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**(616) 897-9259**  
(800) 804-3322



KIMBERLY WARD    AMANDA WEAVER    ALICIA WEEBER



MELISSA WARNERS    EVA WILCOX    CASSANDRA WILDEY

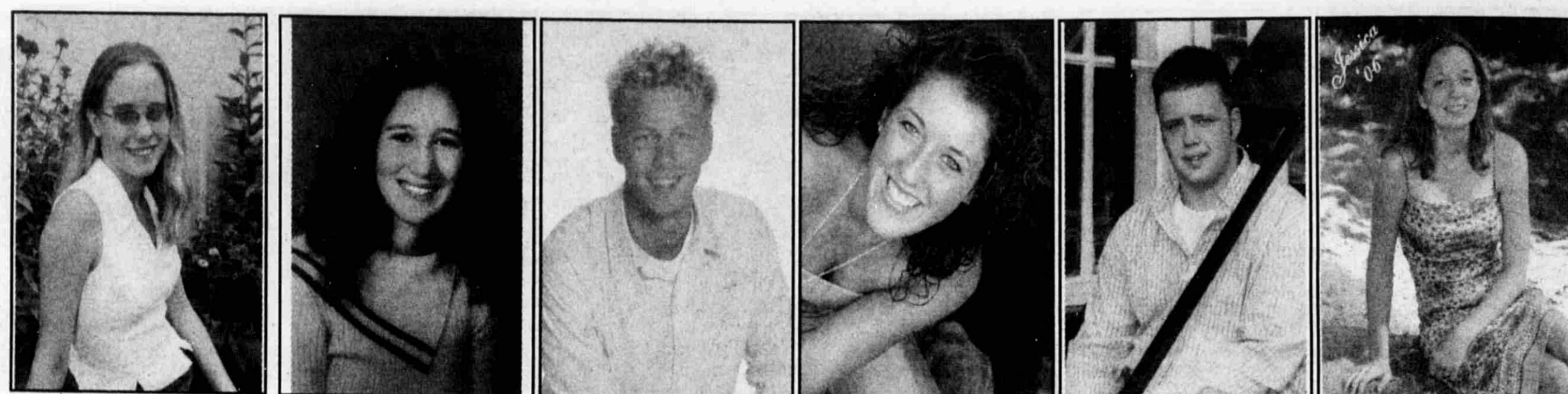


ANGELICA WILLIAMS    TRAVIS WILLIAMS    ANDREW WILTERINK

**SALUTING GRADUATES**

*Class of 2006*

**HAROLD ZEIGLER MICHIGAN'S GIANT**



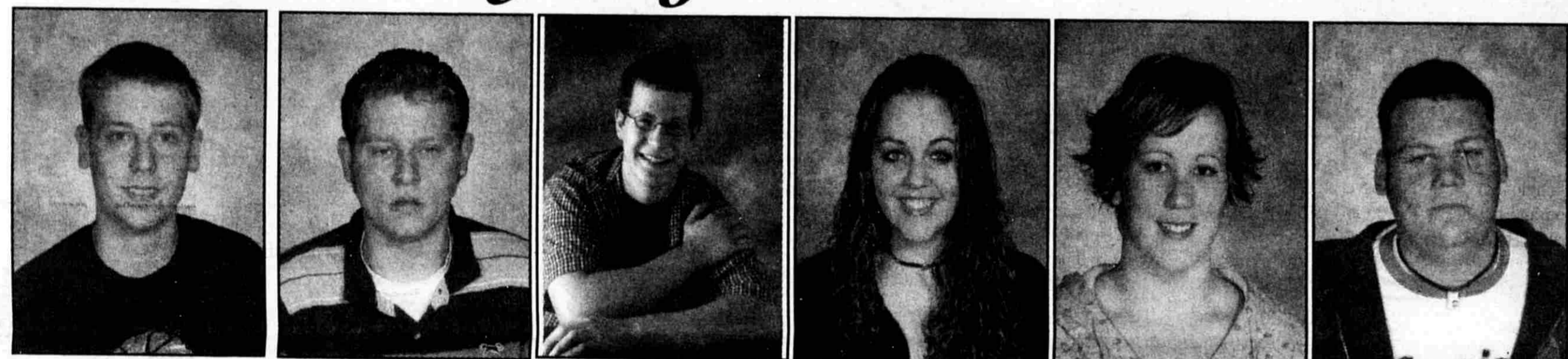
AMANDA WINGEIER JANICE WISNIEWSKI KYLE WITTENBACH CHELSEA WOLBERS JOSEPH WOODHEAD JESSICA WRIGHT



MELISSA WRIGHT BOBBI YOUNG TARA ZAMARRON JENNIFER ZOOSMA AUDREY ZOOK KATELYNN ZUIDERVEEN

Not pictured... Nicholas Lee Huizinga • Ryan Michael Sullivan • Matthew Davis Mochmer

# 2006 Unity High School Graduates



ALAN BOEVE ANTHONY AMELIA-RUEGSEGER CALEB SHORES CASSANDRA SWITZER ERICA DOCKTER JAMES BRYANT



JENNIFER GLEASON JULIE ZOULEK KAYLA DEIBLE KIRBY SIEK KYLE ELLIOTT LAUREN THOMAS



LUIS VERA MATTHEW SMITH MELISSA MCCLAIN NICOLAS ROGERS MATHEW HUTCHINS TIMOTHY CARRIER

Look Out Wow!  
Austin Blough  
Is a graduate now!



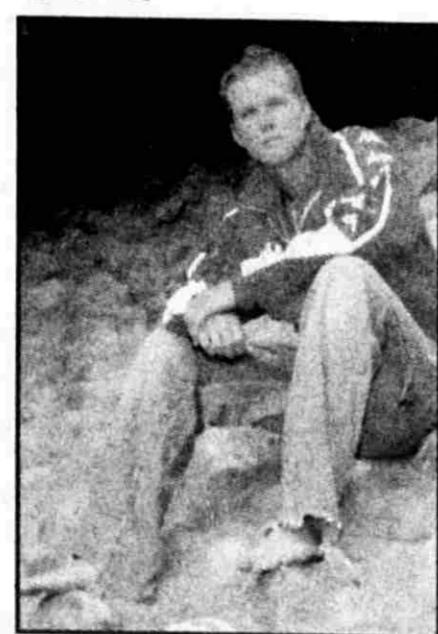
Awesome  
Job!

Can't wait  
to see what  
you do next!

CONGRATULATIONS  
"PUMP"

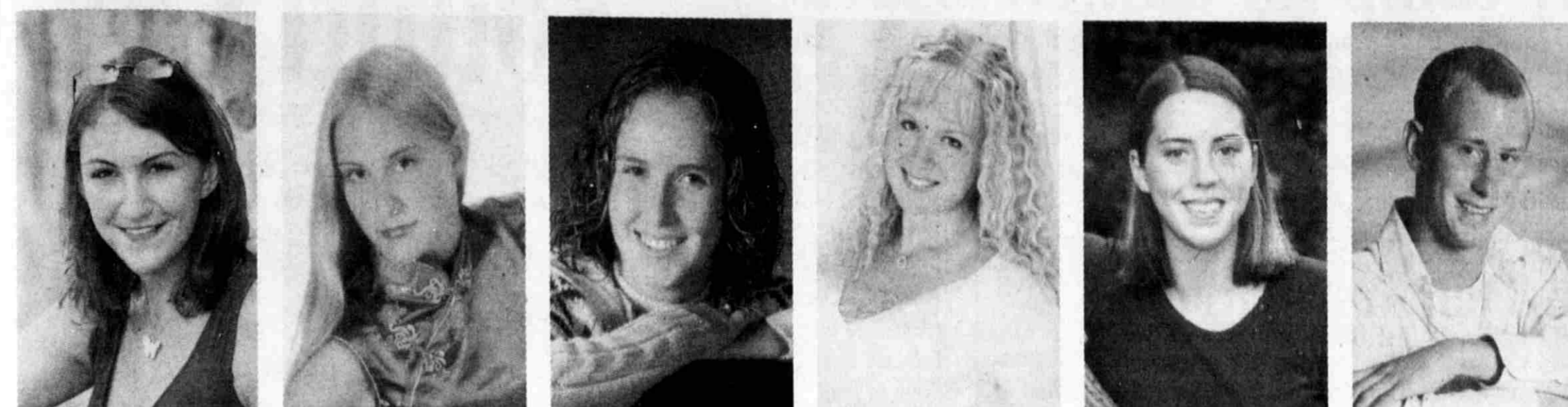
We are  
extremely  
proud of you!  
Good luck at  
Indiana Tech!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Josh



Not pictured...

- Rebecca Heinicki
- Jamie Dryer
- April Polaski
- Aaron Mason



**KRISTEN SHRIDER (4.283) VALEDICTORIAN**  
Kristen, the daughter of Michelle and Ed Lazar, will attend Michigan State University to study pre-med/natural sciences. Extracurricular activities include musicals/plays.

**MARIE MONIQUE LAZAR (4.244) SALUTORIAN**  
Marie, the daughter of Michelle and Ed Lazar, will attend Michigan State University to study digital animation and game design. She participated in all school track and field and art club.

**LAURA GRACE CRIMMINS (4.220)**  
Laura, the daughter of Susan and Edward Crimmins, will attend Michigan Technological University to study math and science. She participated in all school plays and soccer.

**AUTUMN RAE NETHERCOTT (4.125)**  
Autumn, the daughter of Michael and Bonnie Nethercott, will attend Central Michigan University to study interior design and business management. She participated in the musical, international club and Rotary.

**NICOLE LEE SHEPARD (4.111)**  
Nicole, the daughter of Don and Lori Shepard, will attend Aquinas College to study education. She participated in varsity basketball and soccer.

**BENJAMIN BERT HANSON (4.109)**  
Ben, the son of Dale and Jan Hanson, will attend Cornerstone University to study medicine/business management. Extracurricular activities include soccer, football and basketball.



**CHAD THOMAS DRENTH (4.042)**  
Chad, the son of Tom and Carol Drenth, will attend Calvin College to pursue religion and theatre, education and business. He participated in all-school musicals, tennis and cross country.

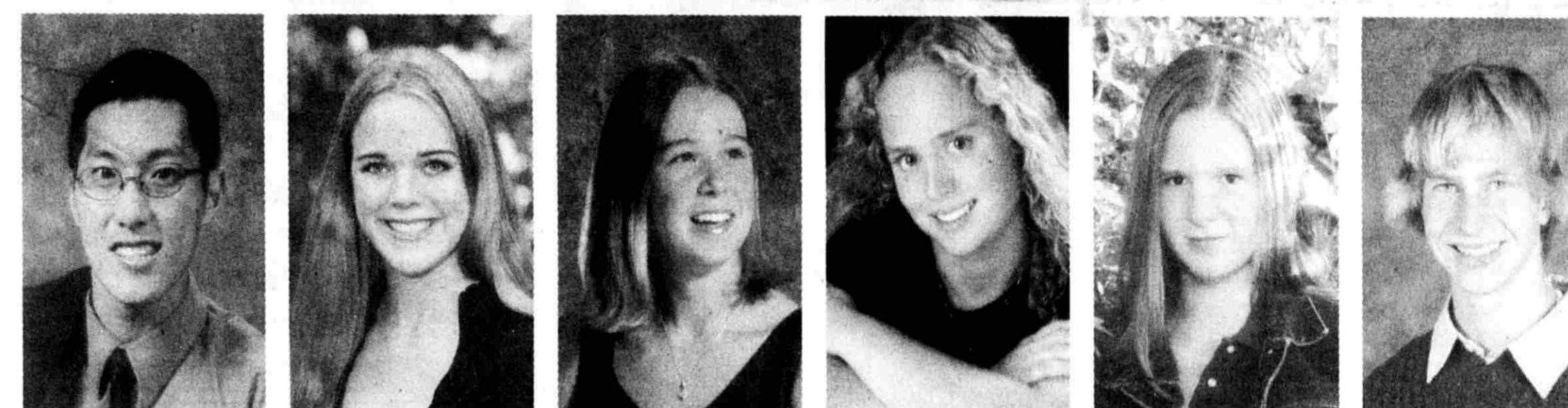
**BROCK ROGER GRAHAM (4.042)**  
Brock, the son of Roger and Karen Graham, will attend Wabash College to study psychology. He participated in football and wrestling.

**CHELSEA CHRISTINE FREED (4.040)**  
Chelsea, the daughter of Gregory and Christine Freed, will attend Olivet Nazarene University to study accounting or engineering. She participated in marching band and bowling.

**ERIN ELIZABETH BEDDOWS (4.032)**  
Erin, the daughter of Tom and Carmen Beddows, will attend Lewis University to study pre-med. She played soccer and was involved in Model UN.

**BENJAMIN VANDERKOOI DENHOUTER (4.024)**  
Ben, the son of Leonard and Kathryn Den Houter, will attend the University of Michigan to study computer engineering. He was involved in Boy Scouts and BPA.

**HANNAH MARJORIE KINNEY (4.022)**  
Hannah, the daughter of Susan and Thomas Kinney, will attend Grand Valley State University to study education or psychology. She played soccer and managed boys basketball.



**ADAM PRICE INGRAHAM (4.010)**  
Adam, the son of Bill and Lori Ingraham, will attend Lawrence Technological University, to study architectural design and civil engineering. He participated in rugby and BPA.

**ALICE APRIL BLUMM (3.992)**  
Alice, the daughter of John and Paula Blumm, will attend Seton Hall University to study diplomacy and international relations. She was involved in the school play and musical.

**KELLY NICOLE MALLING (3.981)**  
Kelly, the daughter of Curtis and Cheryl Malling, will attend Calvin College. Her area of study is elementary education. She was involved in basketball and softball.

**REBECCA MAE PLUMMER (3.980)**  
Rebecca is the daughter of Tom and Jill Plummer. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University. Her area of study is undecided. Extracurricular activities include softball and tennis.

**ELIZABETH LOUISE DRAIN (3.978)**  
Elizabeth, the daughter of David and Doris Drain, will attend Michigan State University to study plant biology. She participated in cross country and the musical.

**LOUIS FRANCIS GLINZAK (3.972)**  
Louis is the son of Lou and Lynnea Glinzak. He will be attending Albion College to study political science and international relations. He was involved in FFA and Model UN.



**ANDREA LEIGH KOSTER (3.968)**  
Andrea, the daughter of Judy and Jerry Taylor and Blair and Heather Koster, will attend Central Michigan University to study environmental science. Activities include school newspaper and Model UN.

**HEATHER ANN HARRIGAN (3.956)**  
Heather, the daughter of Paul and Kathleen Harrigan, participated in the school newspaper and LAS Outreach. Her choice of college is undecided but she plans to study journalism and political science.

**BROOK MARIE VANECK (3.953)**  
Brook, the daughter of John and Diane VanEck, will attend Calvin College to study education/English. She participated in basketball and soccer.

**AMY LYNN MUNDWILER (3.947)**  
Amy, the daughter of Brent and Lori Mundwiler, will attend Calvin College to study pre-med. Extracurricular activities include youth group and environmental club.

**BENJAMIN REYNOLDS RITZEMA (3.947)**  
Ben, the son of Dion and Cathy Ritzema, will attend the United States Military Academy at West Point to study electrical engineering. He participated in cross country, tennis and Model UN.

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Super Saver \$619 MO.



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Super Saver \$219 MO.



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Super Saver \$519 MO.



'05 FORD EXPLORER  
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Super Saver \$329 MO.



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4x4, 20,000 miles  
Super Saver \$239 MO.



'03 DODGE RAM 4X4  
It's a Hemi  
Super Saver \$279 MO.



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Super Saver \$179 MO.



'04 FORD F-250  
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Super Saver \$519 MO.



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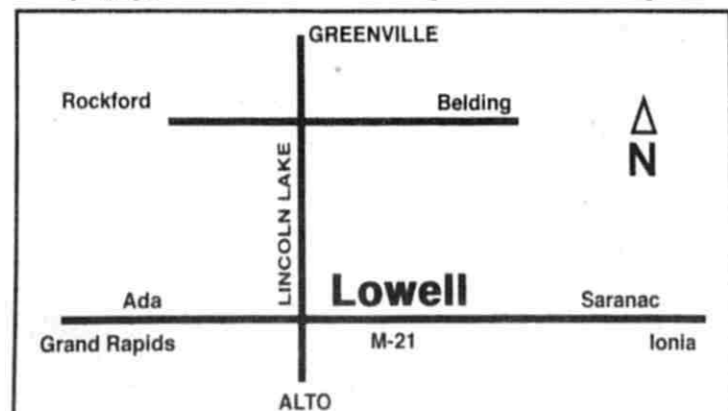


**BLUE OVAL CERTIFIED**

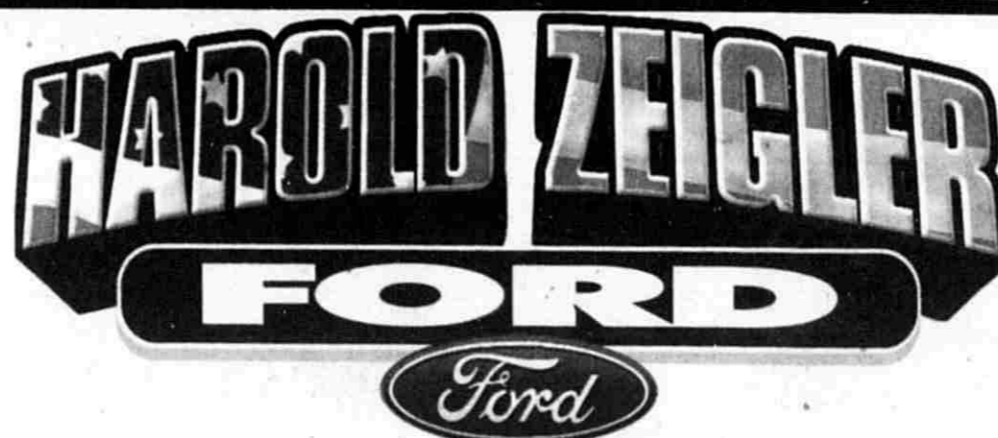
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