

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 52

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

## Special use permit required for proposed banquet hall

By Emma Palova

A proposed banquet hall on Lincoln Lake Ave. will have to overcome several hurdles before its portico welcomes the first anxious bride.

Kent McKay, with 17 years of experience from a five-star diamond resort in Phoenix, AZ, vows to bring an upscale facility to the Lowell area.

"It will be a point of pride for Vergennes Township and the city of Lowell," he said. "I have no intention of building a pole barn. It will be something with flair and class."

In the meantime, however, the voters will have to approve a Nov. 7 ballot question on whether spirits should be served at licensed establishments in the township.

"It is not about my business, but the outcome will affect it," said McKay.

Currently, only Arrowhead Golf Course can serve beer and wine, but not spirits.

McKay, who plans on serving cocktails at the banquet hall, has circulated a petition to place the question on the ballot.

Whether the proposal is approved or not, McKay

needs a special use permit from the township to build the banquet hall.

The 6.89-acre site off Lincoln Lake, south of Equine Medical, is located in a commercial/industrial zone known as the Vergennes Business Park.

However, the township ordinance has no provisions for a banquet facility in such zone.

In June, the township planning commission determined the banquet facility may be considered an unclassified special use.

Zoning administrator Jeanne Vandersloot said the banquet facility requires a

special use permit because of the nature of the business.

"It needs more review," she said.

According to Vandersloot's report, the facility is consistent with the master plan which calls for a mix of industrial, service and residential uses.

"There isn't really anything like this in the area for weddings or meetings," she said.

In her review, Vandersloot states the facility has access to Lincoln Lake Ave. which provides an ultimate connection to M-21 and I-96.

"I do not need the high traffic count on M-21 because a banquet facility is not an impulse purchase," said McKay.

McKay is proposing a 25,372 sq. ft. facility to seat 500 people with an outdoor ceremony area.

"It is the next generation of banquet facilities," he said. "People will be pleasantly surprised this is in Vergennes Township and Lowell."

McKay, who has surveyed 33 competitors, said there is a definite need for such facility in the area.

"Brides specifically do not want the same type of reception their parents had," he said. "This is rethinking the entire banquet celebration."

If McKay receives the special use permit, he hopes to break ground yet this winter with completion slated for summer.

"It is a considerable hurdle," said McKay.

A public hearing for a special use permit for the hall has been set for Nov. 13 at Vergennes Township Hall.

## Franciscan music marathon to benefit therapy program

By Emma Palova

The famous homemade "Cinnamon Sets" will sweeten this year's Music Therapy Marathon at the Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC).

Although the Franciscan

Heritage Foods bakery in Ada has long closed its doors, the much sought after baked goods will be available only during the marathon.

The 6th annual marathon is a benefit for the center's music therapy program.

It will feature a different

musician every hour from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Nov. 11. The public is invited to come to the entire program, or to any portion of it.

"Our goal is to raise \$1,000 an hour," said Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, director of music programs.

The entire program is

an eclectic mix of music ranging from classical to light rock, jazz and blues; and dancing will be taught by The Thunder Floor Cloggers of Lake Odessa.

Among the performers will be the FLPC music students.

"These are wonderful

performers," said Sister Delaski. "People can stay as long as they want to."

The marathon will start off with pianist Judy Lacks, followed by pianist Dr. Kenneth Bos at 11 a.m. The Ransom St. Big Band will perform at noon, followed by the FLPC music students at 1 p.m.

Dr. Robert Shaffer will put on Irish folk music at 2 p.m. Melvin Crawford, a contemporary gospel singer, will perform at 3 p.m. Broadway show tunes by Deb Mulcahey with niece Abby will fill the halls at 4 p.m.

Guitarist and singer Michael Everhart will perform light rock, jazz and blues at 5 p.m. The Thunder Floor Cloggers will take to the floor at 6 p.m.

"It would be wonderful if we could raise \$10,000," said Sister Delaski. "We'd like to get more audience, we're encouraging people to come."

The FLPC music therapy program was established in 1978, and has been growing ever since.

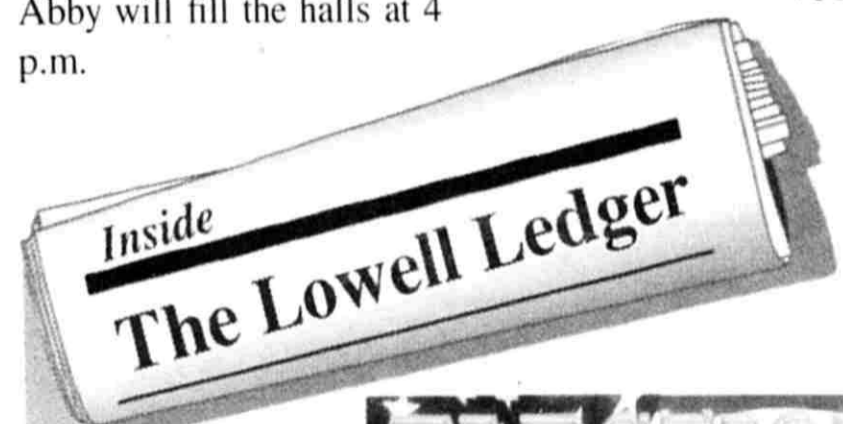
Music therapy, cont'd., pg. 13



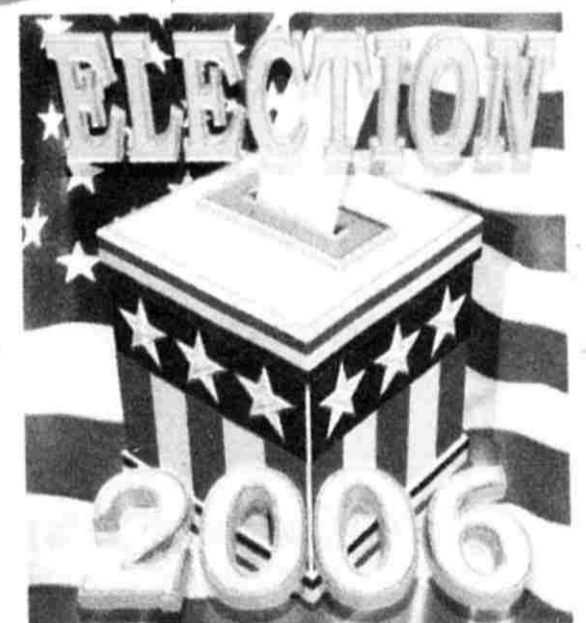
# We SAW him

## Did you?

Totally creeping out the staff, the maniacal clown from the movie "Saw" came pedaling past the Lowell Ledger office this Halloween. The clown (a.k.a. Ken Gregersen) spent the last couple of weeks creating his own custom tricycle to complete the ensemble.



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE NOV. 7!



ExxonMobil Grant ... Page 3  
Two Sides To Prop 5 ... Page 4  
Halloween Scenes ... Page 10  
Jeepers Creepers ... Page 11



## A change in educational funding - two sides of Ballot Proposal 5

By Emma Palova

If approved, the proposal would generate approximately \$600,000 for LAS by capping the retirement fund contribution at \$565 million increase annually to schools K-16. Currently, the LAS district with an operating budget of \$32.7 million has a \$337,667 shortfall. The funding increase would be used for infrastructure and program improvements, and to fund state mandates, according to Pratt. The money could go toward mandates such as

the high school reform to possibly an increase in staff, based on the board's plan. The proposal is not a constitutional amendment," said Pratt. "It gives some latitude to legislators. They can still make adjustments to the funding." Any budgetary shortfalls in school funding would be funded from the state's general fund. The proposal would also reduce the funding gap between school districts receiving basic per pupil foundation allowance and

those receiving maximum foundation allowance from \$1,300 to \$1,000. Rep. Dave Hildenbrand, R-Lowell, said the proposal is dangerous. "It ties our hands to shift money as needed," said Hildenbrand. "We want to fund schools. They received a significant increase this year." Hildenbrand said the schools received a \$210 increase in per-pupil foundation for this school year.

The proposal, according to Hildenbrand, is not tied with a reform that would restructure revenue streams for schools, said Pratt. "We're just putting out the information," he explained. According to the House Fiscal Agency, funding Proposal 5 and maintaining current categoricals in the School Aid fund would require \$698.9 million. In order to fund Proposal 5, taxes would have to be raised or programs cut to shift the money, said Hildenbrand.



### Outdoors

By  
Dave Stegehuis

#### HUNTER RESPONSIBILITY

Participants of competitive sports, such as basketball and football, are closely monitored by officials to insure the rules of the game are followed. Penalties are immediately imposed when transgressions occur. Hunters must also follow rules and will face a number of ethical issues when afield this fall. There are not enough conservation officers to watch everybody, so the majority of hunters are on their own.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources

estimates that 725,000 Michigan residents and non-residents will purchase at least one deer license in 2006. These hunters will be scattered throughout the state in woods, swamps and fields from the Keweenaw Peninsula to Detroit. There is no practical way to monitor all of these hunters, so most will be left with his or her conscience to make responsible decisions. The following are some of the issues facing those who choose to hunt.

Responsible hunters learn and follow laws which are established to protect the game and the hunter as well as the general public and property. Hunters play a key role in the scientific management of game species by observing bag limits and cooperating with researchers.

Responsible hunters must follow firearm safety rules to the letter. Accidents only happen when one or more of these rules are broken. Hunters must also develop skill and knowledge related to the effective use of their firearm in

order to hunt safely and achieve good marksmanship. Responsible hunters do not trespass on private land and take care to be respectful of the landowner's property if permission is granted to hunt there.

Responsible hunters are respectful of game animals. Only high percentage shots should be taken to insure a humane kill. As much of the animal as possible should be put to good use. Proper handling will insure a healthful food source for the hunter and his or her family as well as others if the meat is to be shared.

Responsible hunters set a good example for others to follow, especially young people. It has been said that the greatest test of character is not what one does in the glare of public scrutiny but what one does when no one is watching. There is no one in a striped shirt to blow a whistle when you go hunting this fall. Your integrity and, for that matter, the future of hunting is on the line, so make the right call.



### Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins  
Board of Education President

In a time when public education is losing its once solid position as a cornerstone of our democratic society, it has become vitally important for public schools to improve and enhance their image. A district marketing committee comprised of parent, staff, administrator and board of education representatives started meeting last

school year to review and evaluate past and current district marketing practices, and develop initial concepts for an improved approach to marketing Lowell Area Schools. The committee's driving mission statement was: The LAS Marketing Committee will work to proactively communicate the positive things occurring in the District.


The committee's first efforts were focused on short-term projects and included a survey of parents outside of the District who chose to send their children to LAS and those from within the District who decided to send their children to another district. The survey produced valuable information that will be helpful as the marketing program continues to develop. Another product of the committee's work is the new district information brochure whose first

use was during this year's "Countdown to Kindergarten." (A complete summary of the committee's work is available at Central Office.)

While much discussion, planning and work need yet to be done, the marketing committee has laid necessary groundwork for developing an enhanced marketing plan for the District. The committee will continue its work, and now with input and guidance from Superintendent Greg Pratt, will determine how to enhance our image, position the District as an academic leader in the minds of prospective students and their families, and unite the community around the value of our public school system.

*Sharing the Vision, cont'd., pg. 7*

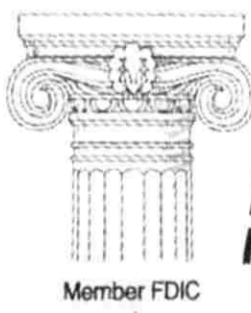
**We've added some new faces...**



Jerry Christensen  
Dan Mitchell

**But in the big picture, we're still ICNB.**  
We're serving you better with employees that bring a variety of backgrounds and experiences into the picture.

**Building On Tradition.**



**ICNB**  
Hometown Banking  
Member FDIC  
www.icnb.com

Offices in  
Ionia, Belding,  
Hastings, Lowell,  
Sunfield, and  
Woodland.

\*\*\*

*The difference between a democracy and a dictatorship is that in a democracy you vote first and take orders later; in a dictatorship you don't have to waste your time voting.*

- Charles Bukowski

### Ball Floral & Gift Shop

**BEV'S RETIREMENT CLOSE-OUT SALE**

**CHRISTMAS ITEMS**

- Ornamental Candy Dishes
- Crystal Ice buckets
- Christmas Ornamental Candle Sets

**Great Chance to Save Money on Christmas Gifts**

**All Inventory Must Go!**

- Large selection of vases & containers
- Decorative Birdhouses - over 40 in stock...\$8.00 & up
- Stuffed Teddy Bears...\$8.50 - \$75.00

**100's of Coffee Mugs - All Occasions**

**HOURS OF OPERATION NOW - NOVEMBER 4TH**  
Sat., Oct. 28; Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 11 am - 5 p.m.  
Closed Thurs. & Sun

Watch for upcoming ads with store hours • 897-7150

# Viewpoint



Try as I might, it is impossible to completely ignore all this election year rhetoric being bantered about. One issue that has been a place for some politicians to hang their hat has been illegal immigrants and what should be done about them. Contained in the endless drivel is the notion that these immigrants will work at menial jobs we Americans find beneath us. Like any other issue, there is some truth in that. Taking the premise a step further, I've observed some jobs while here in China visiting my daughter's family, even illegal immigrants in the States aren't going to do.

For starters, even the decent jobs might rub an American worker the wrong way. While out for my morning walk here in Chengdu, I often see the staff of various businesses lined up in front of their establishments. It might be a restaurant, hair salon, auto-dealership, whatever. The employees are lined up, in uniform, for the morning briefing. These formations remind me of basic training. A manager may be reading from some sort of "game plan" for the day. They often do stretching exercises and calisthenics. They may all be singing the company song. Somehow, I can't imagine getting the staff at the Ledger out on the sidewalk every morning for a pep talk, some jumping-jacks, and a few choruses of "Long Live the Ledger."

A busy street near my daughter's house has been undergoing a major renovation. Trying to give it a European flair, they tore up the pavement and bricked the entire roadway, as well as the sidewalks. The bricks were mortared in place with little care given to cleaning the excess mortar. For the two weeks I've been here, there have been gangs of laborers chipping, scraping and wire brushing the mortar from the bricks.

I'm guessing the street, to include the sidewalks, is about a hundred feet wide. The project goes on for blocks and blocks. These brick cleaning crews pick an area, put out a couple traffic cones to fend off vehicles whizzing by, and go to work. They spend all day in that squat Asian pose so accustomed to. With their feet flat, they get down so far their butt will hit the ground. Some will even use a brick, maybe

two inches thick, as a cushion for their butt.

Using basic hammers, chisels, putty knives, wire brushes, etc., they tap, rap, chink, scrape and brush away at that mortar. Working in crews of a half dozen up to thirty or forty, they relentlessly clean those bricks ... all day ... day, after day, after day. Watching them work, I can't help but wonder what it would cost to get Americans to do the same job. Even if we could find people to do the job, it would be cheaper to buy, or if necessary, invent a machine. Not here.

One day last week, while the kids were in school and my son-in-law was at work, my daughter, my wife and I went on a day trip to a famous sacred mountain. It was nearly two hours to the park. Once at the park we drove almost another hour on a very well maintained two-lane paved road that winds up the mountain. The driver scared the daylight out of me, passing everything in sight on those switchbacks with no idea what's coming around the next curve. What was coming was often a big tour bus or dump truck. Horns blare, headlights flash, brakes squeal, but nobody seems to get upset. The driver's code in China must be "A miss is as good as a mile," or something to that effect.

Once at the parking area, we had to get out and hoof it. The trail went on for a half mile or so. The going was all up stairs, sloped sidewalks and more and more stairs. The elevation, nearly 10,000 feet, coupled with my sea level lungs, had me wheezing and resting frequently. As we neared the cable car station, there was a small shelter where some porters hung out.


The option to taking the twenty minute cable car ride to the summit is to be a purest and hike on up. The guidebook mentions some interesting things to see on the way and estimates three hours for the ascent. These porters were equipped with two man sedan chairs. The rider sits in a chair between two long bamboo poles. The poles rest on the shoulders of a porter in front and one in back. They wanted to lug us to the top for the equivalent of about \$25.00 U.S. apiece. Six guys, carrying that kind of load upstairs and a steep trail, all afternoon, to earn about twelve dollars for each of them.

Here's the really funny part. I tip the scales at about 250 these days. I know that's more than any two of those porters weigh together. And they wanted to carry me up that mountain. The scary thing is they probably would have done it while puffing on cigarettes, sipping rice liquor and singing porter songs. We opted for the cable car.

At the end of the cable car line, there were still a few hundred yards to reach the huge gold shrine and monastery

### Ledger Entries

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



By  
Priscilla  
Lussmyer

**125 YEARS**  
**THE WEEKLY JOURNAL**  
**NOVEMBER 2, 1881**

This issue is missing.

**100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 1906**

The Lee Block of six businesses goes up in flames. All intend to rebuild, though none were fully insured.

The Pickle Bachelors have their annual banquet. One speech by John Lally: "Why We Remain Single."

George Jackson of Campbell Township turns 103 years old.

The Owosso Sugar Co. claims that their pollution of the Grand River, resulting in destroying many tons of fish, was purely accidental.

**75 YEARS**  
**THE LOWELL LEDGER**  
**AND THE ALTO SOLO**  
**OCTOBER 29, 1931**

Michigan Press Association Head George Averill highly praises Lowell and Editor Jefferies after the recent MPA convention here.

The County Federation of Women's Clubs meets at Lowell City Hall. Mrs. Chas. Doyle is Lowell's president and hostess.

Michigan tests feasibility of making license plates from Michigan copper.

Nellie McPherson prevails as Vergennes Township supervisor on a 9-vote margin, says the state supreme court.

*Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 12*

## To The Editor

Proposal one: conservation and recreation money, where do we use it? Number two: affirmative action; number five: mandatory school funding levels.

Using the birds, in my opinion, is a diversion from one of the most important proposals on the ballot, number four. It reads: "A proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit government from taking private property by Eminent Domain for certain private purposes." We, the common person, have heard very little about this proposal. If this passes and goes into action, the government will have the ability to take our homes and property at will and give it over for private or commercial use. Do we, the common USA citizen, have the right to keep our homes and land? Or do we allow the government to sneak this proposal through?

We need to inform other voters about this proposal, also get the proper wordage of this proposal to make sure we vote on it in an educated way. We, the common people, need to unite and show the government that we do have a say in our country.

I have read this proposal and it sounds like I should vote yes to protect my home and land, but I have talked to others who are just as concerned as me and they have said to vote no. This is confusing, along with not knowing about this proposal. But we know about the mourning dove proposal. It would be sad to have to take a lawyer to the voting booth with you; it sure does feel like this.

There have been several types of advertisements about hunting mourning doves. What about the other four?

**50 YEARS**  
**THE LOWELL LEDGER**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 1956**

Six auto dealers offer rides to the polls for those who don't have transportation for the Nov. 6 vote.

Art teacher Blanche Mullen's pupils made fantastic masks for the Halloween parade, from paper mache applied to balloons.

Jeanne Liscomb receives her Expert Rifle Rating from the junior division of the National Rifle Association.

There are 30,000 yards of fill dirt for the new M-21 bridge across the Grand River that come from a hill behind the Ada Christian Reformed Church.

**25 YEARS**  
**THE GRAND VALLEY**  
**LEDGER**  
**OCTOBER 28, 1981**

The Straw Basket, Yesterday's Child and Birchwood Gardens open in the new Rivertown Mall.

A meeting is scheduled in hopes of creating a community child watch program for pupils walking to and from school.

The fourth Fallasburg Fall Festival is attended by an estimated 27,000 visitors, has 10 food booths, and the quilt raffle nets \$1,458.

Seniors Ken Blain and Kathe Dey set new course records in their respective cross-country meets.

Peg Hefferan





## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

### CHANGES IN PENSION LAW CAN PAY OFF FOR YOU

It's not always easy to save enough money for retirement. But some recently enacted legislation might just help.

As its name implies, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 was designed to strengthen the private pension system, which currently covers more than 44 million workers and retirees. Under the new laws, those companies that maintain traditional "defined benefit" plans (which pay retirees a specific amount of money based on salary history and years of service) will face tighter plan-funding rules.

But even if you don't participate in a defined benefit plan, you may well benefit from other parts of the Pension Protection Act. Here are a few to consider:

- No reductions in retirement plan contribution limits - Over the past few years, the contribution limits have

increased for IRAs and for 401(k), 403(b) and 457 plans, and "catch-up" contributions were allowed for anyone 50 or older. These provisions were scheduled to be rolled back after 2010; however, due to the Pension Protection Act, the increases are now permanent. (The traditional and Roth IRA contribution limit for 2006 and 2007 is \$4,000. If you are age 50 or older, you can also make a "catch-up" contribution of up to \$1,000. The salary deferral contribution limit to a 401(k), 403(b) and 457 plan for 2006 is \$15,000. If you are 50 or older, you can make a "catch-up" contribution of up to \$5,000. In 2007 and beyond, contribution limits will be indexed for inflation.)

- Traditional and Roth IRA direct distribution donations to charities - Effective in 2006 and 2007, if you meet certain conditions, you may move up to \$100,000 per year directly from a traditional or Roth IRA to qualifying charities without having the withdrawal counted as income for the year.

- Rollovers by non-spouse beneficiaries - Starting in 2007, if you have been named a beneficiary of a 401(k) or other qualified retirement plan, you will be able to directly roll over your distribution into a new IRA that you've established (an "inherited" IRA). Previously this option was reserved for surviving spouses, who could roll over qualified plan assets into their own IRAs. This change could be a big

advantage to you. Instead of having to cash out a 401(k) or other retirement plan, and incur a big tax hit, you can now roll over the value of the retirement plan into an IRA and just take the "required minimum distribution" (RMD) every year, based on your own life expectancy. (To get the full benefits of stretching out withdrawals, see your tax adviser before taking action.)

- Tax refunds to IRAs - Under the new laws, you can now have the IRS deposit your tax refund directly into an IRA as a contribution. In fact, you can split the refunds, if you choose, and deposit them in as many as three different accounts.

- Permanent tax benefits for Section 529 plans - If you establish a Section 529 plan to help pay for your child's or grandchild's college tuition, withdrawals from the plan will be free from federal income taxes, provided the money is used for education. This tax benefit was scheduled to expire at the end of 2010, but it is now permanent. Please note that contributions are tax-deductible in certain states for residents who participate in their own state's plan.

All in all, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 seems to contain something for everyone. To see how you can gain the maximum benefits from the new tax laws, consult with your financial professional and tax adviser.

## Lowell's own competes in World Senior games

Senior players, 74 years old and older, competed in the Huntsman World Senior Games the week of Oct. 16. Held in St. George, Utah, Ivan Blough of Lowell competed along with athletes from 57 countries.

In the softball events, 350 teams, age 55 and over, competed. The Midwest Seniors, of which Blough is a team member, consisted of seven players from Michigan, two from Arkansas and two from Missouri. The team was coached by Tom Ambrose of Comstock Park.

The Midwest Seniors played in the round robin portion of the competition, losing to British Columbia 15-13, and to Arizona 7-3. They won the third game, defeating Milwaukee, 16-5.

Midwest lost to the Minnesota Legends 16-5, then came back to trounce Milwaukee 21-12. In a close game against the South California Jets, Blough got a 2-out, seventh inning hit to drive in the winning run, the score 11-10.

In the championship game for the gold medal, Midwest lost to the Minnesota Legends, 19-14. Their tough play, however, was good enough to win them silver medals.

Jim Buysse, from Lansing, was the hitting leader with an .826 average. Jim Hughes, from Arkansas, pitched all seven games; he issued only two walks during the tournament and contributed by hitting for an average of .650.



The Midwest Seniors received silver medals in the Huntsman World Senior games. Pictured, back row, left to right, are: Marv Christensen, Norman Lantz, Jim Hughes, Jim Buysse, Ivan Blough, Bernie Borden and coach Tom Ambrose; front row: Dick Skinner, John Douglass, Jim Whisnant, Carl Bowles and Don Garratt.

### STATEWIDE PROPOSALS THAT WILL APPEAR ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2006 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

**PROPOSAL 06-1**

**A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REQUIRE THAT MONEY HELD IN CONSERVATION AND RECREATION FUNDS CAN ONLY BE USED FOR THEIR INTENDED PURPOSES**

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Create a Conservation and Recreation Legacy Fund within the Constitution and establish existing conservation and recreation accounts as components of the fund.
- Use current funding sources such as state park entrance and camping fees; snowmobile, ORV and boating registration fees; hunting and fishing license fees; taxes and other revenues to fund accounts.
- Establish the current Game and Fish Protection Fund and the Nongame Fish and Wildlife Fund within the Constitution.
- Provide that money held in Funds can only be used for specific purposes related to conservation and recreation and cannot be used for any purpose other than those intended.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Yes  No

**PROPOSAL 06-4**

**A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT GOVERNMENT FROM TAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY BY EMINENT DOMAIN FOR CERTAIN PRIVATE PURPOSES**

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Prohibit government from taking private property for transfer to another private individual or business for purposes of economic development or increasing tax revenue.
- Provide that if an individual's principal residence is taken by government for public use, the individual must be paid at least 125% of property's fair market value.
- Require government that takes a private property to demonstrate that the taking is for a public use; if taken to eliminate blight, require a higher standard of proof to demonstrate that the taking of that property is for a public use.
- Preserve existing rights of property owners.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Yes  No

**PROPOSAL 06-5**

**A LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH MANDATORY SCHOOL FUNDING LEVELS**

The proposed law would:

- Increase current funding by approximately \$565 million and require State to provide annual funding increases equal to the rate of inflation for public schools, intermediate school districts, community colleges, and higher education (includes state universities and financial aid/grant programs).
- Require State to fund any deficiencies from General Fund.
- Base funding for school districts with a declining enrollment on three-year student enrollment average.
- Reduce and cap retirement fund contribution paid by public schools, community colleges and state universities; shift remaining portion to state.
- Reduce funding gap between school districts receiving basic per-pupil foundation allowance and those receiving maximum foundation allowance.

Should this proposal be approved?

Yes  No

**PROPOSAL 06-2**

**A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO BAN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS THAT GIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS BASED ON THEIR RACE, GENDER, COLOR, ETHNICITY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR CONTRACTING PURPOSES**

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Ban public institutions from using affirmative action programs that give preferential treatment to groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity or national origin for public employment, education or contracting purposes. Public institutions affected by the proposal include state government, local governments, public colleges and universities, community colleges and school districts.
- Prohibit public institutions from discriminating against groups or individuals due to their gender, ethnicity, race, color or national origin. (A separate provision of the state constitution already prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin.)

Should this proposal be adopted?

Yes  No

**PROPOSAL 06-3**

**A REFERENDUM ON PUBLIC ACT 160 OF 2004 - AN ACT TO ALLOW THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HUNTING SEASON FOR MOURNING DOVES**

Public Act 160 of 2004 would:

- Authorize the Natural Resources Commission to establish a hunting season for mourning doves.
- Require a mourning dove hunter to have a small game license and a \$2.00 mourning dove stamp.
- Stipulate that revenue from the stamp must be split evenly between the Game and Fish Protection Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.
- Require the Department of Natural Resources to address responsible mourning dove hunting; management practices for the propagation of mourning doves; and participation in mourning dove hunting by youth, the elderly and the disabled in the Department's annual hunting guide.

Should this law be approved?

Yes  No

## MICHIGAN VOTES

### Michigan Voter Rights and Responsibilities

#### RIGHTS:

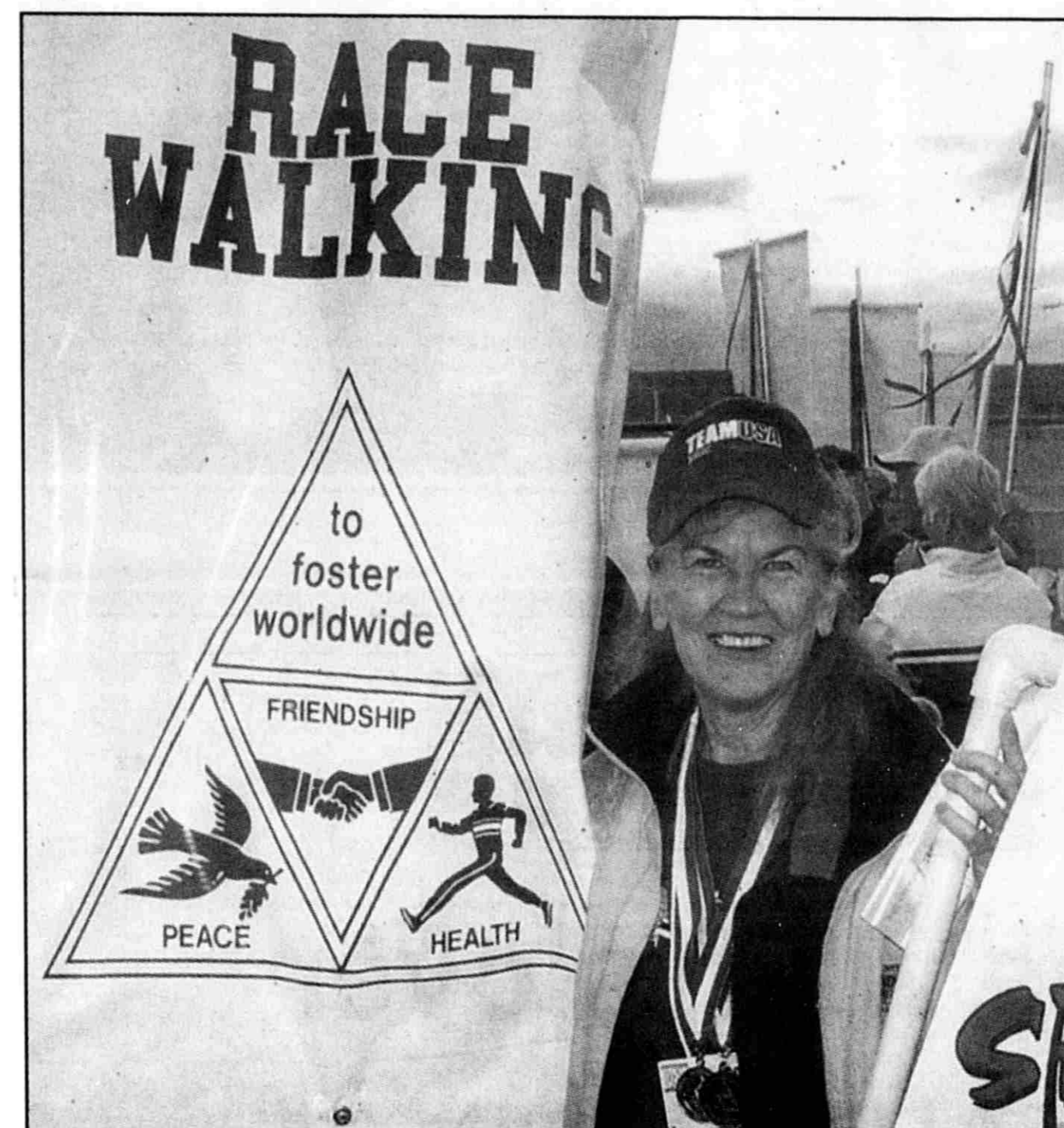
**As a Michigan voter, you have the right to:**

- ★ Be treated with courtesy and respect by the election workers.
- ★ Vote in private free from interference or intimidation.
- ★ Review a sample ballot before voting.
- ★ Review a summary of the state and federal laws which govern voting.
- ★ Ask for and receive help from the election workers if you are unsure about anything related to casting a ballot.
- ★ Obtain a replacement ballot if you make a mistake when voting.
- ★ Obtain an absentee ballot if you are qualified to vote absentee.
- ★ Vote a provisional ballot if your name does not appear on the registration list and you assert, under oath, that 1) you registered to vote by the registration deadline and 2) you are a resident of the city or township where you are offering to vote.
- ★ Have your minor child (under age 18) accompany you in the voting station while you vote.
- ★ Obtain a ballot if in line when the polls close at 8 p.m.
- ★ Report illegal or fraudulent activity to the local clerk or the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

**As a Michigan voter, you have a responsibility to:**

- ★ Treat the election workers and other voters with courtesy and respect.
- ★ Respect the privacy and voting rights of other voters.
- ★ Request instructions or assistance as needed if you do not know how to use the voting equipment or have other questions about casting a ballot.
- ★ Be informed about the candidates and proposals on the ballot.
- ★ Check your ballot to ensure that it accurately reflects your choices.
- ★ Read and follow all voting instructions.
- ★ Register at least 30 days before the election.
- ★ Keep your voter registration information up-to-date with your current address.
- ★ Follow all federal and state voting laws.
- ★ Vote in person if you 1) registered by mail and 2) have never previously voted in Michigan. (Does not apply to voters who are age 65 or older, disabled or overseas.)
- ★ Provide identification before voting if you 1) registered by mail 2) have never previously voted in Michigan and 3) have not already satisfied the identification requirement. (Acceptable ID includes a current and valid photo ID or a paycheck stub, utility bill, bank statement or government document that lists your name and address. Requirement does not apply to voters who are disabled or overseas.)
- ★ Refrain from campaigning or influencing voters in the polling place.



Charlotte Ambrose, of Comstock Park, competed in two race walking events: the 1500 and the 3k, winning bronze and silver medals.

What's Your Sport? Keep Caught Up On All The Action In The Lowell Ledger

**Daisy Floral**

WE NOW HAVE TANNING & TUXEDO RENTAL

505 W. Main - Ste. E - Lowell, MI 616-897-2588

# GET A CROWN IN ONE VISIT ...SIMPLE!

"If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't have put off getting a crown for so long. One visit and it was done. The crown fits and looks great. I have my smile back...simple!"

**Family Dentistry of Lowell**  
- ANN WILSON, D.D.S. -

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

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

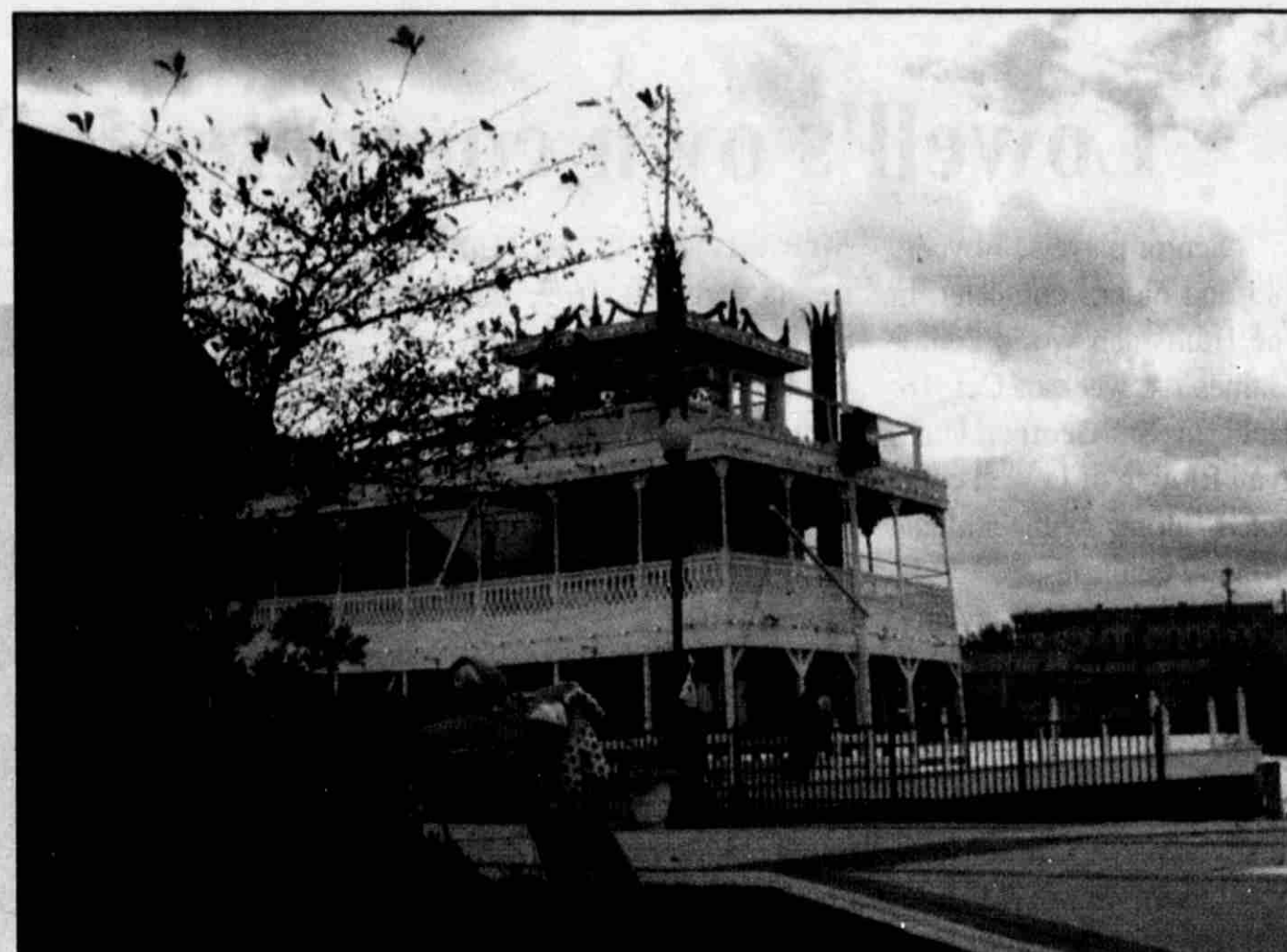
Public notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on **Monday, November 13, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, PO Box 208, Lowell Michigan 49331**, to accept public comment on the following application:

Linda Biggs (LLB Enterprises) is requesting a private road review and approval to construct a new private road to serve 11 parcels. The property is located adjacent to and surrounding 914 Aiden Nash Ave (north of Vergennes St, east side, in the NW quarter of section 22.

The proposed application is on file at the Vergennes Township Hall and may be inspected during regular office hours between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. Public comment will be accepted at the public hearing and written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received prior to 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

# Haunted Showboat



On a chilly Saturday afternoon, students from Lowell High School dressed up in costumes for the haunted side of the Lowell Showboat. There was also a kid-friendly side for youngsters. The water in the Flat River was steely gray with dark black wrinkles matching the spirit of the day.

## Halloween at FLPC

Preschoolers at the Franciscan Life Process Center enjoyed a Halloween parade last week. Emma Parsons reaches out for candy from Sister Mary Margaret Delaski while Aurora Fredericks watches.



# Jeepers Creepers exhibit reflects spirit of fun

By Emma Palova

The "Jeepers Creepers" exhibit at the Huntington Galleria opens the holiday season with artwork from local artists.

The second annual invitational exhibit, sponsored by the Lowell Area Arts Council, will run through Nov. 27.

"It's a chance for local artists to have fun instead of being serious all the time," said organizer and local artist, David Davis.

The main difference between the "Jeepers Creepers" exhibit and other shows is that it is an invitational show rather than a juried one.

"I just called on my students and friends," said Davis. "Let's have a show, something in the vein of Jeepers Creepers."

The exhibit consists of mixed media artwork from eight local artists; media such as watercolor, charcoal, photography and clay.

"It's a pretty colorful show for Jeepers," said Davis.

The artwork is not

necessarily Halloween related, although some pieces do frighten and scare.

"The Haunting" by Kendra Postma, for example, causes one to ponder what might be inside the dimly lit rooms of the pictured house, according to Davis.

Davis said he is always looking for fresh talent, preferably from the Greater Lowell area.

"We're presently booking three months ahead for shows at the Huntington Galleria," he said.

Davis started the Arts in Public Places program in conjunction with Lowell Area Arts Council 15 years ago. In his shows, Davis is looking for two-dimensional pieces.

"We're looking for anything as far as media, no theme," he said. "We'll be looking at the entire body of the artist's work."

The artists are required to submit five to six pieces, explaining what they are showing and why.

Exhibits, held at both the Huntington Galleria, 414 E. Main, and the Lowell

Area Chamber of Commerce, change every five weeks.

Most artwork is for sale with 30 percent of the sales

benefiting the arts council. Postma's "The Haunting" sells for \$350.

Huntington Bank team

leader Marea Borg said the bank will help customers with loans in order to purchase paintings. Leave a message for Davis at LAAC at 897-8545.



David Davis, "Jeepers Creepers" organizer, hangs up Kendra Postma's painting, "The Haunting."

## Exhibit at FLPC

Franciscan Life Process Center art director Kacey Cornwell stands next to an art exhibit by Elizabeth Halstead. It features woodcut and linoleum prints. The exhibit is on display through November 15.



ALTO  
The wait is over  
AT&T Yahoo!  
High Speed Internet  
now in your neighborhood

Talk. Surf. Watch. Go.  
But most of all...save

Call  
1-888-699-0682

to order  
AT&T Yahoo High Speed Internet



Canfield  
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

411 E. Main • Lowell  
616-897-0887



- Residential
- Commercial
- Air Conditioning
- Heating Systems
- Licensed
- Insured
- Water & Sewer Hookups
- Video Inspection
- Same Day Water Heaters Installed
- Sales, Service & Installation of All Plumbing Fixtures
- Drain Cleaning
- Water Softeners



100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP CITY OF LOWELL LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

### ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

The City and Township Clerks will be available at the following locations on Saturday, November 4, 2006 for any registered voter who would like to apply for or return an absentee voters ballot for the November 7, 2006 General Election.

Sandra Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township  
10am - 2pm  
8240 Alden Nash  
Alto, MI 49302  
(616) 868-6846

Betty Morlock  
City of Lowell  
8am - 2pm  
301 East Main  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-8457

Linda S. Regan  
Lowell Charter Township  
10am - 2pm  
2910 Alden Nash SE  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-7600

Mari Stone  
Vergennes Township  
10am - 2pm  
10381 Bailey Dr  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-5671

## Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

at the summit. We began trudging up more stairs. As we climbed and rested, climbed and rested, I noticed porters lugging bricks, mingled in with us tourists. If you think you've ever done "backbreaking" work ... you may want to rethink your adjective.

These porters, which included a few women, each carried a crude wooden rack on their back with a large

wicker basket full of regular building bricks. They each had a heavy walking stick that doubled as a support for the basket when they stopped to rest. The porters usually took a short breather after each flight of ten to twenty steps.

With my daughter's help, we asked one of these guys how many bricks were in each basket. He told us there were fifty. I asked the weight and was told 100 kilos, or about 225 pounds. That load has to be double the body weight of most of these porters.

We never saw where the bricks were coming from, or going to. There must have been a job site beyond the

monastery, and the brick pile was somewhere below where we got off the cable car. Where we did see these porters working involved a fair distance, which included maybe two hundred stair steps. When we asked the porter how much he made, he told us six Yuan per load. That's about 75 cents. Given their pace, the distance I know they had to cover, loading, unloading, etc., somewhere between five and ten trips a day would have to be about it. Do the math. Run that out to a day, week or year. Wow!

No, you are definitely not going to get American workers to slave away like that for those wages. You are not even going to get illegal aliens to work that hard for that kind of money. I don't know about you, but these little glimpses give me a better idea of why more U.S. jobs keep going overseas and why there are more and more products on store shelves marked "Made Anywhere but The U.S.A." Hey, maybe this illegal alien thing will solve itself. When there aren't any jobs left in the U.S., the aliens will stop coming.

### OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY 12-4

#### HISTORIC BRICK HOME FOR SALE IN THE CITY OF LOWELL

4 lg. bedrooms., 2 full baths, gourmet kitchen w/lg. eating area. 4-stall attached, heated, garage. Original hardwood floors, fenced yard & koi pond. Walking distance to downtown & schools.

504 Lincoln Lake

Corner of Lincoln Lake & Howard

821-3750

### Baked Potato Supper

Craft & Bake Sale

Adults \$6 Kids 5 - 11 \$3 4 & under FREE

November 4th 5 - 7:00 PM

Alto United Methodist Church

Corner of Kirby & Harrison

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

### MIKA MEYERS BECKETT & JONES PLC

ATTORNEYS

John T. Sperla  
Mark A. Kechoe  
Ross A. Leisman

Benjamin A. Zainca  
Heidi A. Lyon  
Matthew E. Fink

307-A E. Main Street  
Lowell, Michigan 49331  
(616) 897-3111 www.mmbjlaw.com

### Noon Tire

STEVE NOON  
11930 E. Fulton (M-21)  
Lowell, MI 49331  
Dealing In Most Brands  
(616) 897-5925

### CMC IMPROVEMENTS

CONSTRUCTION & HANDYMAN SERVICES  
FINISH CARPENTRY • CERAMIC TILE  
• DOORS • LAMINATE • FLOORING  
• ROOFS • SIDING • WINDOWS  
• BOBCAT SERVICE  
CHRIS CAVANAUGH - LICENSED BUILDER  
BUSINESS (616) 299-4803  
FAX: (616) 868-7598

### THE NEXT PLACE TO BE! LOWELL

www.discoverlowell.org  
Phone: 616-897-9161

bryant  
Arctic, Inc.  
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING  
1301 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331  
897-4123  
www.heatingcoolingonline.com  
Licensed & Insured

Flat River REAL ESTATE  
Heather French  
Real Estate Agent & Mortgage Consultant  
Direct: 1 (616) 262-4583  
Office: 1 (616) 897-1300 Ext. 103  
E-Mail: hfrench1000@aol.com  
Fax: 1 (616) 897-1301  
623 W. Main St. • Lowell, MI 49331

Curtis Accounting & Tax Services  
209 E. Main St. - Suite A, Lowell, MI  
Complete accounting, payroll and tax services  
(616) 897-4120 • (616) 262-4873

FRY DADDY'S  
608 West Main Street  
Lowell, MI 49331  
FISH, CHICKEN & SHRIMP  
897-FISH  
Starting November 6  
OPEN MONDAYS 4-8 PM  
Call For Daily Specials!

"No Hard Sell, Just Soft Water"  
Alex Rinckey-President  
616-754-0614  
Call us for all your water treatment needs!  
Free Water Analysis

"Lacey's Too"  
LICENSED ADULT ASSISTED LIVING  
"Where Living, Loving & Laughter Are Promoted"  
11981 Potters Road  
Lowell, MI 49331  
Call 616-897-5874 or 897-0799  
Owner: Gail Hays

Wags PET GROOMING, LLC  
dogs & cats by appointment only  
616-745-1258  
616-897-9771  
618 LAFAYETTE, LOWELL, MI 49331  
Just 2 blocks north of Main St. Lowell  
Discounts for referrals & for standing appointments  
Diane Smith - Certified Groomer & Proprietor  
Leah Lessard - Certified Groomer

OSTRANDER  
SIDING AND ROOFING COMPANY INC.  
9019 W. Belding Rd. (M-44), Belding, Michigan  
FREE ESTIMATES  
• ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS  
Visit us at: www.ostranderroofing.com  
616-794-0661 • 888-750-7078

Collector's Korner LLC  
No Sales Tax On Coins/Bullion In Michigan  
COINS, STAMPS, POCKET WATCHES, ESTATE JEWELRY  
Buy • Sell • Trade • Appraisals  
Tuesday - Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM  
30-Day Warranty on Pocket Watches,  
It Will Run, Or Will Repair At No Added Cost.  
Get The Most Out Of Your Scrap Gold & Silver Jewelry!  
We'll Pay More Than Anyone Around!  
218 W. Main St. - Lowell  
616-821-9232

## Music therapy, continued

... From Page 1

The program serves children with fragile physical and mental health, severe mental illness, elderly with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, patients with cancer and other medical conditions.

"I have seen children sit, focused on a music task, when nothing else would keep their attention," said Sister Delaski.

The director of music programs has used music therapy with people for the last 25 years.

"I know from all the experiences that music works," said Sister Delaski. "I have seen children sing who did not talk. In music they were the stars."

FLPC is a nationally approved clinical training site for music therapy interns. Music therapists use a set of planned musical techniques to influence brain functioning.

These techniques include vocalization exercises, movement through dance, instrument performance and musical games.

Donations, pledges and sponsorships will be accepted for the marathon.

For more information call FLPC at 897-7842 or go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org

\*\*\*

Ah, music. A magic beyond all we do here!

- J. K. Rowling,

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, 1997

## CELEBRATIONS NEED A TOAST!

### Vote YES on the last issue on your ballot

### Vergennes Township Spirits Proposal

Paid for by Kent McKay, 1775 Gee Dr., Lowell, Michigan 49331

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

Good  
CHEVROLET BUICK  
GREAT DEALS FROM GOOD PEOPLE!  
897-9294  
goodautomotive.com

KIRK COLLINS  
Owner  
Snowboat  
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.  
Auto Value  
1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI  
(616) 897-9231  
HOURS: MON-FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3

BILL WHEELER  
Certified Public Accountant  
W. J. WHEELER MICHIGAN  
103 Riverside Dr.  
Lowell, Michigan 49331  
616-897-7711

Curtis  
CLEANERS • LAUNDRY  
FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY  
Lowell • Ada • Cascade • Ionia  
(616) 897-9809 • 1410 W. Main • Lowell

WOW!  
YOUR BUSINESS COULD BE HERE!  
SAVE \$\$\$\$\$  
ADVERTISING IN THIS SPACE!!!  
THIS SIZE ONLY  
\$1600 PER WEEK!

Noreen K. Myers  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
22 Years Experience  
As A Trial Lawyer  
No Fees Unless You Recover  
NEW OFFICE:  
Downtown Lowell  
217 West Main St.  
Ph: 897-5460  
Downtown Grand Rapids  
29 Pearl St., N.W.  
Ph: 459-5000

NOVEMBER SPECIAL  
20% OFF  
4 ITEMS OR MORE  
Excludes: Shirt Laundry, Household Items  
CAR WASH \$1.00  
VACUUMS 50¢

JB HARRISON INSURANCE AGENCY  
COMPETITIVE AUTO RATES  
Daniel Ulrich  
6661 Alden Nash, Alto 868-0050

MAIL  
WEL  
The Ledger  
Delivered Right to Your Doorstep!  
Call us now to start your subscription, 897-9261.  
Credit Card Required for a phone order.

Rich's Service Co.  
In-Home Appliance Repair  
INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS  
GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS  
209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS  
Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686

RE/MAX Cascade SunQuest  
Peter Smith, Realtor, ABR  
Call For Immediate Service  
"Your Lowell Area Real Estate Specialist"  
(616) 949-6980 Ext. 27 • (800) 800-3915 Ext. 27  
(616) 460-6634 Cell  
www.realtybypetersmith.com

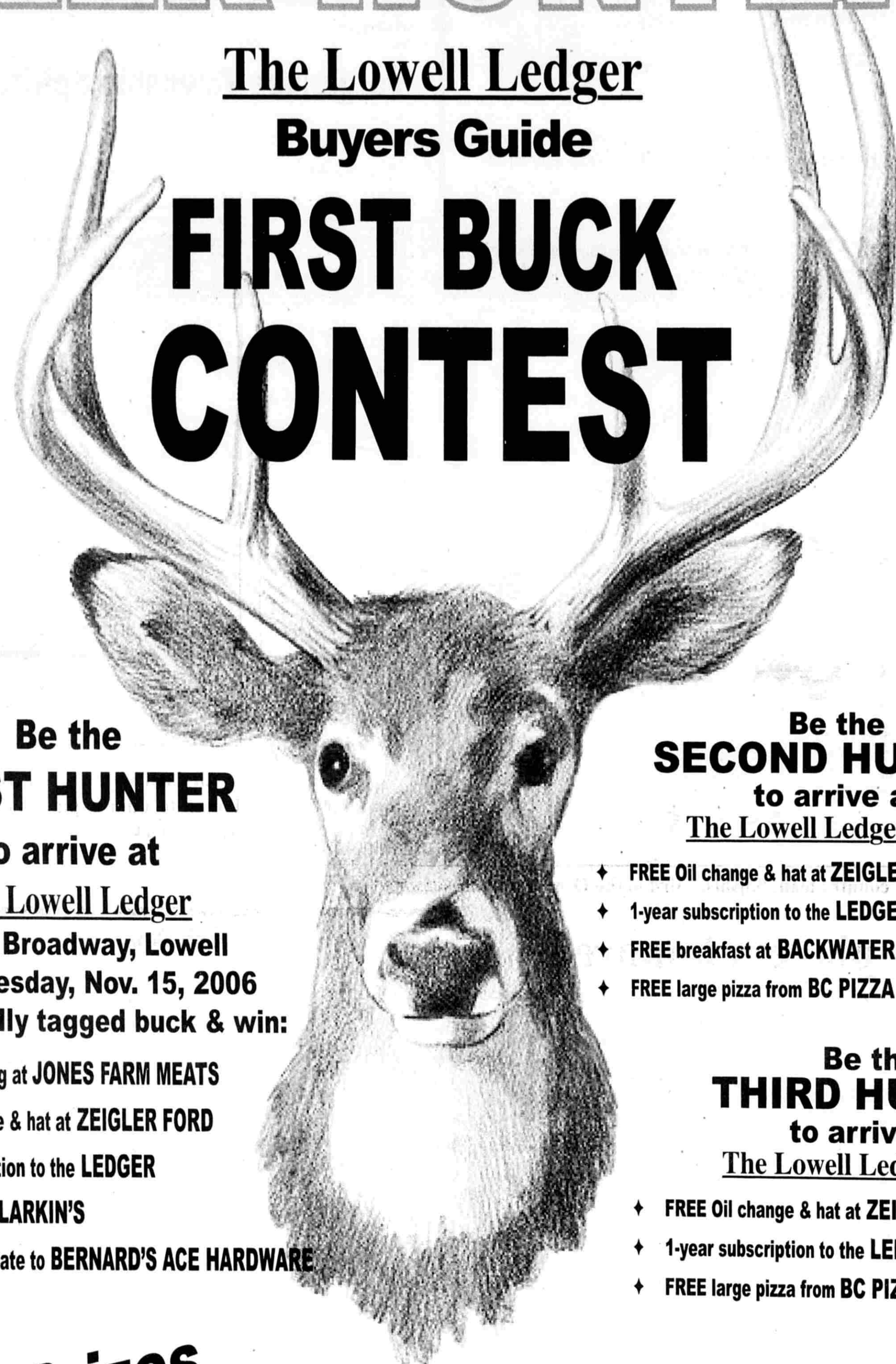
BUSINESSES SERVICES

BUSINESSES SERVICES

# ATTENTION DEER HUNTERS

The Lowell Ledger  
Buyers Guide

## FIRST BUCK CONTEST



Be the  
**FIRST HUNTER**  
to arrive at

The Lowell Ledger  
105 N. Broadway, Lowell  
on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2006  
with a legally tagged buck & win:

- ♦ FREE processing at JONES FARM MEATS
- ♦ FREE Oil change & hat at ZEIGLER FORD
- ♦ 2-year subscription to the LEDGER
- ♦ FREE Dinner at LARKIN'S
- ♦ \$25 Gift certificate to BERNARD'S ACE HARDWARE

**All Prizes  
Donated By  
Area  
Merchants!**

**Anyone Who Brings In Their Buck  
Before Noon On Opening Day  
Will Get Their Picture In  
The Lowell Ledger!**

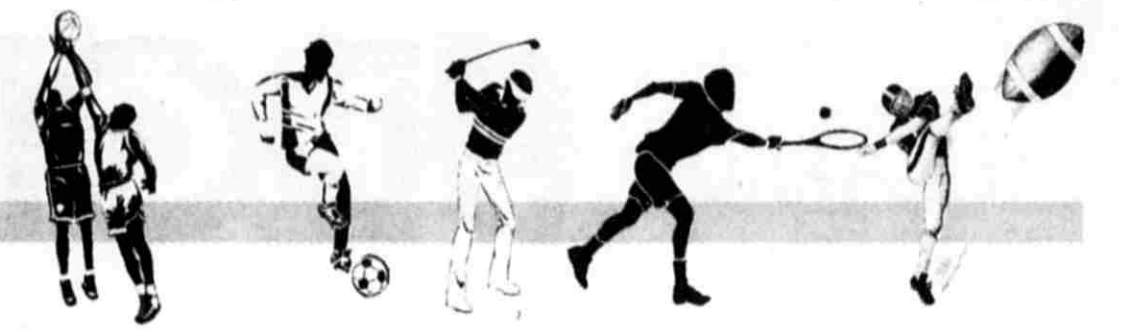
Be the  
**SECOND HUNTER**  
to arrive at  
The Lowell Ledger & win:

- ♦ FREE Oil change & hat at ZEIGLER FORD
- ♦ 1-year subscription to the LEDGER
- ♦ FREE breakfast at BACKWATER CAFE
- ♦ FREE large pizza from BC PIZZA

Be the  
**THIRD HUNTER**  
to arrive at  
The Lowell Ledger & win:

- ♦ FREE Oil change & hat at ZEIGLER FORD
- ♦ 1-year subscription to the LEDGER
- ♦ FREE large pizza from BC PIZZA

## RED ARROW **SPORTS**



### Cross country season ends at regionals for tough Red Arrow team

The running has stopped for the Red Arrow cross country teams following a respectable finish at the Regional Tournament at Jackson, Michigan's Sharp Park.

The boys team finished with 259 points, 236 more than top school Pinckney's 23, but good enough for ninth place overall.

"The boys didn't do that bad," said coach Clay VanderWarf. "For them there were just some quality teams in the race, and Pinckney's score was unheard of.

Keaton Dilly, Andy Mark, Corey Fitzpatrick, Cameron Dilly and Kirk

Geldersma each posted times under twenty minutes, despite running in the final leg of the boys' competition, a stat VanderWarf found impressive given the conditions.

"The course was just beat up by the rain from the night before and the other runners," VanderWarf said.

"It was windy and cold, and we kept getting spits of rain. Based on the conditions and the teams we had to run against, I thought they did the best they could.

"When I found out where we were going to be placed and began looking at some of the schools, I real-

ized that they had some really fast guys."

The top 15 individual runners in the competition move on to state competition, while only the top three teams overall advance. The ninth place outcome left the Red Arrows just a few spots short of continuing the season.

Both of Lowell's boys and girls teams had to overcome a myriad of problems, not only with the weather, but also the soft ground had taken a beating from the day's previous runners.

"You try to get the kids not to focus on the weather," VanderWarf said. "But it's

tough to do when you've got 30 mph winds and the cold. That's going to have an effect on them."

The girls didn't field an entire team, instead bringing four runners, in hopes that they could squeak into the State Tournament individually.

"I was looking to see if Karen Judd and Monica Fitzpatrick could place individually, and their times weren't bad," said VanderWarf. "But again they were facing some really good runners."

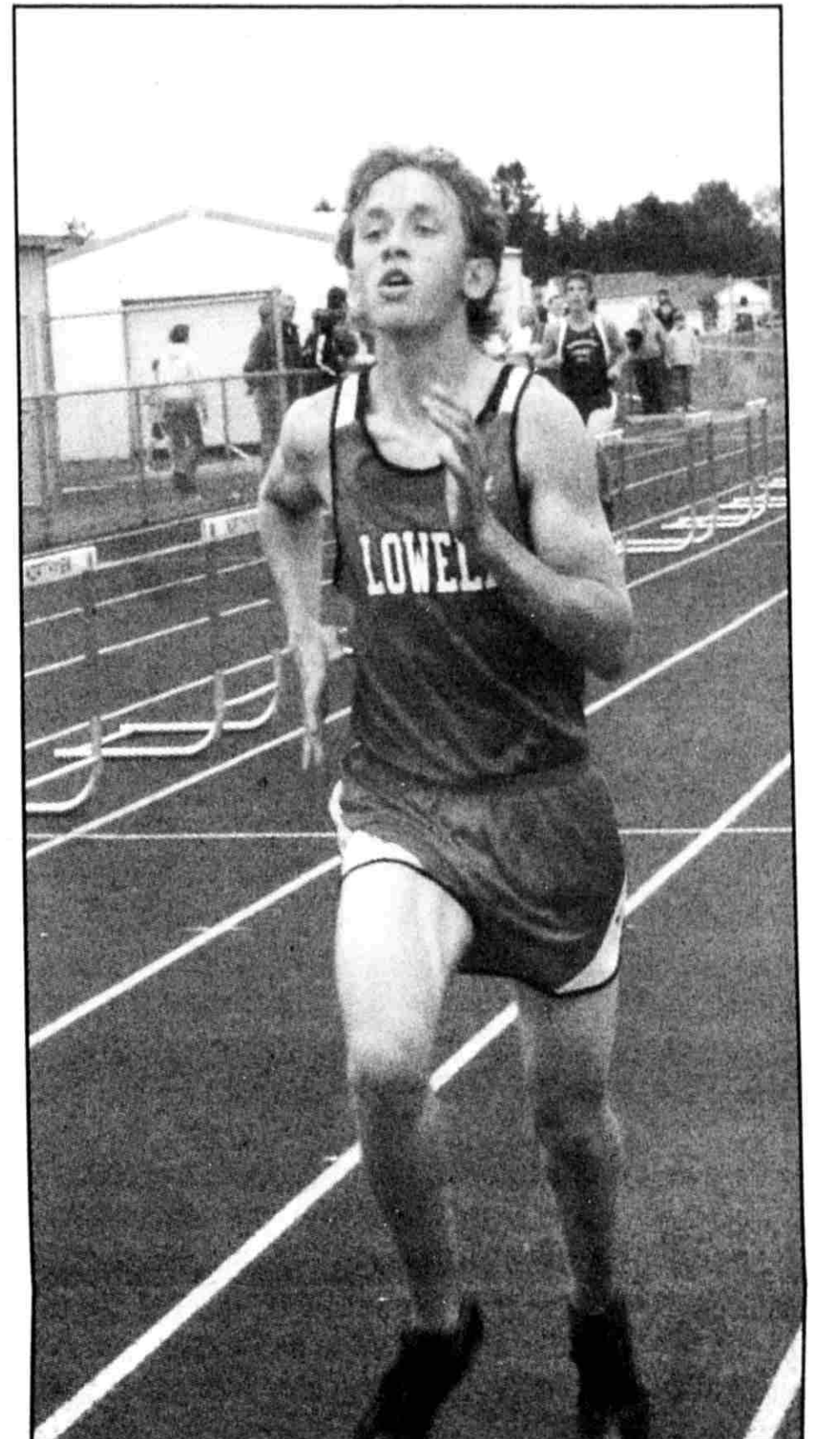
But there were some positives to be taken from the season, according to

VanderWarf. This season his team improved from a year ago, posting a 4-2 record, good for third place in the O-K White Conference.

And with solid runners developing through the junior varsity squad, VanderWarf has high hopes for next season.



The Lowell boys cross country team finished third in the O-K White this season.



All-Conference senior Keaton Dilly helped Lowell to a ninth place finish at Regionals last week in Jackson.

### Lowell players honored



Keaton Dilly, along with cross country teammate Andy Mark and golfer Brian Scheider were recognized for their athletic prowess this season. Dilly was honored with an All-Conference selection and was hands down the top runner for Lowell's cross country program this season.

"Keaton had a great season," said cross country coach Clay VanderWarf. "It will be hard to replace guys like him next season. Keaton and Andy anchored our success all year."

Mark and Scheider were recognized as All-Conference Honorable Mention.

8th Annual

## Taste of Vegetarian

Simple & Delicious Samples of  
Healthy Vegetarian Entrees,  
Soups, Breads & Desserts

Free Recipes  
Door Prizes  
Cost: Donation  
**BRING A FRIEND!**

To register in advance or questions, please call and leave a message at 676-0408. Walk-ins welcome!

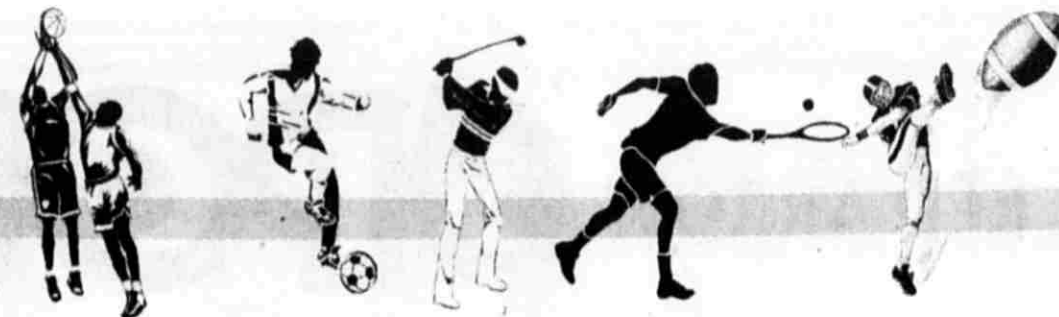
**Cherry Creek Elem. School Cafeteria**  
12675 Foreman, Between Alden Nash & N. Hudson in Lowell

**SUNDAY, November 12**  
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Sponsored by Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists



# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Lowell can clinch title against overmatched Wildcats



Lowell's aggressive defense, by Brittany Bueche, is a serious concern for opponents.

You won't get any arguments from Jay Plitzuweit. In girls basketball, Lowell is the team to beat. Entering Tuesday's game against Forest Hills Central, the Red Arrows (13-3) were riding a twelve-game winning streak, and barring an unlikely upset, will face Plitzuweit's Northview Wildcats (12-4) for the outright O-K White title.

"Lowell is a very good team and they're very experienced," Plitzuweit said. "All those girls have experienced championships in their life. They'll come out and play solid defense and great team basketball. They're coached so well; that's an expectation, and that's what you get every time you play Lowell."

Streak intact, the Red Arrows have more than just a defense and camaraderie to their advantage. They have intimidation and respect.

"Our approach and our mentality need to parallel what Lowell comes out with every game," Plitzuweit said. "We need to be 100

percent focused. I think Lowell's experience and how they go about business is a very good role model for us to follow.

"For us to match-up, lacking experience, is going to be a challenge."

Meanwhile, Lowell, whose only conference loss came to East Grand Rapids nearly two months ago, continues to show versatility and depth at every position behind solid senior leadership and aggressive play.

"We fixed some things from earlier this season," said Lowell coach Dee Crowley. "Our defense has picked up its intensity in what we want to do. Offensively we're in a rhythm. It's just a matter of having girls willing to work hard on the court."

Two of those girls are seniors Brittany Bueche and Lindsey Trierweiler, who combined for half of Lowell's points in last week's victory at Forest Hills Northern.

In the 44-23 route, the Red Arrows

characteristically jumped ahead with an early lead behind an aggressive full-court press defense and some precision shooting.

"Our press helps us to be aggressive and we were able to frustrate them with it and cause a few turnovers that gave us some easy baskets," Crowley said. "We had some really good three-pointers, but Trierweiler in the post was unbelievable. If you can get both the inside and outside going you can be really successful."

"We just came out with a lot of intensity," said Bueche. "(Lindsey) had all those lay-ups and that got us fired up. We worked the inside-out and I got some open three-pointers."

"At the beginning we were nervous because we didn't have our pre-game music during warm-ups," Trierweiler said laughingly. "But we just started to put it inside. Bueche hit some three's, and that just turned everything on for us."

The Red Arrows finished with a lopsided victory and solid statistics, collecting 14 steals and 24 rebounds along the way. Meanwhile, Crowley has little concern that the team has peaked too soon.

"No loss is a good loss this late in the year," Crowley said when asked if a late loss would help ground the team. "If you work hard and it's a well-fought game and you can learn from it, maybe. But right now we just really want to finish strong."

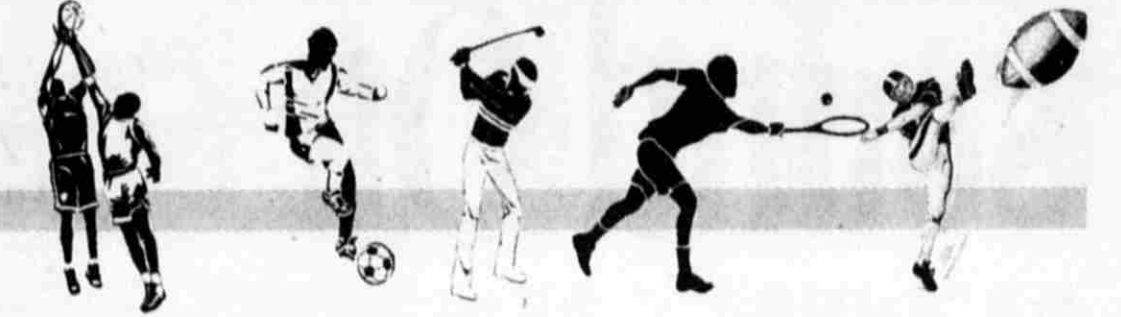
Northview's Plitzuweit would likely agree following his team's upset loss last week to Greenville, but will still offer some challenges to the Red Arrows, who need to continue to practice hard, according to the Bueche.

"We have a strong team and we all make each other work hard in practice, and I think that's what makes us so good," she said. "We're constantly pushing hard, this will definitely be a tough week but it's a good way to end the season and get us ready for districts."



Lindsey Trierweiler and Brittany Bueche combined for 22 points in last week's victory over Forest Hills Northern.

# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Hype over "big game" provides motivational opportunities for coaches

There are a few certainties as this weekend's highly hyped football game between Lowell and Muskegon approaches.

Bob Perry Field is going to be packed, two teams are fighting to keep the season alive, and neither head coach is willing to provide added motivation for the other's team.

And with all the hoopla, all the hype, all the interviews, what's a little smoke screening going to hurt? In a world of sports journalism, coaches learn to use the media as a means of sending a message. And while no player or coach dared to guarantee a victory, there were plenty of subtleties and messages mixed into the comments of coaches Tony Annese of Muskegon and Noel Dean of Lowell.

Here's a look.

"I think that we have more than enough to prepare for," said Lowell coach Noel Dean. "They have so many different strengths, they can run the football so well, they're so big and they have great athletes."

Pretty standard comments given the nature of the opponent. Undefeated Muskegon has been whopping opponents offensively this season. In fact, their average margin of victory is a staggering 28 points. And behind a slew of standout players who won't simply crumble under the intensity of Lowell's defense, there's no question Muskegon deserves the praise. And then ...

"They have four Division One bound kids on their team," Dean added unexpectedly. "Doing the math we have one, they have four, so with that kind of situation coming in, it creates a lot of match-up problems for us."

And so the downplaying begins. And not just from Dean, but from Annese as well. As if reading from a 'How to Handle the Media Before the Biggest Game of the Year' self-help book, Annese, in kind, began his comments by touting the strengths of the Lowell Red Arrows, specifically praising senior quarterback Keith Nichol.

"They're obviously a well oiled machine and they're very well coached and have probably the best quarterback this state has seen in a couple of decades," Annese said. "Keith is an incredible football player and we're going to have

our hands full trying to throw them down. Add their scheming defense to that and they're good in every facet of the game."

Then the kicker ... "They're the toughest match-up we could possibly face," he added. "I don't see any team of the same caliber as Lowell High School."

But don't be misled. These two championship wielding coaches answer questions with sincerity and well-established respect for one another. But when opportunities to offer up some motivation are presented, you've got to take them.

For instance, who's the underdog when two undefeated teams, separated by a couple playoff points that could ultimately control the outcome given Lowell's home field advantage, take the field ranked #2 and #3 respectively?

According to Dean, his squad is going to need the Lowell faithful to make it happen.

"We're hoping the fans turn out," he said. "Because of the weather we haven't seen what we're used to. So we hope they turn out, we hope they support us, which they will because they're very loyal in those regards."

"We're going to give our best effort to see if we can't pull this upset off."

Upset? As the #3 team you can't argue with the statement. By the way, Lowell's margin of victory is 10 points better than Muskegon at 38 points per game. But both teams are undefeated and, according to Annese, both are the "most powerful teams in the state this year, who just happen to be playing for a district championship."

And, Annese took to Dean's comments with a chuckle.

"Obviously he's trying to downplay how good they are, which is the smart thing to do; but certainly we're the underdog," he said. "They're the more experienced team and Nichol has already quarterbacked a state championship team in 2004. 'Over half of our starters are still juniors,' he added in defense. "So we're the young, inexperienced team compared to them. They're the seasoned team."

But not so fast if you ask Dean.

"My business is to have my team focused on this game," he said. "Obviously there are a whole lot of different players and folks involved in this game than there were in 2004. Just trying to draw comparisons is illogical, but it's fun from a fan's perspective."

It should be noted that Dean was contacted first and wasn't aware of Annese's comments. Interestingly enough, neither coach would call out their own strengths or the other's weaknesses, only adding to the allure of what most are calling the 'Game of the Year.' One thing's for sure, both seemed excited to just be involved in the match-up, both as a coach and as fans of football.

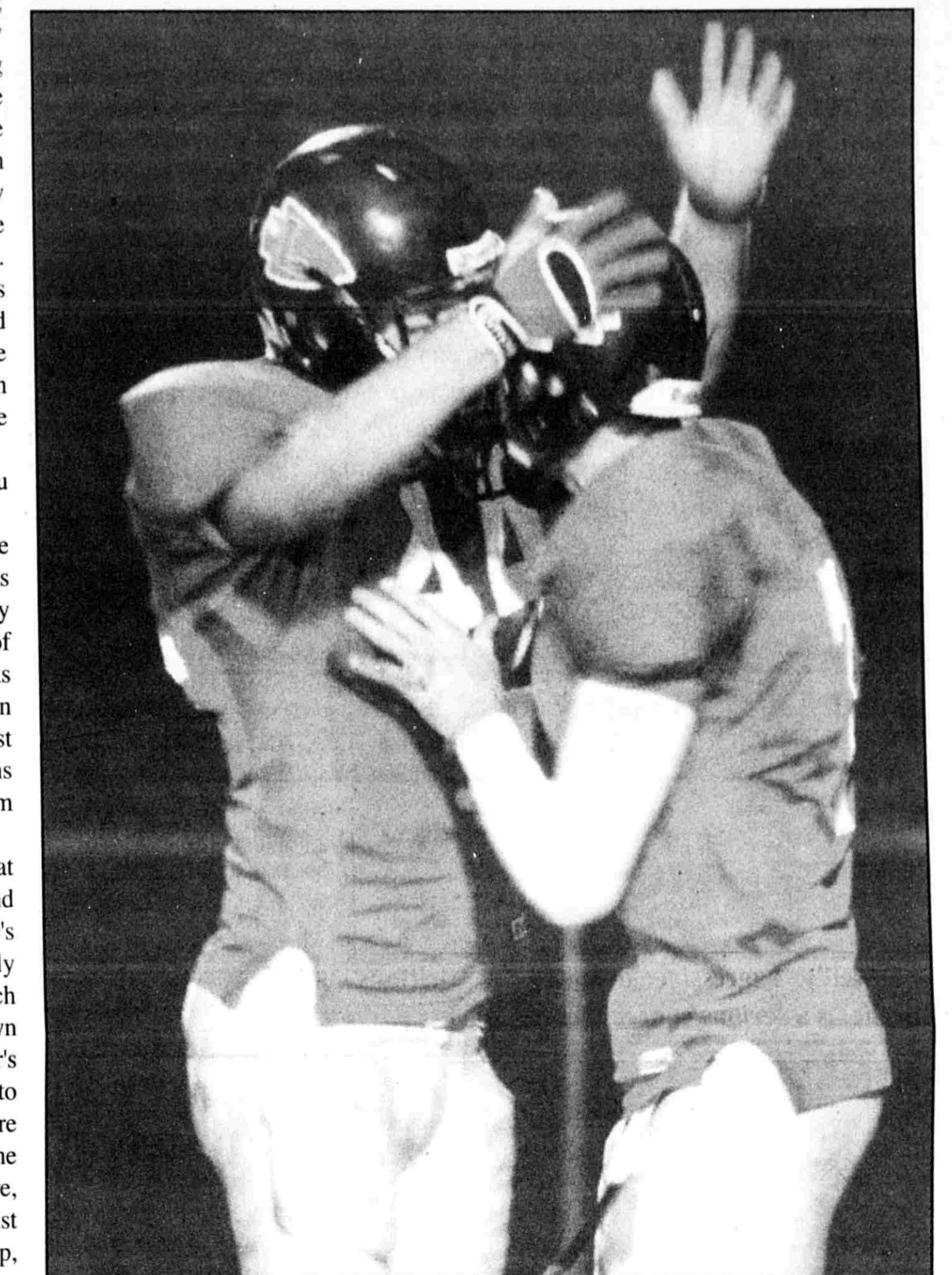
"You work hard and do what you do day-in and day-out through the months, through the years, and the hope is to build your program toward a game that is meaningful like this," Dean said. "From that standpoint it's very exciting."

"The hype is for the media and the fans," Annese said. "Every high school team that plays this weekend

has a winner and a loser, and that's the only issue we face. The hype doesn't make

sense to us, we just play the games, but it's going to bring some excitement because

we're the two powerhouses. Everyone can agree with that.



Travis Hippey and Keith Nichol celebrate a first-quarter touchdown against Greenville.



## "With My Active Lifestyle I Can't Afford To Be In Pain."

Attend our free seminar and learn what you can do for your knee and hip pain.

Join us and learn more about treatments that may offer relief of your pain, including information about medications, nutrition and exercise.

Sponsored by: **MetroHealth Hospital**

### Free Hip and Knee Pain Seminar

Date: Thursday, November 9  
 Time: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
 Place: Metro Health Hospital  
 East/West Conference Rooms  
 1919 Boston, SE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
 RSVP: (616) 252-7199  
 Ask for Pat

\*This is a dramatization.

**THE FOODMOBILE**  
 MOBILE FOOD PANTRY  
 THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR: CALVARY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
**FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION**  
 (mostly produce)  
**LOWELL FAIRGROUNDS**  
 Foreman Building, S. Broadway  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2006**  
 10:00 TO 11:00 A.M. (or until food is gone)  
 Distributed by **Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.** (FROM)  
**AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS OF THE GREATER LOWELL AREA.**  
 Bring your own box or bag.  
 Visit our website at [www.flatriveroutreachministries.org](http://www.flatriveroutreachministries.org)

We want to be your **Other Family Doctor.**

- Sick or Injured Animals Seen Same Day
- Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
- Early Drop-offs & House Calls
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Science Diet Pet Foods
- Boarding & Grooming

Call 897-8484  
 11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL**

**New Vision**  
**New Standards**  
**New Focus**  
**New Name**

**Fountain View of Lowell**  
 (formerly Cumberland)

Fountain View of Lowell is designed to provide choice and convenience for seniors requiring various levels of assistance.

With a fresh focus, new vision and the highest standards in place, serving the local community for over 30 years, we are pleased to offer exceptional Assisted Living and Specialized Memory Care services.

**We invite you to schedule a personal tour.**  
 We'll have the front door open and a fresh-brewed pot of coffee to welcome you and your loved one home.

**Call today!**

**Fountain View of Lowell**  
 11535 E. Fulton • Lowell, MI 49331  
 616-897-8413  
 web: [www.leisure-living.com](http://www.leisure-living.com)



**GO RED ARROWS!!!**

**Good**  
CHEVROLET BUICK

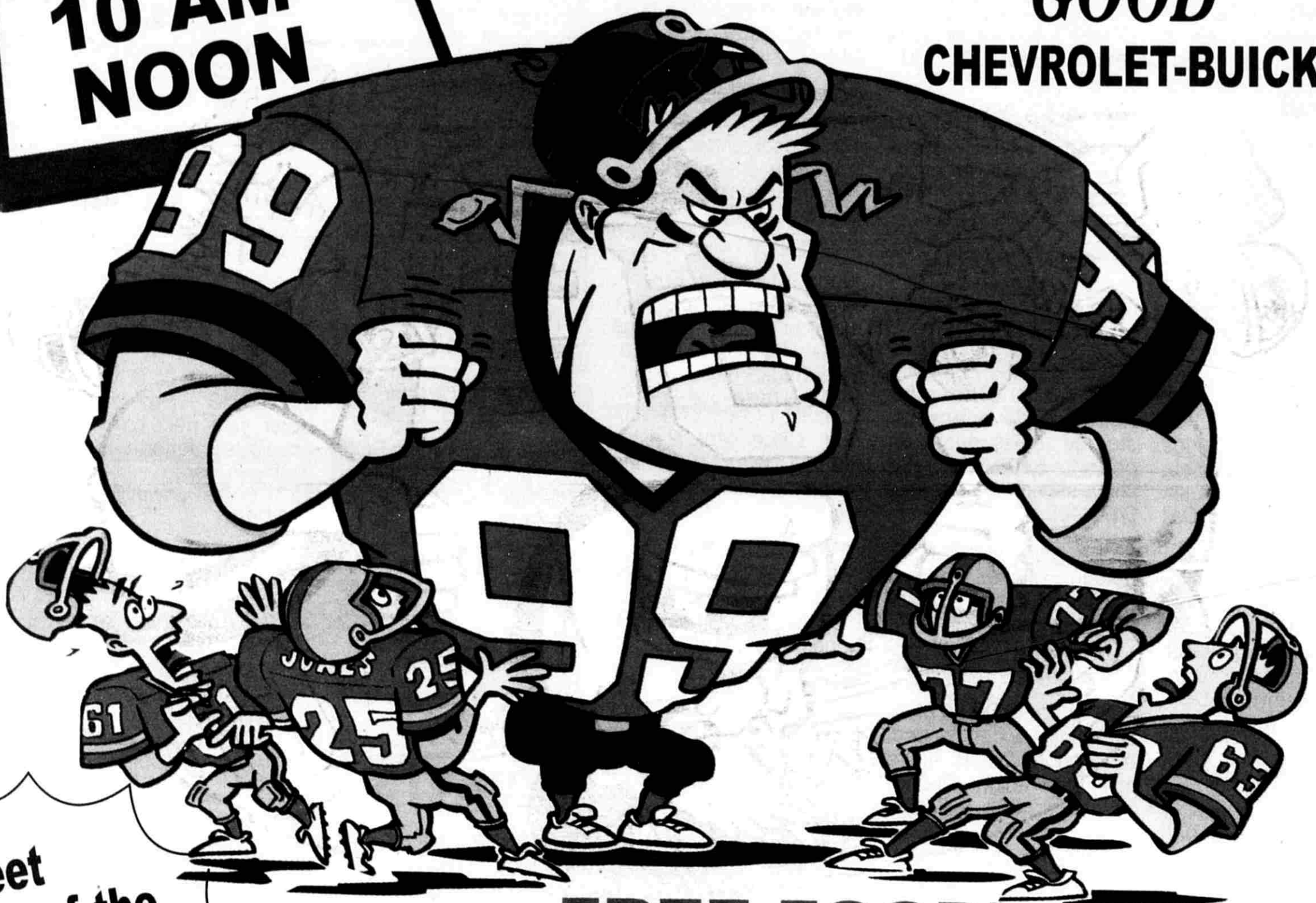
**& 1340am**  
**SPORTS**  
**WBBL**

**LIVE RADIO**  
**PRE-GAME**  
**REMOTE**  
**SATURDAY**  
**10 AM -**  
**NOON**

# THE BIG GAME

## TAILGATE PARTY *at*

**GOOD**  
**CHEVROLET-BUICK**



Meet  
members of the  
WBBL Game Day  
Broadcast Team!  
Including Brett Muller,  
The Hit Man  
from the Huge Show!

- **FREE FOOD!**
- **FREE Face Painting for the kids!**
- **FREE Black & Red balloons!**
- **FREE Lowell-Muskegon Game-Day Gift!**

**TAILGATE HELD REGARDLESS OF WEATHER -**  
**We Can Move Indoors If Needed!**

**AN AMERICAN**  
**REVOLUTION**

**Good**  
CHEVROLET BUICK

**BUICK**  
BEYOND PRECISION™

**GM**  
Certified  
USED VEHICLES

**“Great Deals From GOOD People”**

**1250 W. Main, Lowell • 897-9294**

[www.goodautomotive.com](http://www.goodautomotive.com)

**HOURS: MON & WED - 8-8;**  
**TUES, THURS & FRI - 8-6; SAT - 9-1**

Kurt Hieshetter • Charlie Craig • Steve Thomet • Clayton Marvel • Dirk Eppinga • Rob Stehley