

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 38 Issue 8

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Wednesday, January 21, 2009

## Barack Obama sworn in as the 44th president

by Emma Palova

In a historical moment Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States Tuesday during a high-noon inauguration ceremony on Capitol Hill.

A crowd of a million people packed the National Mall to witness the event in frigid temperatures with a wind chill of 14 degrees. Many traveled thousands of miles from all over the country to Washington D.C. to watch history in the making.

Cheering crowds waving flags greeted the president-elect Obama prior to him taking the oath of office. Aretha Franklin sang 'My Country tis of Thee.'

In his inaugural address, Obama stated the nation must choose 'hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord' to overcome the worst economic crisis since

the Great Depression. As he acknowledged the hardship of the weakened economy and a nation at war, Obama also spoke of sapping of confidence throughout the land.

Obama assured that existing and new challenges will be met. "We gather because we have chosen hope over fear," he said.

He stressed the need to lay aside childish differences and action to lay new foundation for growth, as well as to begin the work of remaking of America.

Obama vowed to responsibly leave Iraq to its people and build peace in Afghanistan. "America is a friend of each nation," he said. "We are ready to lead once more."

To the Muslim world, Obama pledged a new way forward, based on mutual interest and respect.

But he warned, "To those

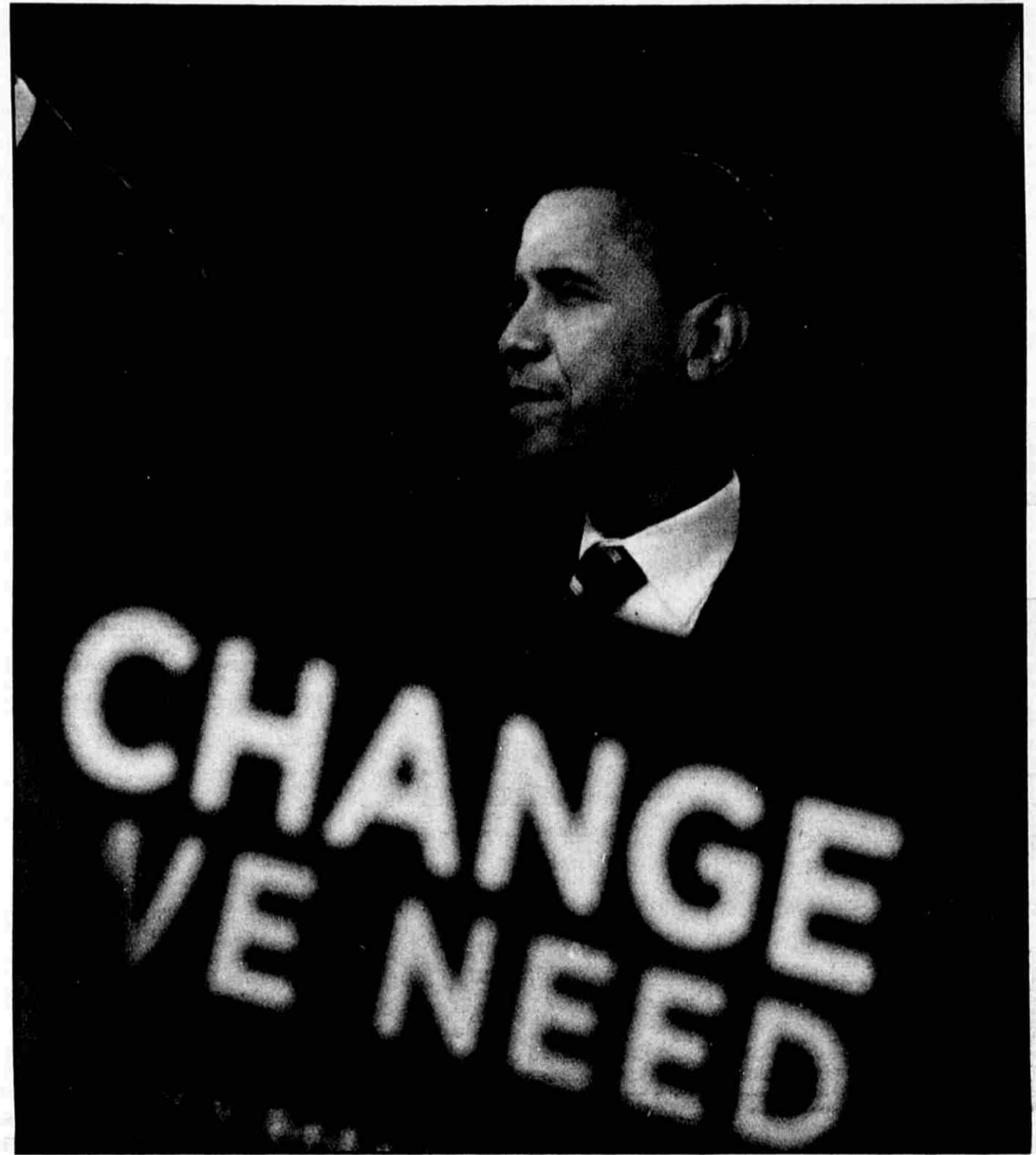
leaders around the globe who seek to sow conflict, or blame their society's ills on the West - know that your people will judge you on what you can build, not what you destroy."

"To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history; but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist."

He outlined a new era of responsibility in a changing world, stressing old values of honesty, hard work and loyalty. "The world has changed and we must change with it," he said.

In a reaction to Obama's address, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, (D-MI) expressed hope for families across Michigan and America.

"My biggest hope is getting our economy back



Barack Obama pictured at an appearance in Grand Rapids last fall.

Photo by J. Boss

on track," she wrote in a press release. "It's all about jobs. I am working closely

with our new president and his team already. They are very focused on those things

that effect middle-class families- jobs, health care and education."

## Flat River Retail Center takes center stage on Main Street

by Emma Palova

No more dust, cobwebs, squeaking floors and dark corners, instead elegant condos with tall ceilings and French doors have emerged from what used to be the famous Flat River Antique Mall.

The old building at 216 West Main Street has been completely revitalized and restored to new life. So, long gone is the red and

black soda fountain with the juke box, and the mezzanine with porcelain cups has been turned into a room. Many Lowellians still treasure their finds from the antique mall in their homes. The antique mall is now a piece of history, forgotten into oblivion.

With a hint of nostalgia, the occupants in one of the residential condos on the second floor kept the giant

antique sign from the old store front, and placed it above the tall windows in their living room.

"We've used all recycled materials," said developer and owner Jerry Zandstra.

Yes, even the back doors, now serve as a sturdy fashionable black kitchen counter. The walls of the living room have been decorated with turkey trophies.

The developers, Estes Group of Grand Rapids, renovated both floors of the antique mall over the last few years, after the antique mall went out of business.

Now, the building is ready for retail and residential use. The four commercial condos on the first floor range in square footage from 1,360 square feet to 1,484 square feet.

They are suitable for

any retailer, according to Jordan Bush of the Estes Group.

"Any retail would work well," said Bush.

Interior build-out including floors, bathroom and utilities will start for Edward Jones Investments in February. Bush expects full occupancy of the retail condos by this summer.

Residential condos are located on the second floor,

two are occupied and two are available for build out to rent or to buy.

Jennifer Orr of Shutterbug Photography chose to live in the condo in Lowell because of the location.

"My boyfriend accepted a job in Lansing and I worked in Grand Rapids," she said. "When we found out that Lowell was a good

Condos, cont'd., pg. 3



The living room area of a condo inside the Flat River Retail Center.

Photos by Jennifer Orr

## Residents urged to keep on shoveling walkways

After weeks of major snowfalls, the city and chamber officials encourage residents and business owners to keep on shoveling sidewalks in front of their properties for pedestrian safety.

The city ordinance stipulates that occupants must keep sidewalks in front of their premises clear of ice and snow to facilitate pedestrian use. If there is no sidewalk, but only a path serving as an extension of an existing sidewalk, that path must be kept clear as well.

Any fallen snow has to be cleared within 24 hours. Snow cannot be piled or discarded on any public properties in the city, street right-of-ways or sidewalks.

Penalties include a \$50 fine, plus the cost of removing snow and ice or repairing damages to public or private property.

The ordinance is enforced on complaint basis, according to city clerk Betty Morlock.



# Obituaries



## KELLY

John E. Kelly, aged 79, of Gowen, passed away Thursday, January 15, 2009. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joan; children, Mark Kelly of Waterford, Jeff (Debra) Kelly of Belding, Sandy (Dave) Warren of Ann Arbor and Kathleen (John) VanderBoon of Plainwell; sister, Joann Harmsen of Hopkins; grandchildren, Alexandria, Jacob, Daniel, John and James Kelly, Erin, Kara and Scotty Bowers, Jessie, Leah, Megan, Audrey and Nate VanderBoon; two great-granddaughters, Taylor and Julia Kelly; also many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brothers, James and Richard Kelly, and granddaughter, Tracey Kelly. Mass of Christian

Burial was offered Monday at St. Margaret Catholic Church. Interment St. Margaret Cemetery.

## MORRIS

Cannon Township Fire Chief Harry Morris Jr., 83, passed away Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at Metropolitan Hospital. Chief Morris, affectionately known as "Junior" was Cannon Township's fire chief for 39 years. He served the community of Cannon Township in the fire service for 55 years, and was named fire chief on April 14, 1970. Morris was born May 12, 1925 in Cannon Township, the son of Harry and Mary (Byrne) Morris. He was a dairy farmer by profession and farming was a life long endeavor. He worked the family farm along with his daughters and sons. With his son Jim, they currently operate the only active dairy farm in Cannon Township. Throughout his storied career, the Cannon Township fire department underwent many transitions. In the beginning, the two-stall fire station built by volunteers, donations and a sense of duty

to the community, helped serve the tiny community. As the township grew, so did the sense of duty and safety to the residents of Cannon Township. Under his leadership, Chief Morris cultivated relationships and friendships both throughout the Cannon Township community and other nearby communities. Junior was the driving force that incorporated EMS service into the Cannon Township Fire Department. Cannon Township Fire Department has become one of the most respected and successful departments in the region and a point of pride for the entire Cannon Township community. On June 19, 2004, a dedication ceremony was held to rename the Cannon Township Fire Station No. 1 in honor of his honor and to recognize Chief Morris' then 50 years serving the township. His 39 years as fire chief make him one of the longest serving fire chiefs in the area. His progressive style and dedication to the people of Cannon Township will be dearly missed by his community and fellow firefighters. All four of his sons, three son-in-laws, a grandson and a nephew are either members or past members of the Fire Department. Morris' first love for firefighting began as a student of St. Patrick. Back before there was an organized fire department, many of the school children would be pulled out of school to help assist on large fires as part of a bucket brigade, or helping with equipment. Following graduation and before the Cannon Township fire department was formally organized in 1958, Morris and other members of the township would respond to fire calls with neighboring departments, providing

valuable manpower, equipment and assistance. An avid ham operator, call sign K8OHR, Morris would spend many hours talking to fellow ham operators across the world. His wife, Patricia (Scheidel) Morris, the love of his life, died on January 12, 1984. His grandson, Todd Herrington, and sisters, Mary Eileen Morris and Virginia Schmidt also preceded him in death. He is survived and will be lovingly missed by his children, Mary and Michael Herrington of Cannonsburg, Ken and Sharon Morris of Lowell, Dr. Robert and Susan Morris of Grand Rapids Twp, Sharon and Bob Olson of Kent City, Jim and Dianne Morris of Rockford, Maureen and Bill Ruge of Rockford, Linda and Brian McCoy of Ada, Brian and Rochelle Morris of Rockford, and Lisa and Leonard Maiville of Grand Rapids; 23 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren with the much anticipated arrival of twins; Sisters, Gwendolyn Scheidel, Betty Lamos, Helen Doreen Pitsch, and Barbara (Carl) Einig; many nieces and nephews. He was a life long member of St. Patrick's Parish where he graduated from St. Patrick High School in 1943. The Mass of Christian Burial for Junior will be offered 11:00 a.m. Saturday morning at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Parnell. Interment in St. Patrick Cemetery. The Rosary will be prayed on Friday evening at 8:30 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to the Harry J. Morris, Jr., Emergency Services Education Scholarship Fund through the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Relatives and friends may meet with the family from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday and from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday

at the Pederson Funeral Home and 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the Mass at the church on Saturday.



## WHITE

Robert (Bob) White, loving husband, father, friend, and educator, passed away on January 8, 2009, after a brave and dignified battle with cancer. He was 68. Bob attended school in Lowell where he lettered in cross-country and tennis and was Vice President of his senior class in 1958. He then attended Western Michigan University, obtaining both his BS and Master of Science degrees in Automotive Technology. After obtaining his teaching credentials, Bob taught auto shop at Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo. Bob took two men teams of students to the National Plymouth Troubleshooting Contest, competing against high school teams from across the country, placing second in 1964 and first in 1966. He then moved to California and taught auto shop at Novato High School and again competed in the National Plymouth Troubleshooting Contest and finished first in 1970, and 1971, second in 1972. In 1975, Bob was selected from over 100 applicants to chair the Auto Technology program at the newly built Indian Valley College in Novato. In addition to being the department chair, Bob personally taught in the program in both day and night classes. As a result of his work, Bob placed hundreds of students as mechanics in auto dealerships, and repair shops throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. He spent his summers working at

General Motors in Detroit, in Buick's experimental lab. He also worked as an investigator for Lee Cole Investigations, specializing in auto thefts, arson, and accidents, as well as having owned and operated his own repair shop, "Bob White's Corvette Shop" from 1972 to 1976. In 1989, Bob received the Governor's Citation for Excellence in Vocational Education for his work at Indian Valley College. Upon retiring in 2000, Bob realized his lifelong dream (to live by the sea) and moved to Bandon, Oregon. There he met and married his wife and soul mate, Linda Leonardi. While residing in Bandon, Bob couldn't resist the urge to get involved with the local high school, serving on the school board for Bandon High School, fund raising, and personally leading the effort to gather donations and erect a new grandstand at the Bandon Tigers football field in the memory of a student who died in an auto accident. He was a staunch supporter of high school and college athletics, attending all of his beloved Tigers games, as well as supporting his Oregon Beavers and Michigan Wolverines. Bob revealed in every appearance of Michigan in the Rose Bowl. Bob was a lifelong Corvette lover and active in the Pacific Coast Corvette Club and Coastal Corvettes Unlimited, attending functions, runs, and writing a monthly technical bulletin for the clubs. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends across the country. Bob is survived by his wife, Linda White; Kelly White of Monmouth, Oregon, daughter of Bob White and Linn Strohallen of North Manchester, Indiana; identical twin brother, Jim White (Barbara) of Henderson, NV; and sister, Lois Tomasiewicz (Matt) of Grand Rapids. Donations in his memory can be made to: Bandon School District Office, Manufacturing Class Supplies, 455 Ninth St. S.W., Bandon, OR 97411.

# Hildenbrand takes oath of office

State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand took the oath of office at a Capitol ceremony Wednesday beginning his third term representing part of Kent County in the Michigan House of Representatives.

"I am honored to continue my service in the Michigan Legislature on behalf of my constituents in Kent County," Hildenbrand said. "I am eager to work with my Republican and Democrat colleagues to turn Michigan's economy around and make our state a better place to live, work and play."

Representative Hildenbrand's district includes: Ada, East Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids

Township, Walker, part of the City of Grand Rapids and the greater Lowell

area. Constituents can contact Hildenbrand by calling 1-877-DAVE-086

or by e-mailing him at Rep.Hildenbrand@house.mi.gov.



Dave Hildenbrand being sworn in by Justice Cavanagh.

# Condos, continued ... From Page 1

half way point, we started looking for a place that we could call home."

The condo was ideal for Orr to run her photo business with plenty of daylight from the tall windows. She uses the living room as her studio.

"I also love the exposed brick that just gives it warmth and character,"

she said. "It is very inviting with the warm colors and wood floors, very contemporary with a little bit of vintage, sort of a worn feel to it."

It did not take long for Orr to feel at home in Lowell. And although she loves the front row view of Main Street and the mills in the back, Orr suggested peo-

ple considering moving in should invest in blinds.

As far as suggestions and ideas for retail downstairs, Orr, a wedding photographer, would like to see a wedding boutique or any type of retail that is associated with weddings.

"It would give me a perfect opportunity to make connections that would benefit both parties," she said. "I would also like to see a coffee shop go in downstairs."

Since developers put two years into the rehabili-

tation of the building, they have developed a love hate relationship with it.

"You learn to appreciate its beauty and we want to see our companies thrive and Lowell thrive," said Zandstra.

Bush said he was thrilled with the rebranding of the former antique mall.

"It's been a great process," said Bush, "it has a lot of potential."

If interested in condos call 956-6723.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance regarding the LI, Light Industrial Zoning District. The amendments would expand and specify the types of uses allowed by right and Special Land Use permit. The proposed amendments would also remove the existing language which allows commercial uses in the LI Zone by Special Land Use permit and would add development regulations pertaining to outdoor storage, driveway paving, enclosures for dumpsters, building facades and other similar requirements.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009  
TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI 49331

The proposed amendments are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township  
Planning Commission

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE SNOW REMOVAL

Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated, it must be cleared within twenty-four (24) hours. Property owners/occupants are required to clear ice and snow from their sidewalk. If no sidewalk exists, the owner/occupant must clear a path if their property is adjacent to a sidewalk.

### NOTICE TO SNOW PLOW OPERATORS

It is against the law to plow snow, ice or slush onto or across any roadway or highway.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

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PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG)  
TUE 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:20  
MONWEDTH 4:50, 7:00, 9:20  
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R)  
TUE 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40  
MONWEDTH 5:00, 7:20, 9:40  
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (G)  
TUE 12:10, 2:20, 4:35, MONWEDTH 4:35  
BRIDE WARS (PG)  
TUE 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
MONWEDTH 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
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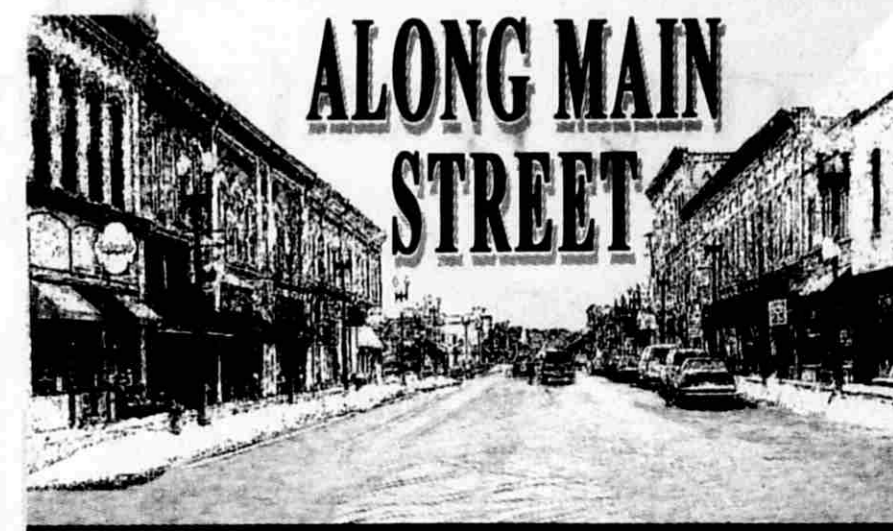
Lisa Brown

Greenridge Realty announced that Lisa Brown received Realtor of the Year in 2008, for the Lowell office.

This award recognizes Brown for her outstanding success and achievements.

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### COLLAGE CONCERT

Select performances by members of the Lowell Area Schools music department will be held Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at the door for a suggested \$5 donation. This concert is to benefit Lowell Music Boosters. There will also be refreshments, a silent auction, and 50/50 raffle beginning at 6 p.m.

### MID-WINTER USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of Englehardt Library will have a used book sale for adults and children on Friday, Jan. 23, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All proceeds go to library programming.

### SPAGHETTI DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Murray Lake Elementary will be holding a 5th grade spaghetti dinner at 3275 Alden Nash NE on Sat., Jan. 24, 5-7:30 p.m. Adults \$6, 6-12 years old \$4; 5 and under free. Proceeds to help offset the cost of 5th grade camp for the students.

### INTERNET SAFETY SEMINAR

Learn how to protect yourself and your children when using the internet. First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Tues., Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. Taught by two FBI agents. Call 897-5936 for more information. Free.

### LACROSSE SIGN-UP

Lowell Lacrosse Middle School Program will be accepting registration forms until Feb. 28. Contact Terry Amidon at lowellmlsax@yahoo.com or 987-0142.

### BLOOD DRIVE

The student council at Murray Lake Elementary is sponsoring a blood drive at 3275 Alden Nash Ave NE on Thurs., Jan. 29, 2-8 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome.

### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Please join the museum for an informative program about "Fur Trading - Yesterday & Today" in Michigan. This event will take place on Thurs., Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall. Questions please call 897-7688.

### THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY LOVE POEM CONTEST

Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson St. This is a contest for writers 18+ years old. Entry deadline is Feb. 6 by 6 p.m. Entries may be hand delivered to: Love Poetry, Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson or mail to: PO Box 53, Lowell, MI 49331, or email to: info@lowellartscouncil.org.

### COAT DRIVE FOR VETERANS

Please join the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and American Legion in Lowell area in collecting semi-new or used coats for our veterans in the Veterans Home located in Grand Rapids. Drop off locations are: The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza; Curtis Cleaners, 1410 W. Main St.; and VFW Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash (Tues. and Thurs. in Jan. from 2-4 p.m.) Women's coats are also needed.

### FROM FOOD PANTRY

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of canned fruit, soup, crackers, canned vegetables, paper products, juice, and boxed potatoes. Please help if you are able.

### PRESCHOOL

**GYMNASTICS / MOVEMENT CLASSES**  
Classes for 3 and 4 year old girls and boys are available through Red Arrow Youth Gymnastics. Classes are Wednesday nights and are held in the Runciman gym. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify. Call Michele at 318-4747 for more information.



# Artist creates abstracts in cool colors

by Emma Palova

Artist Ben Coffman likes to paint on a whim with acrylics and cool colors. He uses acrylics because they dry fast, and cool colors, blue and green, because they alleviate the gray and browns of everyday life.

His work is now on exhibit at the Riverwalk Gallery inside the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. This, Coffman's first exhibit, is sort of a stepping stone into the world of art.

"I am out there for people to see, criticize and hopefully enjoy," he said.

Coffman's abstracts are pure emotion reflecting his feelings at the moment.

"I like abstracts because they don't have any rules," he said.

However, his realistic paintings are also challenges

for Coffman, who doesn't want to lose himself in his abstract work. So, he keeps challenging himself to paint and draw realistically. His color schemes are always planned.

Coffman's 'Tribal Flames' are a pure figment of imagination created in 40 minutes.

"I just made it up," he said.

Although, Coffman, an art and music major at Adrian College, wants to be as good as anyone else, he is looking for his own personal style.

"I am still working on my own personal style," he said.

Art to Coffman is both a stress reliever as well as a stress generator. It helps him escape the realities of everyday life, but it also

creates the pressure of performance. Sometimes, the paints don't work out or the colors are not just right.

"It's driving me insane," he said. "I feel like throwing the tubes at the wall."

But, Coffman loves to experiment with different media. If he is patient enough he will work with oils, and smell their fumes for two hours or so. Watercolors are also one of his favorites, because he can see the paper underneath the colors.

"I do a lot of layering," he said. "Watercolors have been kind to me."

Inspired by Disney characters, Coffman does animated cartooning. He said the old Disney movies were the best animation ever. And of course photography is a hobby for Coffman, that inspires his artwork.

His goals with the show include name recognition, and hopefully selling some work.

"I want to get my name out in the art world," he said. "I want people to know who I am."

He firmly believes his art can be special to anyone who loves color and nature, as his realistic paintings are all nature, animals and scenery.

All Coffman's paintings are unique, none of them are painted the same way.

"It would be hard for me to duplicate a painting because I don't know what's under each layer."

The show continues through March 27. The artist's reception will be held on March 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.



Ben Coffman's exhibit highlights abstracts in cool colors.

# Michigan honors school board members throughout January

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has proclaimed January 2009 as School Board Recognition Month as a way to recognize the invaluable contributions local and ISD school board members make to their schools and communities. While honoring our volunteer elected officials should be a year-round process, the month of Jan. gives us a unique opportunity to thank the more than 4,000 school board members who commit countless hours to improving education in our state.

Few people fully understand the scope of the job of a school board member. School board

members commit an enormous number of hours outside of board meetings attending school functions; preparing for board meetings; reading financial reports, agendas and proposals; and making a host of difficult and challenging decisions. Many board members have also made a commitment to continuous professional development in order to ensure they stay up-to-date on the latest education issues. Board members come from all walks of life and backgrounds, but working together, School Boards Lead Strong so students can achieve.

It's especially important that we honor our school

board members during these difficult economic times. School board members have faced tough financial decisions, but have always kept the best interests of the students in mind. "Our school leaders have the tremendous responsibility of overseeing an educational system that prepares tomorrow's leaders for productive roles in society," said MASB Executive Director Kathy Hayes. "And for that we owe them a deep debt of gratitude."

School Board Recognition Month is part of a nationwide effort co-sponsored by the Michigan Association of School Boards and the National

School Boards Association to build community awareness and understanding about the

crucial role school boards play in our communities. Contact your local school

district for specific details about local celebrations and recognitions.

# LHS students show skills at BPA Regional Competition

On Saturday, Jan. 10, 13 students from Lowell High School competed in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) Regional Workplace Skills Assessment competition at Davenport University in Grand Rapids. Over 20 schools were represented at the competition with over 600 students taking part in the all-day competition. Students from West Michigan competed against each other showcasing their business knowledge and skills.

At the Regional Leadership Conference,

Lowell High School students performed outstandingly as eight students qualified to represent Lowell at the State Competition.

Winners included: Jerry Adams and Josh Wallner, first place in Financial Analyst Team;

Garrett Beaman, first place in Graphic Design Promotion;

Paula Blough, first place in Prepared Speech and fifth place in Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications;

Natalie Hewitt, second place in Financial Math;

Tricia VanGessel, second place in Business Spelling;

Nicole Halbeisen, third place in Graphic Design Promotion;

Katie Krolewicz, third place in Prepared Speech;

and Josh Wallner, third place in Business.

These students are eligible to represent Lowell High School at the 2009 State Leadership Conference on March 20-22, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, where they will compete with students from across Michigan, attend workshops designed to aid in professional development, and gain valuable skills for their lives ahead in the world of work. Top students at the state conference will advance to the National Leadership Conference held in Dallas, Texas, in May.

Students attending the competition also included Linnea Churches, Hannah Oberlin, Heather Burger, Tyler Wallner, and Troy Petersen.

# Viewpoint

## To The Editor

Dear Ledger,

How about a big pat on the back for Lowell Schools - and in particular their Most Exalted Minister of Energy Conservation - Mr. Jim White. Not only has Jim saved the school district over two million dollars since he was appointed to his lofty position, but he is now helping interested Lowell businesses follow suit.

Jim came to the Chamber last fall with an energy saving seminar that was open to any member. The room was packed and many of us took notes - I learned enough to start saving

money for our little business within 24 hours. Since the seminar I have implemented several of Jim's suggestions and they are working to keep our energy use down. That to me is the best kind of a win-win situation - we save money AND we lessen our impact on the planet.

In addition to the money saving seminar, Jim offered to come out to do an energy audit. He came to our store yesterday and once again showed me ways to save on electricity and natural gas.

Thanks very much to Jim and to Greg Pratt and the Board for sharing him with the business community.

Sincerely,  
Cliff Yankovich



By Shelly MacNaughton

## 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL JANUARY 23, 1884

Headline: Lowell's Big Fire, Twenty Wooden buildings in ashes

About eight o'clock Saturday morning fire broke out in the second floor of the Somerby building east of the post office and, although discovered early, the flames rapidly spread beyond control and it was at once evident that many more buildings must go with it. The work of moving out goods was vigorously begun and quite successfully conducted by the occupants of the buildings west of the Somerby building.

## 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 21, 1909

The body of Mrs. Laura Mattern, whose mysterious disappearance was chronicled in last week's Ledger was found about one o'clock, Friday, January 15, in the Flat river near the place where men had cut the ice, and searched for it all the previous day, having been in the water 31 hours.

Friday morning the village council offered a reward of \$50 for the body found dead or alive. Schools were closed and everyone was urged to aid in the search.

## 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO JANUARY 25, 1934

Foreman Farm Leghorns, entered in eleven International Egg laying contents, are now setting the pace for all other recognized high production strains. There are approximately 20,000 chick hatcheries in the United States, but Foreman Poultry Farm Leghorns are leading the production parade for combined large egg size and high production.

## 50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 22, 1959

Fire discovered by a passing motorist at 6 p.m. Tuesday, wrecked the interior of the Showboat Drive In restaurant across from the Methodist Church on East Main Street.

Frank Baker, Fire Chief, said the fire apparently started in a wall behind the gas range and spread into the ceiling. An estimated \$5,000 damage to the building and contents was done by the fire.

## 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JANUARY 25, 1984

Probably the best news for area youngsters since the school burned in 1945, is the announcement that McDonalds, Inc. will very likely be building a restaurant here soon. Lowell City Manager Ray Quada announced at the Monday, January 23 meeting of the Lowell Planning Commission that he has been contacted several times since last Thursday by Bob Shippell of McDonalds, Inc. of Southfield Michigan.



## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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### DON'T FORGET ABOUT INFLATION WHEN YOU RETIRE

During your working years, you put money away, hoping that it will grow enough to help provide you with a comfortable retirement. But once you retire, haven't you reached your goal? You don't still need to invest for growth, do you?

Actually, you do. You may be retiring, but the cost of living marches on. In fact, even with a relatively mild inflation rate of three percent, you'll pay about twice as much for goods and services in 25 years as you do today. And since you could easily spend two or three decades in retirement, you need to be prepared for these costs.

At first glance, you might think that this situation presents you with a daunting challenge. Historically, stocks are the only financial assets that have significantly outperformed inflation. Yet, as a retiree, you may be nervous about investing in equities, especially given the stock market's performance last year. How can you stay ahead of inflation without taking on too much risk?

Unquestionably, you'll have to manage your investment portfolio very carefully during your retirement years. But it's important to realize that you do have options. Here are a few suggestions:

- Consider dividend-paying stocks. By doing some research, you can find stocks that have paid — and even increased — dividends for many consecutive years. Obviously, a source of rising income can help you in your battle against inflation — and many dividend-paying stocks

## Writing to the editor ...

The requirements are:

- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence.
- Letters that contain statements that are libelous will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
- Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of for-profit businesses will not be accepted.
- Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
- Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
- "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
- In an effort to keep opinions varied, at times there may be a limit of one letter per person per week.
- We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced. For e-mailed letters, please copy letter as part of the e-mail body and send to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.

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# Reflections of faith

by Rev. Randy Meyers  
Calvary Christian Reformed Church

Some really good stories begin with, "It was a dark and stormy night..." Sometimes that simply means that the sun had set and it was raining. Other times it means that something ominous is about to happen. The writers of the Bible use these same kinds of phrases to let us know what is really going on. In the 24th chapter of Matthew, he tells us that Jesus left the temple and was walking away. Now it could be that Jesus had finished visiting the temple and was returning home. Or Matthew could be saying that Jesus had enough of the organized religion practiced by the Pharisees and teachers of the Law.

This makes sense to me. Jesus had just preached a powerful sermon called the "Seven Woes." In this sermon he accused the religious leaders of missing the main point of life. They were too busy debating the color of bark on a particular tree to notice that they were in the middle of a beautiful forest. Jesus was rightly upset that the distracted leaders were debating the differences between parsley and basil and missing the full course meal that he had set before them.

So Jesus called it quits on them. He said that they could have their religion and temple but in the end it would all be a pile of rubble. Their future would be a tourist destination for some of the major religions of the world. People still

make pilgrimages to see these left over stones from back in the good old religious days. People still grow beards in vain attempts to look like Jesus. People still eat special spices and refrain from other spices choosing to eat like they think Jesus ate. For some people the closest they get to Jesus is going to church on Sunday morning.

I do not think Jesus cares if you look like him or eat like him. I wonder how he feels about the people who merely go to church like those used to go to the temple? Jesus is pretty perceptive. He knows that there are some very bad church members. Jesus also knows that there are some very good people that do not go to church.

James, who many consider to be Jesus' brother, said that the kind of religion that Jesus approves of helps people take care of the needs of the poor and helps them better lives. Jesus and his follower modeled this kind of life. They started small groups of people that shared what little resources they had and encouraged each other to do the right things. Jesus loves these types of communities.

Jesus longs to gather his children into little groups like a hen gathers her chicks. Jesus had this kind of compassion. That does not mean that Jesus was a chicken. Though it might mean we are like baby chickens content to pick for small seeds among the dust and stones. Like the Runaway Bunny's mother who becomes whatever is necessary to reach her baby, Jesus becomes a mother hen to keep us close. To say then that following Jesus is only about the henhouse is to reduce him to feathers and his followers to egg layers. The reality is more like enjoying the farm and the banquet of good food that is available to those who are willing to explore with him!

# Happy Birthday

**JANUARY 21:**  
James Vezino, Mark MacNaughton, Krysta Jankowski, Brooklyn Rinard.

**JANUARY 24:**  
Allan Baird, David Szymczak, Haleigh Timmers, Mackenzie Stiles.

**JANUARY 25:**  
Dave Harding, Molly Doyle, Dean Olin.

**JANUARY 26:**  
Victor Weeks, Steven Uzarski, Kitty Brenk, Andy Nowak, Alex Dommer.

**JANUARY 27:**  
Jacqueline (Bay) Saylor, Brittani Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Nancy Roth, Andrea Dewey.

\*\*\*

*The highest possible stage in moral culture is when we recognize that we ought to control our thoughts.*

- Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)

# Former Lowell resident gets Ledger on the Mississippi River

by Emma Palova

Leaning on the railing at the Lawler Park on the Upper Mississippi River in Wisconsin, Ludek Pala reads his hometown newspaper miles away from home.

"It helps me stay connected with the community," he said. "I really didn't want to leave Lowell."

The paper provides a connection for those who

didn't necessarily want to leave Lowell like Pala. But, due to the economy and the lack of jobs, they were forced to look elsewhere.

So, when Pala found a mould making job in Prairie-

du-Chien on the border of Wisconsin and Iowa a year and a half ago, he had to take it. And, he found out it's a lot colder in Wisconsin than in Michigan, although it's sunnier. During recent wild weather patterns it was -35 in Prairie-du-Chien. Pala could see crystallized air floating around.

When he arrived in the remote corner of the world located at the confluence of Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, first discovered by Father Marquette in 1673, Pala wanted to stay in touch with happenings in Lowell.

Even though life in Prairie-du-Chien and McGregor has a lot of similarities to Lowell, the characters are different, according to Pala. During his stint in both towns, he

has met a lot of interesting people like the sheriff at the Pocket City Pub.

"People are more easy going here," he said.

So, to keep that Lowell connection, he got the subscription from a relative in Lowell. Pala likes everything about the paper, the front page and the pictures. As a former soccer coach, he is an avid reader of the sports section. And like most readers, he likes the Sound Off for its often bitter critique and unfulfilled wishes and desires to have Kentucky Fried Chicken in Lowell.

Being on the move again, Pala will have his address changed, and the paper sent to Milwaukee. So, by now, the paper has

pretty much been following his life's trek.

"I am not going to give up the paper," he said.

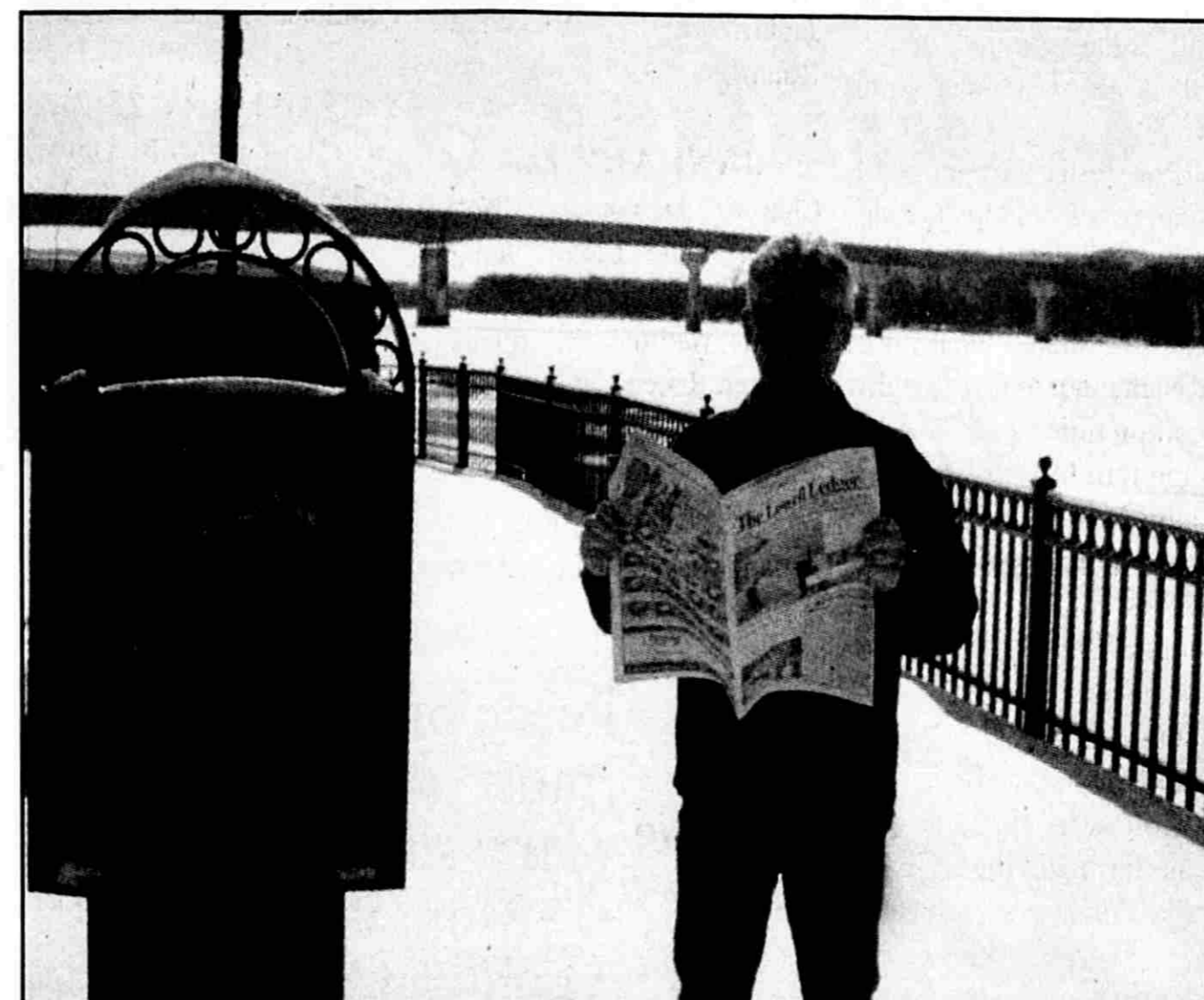
He misses the local gossip and innuendo around town, so reminiscent of small town atmosphere in the Czech Republic.

"It's a lot like back home," he said.

Whenever he comes back to Lowell for a visit, Pala likes to go to Sneakers for a wet burrito and a Two Hearted Ale.

"I'll be back," he promised.

Pala plans on coming back to live in the community he loves for its traditional and neighborly way of life.



Ludek Pala reads the Lowell Ledger on the Mississippi River.

# Humane Society offers low-cost cat and dog neuters through Male Monday Madness Event

The Humane Society of Kent County is offering low-cost neuters for male cats and dogs through its Male Monday Madness event on Feb. 23, March 2, and March 9 at the Humane Society of Kent County, 3077 Wilson Drive NW, Grand Rapids.

In an effort to decrease pet overpopulation, eligible individuals can get their cat neutered for only \$10 and their dog neutered for only \$30. Individuals must fill out an application and be approved to participate in this service.

Applications are available at [www.hskc.org](http://www.hskc.org) or by calling (616) 791-8066. All applications are due Feb. 9. Upon approval individuals will be contacted to schedule an appointment on one of the three dates. On each date Dr. Wendy Swift, Humane Society Veterinary

Medical Director will neuter 40 cats and 10 dogs.

"We took in over 6,000 animals last year and over half of those were not spayed or neutered," said Jennifer Self, Humane Education Coordinator for the Humane Society. "Spaying and neutering your pets is the best solution to reducing pet overpopulation."

Male Monday Madness is a charitable effort funded by the donors of the

Humane Society of Kent County to help pet owners who would otherwise be unable to afford sterilization surgery. The program kicks off next month in honor of the 15th annual Spay Day USA, a national initiative aimed at reducing pet overpopulation. Since Spay Day USA's inception in 1995, participants have altered an estimated 1,386,000 animals. Spay Day USA is Feb. 24.

Founded in 1883, the Humane Society of Kent County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, placement and protection. For more information call (616) 453-8900, visit the Humane Society at 3077 Wilson NW, Grand Rapids, or visit [www.hskc.org](http://www.hskc.org).

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<b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 <a href="http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org">www.goodshepherdlowell.org</a> Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible	<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: <a href="http://www.fbclowell.org">http://www.fbclowell.org</a> Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/EXCITE - TEENS, Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free	<b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr. 9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!	

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a request from Heidi's Farmstand for a major amendment to the Special Use Permit granted in September of 2007. Specifically, the major amendment request is to install a kitchen in the existing Heidi's Farmstand building to process and produce food items, to extend the season of operation to be the months of April to December and to increase the amount of floor area of the building devoted to the sale of non-farm products from 20 percent of the public area of the building to 33.3 percent of the public area.

**LOCATION & ADDRESS: The property is located at 11999 Cascade Road SE which is the northwest corner of Alden Nash Avenue and Cascade Road.**

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009  
TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI 49331

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township  
Planning Commission

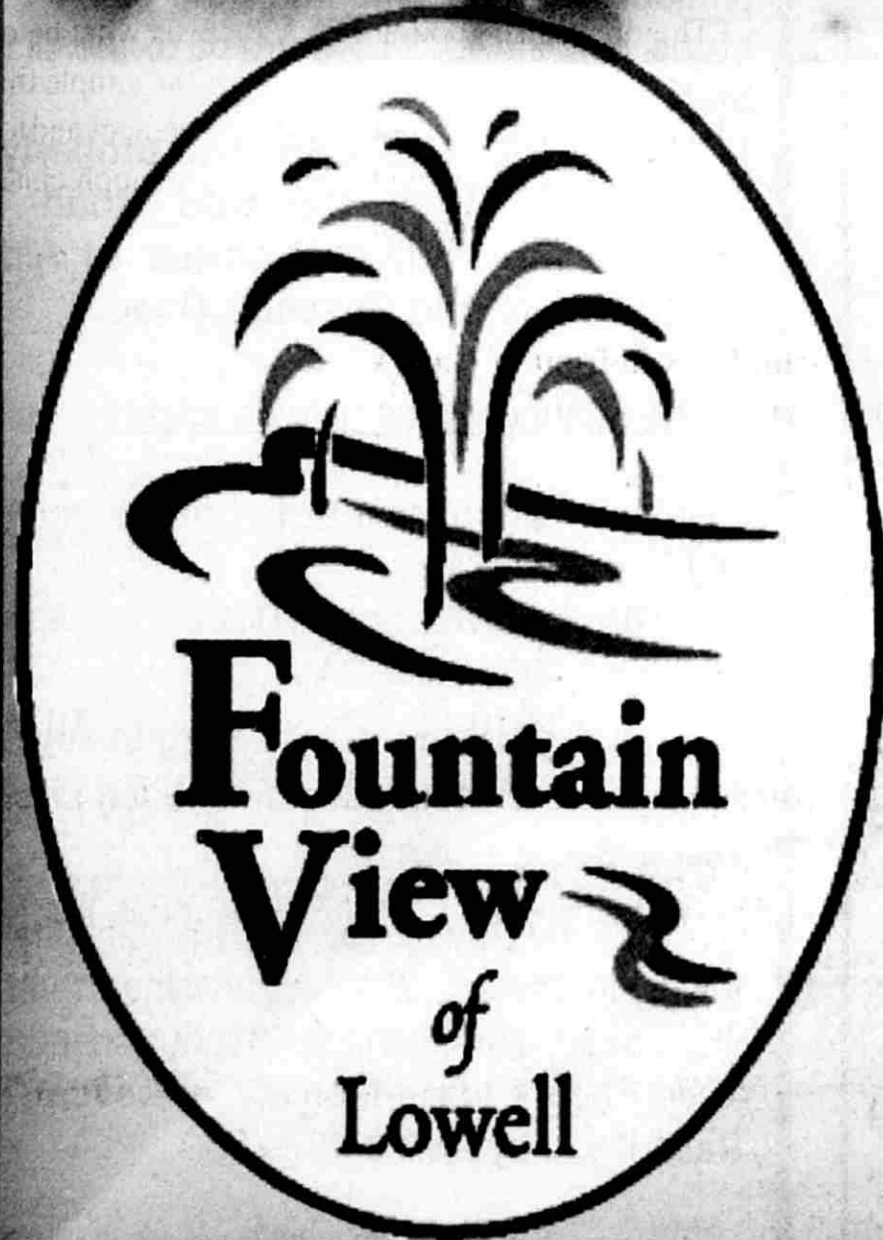


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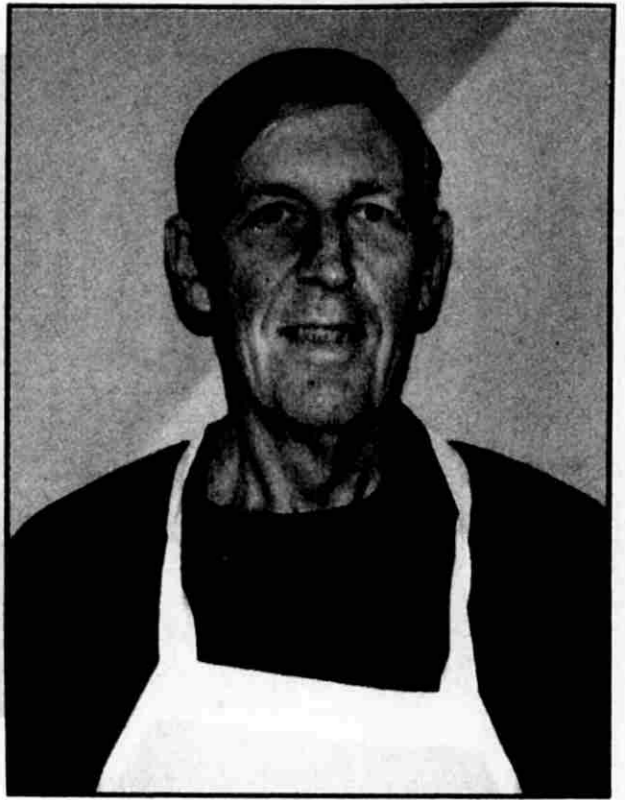
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- GARY LAUX

Position: Owner of Gary's Meats  
Residence: Biggs Road  
Education: Graduated Belding High School - 1959  
Experience: In meat business since 1965  
Family: Wife Donna; children Shanon Richards, Chad, Jodi and Aaron  
Hobbies: Fishing, gardening, activities with grandkids



## Gary's Country Meats thrives on tradition

by Emma Palova

The meat business used to be a lot easier in the good old days of the 60s, when Gary Laux bought the store.

Today, as Laux readies to retire, Gary's Country Meats thrives based on exactly that, good old fashioned service and fresh

products. The store front still has at the top a board with a painted picture of a longhorn, as well as on the window.

And three of Laux's children, Aaron, Chad and Jodi, are involved in day to day operations of the business.

Laux started working part time for a packing plant in Belding, while still in high school. Then he joined the military, came back and worked in Grand Rapids cutting meat.

He bought the store on Main Street in 1965, and today it serves often third

generation customers. The boys started helping out with dishes and cleaning while in high school.

Laux had to learn the ropes from the ground up, since he never owned a business. This included pricing, keeping overhead costs down and expenses low.

In the 60s, it was also easier to work with wholesalers. If there was a problem, such as bruised meat, they would take care of it, according to Laux.

"Today they pass the problem on to you," he said. "It's a lot harder to get credit than it used to be."

Also, the profit structure has changed with a lot of competition around.

"You have to cut back someplace, so you cut wages," he said, "and you wait out the storm until it gets better. Lowell has been a wonderful place, they've been good to me."

With the changing times, the customers have changed as well. Their cooking habits are different, according to Laux. Most customers, nowadays, want already cooked stuff, ready to go.

Also, shopping habits are different in winter than in summer time.

"The biggest obstacle is to make that second stop in winter," said Laux. "Summers are a lot busier."

In winter time, customers have a tendency

to purchase meat for hearty dishes such as pot roast. But, hamburger meat flies both in summer time and winter. Summers also mean good business for steaks, and all grilled meats. Some products like hunter's sausage are a staple at Gary's.

Laux never even thought of getting out of the meat business, that's how much he enjoys it.

"I am happy being here," he said. "I enjoy it. I've always been able to support the family."

And as far as goals, Laux never had a desire to go big. The store has always been a mom and pop operation with honesty as the first priority.

"It's hard work," Laux said, "but if I can't make a living honestly, I wouldn't be here."

To stay competitive in a changing world, Laux still offers the best possible service, fresh quality, well-trimmed meat and lean burgers. Prices are kept at everyday low.

"We just do a better job," he said. "We keep it old fashioned and traditional."

Holidays, of course, are always the busiest times at the shop. So, Laux makes sure there is enough meat for everybody. Prior to Christmas, customers are used to placing orders.

"They're really good at that," he said.

Laux helps out churches, Boy Scouts and the firefighters with chicken

and meat without making profit on it.

The location on Main Street has worked out well for Laux. When the city put in the parking lot in the back of the block a long time ago, the parking situation improved.

And now four decades later, son Aaron, who has worked at the store since high school, will soon take over the business.

"I have some big shoes to fill," he said. "We have a wonderful community backing. We want to keep everything the same."

But Aaron is planning to give the store a facelift, a paint job and general maintenance such as new floor.

"I hope with my brother we can run it as well as my dad," Aaron said. "We want to make it more eye appealing."

Every year, Aaron tries to come up with a new homemade product. Last year, it was teriyaki snack sticks. All the home made products such as the smoky links, beef jerky, snack sticks and hunter's sausage are made in the back of the store in the smoke house.

"Everything is made right here, every week fresh," he said.

Much like his dad, Aaron loves what he does.

"It's the simple things to see smiling faces and to know that you are appreciated," he said.



Chad, Gary, Jodi and Aaron Laux in front of Gary's Country Meats on Main Street.

## "Behind the Scenes"

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You run into them at the downtown merchant stores, industry plants, at the local meat markets or behind the counter at local banks. And they go above and beyond their duties as they get involved in community projects.

We encourage our readers to nominate these people for our upcoming "Behind the Scenes" series.

Email your suggestions to:

ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com (in the subject line put "Behind the Scenes"),

phone in your suggestion at (616) 897-9261 or write to us at:

The Lowell Ledger, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331.







A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM JANUARY 14 - 21 • 2009

- Apple's Steve Jobs takes a leave of absence sending Apple's stock plummeting.
- U.S. Airways Flight 1549 on route from New York's LaGuardia airport to Charlotte, NC is forced to land in the Hudson River when birds apparently foul the engine. Veteran pilot Chesley Sullenberger is

credited in saving all 155 people onboard. By day's end the incident was being dubbed "The Miracle on the Hudson."

• President George W. Bush bids farewell in a speech from the White House. While wishing the incoming president well he warns the nation's greatest challenge is terrorism. "I have followed my conscience and done what I thought was right. You may not agree with some tough decisions I have made. But I hope you can agree that I was willing to make the tough decisions."

• An Alberta Clipper sends an arctic chill across the country with temperatures below zero across the Midwest to the east coast. By week's end the temperatures had reached a balmy 20 degrees.

• Osama Bin Laden comes out with an audio message denouncing Israel's military offensive in Gaza.

• The nation's second-largest electronic store chain, Circuit City goes out of business after over 60 years.

• Iraqi journalist Muntazer al-Zaidi now famous for throwing shoes at President Bush, is seeking asylum and a lawyer in Switzerland.

• The day before his inauguration, (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) President-elect Barack Obama visits a military hospital and an emergency shelter for homeless. He grabbed a paint roller and painted a wall while he appealed to the nation to honor the King through service to others.

"As we honor that legacy, it's not a day just to pause and reflect — it's a day to act," Obama said on King's national holiday. "I ask the American people to turn today's efforts into an ongoing commitment to enriching the lives of others in their communities, their cities, and their country."

• Large crowds thronged to the capital city on the eve of Obama's elevation to the presidency. "Tomorrow, we will come together as one people on the same Mall where Dr. King's dream echoes still," Obama said.

• American artist Andrew Wyeth dies in his sleep at 91.

• Boy George sentenced to 15 months in jail for falsely imprisoning a male escort at his home in 2007.

• Cindy McCain was approached by producers of Dancing With The Stars and apparently was interested but husband John "put the kibosh on it."

• Peanut butter and products containing peanut butter are recalled after a salmonella outbreak was traced to a Peanut Corp., a supplier based in Georgia. More than 470 people have gotten sick in 43 states, and at least 90 had to be hospitalized. At least six deaths are being blamed on the outbreak.

• Detroit Lions hire Tennessee Titans coach Jim Schwartz.

• The nation's largest bank, Citygroup reports a fourth-quarter loss of \$9.83 billion.

• In Indonesia Orangutans are on the verge of extinction because forests are being clear-cut and burned to make way for lucrative palm oil plantations.

• In Sao Paulo, Brazil a church roof collapses and kills nine, injures over 100.

• Barack Obama is sworn in as the nation's 44th president.



## OKAY - Someone Has To Say It ...

by Thad Kraus

Along with being a high school sports junkie, I also consider myself to be a cable news junkie. Quite the life I lead!

I have logged more political and presidential campaign news time than the average television viewer.

Thus, I did not feel I could let this game-changing presidential election come and go without a thought or two even though everything there is to be said I'm sure has already been said.

There are moments that serve as bookmarks to one's journey through life. While many are, some are not necessarily shared by all, but nonetheless captivating, rich, and emotional.

I remember watching the 1972 Rose Bowl as a young boy when NBC broke in with breaking news that a plane carrying supplies to hurricane victims in Nicaragua had crashed. One of the passengers was my baseball hero Roberto Clemente.

I can remember sitting with my father, mother and other family members, watching on a small black and white television screen, Neal Armstrong's walk on the moon.

I can recall most vividly a call I received two days after 9-11, here at the Ledger office, informing me that my father had died.

Most recently, Barack Obama's presidential-elect speech at Grant Park in Chicago.

I remember the hundreds of thousands of onlookers, black, white, Asian, young and old, many of whom were sharing a moment that promised hope in a world filled with too much despair.

I can't recall a time when such high expectations and faith were held for one man with the extraordinary burden of righting so many wrongs.

The truth is one man can't, but greatness befalls on those whose leadership wills the masses to join in the march and who is able to translate enthusiasm into action. That's what lifts a country to a better place.

When was the last time you heard both Republicans and Democrats so excited and hopeful about a nation's choice and its future.

Could it be that they believe his voice is their voice?

That this is the dawn of a new America?

How can that be?

Maybe it's in his actions leading up to the inauguration and the effort he has given to listening to all voices as opposed to his predecessor who seemed to listen to all the wrong voices.

It is a coincidence that in a year where we elected this nation's first black president, it also marks the 45th anniversary of Martin Luther King's most memorable speech. It is also 200 years since the election of Abraham Lincoln. What would Dr. King have thought?

What would Abe have thought?

It's not the first time this great nation has used its vote to change the tide and direction of the country.

Roosevelt, Kennedy, Reagan even Carter, who many felt was in over his head, was elected into office following tenuous times at our nation's capitol.

Having watched and listened to Obama at Grant Park and at the inauguration ceremony of the 44th President of the United States, it's hard to imagine one not being moved and compelled to believe that happy days are ahead and that united "Yes We Can" make a difference.

## Red Arrow SPORTS

### Skaters struggle to find net in losses

by Thad Kraus

Lowell/Caledonia's hockey team found goals tough to come by in losses to Muskegon Reeths Puffer and Forest Hills Northern/Eastern.

In its battle against Reeths Puffer the Red

Arrows were shutout 4-0. Lowell/Caledonia received solid work in the net by goalie Corey Phillips. The Red Arrow stopped 34 of 38 shots on goal.

"The offense started slowly, by game's end was putting pressure on Reeths

Puffer," said Lowell coach Mike Ballard. "We just couldn't find a way to get the puck in the net."

Forest Hills Northern/Eastern jumped on Lowell/Caledonia for two power-play goals in the opening seven minutes as it skated

to a 7-2 win over the Red Arrows.

Lowell/Caledonia peppered Forest Hills' goal tender with 41 shots on goal with two of them finding the back of the net.

Red Arrow goals were

recorded by Brent Steele with an assist to Kevin Vandenberg and Justin Bowyer scored with assists to Joel Morgan and Bill Watson.

Lowell/Caledonia will host Hudsonville on

Saturday at the Kentwood Arena.

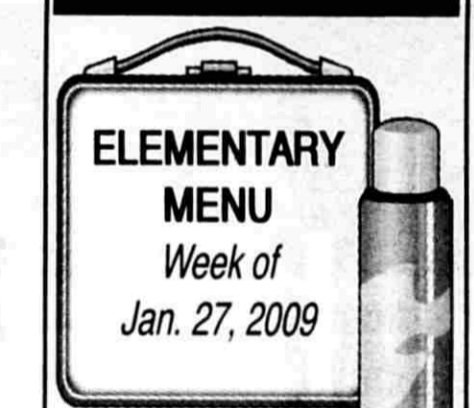
The puck will be dropped at 2 p.m.

### Lowell cheerleaders "Climbing to the top"



With the support of several local businesses, the Lowell varsity competitive cheerleaders presented the first team poster "Climb to the Top" to Grand Volute owner, Kent McKay, who provided both financial support and the elegant "Grand Staircase" backdrop. Other contributors are Envision Engineering, The Garage of Lowell; and Brandon Munnix of Modern Photographics provided the photography. Lowell Competitive Cheer supporters can stop by the Grand Volute to receive a free tour and their copy of the poster. Joining McKay in the picture, from left to right, are cheer captains Alex Herb, Theresa Buist, Kylee Haras and Sydney Burrows.

### LUNCH MENU



**MON:** Hot dog on bun (bagel w/ yogurt & peanut butter also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mini carrots/dip, fresh orange, milk.

**TUES:** Pepperoni pizza (quesadilla w/salsa also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), antipasto salad, pears, milk.

**WED:** Belgian waffles sticks w/syrup or cereal w/ graham crackers & scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, applesauce, milk.

**THURS:** Cheeseburger on bun (salisbury steak w/roll also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), oven French fries, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

**FRI:** Grilled cheese sandwich (turkey & cheese wrap also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tomato soup/crackers, pears, milk.

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BUSINESS SERVICES



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Lowell fell a point short after letting a fourth-quarter lead slip away

by Thad Kraus

What constitutes torture?

For Creston basketball coach Andrace Morris it was watching his club throw away an in-bounds pass with 6.6 seconds remaining and giving Lowell one final shot at winning the game.

For Lowell basketball coach Jeff MacDonald it was watching his club play well for three quarters and watch as it struggled to get a basket when the game was on the line.

"Sometimes what you work on in practice doesn't always come out the way you want it to in games," Morris said.

While the execution may not have been flawless, Morris will take the end result - a 47-46 O-K White win for his Polar Bears.

"Give Creston credit they hit some critical shots," MacDonald explained. "Did we let one get away? Yes! We played well for a long time, but we needed one more rebound, one more

free throw and a score when the game is on the line. We were just unable to get a basket at crunch time."

While some will point to this play or that play toward game's end as the critical point, MacDonald remembered the four missed lay-ups at the beginning of the second half.

"We had a chance, but it's disappointing to lose an 11-point lead," MacDonald explained.

Yes, the Red Arrows led 36-25 heading into the final eight minutes of play at home. That's usually a recipe for victory. Creston, however, mixed in a trio of threes in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter ruining any home cooking.

The Polar Bears 13-5 runcut the Lowell advantage to three at 41-38. A three-point play by Lowell's Mitch Malling appeared to stem the Creston tide, giving the Red Arrows a 44-38 advantage with 3:17 to play. Instead, it spurred another Polar Bear attack.

The visitors behind the inside play of Garrett Hoskins and the perimeter play of Deon Jobe netted nine unanswered points to take a 47-44 lead.

Trailing by three Malling scored on a driving lay-up with 6.6 seconds to

play, cutting the Creston lead to one at 47-46. The Polar Bears threw the ball away on the ensuing in-bounds pass, setting up one final opportunity for a Red Arrow win. Lowell's shot fell short.

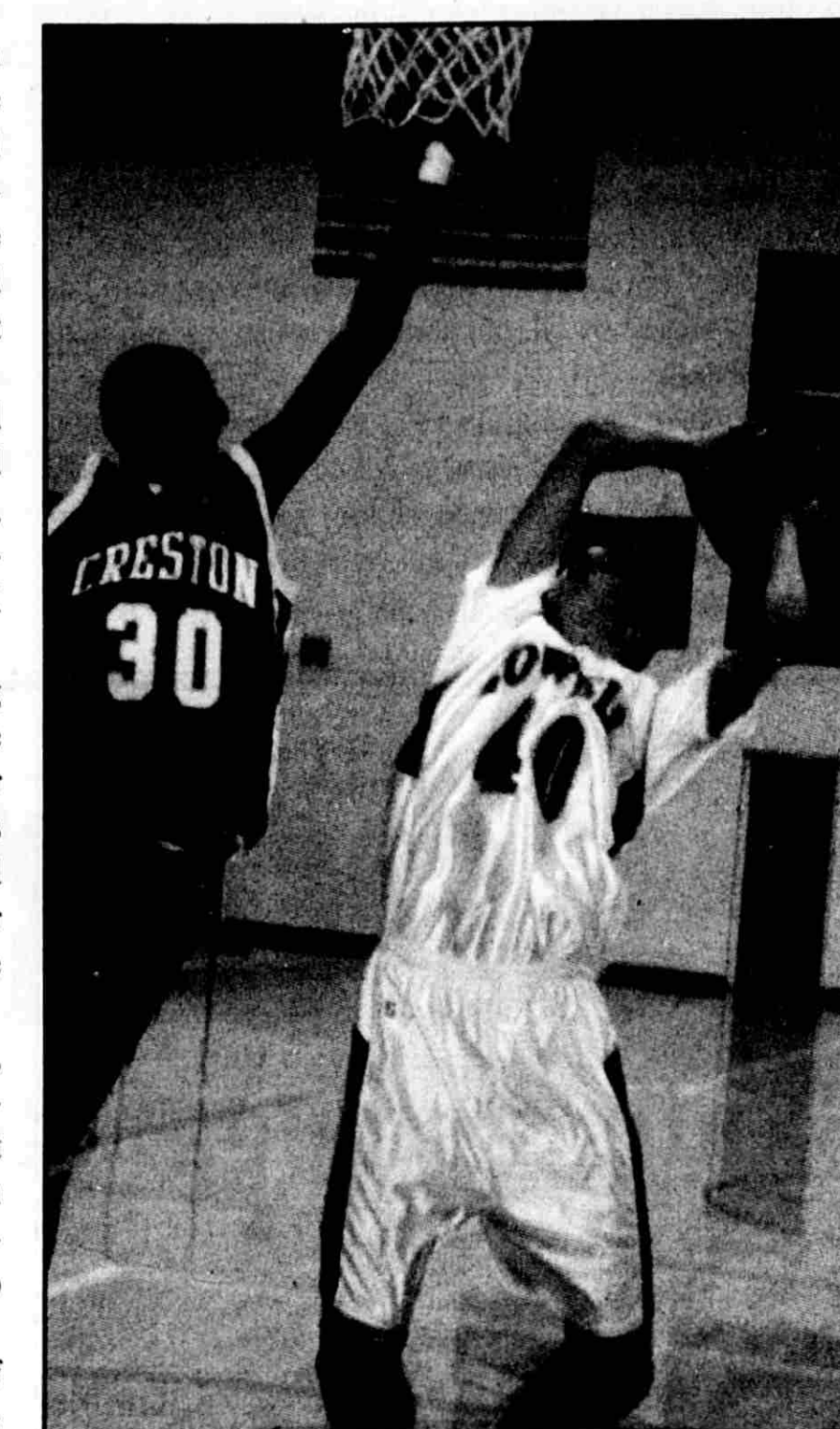
The loss dropped Lowell to 3-4 overall and 1-2 in league play. Creston, with the win, improves to 3-3 overall and 2-1 in the O-K White.

"We're just struggling to get easy baskets. We're having to manufacture our points. None of our baskets are easy ones," MacDonald said. "Too much of our offense is coming from the perimeter."

On Monday night, Lowell saw a six-point half-time lead and a one-point lead going into the fourth quarter slip away in a 60-54 non-conference loss to Holland.

"Holland has some of the best personnel we've seen all year," MacDonald said. "It came down to us not being able to guard their big post player, Josh Weatherspoon. They scored some big baskets late and we were unable to score in crunch time."

The Dutch were led in scoring by Adam Israels with 14 points. Ryan Meussen

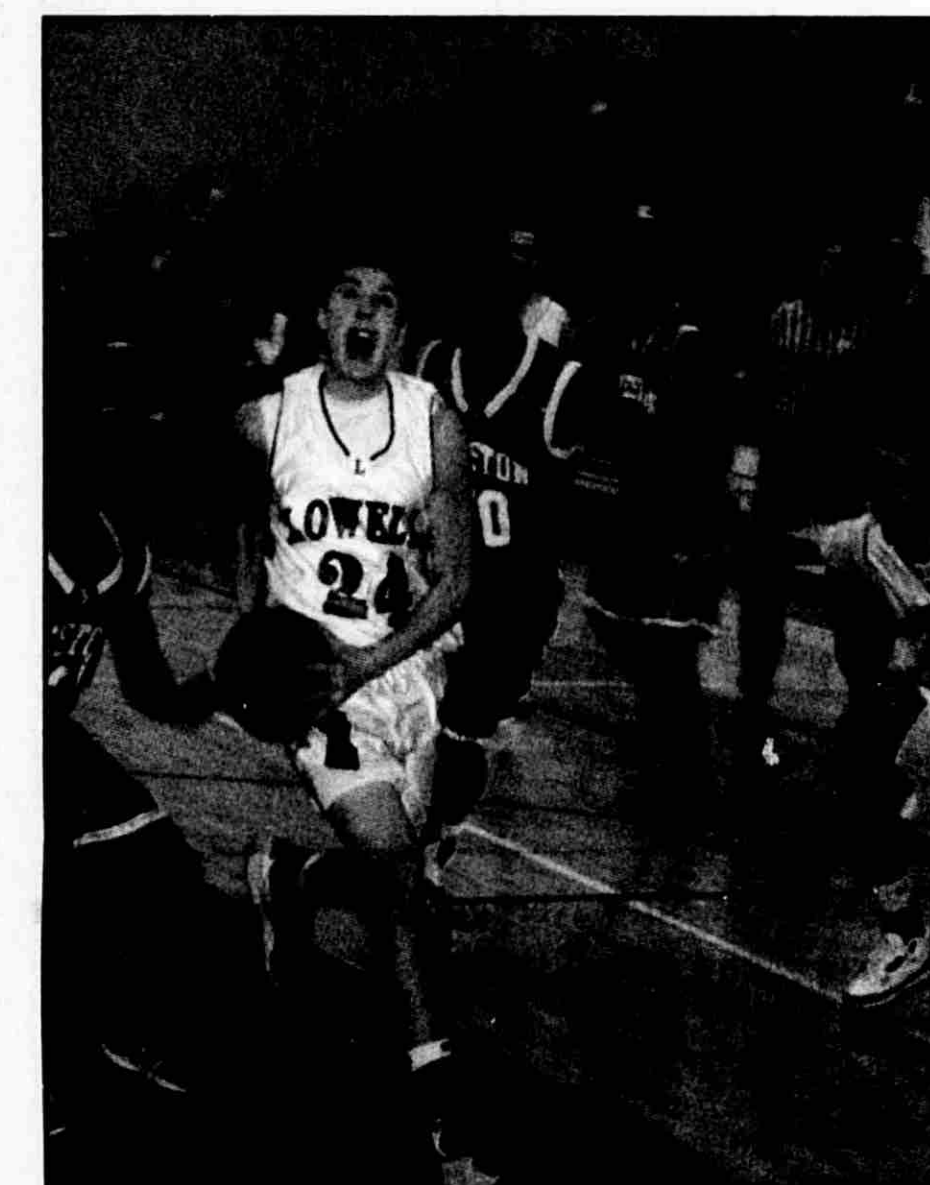


Lowell's Mitch Malling puts up a fade-away jumper in the lane against his Creston defender.

and Weatherspoon added 13 and 12 points respectively.

Lowell was led in scoring by senior Tim Hettinga with 23 points. Isaac Tawney netted 13 and

Daniel Lane added 10. Scoring Correction: Lowell lost 38-35 to Mona Shores. That's by a total of three points not 20.



Isaac Tawney netted 13 points in Lowell's one-point loss to Creston.

## Eagles defense quells Lowell's offensive output

by Thad Kraus

The Eagles of Grand Rapids Christian displayed that vividly Friday night in its 42-27 win over Lowell in an O-K White girls basketball confrontation.

Christian came out of the gate playing defense as it held Lowell to just two first-quarter points and eight first-half points.

"They had great help-side defense," Lowell girls basketball coach Dani Gallert said. "They are all in the paint and they are all in your face. Our girls were not quite ready for it."

The 27-point Lowell output was the lowest this season for the Red Arrows.

"We just couldn't buy a basket," Gallert said. "The

first quarter really hurt us. We only scored one basket. It is hard to come back from that much of a deficit." Lowell did not score until the 1:30 mark of the first quarter.

The Eagles forced six Lowell turnovers in the opening eight minutes.

Offensively, Lowell

faired better in the second half. The Red Arrows were outscored 22-19 over the final 16 minutes.

"I was pleased with how we played," said Grand Rapids Christian coach Al VanDenBosch. "We want to establish our identity on the defensive end. I thought our girls did that tonight."

Logan DeClercq led all Lowell scorers with eight points. Kara Rasch tallied five.

Julia Hibrands led all scorers for Grand Rapids Christian with 13 points.

"Defensively I thought the girls played alright, but we seemed to lose sight of either the ball

or the player they were defending," said Gallert. "I was also disappointed with the number of offensive rebounds we allowed."

The loss drops Lowell to 5-5 overall and 2-1 in the O-K White.

The Eagles improved to 10-1 overall and 2-1 in league play.

## Arrow wrestlers approach potential in win over Lakeshore

by Thad Kraus

For a third straight year and sixth in 11 years, Lowell won the Gary Rivers Memorial Wrestling Tournament.

Saturday may have been its most impressive performance yet. The Red Arrows took the fight to the fourth ranked team in Division II as Lowell handed Stevensville-Lakeshore's Lancers a 52-14 drubbing.

"We've wrestled some easy competition and that

hurt us against Lowell today," said Lakeshore coach Bruce Bittenbender. "These guys (Lowell) are tough. You have to do things right and we didn't do things right and Lowell put it to us."

If Lowell put it to the Lancers, Lakeshore's coach said Allendale (ranked fifth in Division III) may have drained some of its energy from the Lancers' tank in the semi-finals.

"We may have been a

little tired from the Allendale match in the semi finals. That's a real good wrestling team," Bittenbender explained.

Lowell's total team effort included wins in 11 of the 14 weight classes and six of those victories were via the pin.

"Today, we saw the potential of a young team that believes in itself," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean. "A performance like this against the third or

fourth best team in the state - that's real."

There were obvious concerns and respect coming in for the competition that is Lakeshore wrestling. There was another obvious concern even before the Red Arrows hit the mat on Saturday.

"The boys really got up for Wednesday night's scheduled match with Greenville. Having that match canceled was like having the rug pulled out from underneath them,"

Dean explained. "I talked to the boys the last couple of days about getting our focus back to the task (this tournament)."

It may have taken Lowell a few rounds to hone in its focus, but all Red Arrows were locked in for its championship match. If it wasn't, Lakeshore's 11-0 lead after the opening two matches was all the realigning needed.

Lowell strung together five consecutive wins from

119 through 140 pounds. "We just got on a roll and had guys come forth with some big wins," Dean said.

Ty Jack (119) post a pin at 2:45 of the second round. Gabe Morse (125) followed with a 3-1 decision, cutting the deficit to two (11-9). Dan Fleet (130) propelled the Red Arrows into the lead (15-11) with a pin at 1:12 of the first period.

Wrestling, cont'd., pg. 13

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Comfort brings progress as gymnasts land first win

by Thad Kraus

Having stumbled a little out of the gate, Lowell's gymnastics team found their legs and their confidence.

The Red Arrows opened the home part of their schedule Monday night with a convincing 127-110.55 win over Portage.

"The two meets following the Rockford Tournament have been significantly better," Lowell gymnastics coach Skye Fisher said. "The girls showed lots of improvement."

The advancement of

their skill was most evident on the beam.

"The girls had fewer falls and displayed a higher level of comfort on the beam," Fisher said.

Junior Kelsey Teft recorded team-leading 9.05 marks both on the balance beam and in the floor exercise.

Teft also led all Lowell gymnasts on the vault, landing a score of 8.675.

Richelle Kimble took top honors on the uneven bars with an 8.4.

"Overall it was a good meet," Fisher said.

It marked the second consecutive meet where the Red Arrows have posted a regional-qualifying score.

### Team Results:

#### Vault

Sarah Piell 7.6  
Andrea Coffey 7.9  
Richelle Kimble 8.6  
Kelsey Teft 8.67

#### Uneven Bars

Sarah Piell 5.1  
Andrea Coffey 7.1  
Kelsey Teft 7.9  
Richelle Kimble 8.4

#### Balance Beam

Cassie Miles 7.0

Andrea Coffey 8.0  
Kimble 8.675  
Teft 9.05

#### Floor

Piell 6.7  
Coffey 8.5  
Kimble 8.75  
Teft 9.05

Lowell was on the short end of a 130.7-119.45 score to Forest Hills.

#### Vault

Sarah Piell 7.6  
Andrea Coffey 7.9  
Richelle Kimble 8.6  
Kelsey Teft 8.75

#### Uneven Bars

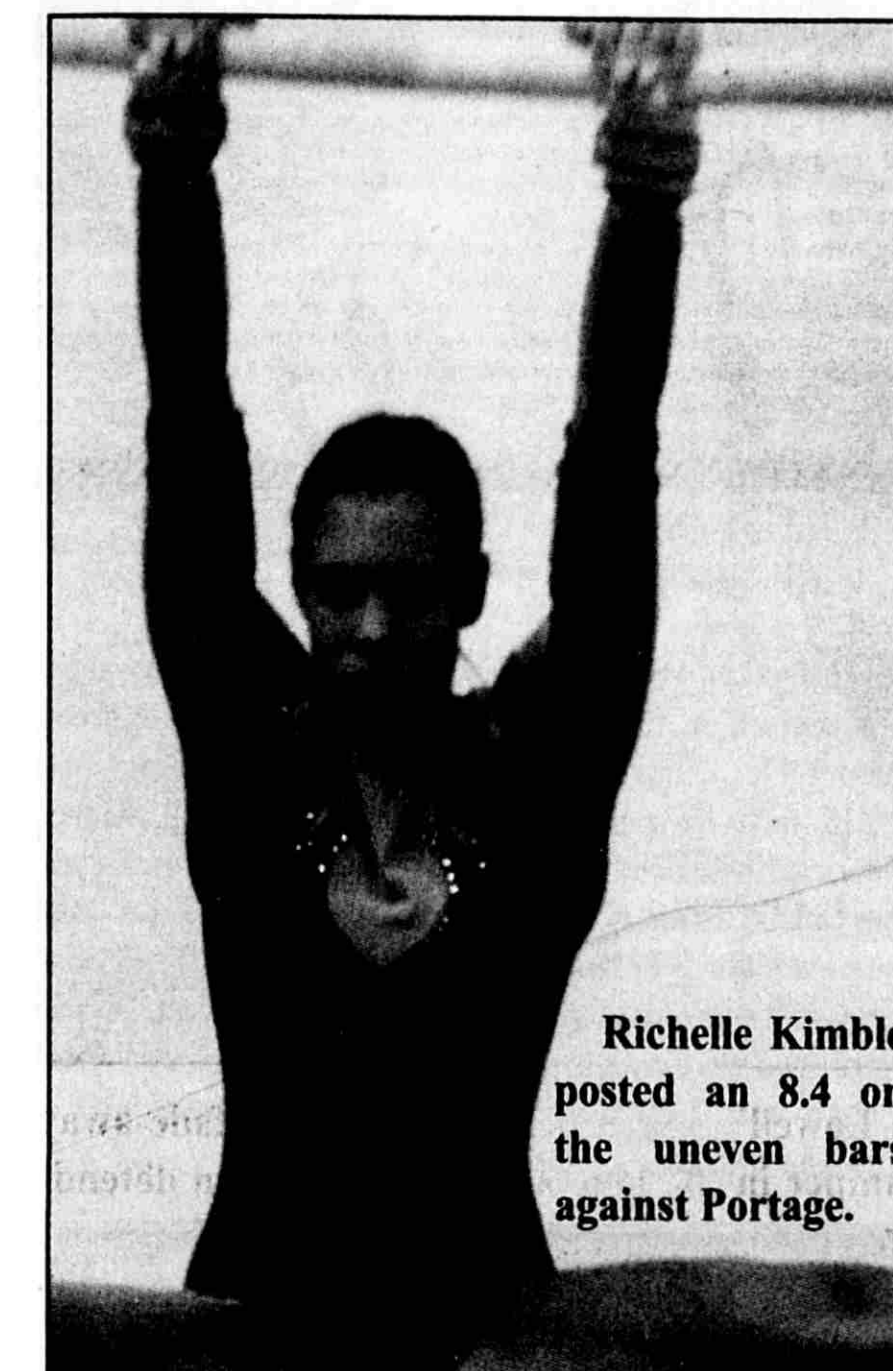
Piell 4.3  
Coffey 7.3  
Teft 7.75  
Kimble 8.25

#### Balance Beam

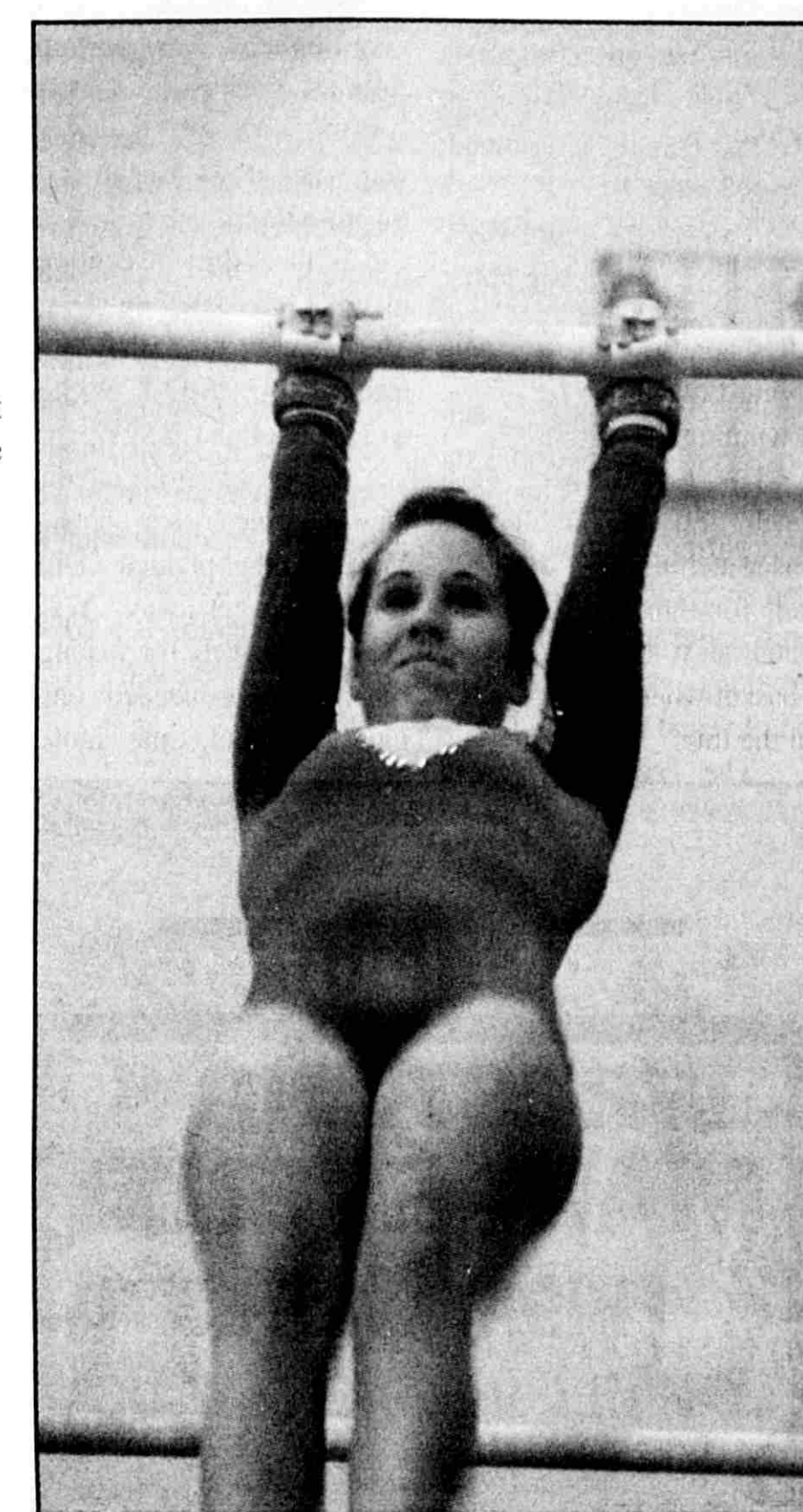
Emma Bencker 5.0  
Cassie Miles 6.4  
Kimble 8.35  
Teft 8.95

#### Floor

Miles 6.7  
Piell 7.2  
Kimble 8.2  
Teft 8.45.



Richelle Kimble posted an 8.4 on the uneven bars against Portage.



Andrea Coffey averaged a 7.2 in meets against Portage and Forest Hills.

## Wrestling, continued ... From Page 12

Andrew Morse (135) extended the advantage to 10 (21-11) with a pin at 39 seconds of the first period. The 25-0 run continued with Ryan Dean's 18-7 win at 140 pounds, giving Lowell a 25-11 lead.

The Red Arrow streak was interrupted briefly at 145 pounds when Rocky Pabon dropped a 12-5 decision to Nick Humes.

Lowell, then, ran out the string, winning the final six matches of the day. Jackson

Morse recorded a pin in 2:29 of the second period at 152 pounds. Tim Gingerich (160) followed with a 10-4 decision, giving Lowell a commanding 34-14 lead.

The final four matches of the day saw Gabe Dean (171) win 4-2; Keith Williams (189) earn a 6-2 decision; Ryan Olep (215) post a pin at 3:05 of the second period; and Connor Kruse (HWT) pinned his counterpart in 2:33 of the second period.

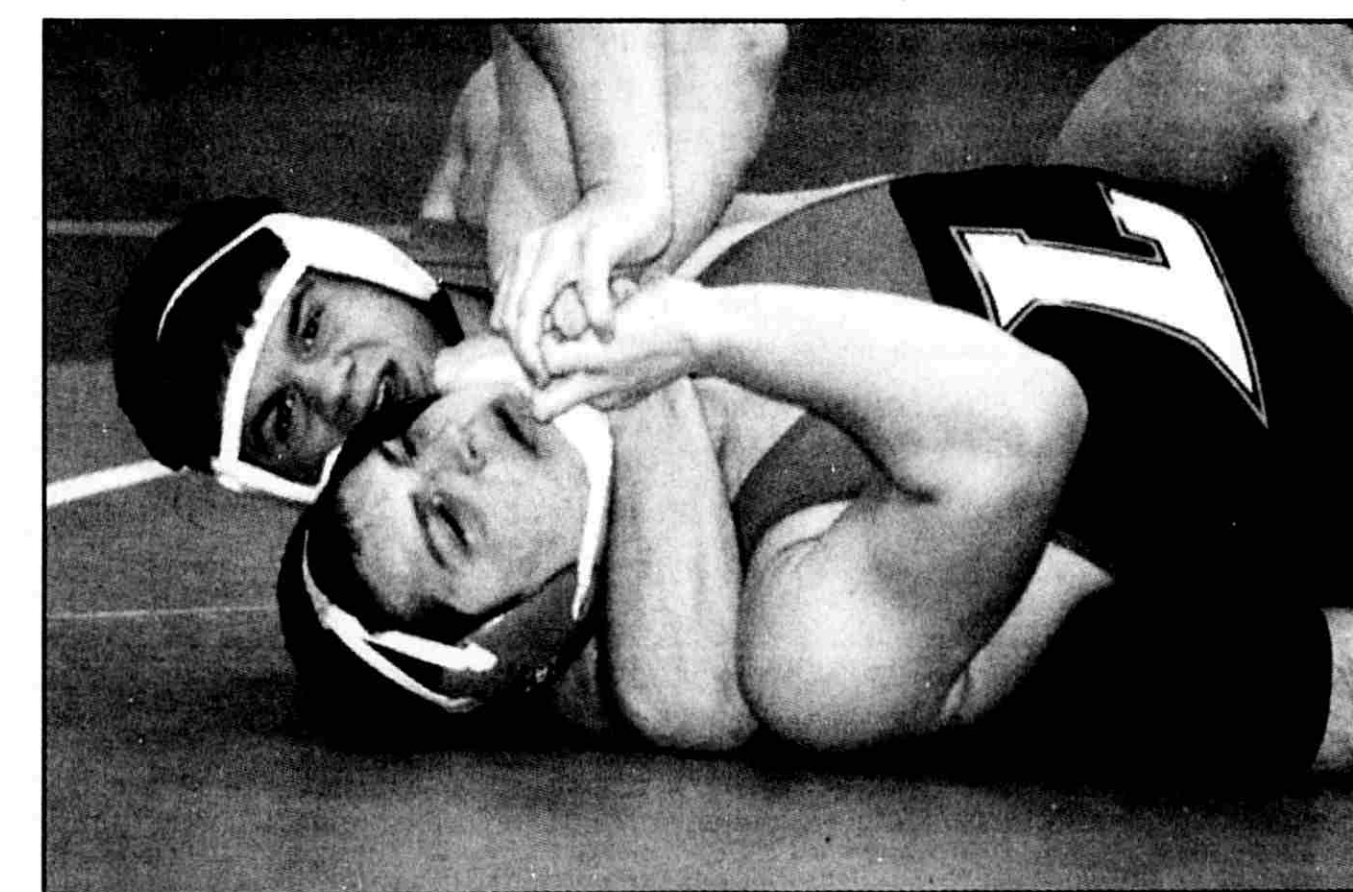
"Both Gabes (Morse and Dean) continue to work hard and get better," Dean said. Keith (Williams) wrestled tough for us today and Tim Gingerich is this club's inspirational leader. I love that kid's work ethic and leadership."

Lowell will see Lakeshore again on Saturday at the Lakeshore Super Duals. Other participants will include Mason and

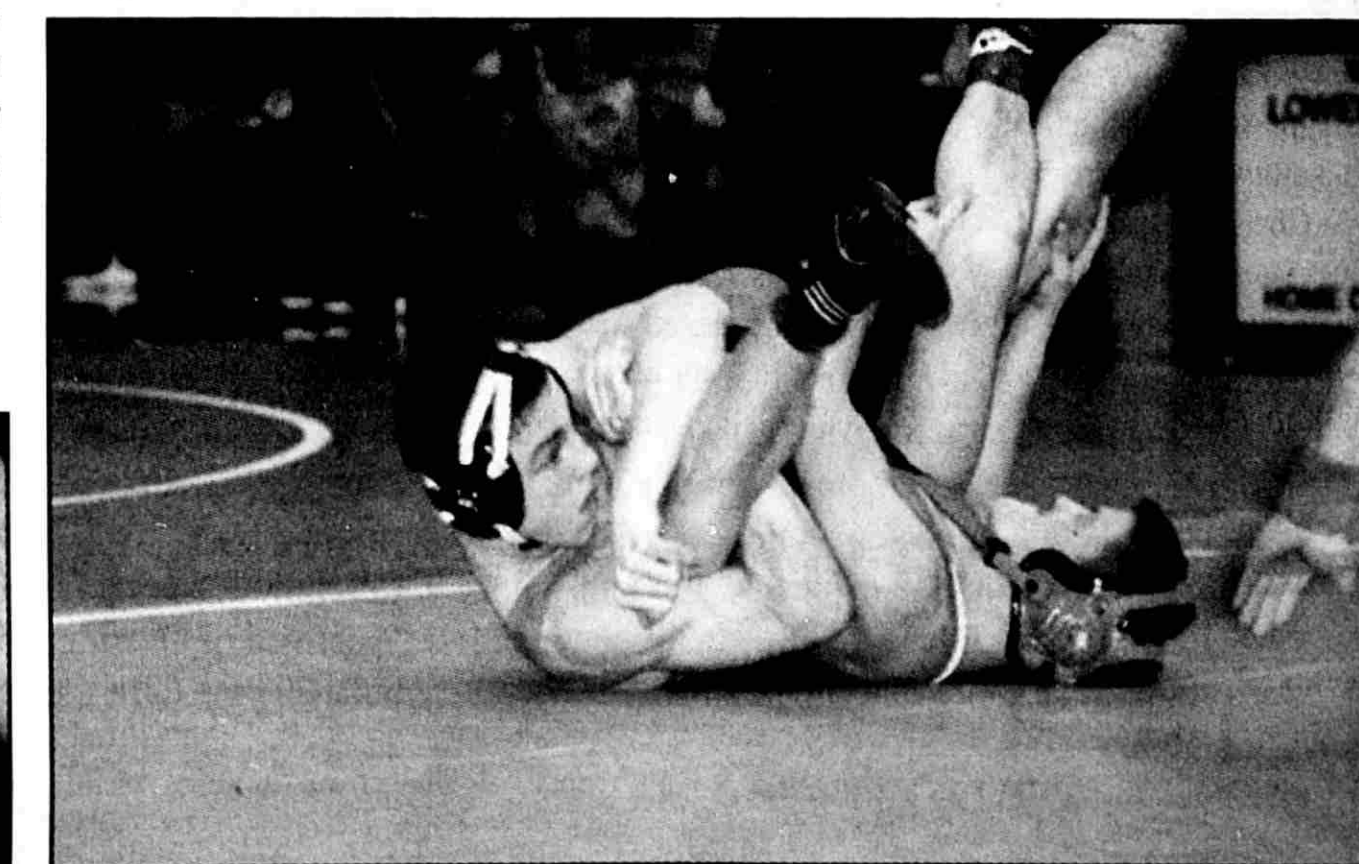
Rockford. Prior to that both schools will entertain Indiana's top ranked Mishawaka Cavemen. Lakeshore wrestles Mishawaka on Wednesday and Lowell is scheduled to wrestle the Cavemen on Friday.

"I'm going to get on line and check the weather forecast," Dean chuckled. The two teams were scheduled to wrestle earlier in the year but inclement weather interrupted those plans. It was then rescheduled

but a scheduling conflict mixed those wishes. The two schools will try again for a third time. Varsity is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. with junior varsity starting at 5:30.



Ryan Olep delivered a pin at 215 pounds in 3:05 of the second period.



Andrew Morse catches his opponent in a match-ending spladle.

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



## In The Service

Navy Seaman Apprentice Otto B. McNaughton, son of Elizabeth A. McNaughton and Otto B. McNaughton of Lowell, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, McNaughton completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

McNaughton is a 2008 graduate of Lowell High School.

## Sound Off

The Ledger  
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THE ECONOMY	24%
IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN	53%
HIS PRESIDENCY	
HAD NO FAILURES	18%

Be sure and vote online at [www.lowellbuyersguide.com](http://www.lowellbuyersguide.com) and participate this week!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Sound Off" comments, but would like to remind readers of the nature of the column. "Sound Off" is meant to be a community notice board, a means for comments that can be regarded as helpful, congratulatory, thankful and informational. We will not print any comments that are offensive or libelous. Direct aims at individuals, political figures and businesses will not be printed. For direct opinions on a subject (including, but not limited to, politics, businesses, city government and Ledger criticisms), please send a letter "To the Editor". All letters must be signed (first and last names). All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger.

## A Valentine's Day tip

Roses and chocolates, hearts and flowers. You're all set to impress the one you love on Valentine's Day. Now if you could just do something about your car. Don't worry. Here's a way you can impress your sweetheart even with a clunker: Donate your used car to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Kidney Cars Program. The money raised will benefit prevention programs and patient services for people in Michigan with kidney disease. Your generosity is bound to put you right back in the driver's seat for some extra affection. You may also find yourself in the express lane for a tax deduction.

In fact, 84 percent of Americans who donated cars, vans, trucks or boats to the National Kidney Foundation last year itemized their tax returns and were able to reap a charitable deduction for their contribution.

So what are you waiting for? Get rid of that extra car that's just gathering rust. Call the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Kidney Cars line at 800-488-CARS (2277) or visit their website at [www.kidneycars.org](http://www.kidneycars.org) for more information or to donate.

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## LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of January 12, 2009

### Reports

- Hannah Oberlin, Acting Student Representative, provided an update on high school and student council activities.
- Mr. Zielinski provided a general fund budget amendment report.

### School Board Recognition

- Superintendent Pratt announced that January is School Board Recognition Month in Michigan and acknowledged the Lowell Board of Education for their service and for being tireless advocates for kids. Superintendent Pratt expressed gratitude to the Lowell Board of Education for their continued dedication to the entire school community.

### Action Items

- Accepted the following gifts to the district:
  - Couch valued at \$250.00 and Microwave valued at \$50.00, donated by Robert Garcia to the Wittenbach-Wege Environmental Center
  - 140 computers valued at \$13,538.00, donated by Altico Inc.
- Approved 2008/2009 General Fund Budget Amendment
- Approved the purchase of three (3) school buses from Capital City International

### Consent Items Approved

- Minutes for the December 8, 2008 Regular Meeting.

- The following payment of bills for December, 2008:
  - GENERAL FUND.....\$1,119,409.58
  - SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
    - Food Service Fund.....\$63,983.36
    - Athletic Fund.....\$5,385.30
  - TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....\$45,275.40
  - 2007 CONSTRUCTION FUND.....\$457,134.38
 TOTAL EXPENDITURES:.....\$1,696,187.92
- Personnel - Extended Leave Request
- Approval of 2008/2009 Great Start Readiness Resolution
- Approval of Overnight Student Trip to Aman Park Indian Trails Camp, Grand Rapids, MI - May 20-22, 2009

### Budget Update

Mr. Zielinski summarized the budget status reports for the month of December. Mr. Zielinski added that he and Superintendent Pratt will begin initial discussions with legal counsel regarding the non-homestead millage election in May.

### Curriculum Update

Mr. Bearup informed the Board that the district has yet to receive MEAP results from the state and is planning to present MEAP information to the Board in February or March. Mr. Bearup stated that the Department of Education is asking for agreement

from school districts in order for specific reports to be returned to them on paper, and other ancillary reports provided electronically. This initiative is the "Green Plan" intended for cost-saving measures. Mr. Bearup summarized continuing district technology initiatives including differentiation through technology, i-Google and RSS feeds training. Mr. Bearup noted that Education Yes! performance indicators for each building are due February 17 and will serve as a portion of the letter grade given to school districts. Mr. Bearup noted that the representatives from the Office of School Improvement will conduct an on-site review in May to examine the district's consolidated grant programs.

### Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pratt commented that January and February are intense months as it pertains to teaching and learning, and commended the Board and staff for their continued focus on student success. Superintendent Pratt noted that school districts will be faced with difficult financial decisions in 2009 due to the economic hardships that exist in Michigan. Superintendent Pratt informed the Board that community forums are being established and will have discussions focused on the state aid bill and it's effect on Young Fives programming.

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**CLASSIFIEDS ARE NOW ON OUR WEBSITE ALSO** - [www.lowellbuyersguide.com](http://www.lowellbuyersguide.com).

**KEY CARDS ARE HERE!** - Help support the Lowell Academic Boosters. Key Cards are \$15. They make the perfect gift! Cash please. Available at the Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**AIR BEDS** - Final close out of 2008 models. Select a comfort firmness for each of you. All new. Why pay double at the mall?? Air Bed Store, 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

**SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE** - We cannot accept hazardous materials or firearms. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! We will need weight, zip code & dimensions for a price quote over the phone. 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261. Please note we can no longer accept prepaid packages unless they have ARS or RS on the label.

**WEDDING INVITATIONS** - We offer Carlson Craft wedding invitations! Stop by & check out a book today! Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, 897-9261.

**NEW PRICE!** - 3 bedroom home with many updates such as a newer roof, furnace, flooring and more! Home sits on over 1/2 an acre with a 2 stall garage! Lowell Schools! No kidding! Just \$94,900! Call Melinda Robison at 616-648-0151 or visit [www.GoMelinda.com](http://www.GoMelinda.com) Five Star Real Estate 791-1500.

**MOVIE/FAMILY NIGHT** - at the Saranac Public Library Tues., Jan. 20, 6:30 p.m.

## The Lowell Ledger CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE AN AD  
In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell  
By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331  
By Phone: 616-897-9261

Classified ad rates:  
20 words...\$4  
each additional word 10¢  
Bold \$1 each or Box \$2 each

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

**CLASSIFIEDS NOW POSTED ONLINE!**  
[www.lowellbuyersguide.com](http://www.lowellbuyersguide.com)

## EVENTS

**DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP** - Tues., 7 p.m. at Elmdale Church, located just 3.3 miles E. of M-50 on 64th St. Phone 868-7690 & leave a message if interested or if you would like to meet at another time or location.

**KEEP IT SIMPLE ADDICTIONS SUPPORT GROUP** - Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Raya building, Contact Charlene, 897-7636 or Carrie, 897-7303 for more info.

**QUARTER BINGO** - 2nd Thurs. of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a quarter. 50% payback w/100% payback hourly specials. Open to the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388.

**GOSPELMEN IN CONCERT!** - Sun., Jan. 18, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. First Baptist Church, 2275 W. Main, Lowell.

**EVERY SUNDAY** - Tri-Town Conservation Club breakfast. 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. \$6 for adults, \$4 for children. 5615 Dunn Road, Grattan.

**"WHY IS MY CHILD STRUGGLING?" INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP** - Fri., Jan. 30, 6 - 8 p.m. Workshop on sensory integration irregularities, as it affects our daily lives. The Hammock, LLC Therapy-Wellness Center, Sarah 616-893-5661.

**BINGO** - Every Sunday, 2 p.m. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388. Open to the public.

**MOVIE/FAMILY NIGHT** - at the Saranac Public Library Tues., Jan. 20, 6:30 p.m.

## HELP WANTED SERVICES

**NOW HIRING** - and training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576 or 616-974-4250.

**GOVERNMENT JOBS** - \$13.64 - \$29.45/hr. Now hiring. Many positions available. For application & government job info, call American Assoc. of Labor, 1-913-599-8290, 24 hrs. emp. serv.

**EARN \$1000 - \$3200 a month** to drive new cars with ads. [www.YouDriveCars.com](http://www.YouDriveCars.com)

**HELP US DELIVER THE PAPER...please DIG OUT** around your newspaper tube, mailbox, steps, walkways & porches!

The U.S. Mail carriers and the folks who deliver your Buyers Guide would appreciate your help! Let's all try to HELP EACH OTHER survive the Winter.

**PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE** - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.

**COPIES COPIES COPIES** - Color & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

**HAVING CHALLENGES** - with attention and focus, hyperactivity, anxiety, or being disorganized? Call Sarah at The Hammock LLC for info on non-medical options 616-893-5661.

**LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE** - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**HANDY REPAIR SERVICE** - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, plumbing, electrical, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.

**HOT TUB SERVICE** - Every make & model, covers, supplies, maintenance. Call the HotwaterDr. 616-874-3385 or contact hotwaterdr.com.

**ALTO DAYCARE HAS 2 OPENINGS** - planned weekly art activities, fenced-in backyard, accepts DHS payments. Call 868-0752.

**EQUINE FACILITY FOR LEASE** - Great opportunity for self employment for experienced equine career person. Fully equipped. Some existing boarders. Located between Ada & Lowell. Owner retiring. Serious inquiries can reply to [lynnecarol32@gmail.com](mailto:lynnecarol32@gmail.com) or 897-2954.

**DUCK DUCK GOOS DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS!** - Licensed, loving, learning enriched environment that is fun for your little person. Structured activities include art, music, stories, early math & science experiences & early language & literacy development. Call 897-9444.

**PAINTING - DRYWALL FINISHING** - 28 years experience, local references. Slow time of year gets the best pricing. Spring is right around the corner (The Painters) 616-340-6221.

**ART GALLERY and CUSTOM FRAMING** - Fire and Water Art! 219 W. Main St., Lowell. Open Wednesday thru Sunday. 890-1879.

**LICENSED DAYCARE, LOWELL** - Part-time W/TH/F, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., 3 openings. Focus on good nutrition, fun & learning. Bus stops nearby, planned activities, CPR/First Aid. Rachel, 616-257-6612.

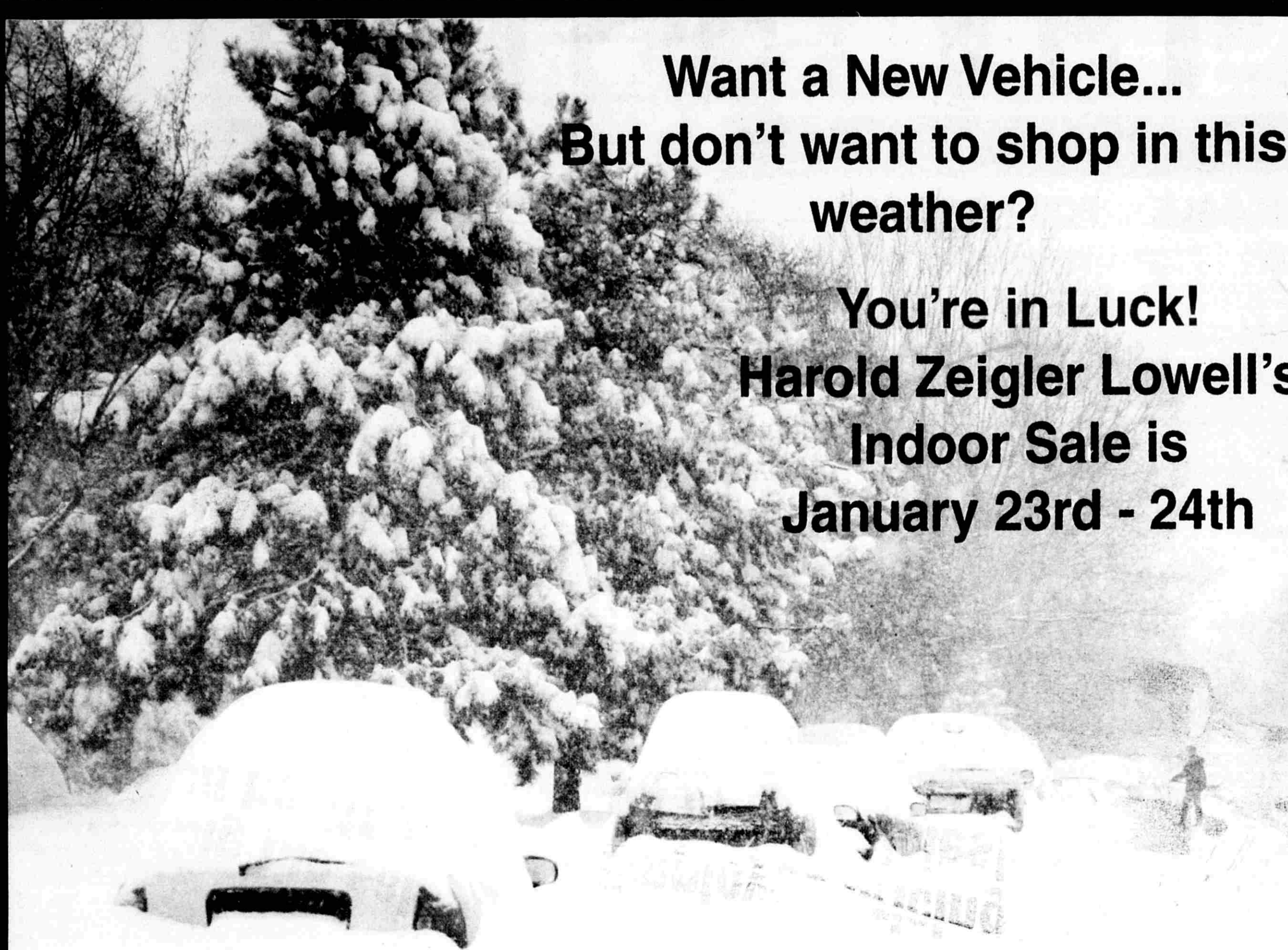
**GUITAR LESSONS** - Lowell & Surrounding area. AJ Dunning "The Verve Pipe" guitarist, now accepting students for beginning & intermediate lessons. 20+ years teaching experience. All styles and ages welcome, excellent references available. Rates are \$20/half hour for a block of five, or \$30/half hour booked individually. Call 616-897-6348 for more info.

**GENERAL HOME HELP - Assistance with personal care, housekeeping, meals, nutrition, exercise, pet sitting, snow removal - snow blower. Previous training & experience in Nursing Assistant, Home Health Aide, Adult Foster Care. Call Margie Rash 581-1059.**

**BUSINESS CARDS** - For as little as \$28 for 250. (white card, black ink). Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

**WEDDING INVITATIONS** Available at Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway. Stop by & check out one of our books for the weekend. Wide variety of invitations & prices. Ph. 897-9261





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But don't want to shop in this  
weather?**

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Harold Zeigler Lowell's  
Indoor Sale is  
January 23rd - 24th**

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**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 • 9 AM - 6 PM**

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