

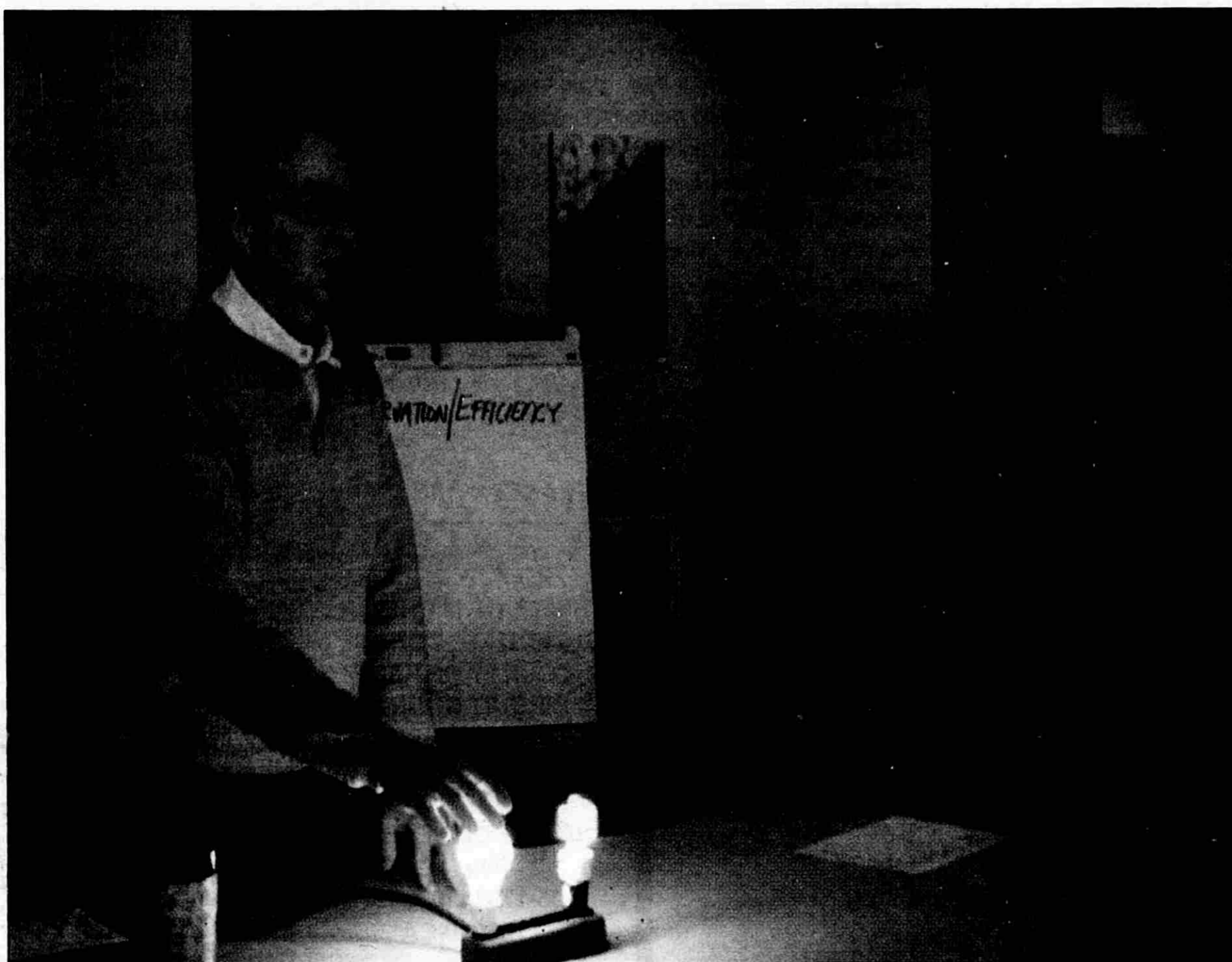
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 38 Issue 9

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Workshop addresses need for changing habits and offers tips on conserving energy



Jim White demonstrates the difference between traditional bulb and a compact fluorescent one.

by Emma Palova

The second workshop on energy conservation held at the Chamber of Commerce last week outlined tips for cost savings over an extended period of time.

Jim White, consultant for Lowell Area Schools, explained the entire effort to save on energy is a matter of changing habits.

He stressed the need for conservation and efficiency in order to achieve cost savings.

"Conservation is using less energy," he said, "efficiency is doing things better or something new."

Over the last four years, the LAS district has saved two million implementing conservation and efficiency methods.

The electric consump-

tion was cut by 45 percent, gas consumption by 32 percent and water consumption by 26 percent.

"Otherwise the district would have to cut somewhere else," said White.

Part of the conservation effort is just simply turning things off when you don't need them. That means everything from computers to lights.

"Technology requires electricity at some point," he said. "Turn off your computers and unplug your copiers."

Lights too should be turned off if leaving a room for more than five seconds.

Regular light bulbs should be replaced with compact fluorescent lights which are four times as efficient.

Saving energy, cont'd., pg. 3

Traveling exhibit showcases the evolution of transportation

by Emma Palova

Even some old timers native to Lowell, do not know what a Cutter was. There's not that many left around. One is permanently stationed at the Lowell Area Historical Museum, ready to give a ride to those brave enough to rough the weather.

"That's not fair," said long time Lowell resident Scott Kooistra.

When challenged about what an original Cutter was, Kooistra, like many others was surprised to find out it was a sleigh, pulled by a horse named after the local Cutter Factory. The Cutter Factory was located in today's Superior Furniture on East Main Street.

That is the purpose of the new traveling exhibit now on display at Good Chevrolet to showcase the evolution of the automobile, from the Cutter sleigh to

the sleek yellow Corvette Coupe.

It's been a long road from the Cutter sleighs of the 1900s to the fully loaded Corvette with 505 HP and the ability to go 180 mph.

"It's a symbol of American cars around the world," said Rodger Garner of Good Chevrolet. "Every year it's rated number one American sports car."

The Cutter Company of Lowell first made sleighs and later a two-cylinder gas engine contraption, that many vowed they would never ride in. Even Henry Ford came to Lowell to purchase the Cutter Company in order to set an assembly line to manufacture his automobiles, but he was turned down. The Cutter Factory owners Peckhams decided not to sell to any "fly by night" organization like Ford's.

The gas powered Cutter moved at a speed of 10 to 12

miles per hour shrinking the disparity in lifestyle between the towns and the farms, between the "townies" and the farmers.

"It was the harbinger of things to come," according to the museum records.

Pat Allchin, director of the museum, said the purpose of the exhibit is to let people know what the automobile has done to impact people's lives.

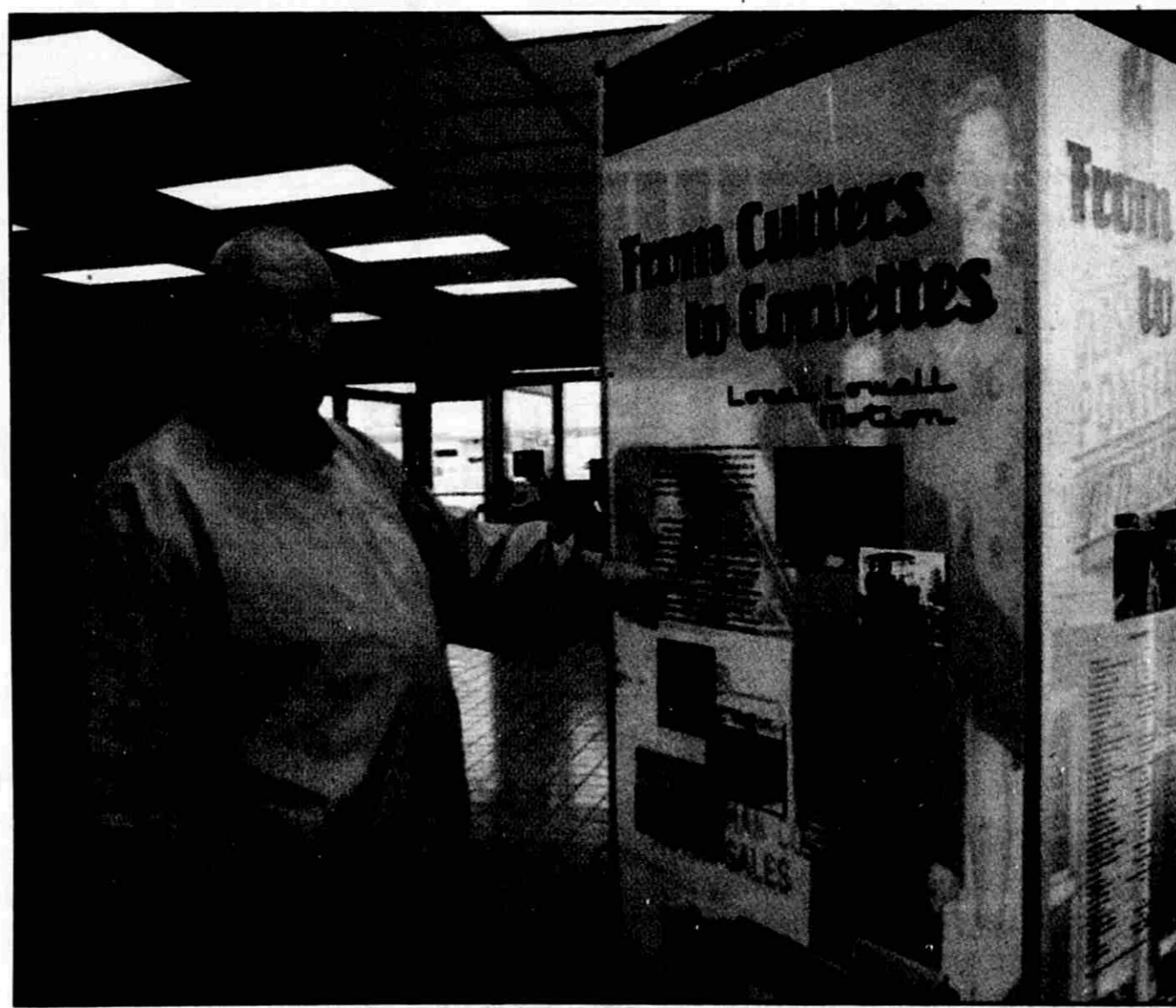
"The Cutter is very unique to Lowell's history," she said.

This is also the first time the museum has chosen a local dealership to place their traveling exhibit.

"It's a new way to get a traveling exhibit to a location where we've never been before," she said.

Garner said he was happy with the exhibit being at the dealership.

"It's pretty neat to see how the cars in Lowell have changed," he said.



Rodger Garner looks at the new traveling exhibit showcasing the evolution of transportation in Lowell.

And yeah, the biggest advancement since the great Cutter contraption is safety in cars nowadays, with electronics built into everything.

"Electronics will brake for you and then you have On Star," he said.

Who would have

imagined this journey from the early 1900s to beyond the millennium, and speeding forward yet.

"The safety will continue to improve," said Garner.

And of course with the automobile came related industries, sales and

maintenance of the cars, fuel stations, construction of roads and such. So, Lowell has proven to be no exception. Dealerships opened for business as soon as the cars became available.

Exhibit, cont'd., pg. 10

Obituaries



Ruby Kinyon. He married Ora Lee Dygert on August 31, 1955; they have a son, Patrick Kinyon of Kentwood, and a daughter, Lori (Mike) Meehleder of Alto. He was preceded in death by Ora Lee on December 14, 1974.

Paul married his second wife, Sandy Fox, on March 15, 1997, and from that union acquired three stepchildren, Tammi (Bruce) Wingeier of Alto, Traci Osborn, and Mike Fox, several step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. Sandy preceded him in death on November 12, 2002. He was also preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Ilene Whitby, and two brothers,

Robert and Keith Kinyon. Paul worked for Lear Siegler, later Smiths Aerospace, from 1955 until his retirement in 1992. As a retirement job, he worked for Alto LP Gas.

Paul had a life-long love of motorcycles. In the 1960s, he co-founded the Searchers Motorcycle Club of Alto, of which he was president until the club disbanded in the late 1970s. In the early 1980s, the Knight Riders Motorcycle Club of Alto, was established, and he was president of that club until it disbanded in the late 1990s.

In his later years, Pappy's constant companions were "The Boys," Tigger and Rascal. Anywhere he went in his red Jeep Wrangler, his dogs were with him. In addition to his devoted children, he is survived by several wonderful life-long friends, as well as his many, many brothers and sisters who ride two wheels. Pappy led his life the way he wanted, with

good friends and good times!

A memorial celebration of his life is being planned for this spring at his home in Alto, date to be announced later.

MAY

Norma May, aged 70, of Lowell, left us to be with her Lord, her brothers and her dad, Jim Keech, Sr. on Monday, January 19, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Marvin May; children, Tracey (Bruce) Elliott and Jay (Oranda) May; mother, Norma Keech; brother, Harold (Dorothy) Keech; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered Friday at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association, Grand Rapids Office, Brass Works Building, 648 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 4, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

KINYON
C. Paul Kinyon, a.k.a. Pappy, age 74, of Alto, passed away suddenly Sunday, January 18, 2009, while wintering at his Daytona Beach home. Paul was born June 2, 1934, in Lowell, to Clyde and

Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

THE LITERACY CENTER OF WEST MICHIGAN NEEDS VOLUNTEER TUTORS THE NEED IS URGENT AT THIS TIME

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Wed., Feb. 4 for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the Center and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The Literacy Center of W. Michigan is a non-profit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Council can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information session will be held at the Cascade Library located at 2870 Jacksmith Ave., SE, Grand Rapids. Please call us at 459-5151, ext. 10 to register.

The mind of a bigot is like the pupil of the eye. The more light you shine on it, the more it will contract.

- Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841 - 1935)

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING File No. 05-179142GA,09-186229-CA

In the matter of ELIZA DEBOSE 1/26/2009
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: KENNETH DEBOSE whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
John D. Flynn - P27413 1275 Hawthorne Hills SE Ada, MI 49301 616-897-6632
Michelle Boley 415 Franklin SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 616-247-6176

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Street names to change to accommodate possible RV park

Street names in Lowell may change to accommodate the finding of a potential 40-acre RV park off of Division Street near the upper bridge.

The planning commission Monday discussed the name change of Division Street to South Jackson. According to Kent County Road Commission

policy, all the property owners must agree to the name change. However, in this case only one property owner is impacted by the change.

"If it was all South Jackson it would be easier to find," said commissioner Jim Hodges.

Jim Hall said if the street is renamed and the

project does go through in the future, it will make it easier for a person outside of Lowell to find the RV park. However, Hall doesn't expect the project this year.

In other business, the planning commission worked on creating new zoning districts that do not exist in the zoning ordinance to implement the new

master plan. These include downtown edge, mixed use and parks and recreation.

In related business, current chair Maryalene LaPonsie has been appointed to the city council, and will continue to serve as city representative on the planning commission instead of Jim Hodges.

MDOT discontinues trash hotline number

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will discontinue the 1-800-44-TRASH hotline number on Feb. 1. The phone number has been posted on signs along state highways for the convenience of motorists.

The toll-free number was created in 1988 in the metro Detroit area, and expanded statewide in late 1990. The department's maintenance staff has been evaluating the effectiveness of the hotline for several

years, and concluded that the majority of calls have been unrelated to significant trash problems, or not related to trash in Michigan at all.

"We received several hundred calls a year; a number that has been decreasing," said Jon Reincke, MDOT engineer of operations. "It's rare to get calls that report a significant trash problem. Instead, we hear about minor litter problems such as cigarette butts, and even calls about out-of-state trash. It is clear

that the hotline has outlived its usefulness."

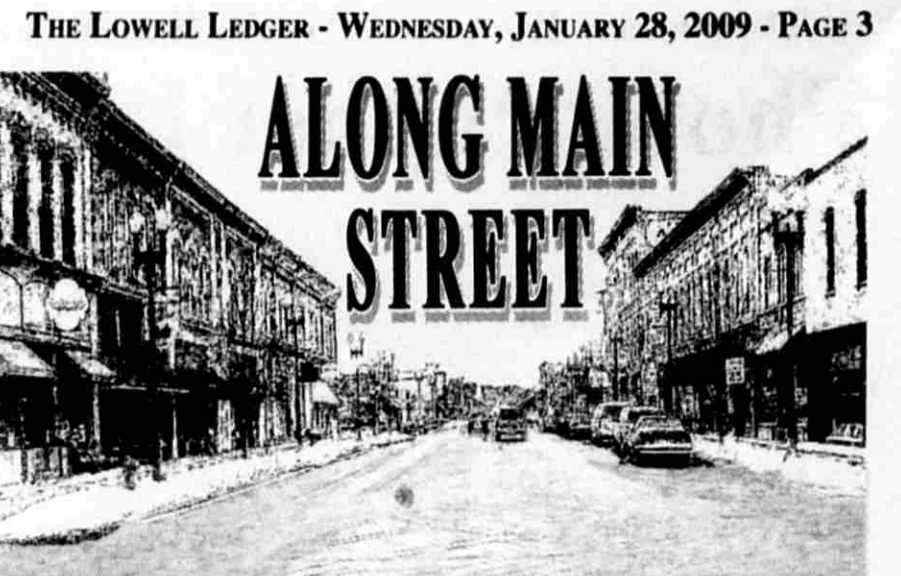
Reincke explained that the program was started to help reduce the amount of debris falling from uncovered commercial vehicles.

In January 2006, MDOT determined that the program would be phased out and the roadside signs displaying the toll-free number removed. Most of the signs are now gone; the remainder will be removed by this summer.

Motorists who want to report a significant trash

problem on any state highway can call their local MDOT Transportation Service Center; or if trash on the highway presents a dangerous driving condition, call 911.

Littering is against the law in Michigan. The anti-litter law presumes that the driver of the vehicle is responsible for litter. The law sets the maximum fine for littering at \$400 and provides a maximum 90-day jail sentence.



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.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
Lowell Area Schools athletic boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY LOVE POEMS
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.

THEBES PLAYERS
Beanie and the Bamboozling Book Machine will be presented at the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center, 11700 Vergennes St. SE on Fri., Feb. 6 and Sat., Feb. 7, Fri., Feb. 13 and Sat., Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 15 at 2:30 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$6, day of the show \$8. For more information and to purchase tickets call or visit the Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson; 897-8545.

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB
Presents a Precious Metals Buying Event on Sat., Feb. 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cash for your coins, jewelry, silver and gold. Two convenient locations: Chimera Design and Collectors' Korner. 10% of sales donated to community support.

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

FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE
United Way's Kent County Tax Credit Coalition is providing free tax preparation at the F.R.O.M. building located at 11535 E. Fulton St. The service will be offered on Tuesdays, 4 to 8 p.m. or by appointment. To register, or to see if your family is eligible, call 897-8260.

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL AND TOWNSHIP WATER CUSTOMERS

Due to major maintenance the City of Lowell's Water Treatment Filtration Plant will not be softening nor fluoridating the water until further notice.

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

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

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SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES, 2910 ALDEN NASH SE, LOWELL, MICHIGAN UNTIL THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2009 AT 2:00 PM. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED (MAILED AND DELIVERED) WILL BE OPENED AND READ PUBLICLY AT THIS TIME.

BIDS MAY BE MAILED TO: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP, 2910 ALDEN NASH SE, LOWELL, MI 49331. ALL MAILED BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE BID DUE TIME AND DATE STATED ABOVE.

THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009.

JERRY HALE, SUPERVISOR

BOWNE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS JANUARY 19, 2009

Motions Approved:

- Minutes of December board meeting. List of all invoices.
- Appointment of Board of Review Members.
- Appointment of Precinct Workers for Special Election February 24, 2009.
- Resolution 09-01 - Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment.

Entire copies of minutes available on the township website-bownetwp.org.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Saving energy, continued ... From Page 1

White demonstrated the difference between the two lights by trying to put his hand on the regular light bulb. But, due to the heat, he couldn't touch it.

"All that heat is wasted energy," he said.

The newest fluorescent products now are dimmable lights and three way lights.

The compact fluorescent lights should be disposed of at proper sites such as the Lowell Light & Power, because they contain mercury.

Outdoor lighting should be turned off or put on timers. However, if it is on for advertising purposes, the cost then becomes a part of the advertising budget not electricity cost.

Thermostats should be set at 68F; unoccupied buildings at night time should have the temperature set at 55F.

A programmable thermostat as part of an efficiency effort is a must, according to White.

And having it too cold does not necessarily get rid of moisture, but promotes mold growth.

As far as water goes, all leaks or dripping faucets cost a fortune, said White.

A recent big problem has been created by vampire electronics or new technology that requires standby electricity.

Five percent of all consumed energy is

consumed by vampire electronics, such as cell phones and Bunn coffee makers.

This number will jump up to 20 percent, due to digital televisions. One solution to controlling vampire electronics is to use timers such as on the Bunn coffee maker. This can save up to \$250 yearly on each coffee maker.

"So we don't use it when we don't need it,"

said White. "If leaving space turn the lights off." It took the school district four years to make conscious and subconscious right habits.

"If you change habits in an organization, you will see a significant change," said White.

White is offering to local businesses, free of charge, an energy audit that will pinpoint potential cost savings.

"It's one way to give back," he said.

A healthy male adult bore consumes each year one and a half times his own weight in other people's patience.

- John Updike (1932 -)

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell has a position available on the Planning-Citizen Advisory Commission Board. City residents who are interested in serving on this Board should submit a letter of interest to the City Clerk, Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 until Friday, January 30, 2009.

Betty R. Morlock
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- GRAN TORINO (R) TUE 11:25, 2:40, 4:45, 7:10, 9:50 MON/WED/TH 4:35, 7:10, 9:50
- HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) TUE 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10 MON/WED/TH 4:30, 6:50, 9:10
- PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) TUE 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:20 MON/WED/TH 4:50, 7:00, 9:20
- MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) DAILY 7:20, 9:35
- BRIDE WARS (PG) TUE 12:15, 2:30, 5:00 MON/WED/TH 5:00

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Photographer loves people, event photography

by Emma Palova

Sitting comfortably in her studio loft apartment inside the Flat River Retail Center on Main Street, photographer Jennifer Orr freely chats about her trade.

With a photography degree from Grand Valley State University, she picked the Lowell location for her studio, naturally as a half-way point between Lansing and Grand Rapids.

The exposed brick of the former antique mall works just fine as a backdrop for her shoots, whether it be brides, seniors or babies and families.

"I love being able to have tall ceilings and all the natural light," she said.

Orr has been taking photos since her sophomore year in high school. She found out she was good at it during a trip to Europe in 2000.

"I love getting to know people," she said. "I love weddings, being there, editing and playing with color."

Orr wants to remain the photographer even if she gets too busy, she's not considering any contracting out of the actual photo work.

"I want to be the Shutterbug and I want to stick to the area," she said. "This is where I grew up and have family."

She has already taken photos of several high school seniors, and Orr is eager to get to know the local people.

"I love Lowell," she said. "I watch it from my own living room."

Orr does have a magnificent view of Main Street Lowell, and in the back from her office nothing

beats the close up view of King Milling.

"It's a quaint friendly town," she said.

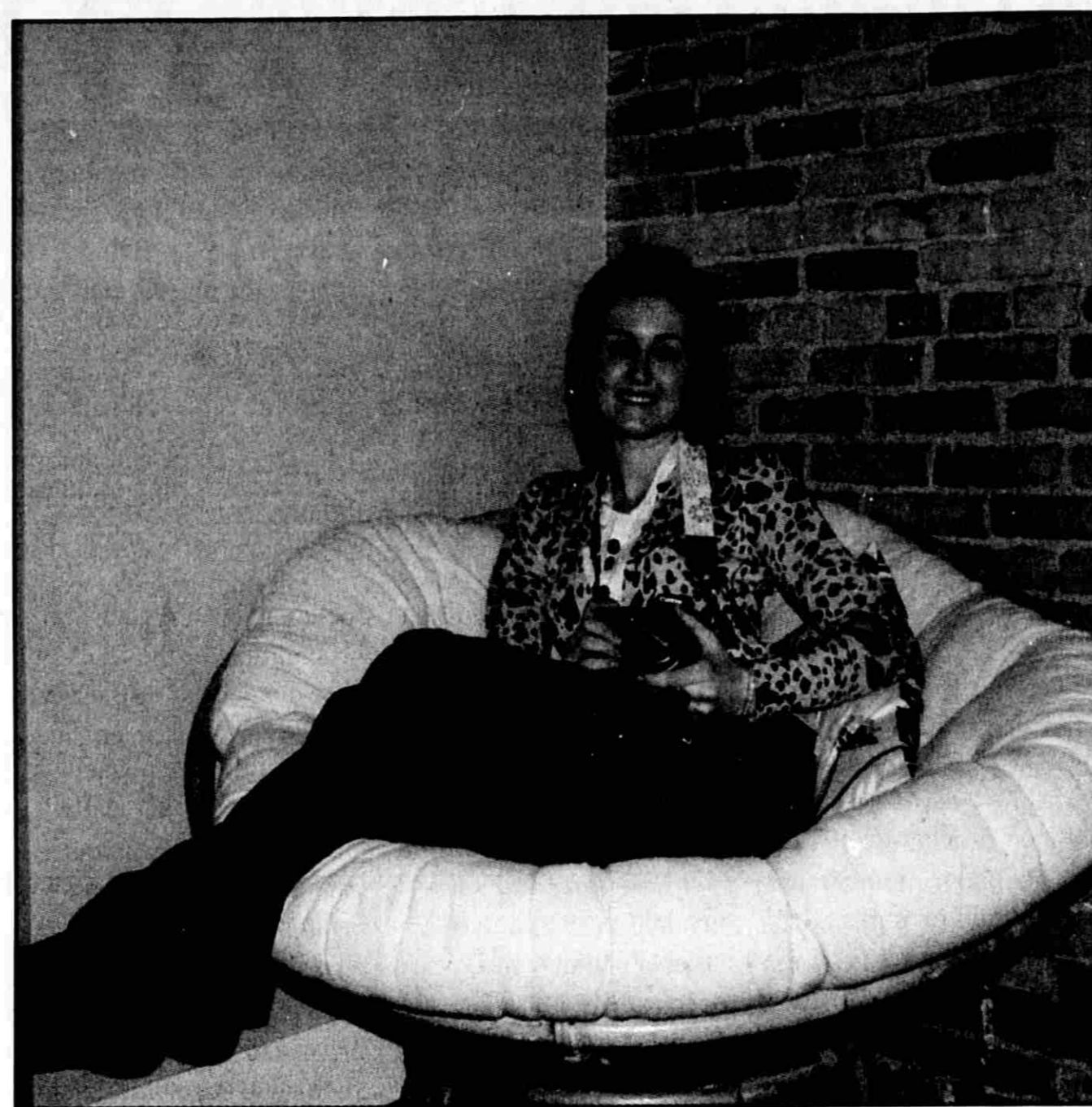
She loves to do black and white photography as well, which is conducive to her studio setting.

Keeping up with the friendly spirit of the town, Orr wants to learn from the best, Brandon Mulnix of Modern Photographics.

"I don't want to compete, I want to learn from him," she said.

Although while in college she worked mostly with film, Orr prefers digital photography. She works closely with Kim Bode, event planner for 834 Design.

Orr works with Sweet Charity for DeVos Children's Hospital and with Make a Wish Foundation.



Photographer Jennifer Orr uses her living quarters as a studio.

Financial Focus



With Christopher C. Godbold

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"REQUIRED" DISTRIBUTIONS DON'T MEAN REQUIRED LOSSES

Here's the situation: If you turn 70 1/2 this year, you must start taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your Traditional IRA, 401(k) and just about any other type of tax-advantaged retirement plan you may have, with the exception of a Roth IRA. Your RMD is calculated based on your age, life expectancy and the market value of your retirement account at the end of 2008.

Here's the problem: At the end of 2008, the market value of your retirement account was probably way down from previous years. Yet, you still have to take the distributions. Does this mean you have to sell some stocks when their price is down?

Obviously, this is a move you'd rather avoid. Generally speaking, it's not a good idea to sell shares of stock when their price is significantly down. If you do, you'll be "locking in" sizable losses and you won't be giving these stocks the chance to recover — which could well happen.

Lawmakers, recognizing the problem of people being forced to take distributions when their account value is sharply down, are considering ways to temporarily suspend the RMD rules. But even if that doesn't happen, you have alternatives to this type of forced sale. If you're taking an RMD for the first time, you can delay it until April 1 of next year. But if you do, you'll have to take two minimum distributions during 2010 — and that could put you in a higher tax bracket for the year.

A better solution might be to take an "in-kind" distribution. To do this, you simply have your IRA custodian or 401(k) administrator take out the actual stock shares and transfer them to a regular brokerage account. Once the shares are in the account, you can hold on to them as long as you want. You can wait for the price to recover or sell the shares when you need the cash. Either way, though, you get to make the call. (Not all 401(k) plans permit in-kind distributions, so check with your plan administrator.)

As with most moves in the investment world, there's a "however" involved with the decision to take in-kind distributions. And in this case, the "however" has to do with taxes. Specifically, when you move stock shares or other investment assets from a retirement plan to a brokerage account, you are incurring what's euphemistically known as a "taxable event." Retirement plan distributions are taxed at your ordinary income tax rate — and that's true if you take the distributions directly by selling shares or if you take in-kind distributions. Consequently, if you take in-kind distributions and you don't sell any shares, you'll need to have available another source of cash to pay the taxes that will be due.

In this regard, you might get a dubious break, of sorts, if your taxable investment account has more losses than gains this year. If that happens, you can use as much as \$3,000 of capital losses to reduce the amount of your ordinary taxable income.

But in any case, it should be of some comfort to know that you don't have to "sell low" just to satisfy your RMD requirements. So, when you reach 70-1/2, keep the in-kind option in mind — it could prove to be kind to your bottom line.

Afternoon with the arts celebrates Latin heritage

Each year the Franciscan Life Process Center Music Department holds a benefit harp concert to support its community-wide programs. This year's benefit concert features music from Latin

America, interpreted by a harp ensemble and additional musicians. Afternoon with the Arts: LA MUSICA DE LATINOAMERICA also includes a Latin dance performance by Grupo

Tarasco, the dance company of Cook Arts Center. All will take place Saturday, March 7, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Decorating the walls of the concert space in the

Bonaventure Gallery is an on-going art exhibit by elementary students from the Cook Center. Formerly Grandville Academy, Cook Arts Center works with Grandville Avenue neighborhood youth ages six to sixteen, providing a facility where they can celebrate their community's cultural heritage. The Center's curriculum includes pottery, dance, visual arts, voice and instrumental music, sewing, photography, gardening, theatre and creative writing.

Tickets for the afternoon are \$20/person and gift certificates are available. The price includes Spanish-inspired desserts and beverages. For further information, call (616) 897-7842 or e-mail registrar@lifeprocesscenter.org. The student art show will be on display from Jan. 31 through March 29 in the Center's Bonaventure Gallery.

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Viewpoint

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

The city is holding its own but the city budget is tight, is what I interpreted from an independent 2007-08 audit presentation at the Jan. 20 City Council meeting. That's about what I expected considering the economic condition of our State and Nation.

It was mentioned that the city street fund was low. I believe that's because our city streets are twice the age of replacement and the cost of maintaining them will continue to go up draining the general fund. Lowell's dilapidated

road system will be a thorn in the side of our community for years to come.

I commend everyone from the police department to the public works department for holding their own, but I do not believe for an instant that projects like an RV Park and the restructuring of the Amphitheater are off the drawing board and will resurface in the spring.

The constituents of Lowell should not tolerate any spending on any new projects that will come from the general fund or the DDA or any new projects that will have to be maintained by the city until this economic crisis is over and the city has implemented a plan to replace Lowell's road system.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard



By Shelly MacNaughton

125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL JANUARY 30, 1884

Mrs. Della Lattimore is on the sick list. Dog racing is now a popular sport in the Upper Peninsula.

Crookshank Bros. Of Ionia have made satisfactory adjustment with their creditors, and their store is again open for business.

Mr. Clark Washburn had the misfortune to break his arm about two weeks ago.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 28, 1909

Lost an ax between my place and Lee Farm. L. J. Robinson.

Miss Elizabeth Raymond attended the teachers association in Grand Rapids last Saturday.

There will be dancing school tomorrow night, Jan. 29, in the Pullen block, formerly occupied by laundry.

Will Peckham who recently had his foot shot off, is able to be about on crutches. He is well and cheerful in spite of his misfortune.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO FEBRUARY 1, 1934

Headline: Sheriff Kelly Issues Warning
Sheriff Fred Kelly has ordered his deputies to make arrests where it is found beer and liquor are dispensed, or manufactured for sale without first obtaining a license.

Two deputies have been assigned to this work exclusively and all deputies have been instructed to assist in their respective districts.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 29, 1959

Jane E. Hoover, daughter of Mrs. Leo Hoover, 819 E. Main, Lowell, has been named 1959 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow at Lowell High School.

She received the highest score in a 50-minute written examination on homemaking knowledge and attitudes taken by graduating senior girls in her school. Her examination will be entered in competition with those of other school winners in the state to name the State Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER FEBRUARY 1, 1984

Five persons were arrested in the Alpena area as teams of Michigan Conservation Officers served warrants on four meat-processing firms. The firms allegedly have been making and selling large quantities of sausage and hamburger made mostly from deer meat, as well as select cuts from venison.

Everyone is talking about the Ledger!
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Outdoors

By
Dave Stegehuis



GILLS ON ICE

The wind chill temperature is in negative double figures. That's why I am sitting close to the woodstove and not out on an area lake fishing through the ice for bluegills. Ice fishing is fun, relaxing and can be productive. I don't know anyone who doesn't look forward to a plate of fresh bluegill filets.

Fishing through the ice requires a minimum of equipment. A few weeks ago, a young man was out with only an empty 5-gallon bucket and a fishing rod. He found an open hole and was in business.

It would be wise to begin with a basic setup and, through experience, determine one's level of interest and then decide what additional equipment might make fishing more productive and convenient for you.

I have made a conscious effort to keep this activity as simple as possible but have caved-in on a few upgrades. Over the last ten years, technology has overwhelmed ice fishing along with most other areas of our lives. Some items from the following equipment list are considered essential by some and unnecessary by others depending on one's needs and expectations.

A short light rod with a spring bobber on the end and an ultra-light spinning reel with 2-pound test ice line is

handy in an ice shelter or outside on windy days. A simple metal spool or two pegs to wind the line on will work. A lead weight that clips on the end of the line is used to find the depth. Small jigs tipped with wax worms or spikes are good lures for bluegills. Wigglers or minnows work well for perch and crappies.

Sonar fish-finders have become sensitive enough to record the image of a tiny jig at considerable depth. Sonar and underwater cameras provide effective tools for locating fish as well as revealing bottom structure and depth.

Hand-augers are used for drilling holes in the ice. Electric or gas-powered augers make the job easier. Don't forget a strainer to clear ice chunks out of a freshly cut hole.

Homemade shanties made from a variety of scavenged materials were once common on productive lakes in the winter. Now a number of manufacturers market portable canvas shelters with plastic floors which also serve as a sled for transporting gear.

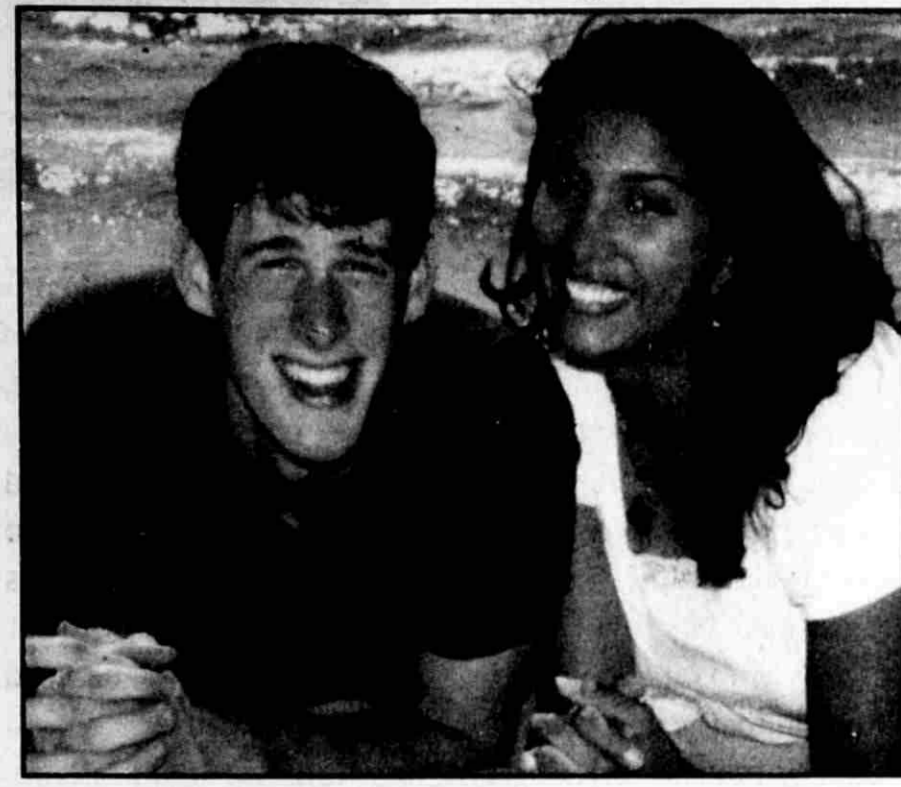
Accompanying a seasoned fisherman is a quick way to learn about technique and tackle. Because fellow anglers are easily approached on the ice, it is possible to observe their methods and ask questions. Most fishermen enjoy talking about fishing and sharing ideas.

Bluegills, crappies, and sunfish are abundant in most southern Michigan lakes. Perch are less common but plentiful in lakes where they are found. One way to find a place to fish is to travel to public access lakes and observe where anglers are concentrating their efforts. Fishing private lakes would require permission from property owners.

So layer-up in warm clothing and set out in search of panfish. The reward is a fun time outdoors and the makings for a great dinner.

Engagements

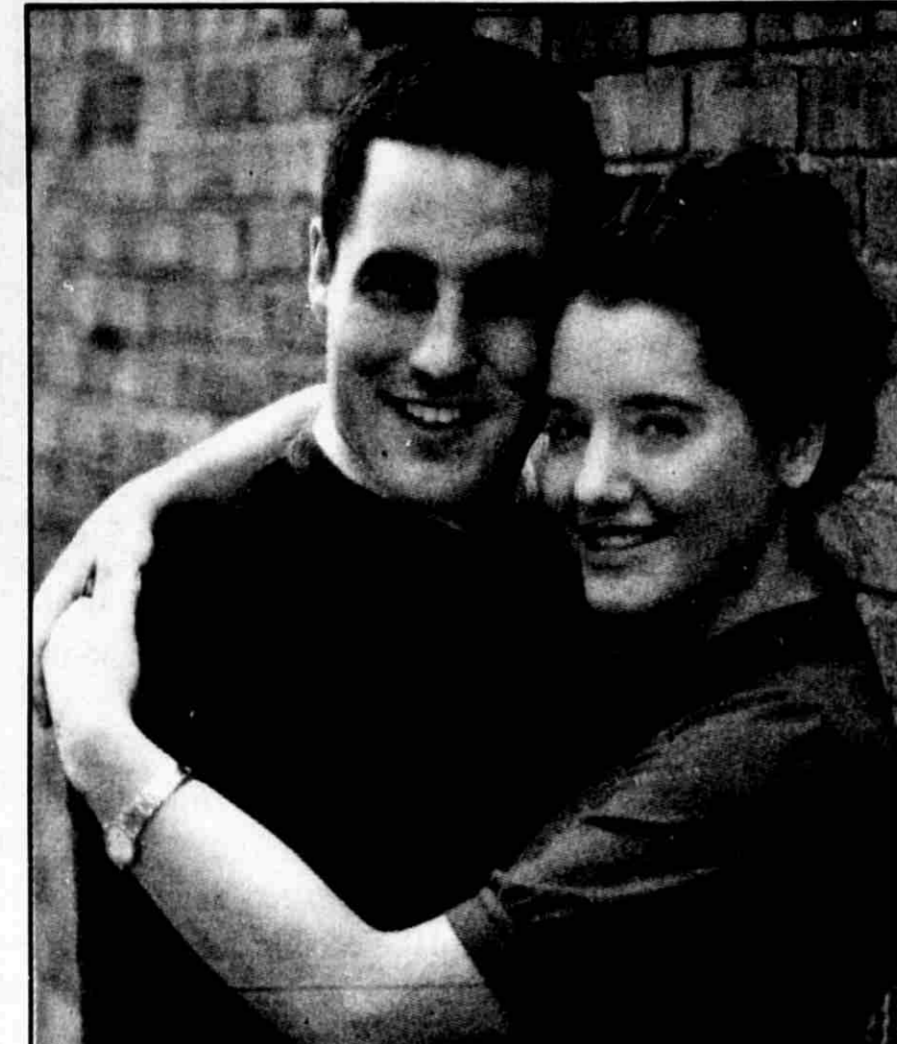
Girwarnauth/Clevenger



Ryan Clevenger and Jennie Girwarnauth

Jennie High School and Bethel College. She currently works as a registered nurse in pediatrics for Mercy Health Partners. The groom, Kathleen Girwarnauth of Lowell and Mark and Diana Clevenger of Jackson. The bride, of Grand Haven, graduated from Lowell

Fischer/Oesch

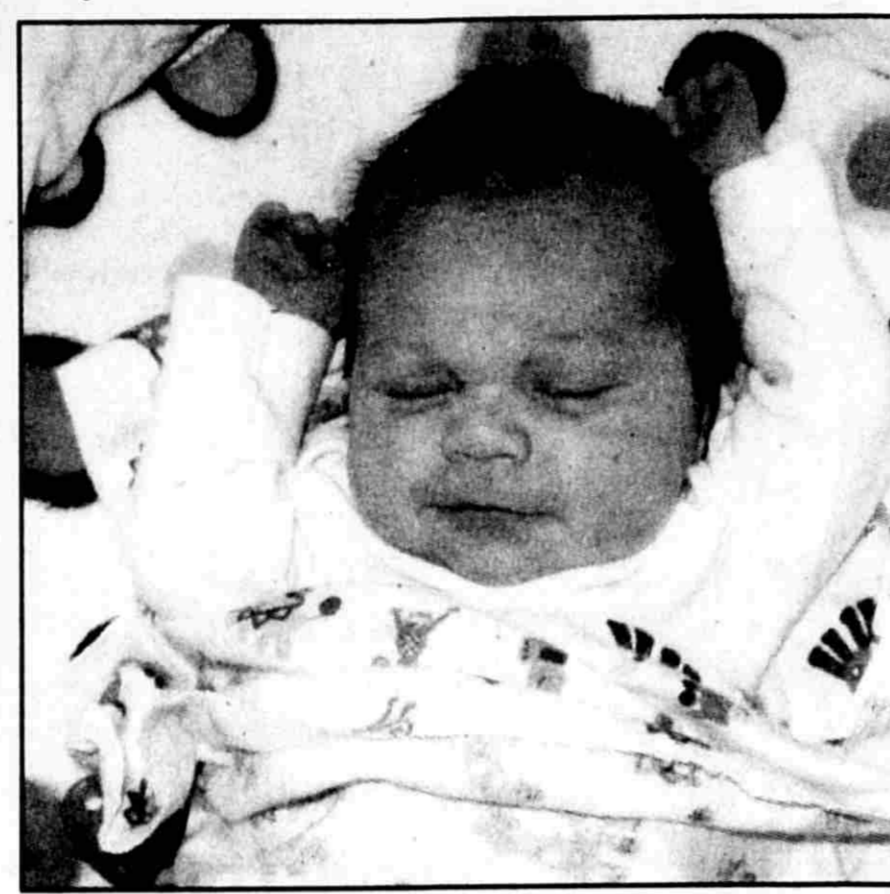


Matthew Oesch and Shelli Fischer

Trusting in the Lord's Illinois State University and is a registered nurse. Shelli Suzanne Fischer and Matthew Ryan Oesch will be united in marriage March 22, 2009 in Roanoke, Ill. Shelli is the daughter of Keith and Dori Fischer of Roanoke, Ill. She is a graduate of

New Arrivals

Soyka



Gage Michael Soyka

Cody Soyka and Sarah Grandparents are Christopher Soyka and Matt and Catherine Smith, all of Lowell.

Reflections of faith

David Sims, Lead Pastor
First Baptist Lowell

CIRCLE-OF-LIFE

I haven't found any way around it! It's the kind of idea that parallels my experience as a native-born Yoooper. While there are seemingly endless numbers of two-tracks, log roads, old railroad grades, country two-lanes and meandering backwoods corduroy roads, in order to head south to Troll-Land, these paths and trails have to converge at St. Ignace and the Bridge. There's no easy way around it. Just as we from here can poke, mosey, explore and pick our way north in an exponential number of through-way combinations, to get across to God's Country, all roads must converge upon Mackinaw City. There's no way around it.

Such is life - really! I mean, "for real." At its core, in its essence. We have lived through several presidential administrations and party-power prominences, and even

now we are embarking on a new season of leadership. Each political persuasion platforms its particular slant on social values and voter mandates, seeking to convey a basis for priorities, funding and legislation. So just what should be at the hub of this life-wheel?

Deep down, most of us want to think of ourselves as special. We certainly think so of our spouses, our children, our parents...and rightly so. Regardless of whatever political preference, I haven't yet discovered any way around us as humanity avoiding an innate moral imperative to protect life. It's special. Some would say that sanctity of life concerns cannot be a single issue litmus test. There are too many other valid needs to address and remediate. But like the roundabouts in England and downtown Grand Rapids, it all comes back to where we started: LIFE!

True, too long many Christian institutions have turned a deaf ear to issues of justice; a blind eye to problems of poverty. There, indeed, are many, many important aspects of social and cultural conduct or catastrophe in which we should be engaged. But, there's still no way around it! Each concern is inextricably linked to a basic notion of life as special, or could I say, sacred.

Why help the poor? Because they have innate dignity as God imaged creations. Why seek justice? Because all life, regardless of how weak, marginalized or defenseless,

deserves to be treated fairly and honorably being of the same divinely designed stock as us all. You can't get around the root reason for social reform: all human life is sanctity flavored. So if our leaders seek assistance to the poor, why would they not endorse aid to the very poorest of all - the yet unborn who have absolutely no resource of their own? And if legislators insist on equal justice among the human family, how can they deny defending the rights of the preborn who are the epitome of abject defenselessness? It just cannot be either/or, but rather must be both/and.

Though our culture is schizophrenic in its esteem of these values, there just is no way around it: there is a kind of circle-of-life - it all comes back to and converges at its essence, its value, its utter specialness. Let's hang on to life at every aspect and level. It's the anchor for a sustainable culture and the hub of all the rest of life issues that are umbilically attached. Jesus emphasized the core, the source of true Life as being in the sacred center of Himself: "I am the vine, you are the branches...without Me you can do nothing...anyone that does not abide in Me is thrown away like a branch and withers..." (John 15:5-6) Remember, He is Life itself (John 14:6) and the inventor of us all (Genesis 1:27).

Cut off from this core we can only atrophy and die. L'Chaim!

Weddings

Metternick/Pollema

Amber Metternick and Michael Pollema were united in marriage in September at Covenant Christian Reformed Church in Grand Rapids. Parents of the couple are Ron and Carrie Metternick of Lowell, Ruth and Bob Rusticus of Jenison, and Cliff Pollema of Wyoming.

Maid of honor was Carrie Johnson. Bridesmaids were Jessica Curtis, Beth Junglas, April Metternick, Becky Vandenbosch, and

Michael and Amber Pollema



College News

The University of Northwestern Ohio is proud to acknowledge that Micah D. Soyka and William B. Zigmont, both of Lowell, have made the Dean's List for the November 2008 session in the College of Technologies. Full-time students must receive a grade point average of 3.5 or better to be named to the Dean's List.

Michigan State University is proud to

recognize that Morgan Marea Olin, of Lowell, has made the Dean's List for the 2008 Fall Semester.

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement, Trinity Christian College, has acknowledged Annalise M. Flier, of Lowell, to their Fall 2008 Dean's List. Trinity students must be enrolled full-time and earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average.

WHEN SUBMITTING PHOTOS

Please remember that we only keep photos on file for 6 months.

If you would like your photo returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The Lowell Ledger

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ALTO DDA GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Karen and Scott Cook on 60th St. in Alto put on a great holiday light show every Christmas season. The Alto DDA would like to thank them for their efforts and their community spirit!

The Cooks will be awarded a gift from a local business as a thank you from the Alto DDA.

HEALTH

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

CONSTIPATION

Constipation is when you have fewer bowel movements than usual. You may have dry, hard stools. Constipation usually means you may have fewer than 1-2 stools each week, unless that is your normal established frequency.

Constipation tends to happen more in the elderly and in pregnant women. It can happen when stool moves too slowly through the body. Too much water from the stool is then soaked up in your bowel and leads to dry, hard stools.

When you become constipated you may feel the need to strain with bowel movements. You may have stomach pain or fullness, bloating, or the feeling of rectal pressure. You may sense incomplete emptying of your bowels. If you have any changes in your usual bowel pattern that persist, tell your doctor.

These are several things you can do to help keep your stools regular:

- Add more fiber to your diet. Fiber is found in foods such as vegetables, fruits, whole grain breads, and high fiber cereal.
- Drink at least 6-8 glasses of water each day.
- Exercise daily.
- Try to have a bowel movement at the same time every day. A good time is first thing in the morning or after meals.

If these things do not help, your doctor may recommend that you take a laxative or a medicine to soften your stools.

2009-10 INFO NIGHT

February 5, 2009
6:00 SNACKS • 6:30 Q&A • 7:00 TOUR
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3 year-old, TTh, am 4 year-old, MWF, am Daily Prayer Kindergarten Readiness Religious Instruction Small Class Ratios Nurturing Environment	All-Day, TTh Daily Prayer Kindergarten Readiness Care & Courtesy Rules Christian Service Small Class Ratios Art, Gym, Music Sp. Ed Consults	All-Day, 3 or 5 Days Daily Prayer Kindergarten Readiness Care & Courtesy Rules Christian Service Small Class Ratios Art, Gym, Music Spanish Sp. Ed Consults

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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</p> <p>Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com</p> <p>WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Rev. Rick Blunt Barrier-free entrance</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash SE • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery</p> <p>Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: 10:00 am - Worship & Evening LIFE Home Groups & "The Source" Youth</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. Eugene Okol 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com</p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10:10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EFN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org</p> <p>Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/EXCITE - TEENS, Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Rev. Terry Tessan.....Interim Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr.</p> <p>9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p><i>A friend...a family...a mission!</i></p>		

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**CITY OF LOWELL
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**ORDINANCE NO. 09- 01
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND
subsection (A) of section 1-13,
"general penalty," of chapter 1,
"general provisions," of, and to
add chapter 27, "municipal civil
infractions," to, THE CODE
OF ORDINANCES OF
THE CITY OF LOWELL**

Councilmember Ellison, supported by Councilmember LaPonsie, moved the adoption of the following ordinance:

THE CITY OF LOWELL ORDAINS:

Section 1. Amendment to Section 1-13 of Chapter 1. Subsection (a) of Section 1-13, "General Penalty," of Chapter 1, "General Provisions," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided in chapter 27 hereof with respect of municipal civil infractions or unless another penalty is expressly provided in this Code for any particular provision or section, every person convicted of a violation of any provisions of this Code or any rule, regulation or order adopted or issued in pursuance thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) and costs of prosecution or by imprisonment of not more than ninety-three (93) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Each act of violation and every day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 2. Addition of Chapter 27. Chapter 27, "Municipal Civil Infractions," is added to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell to read as follows:

Chapter 27

MUNICIPAL CIVIL INFRACTIONS

Sec. 27-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter the following words and terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Authorized city official" means a police officer or other officer or employee of the city authorized by this Code, state law or any other ordinance to issue municipal civil infraction citations or municipal civil infractions violation notices.

(b) "Bureau" means the municipal ordinance violations bureau, as currently existing or as may be established.

(c) "Municipal civil infraction action" means a civil action in which the defendant is alleged to be responsible for a municipal civil infraction.

(d) "Municipal civil infraction citation" means a written complaint or notice prepared by an authorized city official, directing a person to appear in 63rd District Court regarding the occurrence or existence of a municipal civil infraction violation by the person cited and to answer to the allegations contained in the citation.

(e) "Municipal civil infraction determination" means a determination that a defendant is responsible for a municipal civil infraction by one of the following:

(i) an admission of responsibility for the municipal civil infraction;

(ii) an admission of responsibility for the municipal civil infraction "with explanation;"

(iii) a preponderance of evidence at an informal hearing or formal hearing pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 600.8719 or 600.8721, respectively; or

(iv) a default judgment for failing to appear as directed by a citation or other notice at a scheduled appearance pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws Sections 600.8715(3)(b) or (4), at an informal hearing pursuant to Section 600.8719, or at a formal hearing under Section 600.8721.

(f) "Municipal civil infraction violation notice" means a written notice, prepared by an authorized city official, directing a person to appear at a municipal ordinance violations bureau now existing or hereafter established to answer to the allegations made in the municipal civil infraction violation notice and to pay the fine and costs, if any, prescribed for the violation by the schedule of civil fines adopted by the city, as authorized by state law.

(g) "State law" means the statutory law enacted by the State of Michigan, including but not limited to, the Home Rule City Act, Act 279 of the Public Acts of

Michigan of 1909, as amended (Michigan Compiled Laws Section 117.1 et seq.), the Revised Judicature Act, Act 236 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1961, as amended (Michigan Compiled Laws Section 600.1 et seq.), and the City and Village Zoning Act, Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended (Michigan Compiled Laws Section 125.581 et seq.)

Sec. 27-2. Adoption and Incorporation of State Law by Reference.

As provided for in state law, the city hereby adopts and incorporates the provisions of state law enabling municipalities to adopt and enforce ordinances declared to be municipal civil infractions to the fullest extent possible.

Sec. 27-3. Commencement of Municipal Infraction Action.

A municipal civil infraction action may be commenced upon the issuance by an authorized city official of a municipal civil infraction citation directing the alleged violator to appear in 63rd District Court or a municipal civil infraction violation notice directing the alleged violator to appear at the municipal ordinance violations bureau.

Sec. 27-4. Issuance and Service of Municipal Civil Infraction Citations.

Municipal civil infraction citations shall be issued and served by authorized city officials as follows:

(a) The time for appearance specified in a citation shall be within a reasonable time after the citation is issued.

(b) The place for appearance specified in a citation shall be the 63rd District Court.

(c) Each citation shall be numbered consecutively and shall be in a form approved by the State Court Administrator. The original citation shall be filed with the 63rd District Court and copies of the citation shall be retained by the city and issued to the alleged violator as provided for in state law.

(d) A citation for a municipal civil infraction signed by an authorized city official shall be treated as if it were made under oath if the violation alleged in the citation occurred in the presence of the official signing the citation and if the citation contains the following statement above the date and signature of the official: "I declare under the penalties of perjury that the statements above are true to the best of my information, knowledge and belief."

(e) An authorized city official may issue a citation to a person if:

(i) based upon investigation, the official has reasonable cause to believe that the person is responsible for a municipal civil infraction; or

(ii) based upon investigation of a complaint by someone who allegedly witnessed the person commit a municipal civil infraction, the official has reasonable cause to believe that the person is responsible for an infraction and the city attorney approves in writing the issuance of the citation.

(f) Municipal civil infraction citations shall be served by an authorized city official as follows:

(1) Except as provide immediately below, an authorized city official shall personally serve a copy of the citation upon the alleged violator.

(2) If the municipal civil infraction involves the use or occupancy of land, a building or other structure, a copy of the citation does not need to be personally served upon the alleged violator, but may be served upon an owner or occupant of the land, building or structure by posting a copy on the land or attaching a copy to the building or structure. In addition, a copy of the citation shall be sent by first-class mail to the owner of the land, building or structure at the owner's last known address.

Sec. 27-5. Contents of Municipal Civil Infraction Citations.

(a) A municipal civil infraction citation shall contain the name and address of the alleged violator, the municipal civil infraction(s) alleged, the place where the alleged violator shall appear in court, the telephone number of the court and the time at or by which the appearance shall be made.

(b) Further, the citation shall inform the alleged violator that he or she may do one of the following:

(1) Admit responsibility for the municipal civil infraction(s) by mail, in person or by representation, at or by the time specified for appearance.

(2) Admit responsibility for the municipal civil infraction(s) "with explanation" by mail by the time specified for appearance in person or by representation.

(3) Deny responsibility for the municipal civil infraction by doing either of the following:

(A) Appearing in person for an informal hearing before a 63rd District Court judge or magistrate without the opportunity of being represented by an attorney, unless a formal hearing before a judge is requested by the city.

(B) Appearing in 63rd District Court for a formal hearing before a judge with the opportunity of being represented by an attorney.

(c) The citation shall also inform the alleged violator of all of the following:

(1) That if the alleged violator desires to admit responsibility "with explanation" in person or by representation, the alleged violator must apply to the 63rd District Court in person, by mail, by telephone or by representation within the time specified for appearance and obtain a scheduled date and time for an appearance.

(2) That if the alleged violator desires to deny responsibility, the alleged violator must apply to the 63rd District Court in person, by mail, by telephone or by representation within the time specified for appearance and obtain a scheduled date and time to appear for a hearing unless a hearing date is specified on the citation.

(3) That the hearing shall be an informal hearing unless a formal hearing is requested by the alleged violator or the city.

(4) That at an informal hearing the alleged violator must appear in person before a 63rd District Court judge or magistrate without the opportunity of being represented by an attorney.

(5) That at a formal hearing the alleged violator must appear in person before a 63rd District Court judge and will have the opportunity of being represented by an attorney retained at his or her own expense.

(d) The citation shall contain a notice in boldfaced type stating that the failure of the alleged violator to appear within the time specified in the citation or at the time scheduled for a hearing or appearance is a misdemeanor and will result in entry of a default judgment against the alleged violator on the municipal civil infraction.

Sec. 27.6. Municipal Ordinance Violations Bureau.

(a) **Establishment.** There is hereby established a municipal ordinance violations bureau, as authorized by state law, to accept responsibility for municipal civil infractions in response to municipal civil infraction violation notices issued and served by authorized city officials and to collect and retain civil fines.

(b) **Location and Supervision.** The bureau shall be located at city hall and be under the supervision and control of the city treasurer.

(c) **Disposition of Violations.** The bureau may dispose only of municipal civil infraction violations for which a fine has been scheduled and for which a municipal civil infraction violation notice, and not a municipal civil infraction citation, has been issued. The fact that a fine has been scheduled for a particular violation shall not entitle a person to dispose of the violation at the bureau. Nothing in this chapter shall prevent or restrict the city from issuing a municipal civil infraction citation for any violation or from taking other action permitted by law.

No person shall be required to dispose of a municipal civil infraction violation at the bureau and may have the violation processed by the 63rd District Court. The unwillingness of a person to dispose of a violation at the bureau shall not prejudice the person or in any way diminish the person's rights, privileges and protections accorded by law.

(d) **Scope of Authority.** The scope of the bureau's authority shall be limited to accepting admissions of responsibility for municipal civil infractions and collecting and retaining scheduled civil fines and costs as a result of those admissions. The bureau shall not accept payment of a fine from any person who denies having committed the offense or who admits responsibility "only with explanation," and in no event shall the bureau determine or attempt to determine the truth or falsity of any fact or matter related to an alleged violation.

(e) **Municipal Civil Infraction Violation Notices.** Municipal civil infraction violation notices shall be issued and served by authorized city officials under the same circumstances and upon the same persons as are provided for citations in this chapter. In addition to any other information required by this Code, the notice of violation shall indicate the time by which the alleged violator must appear at the bureau, the methods by which an appearance may be made, the address and telephone number of the bureau, the hours during which the bureau is open, the amount of the fine for the alleged violation and the consequences for failure

to appear and pay the required fine within the required time.

(f) **Appearance and Payment of Fine and Costs.** An alleged violator receiving a municipal civil infraction violation notice shall appear at the bureau and pay the specified fine and costs on or before the time specified for appearance in the municipal civil infraction violation notice. An appearance may be made by mail, in person or by representation.

(g) **Procedure Where Admission of Responsibility Not Made or Fine Not Paid.** If an authorized city official issues and serves a municipal civil infraction violation notice and if an admission of responsibility is not made and the fine and costs prescribed by the schedule of fines set forth in this chapter are not paid for the violation at the bureau, a municipal civil infraction citation shall be filed with the 63rd District Court and a copy of the citation shall be served by first-class mail upon the alleged violator at the alleged violator's last known address. The citation filed with the court does not need to comply in all particulars with the requirements for citations as provided by state law, but shall consist of a sworn complaint containing the allegations stated in the municipal civil infraction violation notice and shall fairly inform the alleged violator how to respond to the citation.

Sec. 27-7. Schedule of Municipal Civil Infraction Fines.

(a) A schedule of civil fines payable to the bureau for admissions of responsibility served with municipal civil infraction violation notices is hereby established as follows:

(1) For violation of violations listed in section 27-8 with letters A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, J, K, L, M, N, O and Q:

Initial offense - \$50.00
First repeat offense - \$100.00
Second or any subsequent repeat offense - \$200.00

(2) For violation of violations listed in section 27-8 with the letters H and P:

Initial offense - \$100.00
First repeat offense - \$200.00
Second or any subsequent repeat offense - \$500.00

(b) A copy of the schedule, as amended from time to time by resolution of the City Council, shall be posted at the bureau.

Sec. 27-8. Violations Constituting Municipal Civil Infractions.

A municipal civil infraction shall include the following offenses set forth in this Code:

A. Violations of Chapter 5, "Animals," of this Code.
B. Violations of Chapter 6, "Auctions and Auctioneers," of this Code.
C. Violations of Chapter 7, "Buildings and Building Regulations," of this Code.
D. Violations of Chapter 9, "Cemeteries," of this Code.

E. Violations of Chapter 10, "Fire Prevention and Protection" of this Code except for section 10-5.

F. Violations of Chapter 11, "Garbage, Trash and Refuse," of this Code.

G. Violations of Chapter 11.5, "Historic District," of this Code.

H. Violations of Chapter 12, "Nuisances," of this Code.

I. Violations of Chapter 13, "Offenses," of this Code except sections 13-2, 13-3, 13-4, 13-21, 13-22, 13-23, 13-42, 13-43, 13-44, 13-61, 13-63, 13-64, 13-65, 13-66, 13-67, 13-68, 13-86, 13-87, 13-108, 13-133, 13-151, 13-152, 13-153, 13-154, 13-155, 13-156, 13-176, 13-177, 13-178, 13-179, 13-180, 13-196 and 13-198.

J. Violations of Chapter 14, "Parks and Recreation," of this Code except section 14.55.

K. Violations of Chapter 15, "Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants," of this Code.

L. Violations of Chapter 19, "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places," of this Code.

M. Violations of Chapter 21, "Traffic and Motor Vehicles," of this Code.

N. Violations of Chapter 23, "Vegetation," of this Code.
O. Violations of Chapter 24, "Vehicles for Hire," of this Code.
P. Violations of Chapter 25, "Water and Sewage Disposal Service," of this Code.
Q. Violation of Appendix A, "Zoning," of this Code except chapter 17A.

Upon the effective date of this chapter, the offenses noted above are municipal civil infractions only and shall

no longer constitute misdemeanor criminal offenses or subject the violator to any criminal sanctions, except as provided for by state law. This, however, shall not affect the sanctions provided for by state law or this chapter for a violator's or alleged violator's failure to comply with an order or judgment of the 63rd District Court nor shall this section limit or restrict the authority of the court to enforce its orders by appropriate sanctions or actions. This section shall not restrict, limit or bar any action permitted under any other provision of law.

Sec. 27-9. Miscellaneous Municipal Civil Infraction Provisions.

(a) If a person is cited as a minor, he or she shall be permitted to appear in court or to admit responsibility for a civil infraction without the necessity of the appointment of a guardian. A court having jurisdiction over a municipal civil infraction shall have jurisdiction over the minor and may proceed in the same manner as if he or she were an adult.

(b) A municipal civil infraction action is a civil action in which the defendant is alleged to be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by state law and this Code. The plaintiff in a municipal civil infraction action shall be the city if the alleged civil infraction is a violation of this Code, any other city ordinance designating the violation as a municipal civil infraction or a state law designating a violation as a municipal civil infraction.

(c) Each act of violation and every day upon which any violation is permitted or suffered to exist or continue shall constitute a separate violation and shall be subject to a separate fine upon admission or determination of responsibility. The fines provided by this chapter shall apply to any amendment or addition to this chapter or to the provisions elsewhere in this Code defining a municipal civil infraction whether or not such fines are reenacted in the amendment or addition.

(d) Municipal civil infractions shall be disposed of as follows:

(1) If a defendant is determined to be responsible or responsible "with explanation" for a municipal civil infraction, the 63rd District Court judge or magistrate may order the defendant to pay a civil fine, costs as provided by law and, if applicable, damages and expenses as provided in Michigan Compiled Laws Section 600.8733(2). In the order of judgment, the judge or magistrate may grant a defendant permission to pay a civil fine, costs and damages and expenses within a specified period of time or in specified installments; otherwise the civil fine, costs and damages and expenses are due immediately.

(2) If a defendant is ordered to pay a civil fine, the judge or magistrate shall determine the costs of the action, which are not limited to the costs taxable in ordinary civil actions and may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which the city has been put in connection with the municipal civil infraction up to the entry of a judgment, of not less than \$25.00 or more than \$500.00. Except as otherwise provided by state law, costs shall be payable to the general funds of the city.

(3) In addition to ordering the defendant to pay a civil fine, costs and damages and expenses, the judge or magistrate may issue a writ or order under Michigan Compiled Laws Section 600.8302.

(4) A judge or magistrate may impose the sanctions permitted under subsections (1) and (3) above only to the extent expressly authorized by the chief judge of the 63rd District Court.

(5) The schedule of civil costs and fines and costs to be imposed for municipal civil infractions shall be posted at city hall and readily available for public inspection. The schedule need not include all municipal civil infractions, but shall be regularly updated.

(6) A default in the payment or the payment of an installment of a civil fine, costs or damages and expenses may be collected by any means authorized for enforcement of a judgment under state law.

(7) If a defendant fails to comply with an order or judgment issued pursuant to state law within the time prescribed by the judge or magistrate, the 63rd District Court may proceed under Michigan Compiled Law Sections 600.8729, 600.8731 or 600.8733, as applicable.

(8) A defendant who fails to answer a notice to appear or citation for a municipal civil infraction is guilty of a criminal misdemeanor as provided for in state law.

(e) The following shall apply with respect to the default in the payment of fines, costs, damages and expenses:

(1) If a defendant defaults in the payment or the payment of an installment of a civil fine, costs or, if applicable, damages and expenses as provided in state law, upon the motion of the city or upon its own

motion, the court may require the defendant to show cause why the defendant should not be held in civil contempt and may issue a summons, order to show cause, or a bench warrant of arrest for the defendant's appearance.

(2) If a corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity is ordered to pay a civil fine, costs or damages and expenses, the individual authorized to make disbursement on behalf of such entity shall timely pay the fine, costs or damages and expenses and his or her failure to do so shall be civil contempt unless he or she makes the showing in subsection (3) below.

(3) Unless the defendant shows to the satisfaction of the court that the default was not attributable to an intentional refusal to obey the order of the court or to a failure on his or her part to make a good faith effort to obtain the funds required for payment, the court shall find that the default constitutes a civil contempt and may order the defendant imprisoned until all or a specific part, as determined by the court, of the amount due is paid.

(4) If it appears to the court that the default in the payment of a fine, costs or damages and expenses does not constitute civil contempt, the court may enter an order allowing the defendant additional time for payment, reducing the amount of the payment or of any installment(s), or revoking the fine, costs or damages and expenses.

(5) The term of imprisonment on civil contempt for nonpayment of a civil fine, costs or damages and expenses shall be specified in the order or commitment and shall not exceed 1 day for each \$50.00 due. A person imprisoned for nonpayment of a civil fine, costs or damages and expenses shall be given credit toward payment for each day of imprisonment at the rate of \$50.00 per day.

(6) A defendant committed to imprisonment for civil contempt for nonpayment of a civil fine, costs, or damages and expenses shall not be released from custody until one of the following occurs:

(A) the defendant is credited with the amount due pursuant to subsection (5) above;

(B) the amount due is collected through execution of process or otherwise; or

(C) The amount due is satisfied pursuant to a combination of (A) and (B) above.

(7) The civil contempt shall be purged by the court upon satisfaction of subsection (6) above.

Section 3. Publication. After its adoption, the City Clerk shall publish this ordinance, or a summary thereof, as permitted by law, along with the date of its adoption in the *Lowell Ledger*, a newspaper of general circulation in the City at least ten (10) days before its effective date.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect on March 1, 2009, after it or a summary thereof, as permitted by law, along with the date of its adoption, is published as provided in Section 2 above.

YEAS: Councilmembers Altoft, Ellison, LaPonsie, Pfaller and Mayor Hodges

NAYS: Councilmembers none.

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers none.

ABSENT: Councilmembers none.

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.
Dated: January 20, 2009

Betty R. Morlock,
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION
I, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Lowell, Michigan, certify that the above ordinance is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Lowell City Council held January 20, 2009, pursuant to notice given in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended, and notice of its adoption, including the full ordinance or a summary of its contents, was published in the *Lowell Ledger* on January 28, 2009. I further certify that the above ordinance was entered into the Ordinance Book of the City on January 20, 2009, and was effective March 1, 2009, at least ten (10) days after its publication.

Dated: January 20, 2009

Betty R. Morlock,
City Clerk



- CHRIS WEST

Position: General Manager, Flat River Grill
Residence: Lowell
Education: Lowell High School
 Two years at Davenport College
Experience: Restaurant business
Family: Husband Dennis, sons Scott, Brett and Nick
Hobbies: Spending time with the family



- JULIE DEVOE



Position: Bench Jeweler and designer
Residence: Ada
Education: Kendall College, metalworking classes, New Approach School, Virginia Beach
Experience: Jewelry since 2000
Family: Three children, Amy, Ella, James
 Husband, Cliff
Hobbies: Collecting old glass, artwork and anything that keeps her hands busy, loves tools and fixing things



Restaurateur nurtures passion for food business



by Emma Palova

In an era of frozen pizza and fast food business, a sit down fashionable meal accompanied by a glass of wine in a romantic ambience seems like a luxury.

Not, necessarily for general manager of Flat River Grill, Chris West or for the Gilmore Collection Restaurants concept. Not only has West opened up the Flat River Grill six years ago, but most recently she opened another restaurant from the collection, Mangiamo on Lake Drive.

Fresh back from her latest stint, West spoke about the early challenges of opening up a high end restaurant in a small town. "It was a matter of introducing people to different foods and wines and getting them to try new things," West said.

And it wasn't just one thing that broke the ice in a community used to tradition. It was West's passion combined with an effort to succeed.

"I love what I am doing,"

she said, "having fun with the guests and giving them an enjoyable evening."

West is in charge of approximately 25 to 30 employees, who she hopes, respect her job after many years of experience in the business.

Flat River Grill's competitive advantage is definitely a unique dining experience enhanced by the smells from the wood-fired grill and vistas of the historic downtown and the river.

"Just come in and try our good wine and beer," West said.

Over the last years, Flat River Grill has become a rendezvous spot for old friends and business people alike. Its prime location on the banks of the Flat River and in the heart of the downtown, lends the restaurant to meetings in summer or wintertime.

On a snowy night, you can get a whiteout deal up to 50 percent off via your e-mail or text messaging through Craig's List.

"Our major focus is on e-mails and texting," West said.

The customer, is now more than ever focused on getting a value for their money, according to West. If you were to talk to West about the customer's taste about a year ago, she would have said health.

"Now, it's more value than anything else," she said. "We've designed our menus so it's good value for our guests. Hopefully people will have a nice experience when they come in."

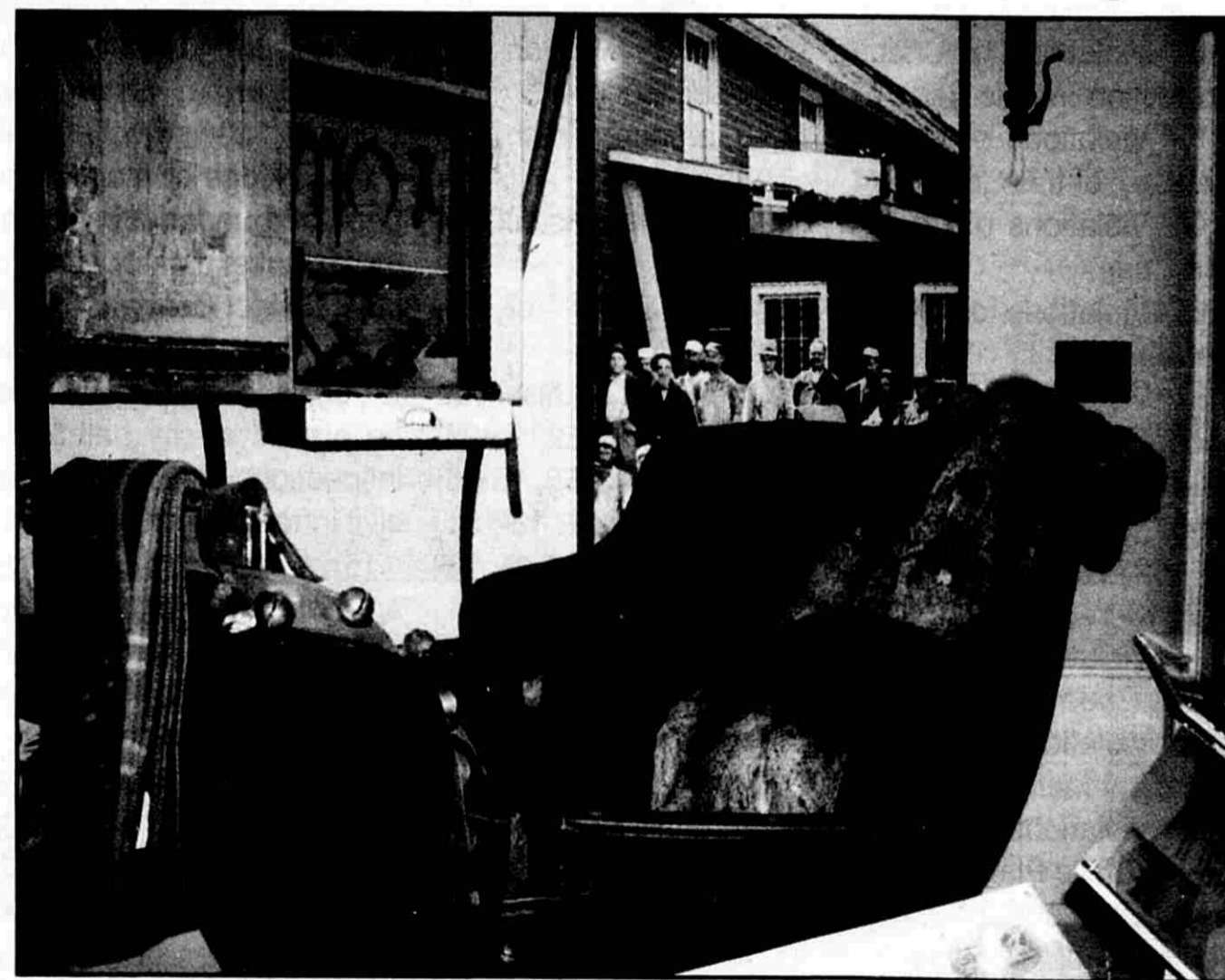
The emphasis as always remains on fresh local food and good time.

Flat River Grill participates in most community events such as catering the summer concerts.

West's plans include more catering and putting together lovely functions and holiday parties.

"We want to take care of the community and all its aspects," she said.

Exhibit, continued ... From Page 1



Cutter sleigh on display at the Lowell Historical Museum.

One of the oldest standing dealerships still in its place today is Wittenbach since 1945. Not too many people remember, that the dealership also sold tractors, stoves and refrigerators. Lowell quickly became

known as the place to buy a car. Even today, prominent car dealerships are still located here that sell to people from all over West Michigan. At one time, it was said that more cars were

sold in Lowell per year than residents who actually live here.

The exhibit was put together by Media Rare of Grand Rapids, in charge of all the museum exhibits.

Bench jeweler turns midlife crisis into career

by Emma Palova

She calls it a midlife crisis, but it was more of a suppressed talent intimidated by her mother's accomplishments.

Julie DeVoe, bench jeweler and designer for Chimera Designs, found her own voice, when she ran into a longtime acquaintance of hers, Cliff Yankovich. Yankovich was a wholesale diamond representative.

"I've never even considered working with jewelry," she said. "I started looking at it in more of a mechanical way. I was just in the mood."

At that time, DeVoe was a real estate agent, who wasn't all that much into it. But, Yankovich sparked

that interest in jewelry, that has always been there, even though mom and sister were the ones who reigned it in.

"I stayed away from art, it was my mom's thing," DeVoe said.

"I've never developed it. I never pursued it."

But, when she met Yankovich, the two started talking about having a goldsmith shop.

So, DeVoe took metal working classes at Kendall, and after the first class she was immediately hooked. The instructors were surprised that DeVoe had never done anything with her knack for metal work.

"You should do this," an instructor said.

And she did. DeVoe set up a bench at home, kept buying books about metal working and used a torch downtown at the college. She started thinking about opening up a store.

"I didn't want to be in the city," she said.

The enterprising duo chose Lowell as their location. After all, there were no goldsmiths in Lowell in 2002. As there are none today. Initially, to keep the store going and to own their inventory, DeVoe and Yankovich held four garage sales.

"The first three years were a nightmare," said DeVoe.

The jewelry business,

according to DeVoe, is very capital intensive. It cost \$38,000 to set up her bench and tools, as well as raw materials such as gold, sterling and gems. Even though they started out with just a doughnut case of jewelry, they owned everything in it, as well as the case.

"We didn't want consignment from people," said DeVoe, "so we just kept having our garage sales."

That way, they were able to keep the prices low, with no overhead, plus they owned the building.

"Everything we put in was an investment," she said.

They sold everything at

the garage sales, household things and antiques.

"We believed so much in Lowell, in this town," she said.

DeVoe grew up on an old farm in Alto, and she has always felt a connection to Lowell. She roller-skated as a kid, the family was involved in 4-H, and she remembers the old drug store.

"I've always had good memories of Lowell," she said. "I believe in a community-based business. I feel lucky, this is like having a family."

And jewelry is a highly personal business. DeVoe feels a connection to each piece she makes or repairs. To most people their jewelry has some kind of memory tied to it, whether good or bad.

"They trust you with this piece," she said. "It's an honor to make it into something that will last."

For example DeVoe may rebuild a ring that has been in the family for three generations, so it will last another generation.

Her goals include having a jeweler's workshop and in-house casting, but she needs fire-proof walls first. DeVoe also wants to teach metal working classes and open up the second floor in five years.

"I want to turn this into a jewelry design and repair center," she said. "The possibilities are just endless."

She is hoping her daughter Amy will come back from Arizona to work with her. As far as inspiration goes, DeVoe is inspired by people's reaction to her work. She rarely works from a drawing, only to eliminate waste with gold.

"As jewelers we have accountability in this place," she said. "We live and breathe here. We're a part of the community, a loyal part. It is a very caring community."

Last year, Chimera Designs made a major investment into technology, that has also proliferated the jewelry business. The

duo bought a computer design system at a Tucson gem stone show. It's a CAD CAM design system or digital goldsmith that brings images of jewelry on the screen, where it can be redesigned, and sent for cutting on a high precision machine.

DeVoe always slowly and cautiously approaches a new project such as a custom ring for Donna Laux.

"I am slow as molasses," she laughed.

Like any true artist, DeVoe dreams about her work with an obsession.

"I am totally obsessed with it," she said. "I go over it so many times. But once I get it in my head, that sucker is out in two days."

It's all about making sure in her own mind,

DeVoe is using the right idea out of all the options possible. She talks to the customer extensively to take their personalities into account when working on their jewelry.

Design and construction, form and function are equally important to DeVoe. The goal is to create a beautiful piece that will last.

"You have to find a balance between the look and the construction, and keep it looking that way," she said.

In spite of the economy, the jewelry business is doing well. A big chunk of DeVoe's business are traditional wedding pieces. Actually, 2008 has been the best year ever for Chimera Designs. Since, they are more established now, the shop gets repeat business spanning entire families.

"We offer a nice alternative to big box jewelry stores," she said. "People come in and chat."

What makes DeVoe's designs so successful? Mainly it is attention to detail and quality.

"We are grateful for the community support we've experienced since the first day we've opened our doors," she said. "I want to give a huge big hug to the community."

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Deadline is Friday at 4 PM for the following Wednesday edition.



A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM JANUARY 22-28 • 2009

- Caroline Kennedy takes herself out of the running for New York senate bid. The Gov. David Patterson then names Kirsten Gillibrand.
- Obama in his first three days takes action to close Gitmo, freezes the salary of his top staff, proposes a stimulus package and goes to Capitol Hill to try and persuade Republicans on the plan.
- Bob May, the actor who played the robot on the 60's show Lost In Space, dies at 69.

- Katie Stam, 22, of Indiana was crowned Miss America - the first-ever Hoosier to win.
- An avalanche kills 10 hikers on Mount Zigana in Ankara, Turkey.
- President Obama begins to reverse Bush climate policies.
- Japanese use Obama's speeches to learn English.
- Impeachment proceedings begin for Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich. The governor doesn't show up at the proceedings but instead, goes to New York to be interviewed professing his innocence on several news shows.
- FDA approves world's first embryonic stem cell study.
- Merrill Lynch CEO resigns after it was discovered he spent \$1 million to decorate his office.
- Pope Benedict XVI outrages Jews by deciding to lift the excommunication of a bishop who denies that Jews were killed in Nazi gas chambers.
- The world's largest cheesecake was created in Mexico City. It weighed in at two tons and 20,000 slices were passed out.
- Detroit Piston's Allen Iverson named to All-Star team.
- Louis Farrakhan visited Kwame Kilpatrick in jail.
- Three dead, 12 others seriously wounded in a Belgium day care attack. The suspect's face was painted black and white resembling the Joker in "The Dark Knight." Police are investigating if the attack was supposed to coincide with the first anniversary of Heath Ledger's death.
- According to a new study, by NOAA, climate change is largely irreversible for the next 1,000 years even if carbon dioxide emissions are stopped immediately.
- Microsoft plans to layoff 5,000 people in the next 18 months.
- The Senate votes to put off mandatory conversion to digital T.V. for another four months. The fear is that too many Americans aren't prepared for the change.

- Over 68,000 jobs lost in the last week of January. That's not counting the more than 200,000 job cuts so far this year. Over 2.6 million jobs were lost in 2008.
- A California woman has given birth to eight infants, six boys, two girls, by caesarian section. This is only the second time in history that octuplets have survived more than a few hours.

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* Anniversary announcements cannot contain an invitation to a celebration

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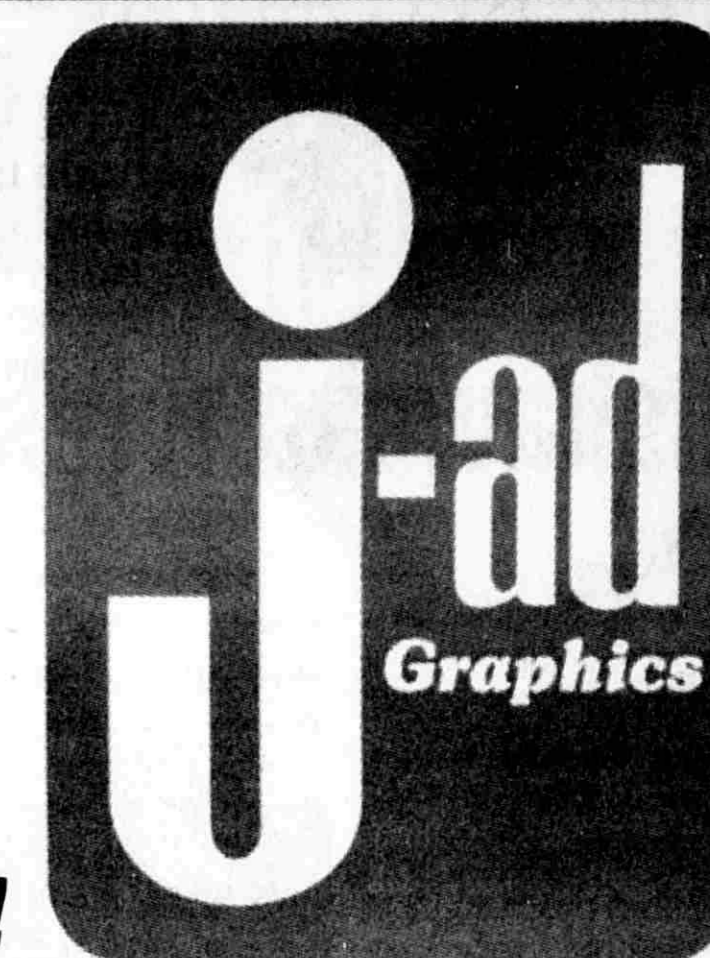
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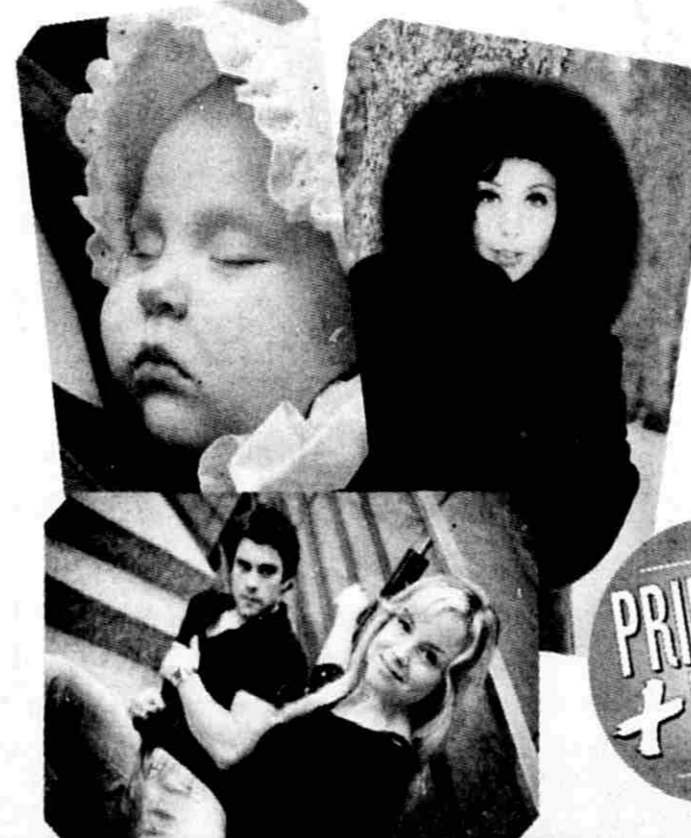


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Red Arrow SPORTS

#1 for a Reason!

Mishawaka wrestlers dominates in 35-19 win over Lowell

by *Thad Kraus*
Coming in neither team knew a whole lot about the other.

They left Lowell High School Friday night with a whole lot of respect for one another and a great desire to meet again next year.

Mishawaka, the number one wrestling team in the state of Indiana, and the defending state champion, claimed four matches decided by three points or less in turning back Lowell, the number two, ranked wrestling team in Division II, 35-19.

"We wanted to seek out different and better competition from bordering states," said Mishawaka coach Darrick Snyder. "If we won great, if not we'd be better for it come the end of the year."

The Cavemen won and according to Snyder left for a return trip to Northern Indiana a better team.

"Lowell is a legitimate, big time program. They'd compete well in the Northern Indiana Conference," Snyder explained. "We were able to pull off some close matches. Our kids showed some character and mental toughness. Both of which we preach in practice."

The Cavemen's Darius Cooley earned a 1-0 decision at heavyweight against Connor Kruse; Nick Schrader posted a 4-3

"They wrestle with great position and do not have many breakdowns. We had to fight for everything we got. This was a great

Morse survived a 6-5 decision at 145 pounds against Alex White. Brother, Jackson Morse, 152 pounds, followed with a pin in 14

seconds of the first period against Anthony Eddy. Tim Gingerich, 160, continued the Red Arrow string of wins with a 7-2 decision over Marty Friedman. Ryan Olep, 189, closed out the evening for Lowell with a 10-1 major decision against Dustin Boyd.

Lowell's Ty Jack, recording Lowell's only early win, executed a reversal and a near fall in the final seconds of his match at 119 to turn a 6-2 deficit into a 7-6 win against Matt Guerra.

Mishawaka's three-time defending state champion Josh Harper recorded one of two Cavemen pins at 130 pounds. Christan Lentz

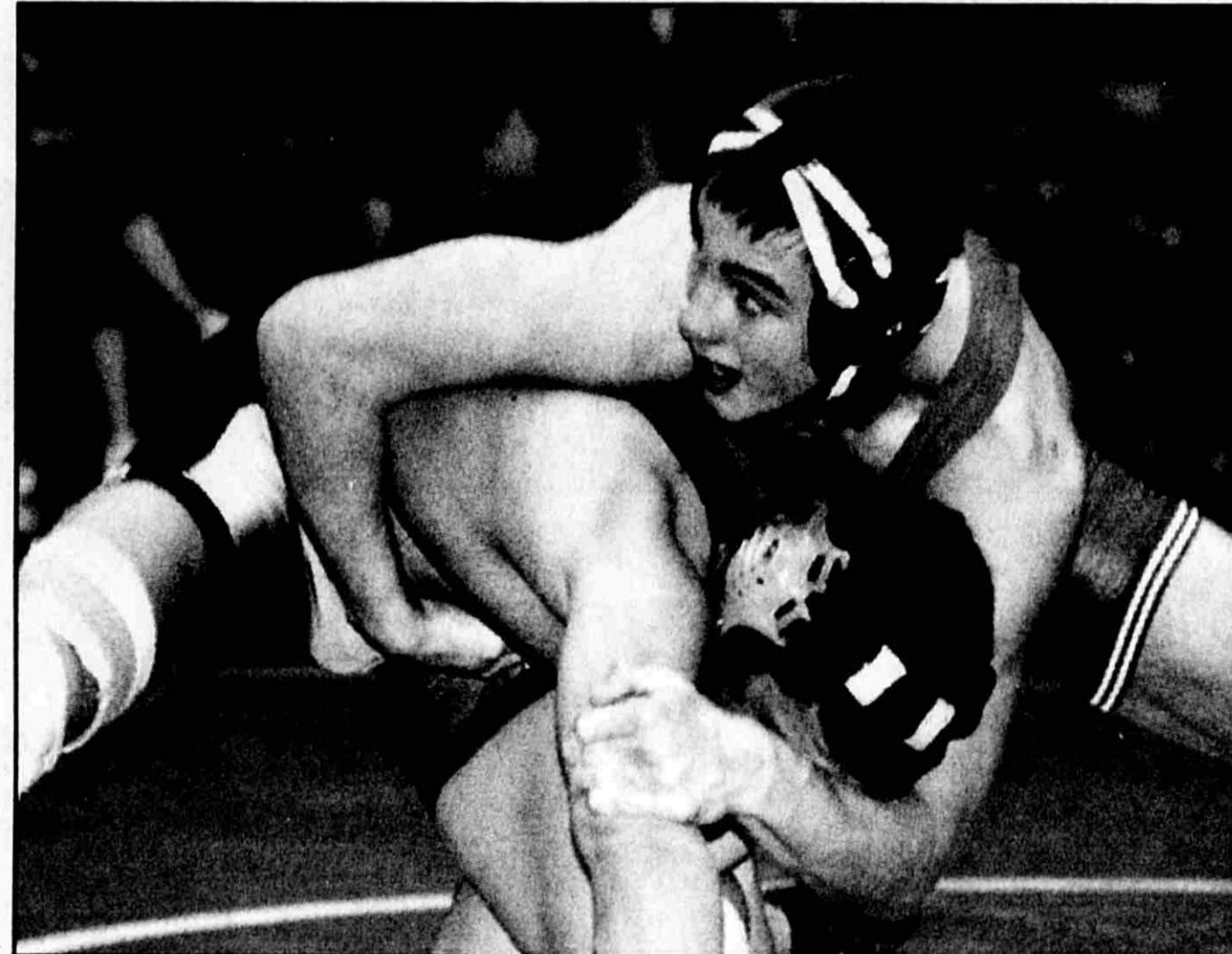
tallied the other pin at 215 pounds.

At 103, Lowell's Aaron Nowak lost 5-0 to Lymen Stoneburner and Zach Jeffries was a 12-4 victim to Paul Beck at 112 pounds.

"I thought if we could win some of the close matches we'd have a shot to win, but we didn't," Dean said. "The Indiana wrestling season is about a month ahead of us. I think we will be a different club in three-four weeks."

Both schools said they want to meet up again next year.

"This could be something special for fans to look forward to," Snyder said.



Jackson Morse recorded a pin in 14 seconds of the first period.

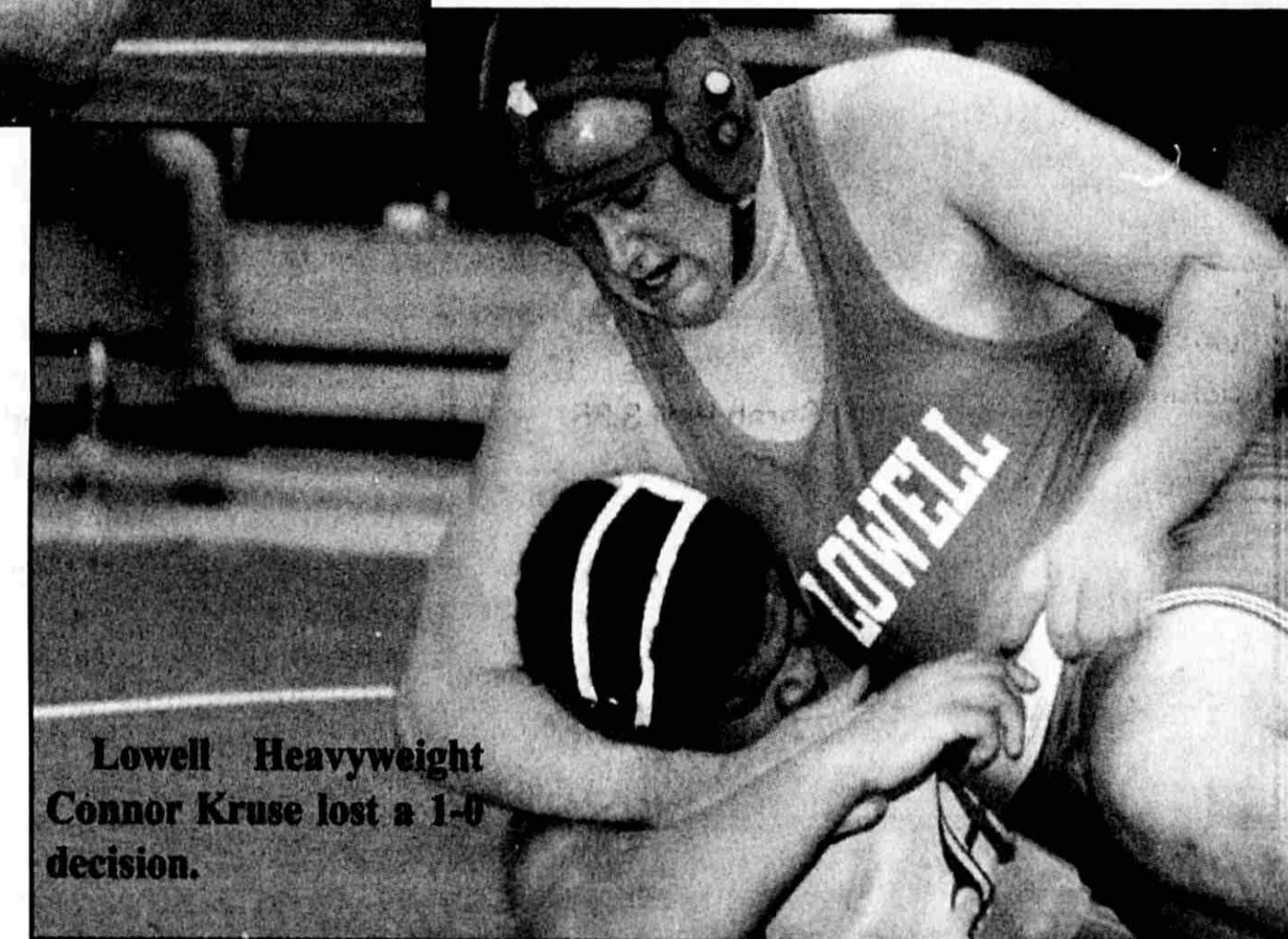
decision (overtime) at 125 against Gabe Morse; Aaron Mersich claimed a 7-5 decision at 135 pounds over Dan Fleet; and Rick Morin recorded a 9-6 decision at 171 pounds against Gabe Dean.

"Mishawaka is a very good wrestling team," said Lowell coach Dave Dean.

measuring stick for us. We were able to work some of our stuff against good wrestlers."

The Cavemen won eight of the first nine matches building a 32-3 advantage. Lowell fired back by winning five of the last six matches.

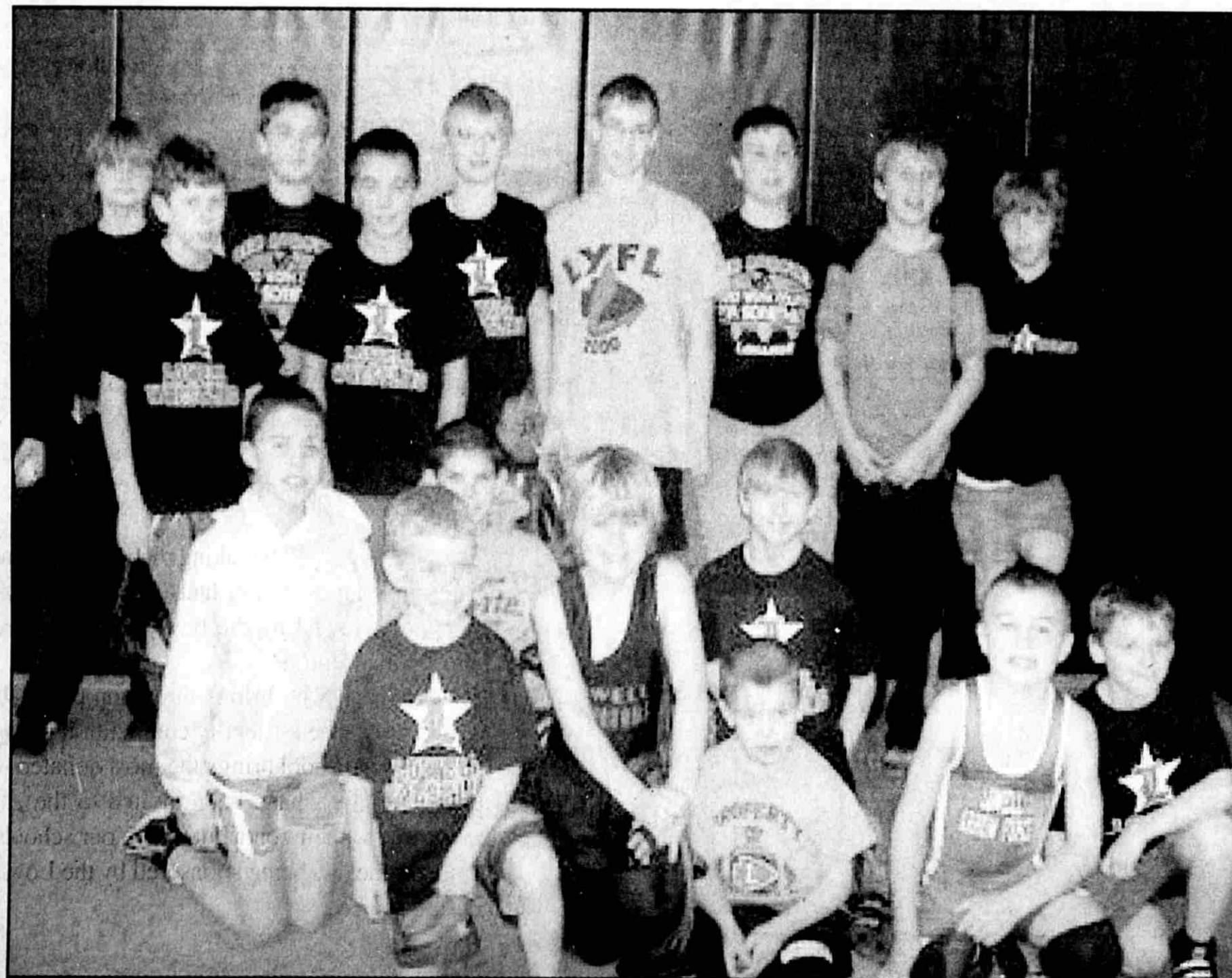
Red Arrow Andrew



Lowell Heavyweight Connor Kruse lost a 1-0 decision.

GO, TEAM, GO!
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Lowell youth wrestlers place third in dual meet



Lowell Elementary wrestling team placed third at the New Lothrop eight-team dual over the weekend.

Lowell competed against New Lothrop, Brighton, Clarkston, Hartland, Dewitt, Springport and Dundee.

The Lowell squad has qualified for the state tourney on Feb. 22 in Battle Creek.

Pictured are, front row, left to right: Matt Stephens, Jared Hough, Doak Dean, Sage Serbenta, and Avery Mutchler.

Second row, left to right: Alex Paiz, Zeth Dean, and Jake Denison.

Third row, left to right: Eli Boulton, Jason Nagy, Bailly VanAmburgh, Nate Stephens, Logan Blough, Forest Mills, Max Dean, Garret Taylor and John Bigham.

Red Arrow SPORTS

Teft floors competition with balance and grace

by *Thad Kraus*

Kelsey Teft has banked away many years of dancing and tumbling.

Executing a strong back tuck at the end of her floor routine Wednesday night, enabled the junior to deposit her highest ever all-around score in Lowell's 126.45-106.125 loss to Rockford.

"Kelsey was just phenomenal tonight," said Lowell gymnastics coach Skye Fisher. "That strong back tuck at the end of her floor routine made all the difference in the world."

Teft, who has been dancing and tumbling since her days as a toddler, is now combining the two to deliver clean, definitive movement and balance in the floor exercise.

The junior recorded a 9.075 in Lowell's meet against Rockford. Teft finished with a meet-leading 35.275 all-around meet score.

"I love to dance and I love to tumble so putting it all together makes it good," Teft explained. "My goal is to make everything clean and better. Floor judges like it when you're clean with your lines."

Teft's newest trick, a hand stand, has elevated her uneven bar score.

Teft tallied an 8.25 against the Rams.

On the beam, the junior continued to be steady and for the most part unwavering as she recorded a mark of 9.15.

The junior penciled in an 8.8 on the vault.

Lowell received another steady performance from Andrea Coffey.

The senior posted scores of 8.4 in the floor exercise; 7.65 on the vault; 7.5 on the uneven bars; and 7.2 on the balance beam.

"I'd like to see Andrea's floor score in the higher eights. She is more than capable of doing that," said Fisher. "We're going to put some tricks in from last year to see if we can get that score where it needs to be."

Lowell's coach was also pleased with the effort from junior Sarah Piell on the vault, bars and in the floor exercise.

"She has some serious rips on her hands and she pulled through and did all these things for us tonight that she didn't really feel like doing, but did an excellent job. That was one of her highest scores on vault."

The Red Arrows, competing at less than full strength, were without senior Richelle Kimble.

Lowell travels to East Kentwood on Wednesday (Jan. 28).

Vault

Sarah Piell 7.7
Andrea Coffey 7.65
Kelsey Teft 8.8

Beam

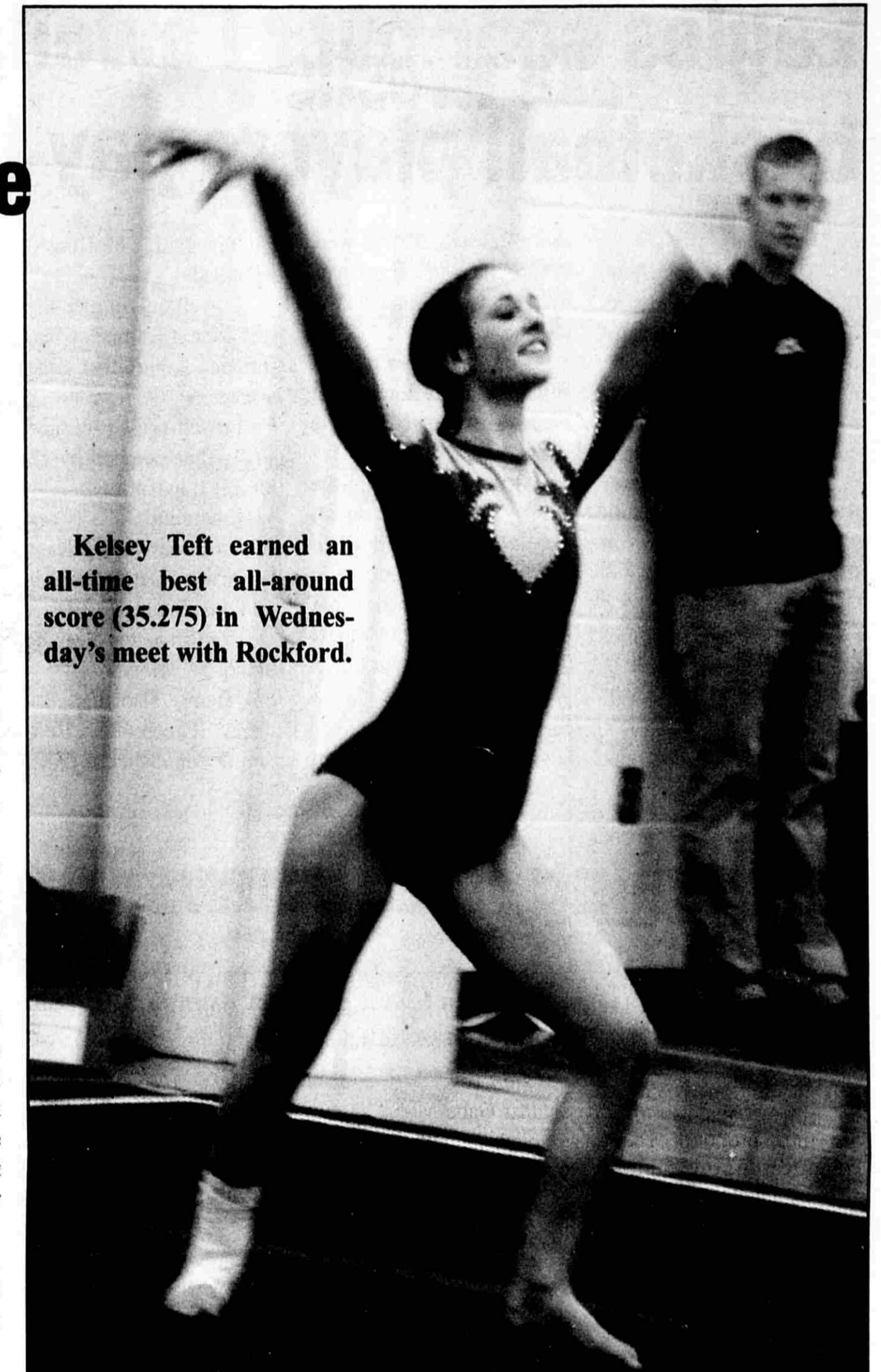
Emma Bencker 6.2
Cassie Miles 6.55
Andrea Coffey 7.2
Kelsey Teft 9.15

Bars

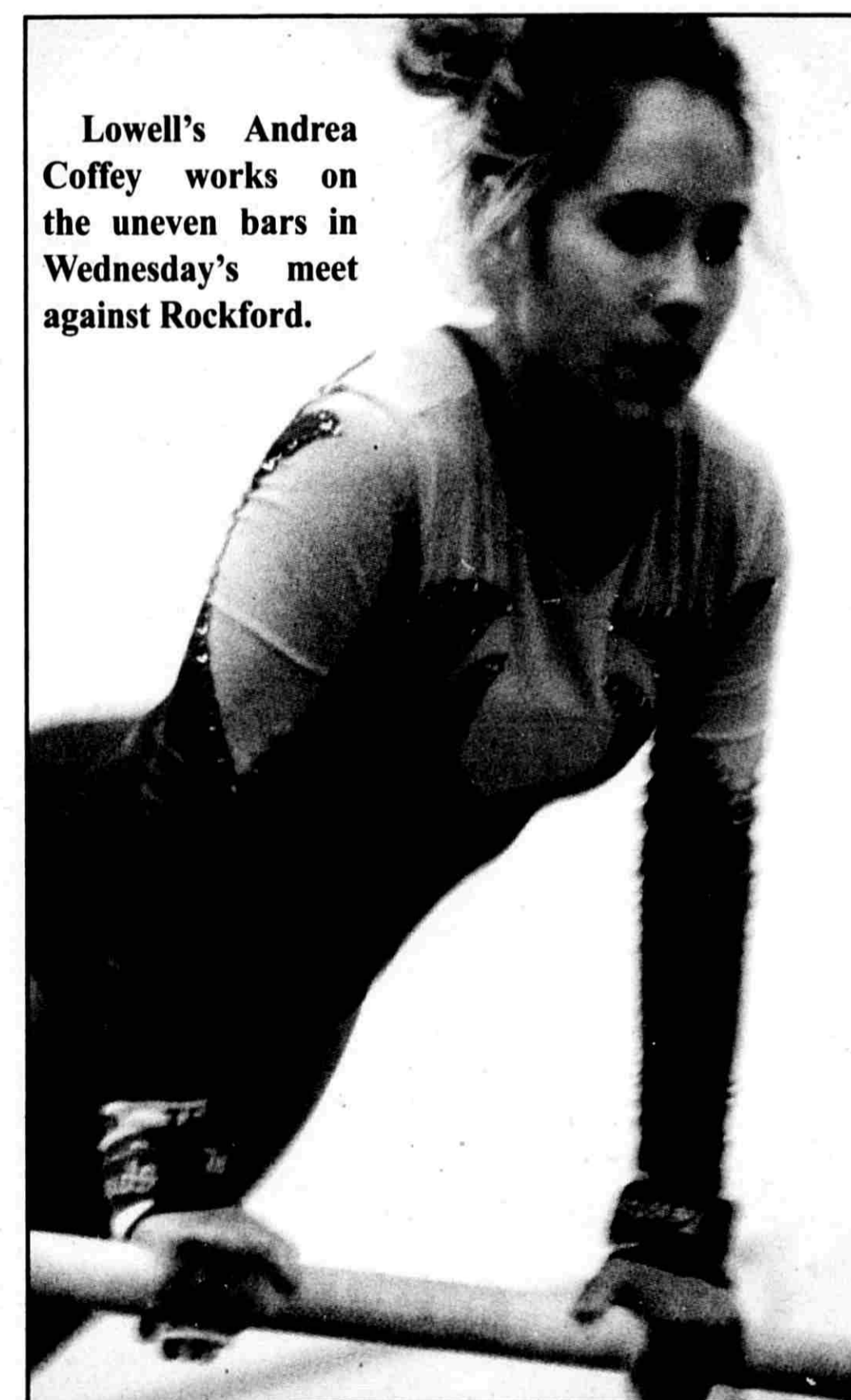
Cassie Miles 3.15
Sarah Piell 3.35
Andrea Coffey 7.5
Kelsey Teft 8.25

Floor

Cassie Miles 6.4
Sarah Piell 6.75
Andrea Coffey 8.4
Kelsey Teft 9.075



Kelsey Teft earned an all-time best all-around score (35.275) in Wednesday's meet with Rockford.



Lowell's Andrea Coffey works on the uneven bars in Wednesday's meet against Rockford.

Basketball games will spotlight community service project and GRWSA awareness

The varsity girls and boys basketball teams are creating an exciting night on the Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Both teams will be playing at Lowell High School, giving you two games for the price of one. In addition to their double header, a sponsored wheelchair basketball team will be providing great entertainment.

Both varsity teams are involved in a community service project for the Flat River Outreach and teachers will be recognized for their service to the Lowell students.

LHS students from the Sports and Entertainment Marketing class have scheduled a most entertaining pre-game and half-time shows featuring the Grand Rapids Wheelchair Sports Association (GRWSA). It is a non-profit organization that provides wheelchair athletes with unlimited recreational activities. They offer both junior and adult programs, which allows for a wide variety of ages and performances.

The demonstration will be taking place at half-time of the girls game, between the boys and girls games, and at half-time of the boys game. The girls game will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the boys who are scheduled to tipoff at 7:30 p.m. against Forest Hills Central.

For each attendee who brings three non-perishable food items, ticket prices will be \$2. There will be a friendly competition between Lowell and Forest Hills Central to see which school brings the most donated food items.

All Lowell teachers have been invited to the games for free to be honored during the games for their contributions to our schools.

The entertainment is being sponsored by the Lowell Teaching Staff (LEA) and Lowell Spirit Store.

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Red Arrow SPORTS

Eagles soar over Lowell; Red Arrow basketball players pay their dues to Union

by Thad Kraus

The effort was there, but on this night the size, quickness and shooting of its opponent was just too much.

Grand Rapids Christian netted its first five shots from the floor and never looked back as it dropped a 59-44 O-K White loss on the visiting Red Arrows.

"That's a good basketball team that shot the ball extremely well in the first half," said Lowell boys' basketball coach Jeff McDonald. "We did not

shoot the ball all that well. When you don't shoot well it doesn't look like you're playing well."

McDonald was pleased with his club's effort against a more talented Eagle squad.

"I am proud of the effort. You have to do all the little things well when you're not as talented."

The Red Arrows out rebounded Grand Rapids Christian by nine (42-33).

"Some of that has to do with the fact they didn't miss too many shots in

that first half," McDonald explained.

Lowell only turned the ball over 13 times while Christian committed nine miscues.

Lowell trailed by nine (17-9) after one and by 13 (35-22) at half-time.

Emerging as underclassmen to watch are Red Arrows Derek Cornish and Isaac Tawney.

Cornish netted a game-leading 16 points.

"Derek also had 15 against Greenville. He's gaining confidence. I think

he's beginning to realize he can play here (at the varsity level)."

Tawney dropped in nine points and has emerged as one of Lowell's top offensive threats.

"Isaac is shooting the ball well and is beginning to understand the pace of the game at this level. His decision-making has also gotten better," McDonald said.

Lowell netted 13 shots from the floor over 32 minutes; eight of those were

from behind the arc. It was outscored inside the arc 36-10.

Union 50
Lowell 47

The Red Arrows had three shots to tie the game in the last 30 seconds in its three-point loss to Union.

The last shot was at the buzzer by senior Tim Hettinga.

It marked the third game this year Lowell has lost by six-points or less.

Red Arrow turnovers accounted for 32 Union points according to Lowell coach Jeff McDonald.

"We just had too many turnovers that led directly to Union baskets," McDonald explained.

Lowell led 25-24 at half-time and trailed 41-39 after three quarters of play.

Tim Hettinga and Isaac Tawney led the Red Arrows in scoring with 13 points apiece. Mitchell Malling added 10 and Danny Lane contributed with six.

Struggling Red Arrows toppled by streaking Pioneers

by Thad Kraus

The urgency detected in the coach's voice afterwards was not found in her club's play.

That was disappointing to Red Arrow girls' basketball coach Dani Gallert following her team's 43-26 defeat to O-K White leader, East Grand Rapids.

"They hustled to every loose ball, we walked. They shot well, we did not close out well on their shooters," Gallert explained. "There

was no urgency in our play. That is very disappointing."

Maybe the most telling statistic was Lowell (5-6, 2-2) attempted 25 shots in 32 minutes. It turned the ball over 22 times.

"We played in spurts. We can't put four quarters together. It's hard to win games that way," Gallert said.

For the host Pioneers, the picture was a little brighter.

East (9-2, 5-0) recorded its eighth straight win and remained undefeated in the league.

"It wasn't artistically played by either side, but anytime you hold a club to 20-some points you're going to be in good shape," said EGR coach Mike Ellis.

Lowell started slow, finding itself down eight at 9-1 with under three minutes to play in the first quarter. The Red Arrows rallied to cut the deficit to three at 9-6 and had a chance to trim the deficit to one but missed a lay-up.

Lowell struggled early in the second quarter to put points on the board and trailed at half-time 21-12.

"We're just having trouble scoring," Gallert said.

East netted four shots

from behind the arc and beat Lowell on the boards 30-26.

"We made a few outside shots," Ellis said. "Lowell always plays good defense and clogs the middle. At the same time, I thought our

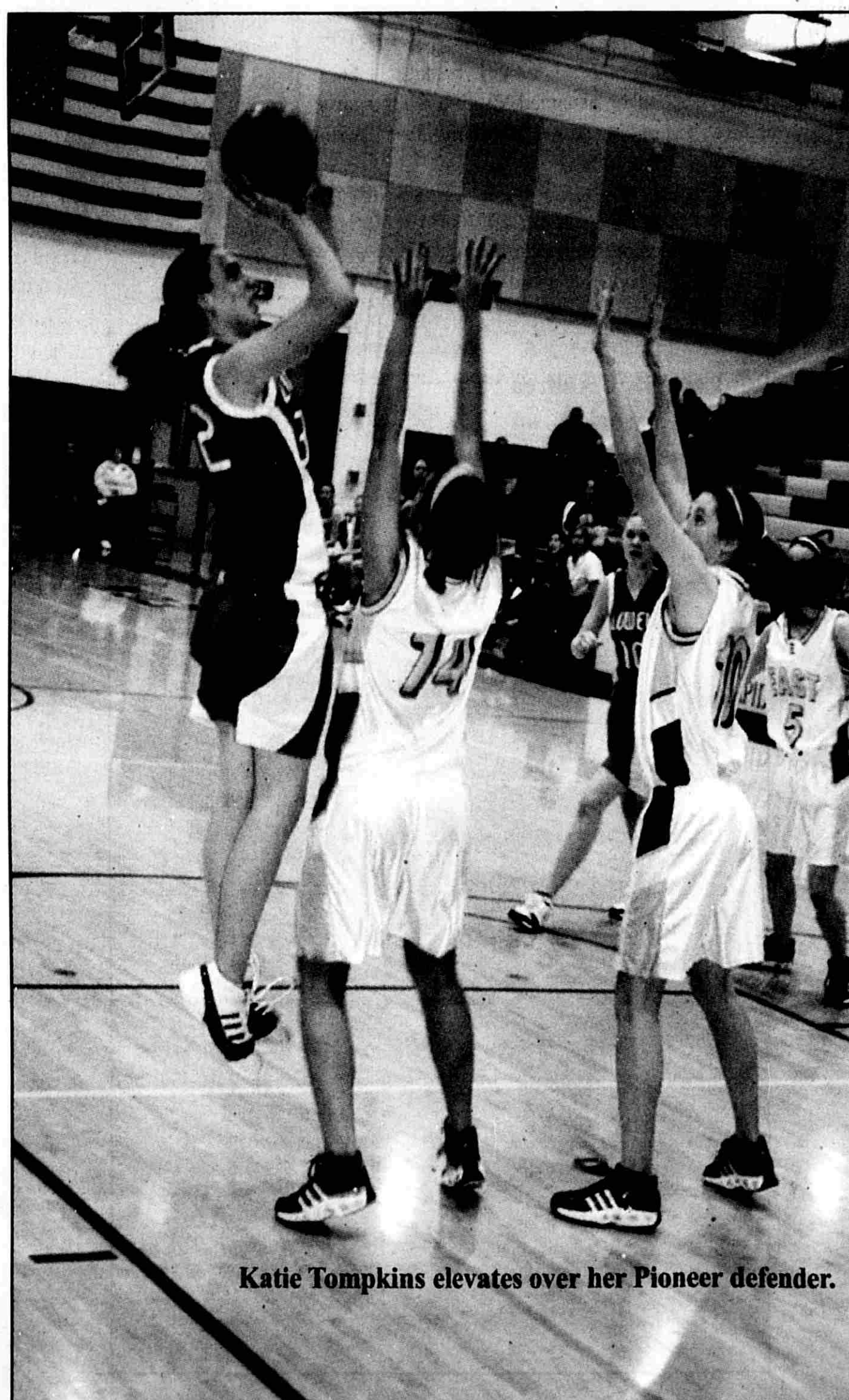
defensive effort tonight was outstanding."

Lowell's leading scorer was Kara Rasch with eight points. Logan DeClercq contributed with seven.

Greer Bratchie led all

scorers for EGR with 18 points.

"She's a great athlete and competitor and obviously was a big lift for us tonight," Ellis concluded.



Katie Tompkins elevates over her Pioneer defender.

Red Arrow SPORTS

Red Arrow skiers finish fifth in week two

In its second meet of the year the Lowell/Kenowa Hills/Comstock Park co-op girls ski team earned a fifth-place finish.

Grand Haven took first with Forest Hills Central and Rockford following in second and third respectively.

Lowell's Samantha Hagerman placed seventh while teammates Christine DeVries (Comstock Park) came home in 21st place and Jessica DeSio was 23rd.

"Christine was a top five skier last year and Samantha has finished in the top 10 in all the races this year,"

said skiing coach Mark Hagerman.

Lowell/Comstock Park/Kenowa Hills' biggest hurdle has been team numbers.

"We're not always able to meet the team requirements for the number of skiers," Hagerman explained.

The same can be said for the boys team.

Spencer Gillette and Gabor Halasz, of Kenowa Hills, have recorded solid performances on the slopes but the numbers required have been missing.

"They are both good skiers. Gillette is just a sophomore and has provided us with a top 10 finish already," Hagerman said.

East Grand Rapids and Grand Haven have split top honors over the first two weeks in the boys' competition.

Lowell, as part of a three team co-op (along with Kenowa Hills and Comstock Park) is a member of the Greater Grand Rapids High School Ski Conference Association (GGRHSSCA)

held at Cannonsburg Ski Area. The association currently has 10 teams of girls and 11 teams of boys. Each team is allowed six skiers to compete in both slalom and giant slalom (both for boys/girls) while the top four places count in scoring. But, in order to get a team score, each girl/boy team must have four skiers competing. The co-op boys team has only two racers, while our girls team has only four.

WEEK 1 RESULTS: (1/13/09)

Girls Slalom

(team requirements were not met: only three skiers)
Christine DeVries (Comstock Park): fifth place.
Samantha Hagerman (Lowell): sixth place.
Katy Mork (Lowell): thirty-fourth place.

Girls GS

(team requirements were not met: only three skiers)
Christine DeVries (Comstock Park): fourth place.
Samantha Hagerman (Lowell): seventh place.
Katy Mork (Lowell): thirty-sixth place.

Boys Slalom

(Team Requirements were not met: only two skiers)
Spencer Gillette (Kenowa Hills): twenty-seventh place.
Gabor Halasz (Kenowa Hills): fourth-third place.

Boys GS

(team requirements were not met: only two skiers)
Spencer Gillette (Kenowa Hills): twentieth place.
Gabor Halasz (Kenowa Hills): forty-first place.

WEEK TWO RESULTS: (1/20/09)

(Girls: overall fifth place finish: 167 points)

Girls Slalom (co-op placed sixth: 95 points)
Samantha Hagerman (Lowell): seventh place.
Christine DeVries (Comstock Park): twenty-first place.
Jessica DeSio (Comstock Park): twenty-third place.

*If you don't learn to laugh at trouble,
you won't have anything to
laugh at when you're old.*

- Edgar Watson Howe
(1853 - 1937)



OKAY - Someone Has To Say It ...

by Thad Kraus

After blogging about his school's decision to apologize for Covenant's 100-0 girls basketball win over the Dallas Academy, Covenant coach Micah Grimes was fired Monday.

On his way out, the basketball coach said he was leaving with his integrity in tact.

"I respectfully disagree with the apology, especially the notion that the Covenant School girls basketball team should feel 'embarrassed' or 'ashamed.' We played the game as it was meant to be played and would not intentionally run up the score on any opponent."

What, when you're playing a team void of basketball talent and ability, first team to 100 wins. If you're playing a team that has a difficult time dribbling, passing and shooting the ball within a basketball setting, press until you get to that magical 100-point plateau; and ethics and moral principles do not enter into the equation during a game. They are something you refer to and pay lip service to afterwards.

By firing Grimes, the school sent a clear message to its girls basketball team. It was that 'we know the enemy and enemy was us!'

I'm not sure a critical eye shouldn't also be directed toward officials at the Dallas Academy.

This isn't the first time its girls basketball team has been dealt a substantial loss, in terms of points.

In fact, it's been common place over the last four years.

There are a number of reasons beyond basketball skill. The number of girls who attend the Academy is minimal. The Dallas Morning News also reported the White Rock Lake area school is renowned for its work with girls who are challenged with a variety of learning problems.

Why then are they competing against schools who

have a larger pool of girl athletes to choose from? Whose players are far advanced athletically?

Yes, they deserve the chance to play basketball and to compete, but it should be at a level equal to its own. That's why Michigan divides its basketball schools into four divisions - Class A, B, C & D. Thus you don't have a Saranac competing against a Rockford.

It seems the Covenant debacle has steered Dallas Academy officials to this way of thinking.

It informed the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools that was withdrawing its girls team from the league for the rest of the season.

Covenant's handling of the game situation was bad to be nice, deplorable to be honest.

As part of its apology Covenant officials are seeking to forfeit the contest.

The head of Covenant Schools, Kyle Queal said "Victory without honor is a great loss."

Should Dallas Academy opponents be put in a situation where they have to ask their players coming off the bench not to look to score and relax on defense? Basically, be the Washington Generals for a half.

They too practice everyday, don't they deserve to be able to play the game when their opportunity arrives?

Maybe the Dallas Academy team should be competing in a club setting where records and scores aren't the main focus. Instead its health, exercise, and experiencing the values of being in a team setting.

The girls at Dallas Academy haven't won a game in four seasons.

In most games, they haven't come close. Bulldog athletic director Jeremy Civello said, "It plays in hope of improving skills, learning teamwork and picking up whatever life lessons athletics may bring."

But it took him four years to act on these principles. Now he's saying all the right things, doing all the right things, but that comes after his teams have suffered through many demoralizing defeats. The girls did not sign up for that life lesson.

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Lowell School's spelling bee winners



The Lowell Middle School's final competition was held on Jan. 21. First place winner was Paige Hale, runner up was Michelle Starkey.

Pictured above front row, left to right: Mike Anible, Danielle Starkey, Morgan Groendyke, Michelle Starkey, Paige Hale, Emily Judd, Adrienne Rife, Paige Wilson, and Laurel Bronkella; back row, left to right: Phillip Janowski, Jordan Dennie, and Connor Stowell.

Ryan Hessler (right) is the 2009 Alto Spelling Bee Champion. Hessler spelled his way to the top, competing with 24 other 5th graders. Runner up was Sawyer Olesko (left). Hessler will move on to the Regional Spelling Bee in late February in Cedar Springs.



Pictured, at left, are Murray Lake's 5th Grade Spelling Bee Runner-Up, Calvin Warning and Champion, Anthony Pollock. Twenty-five fifth graders participated in the bee. Pollock will move on to the regional competition to be held in early February.

Sound Off

The Ledger
"Almost"
Anything
Goes Column



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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.

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LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE - second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Members in good standing may attend.

ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - second Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, Ada.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday: 1-4 p.m.; Thursday: 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

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ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - second Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, Ada.

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the second Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

AVERILL HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF ADA - 7144 Headley, is open every Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 1 - 4 p.m. Also by appointment. 676-9346.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 647-3820.

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ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES - coming to Lowell! Daytime & evening classes starting up in February. Zumba is a fun Latin-inspired dance/fitness class anyone can do. It's fun, it's different, it's easy, it's effective, it's exercise in disguise! Call or email me for more information about Zumba & for current class schedules. Ditch the routine, join the Party! Cheryl, 897-0697 or prattb123@sbcglobal.net.

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 or 897-2954.

ZOOLAND DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - on 1st & 2nd shifts. Call 897-8386 or 308-0195.

WANTED - Looking for work, part-time or full, have CDLA license, journeyman electrician & machine repair. Call 291-9116 (Jim).

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.

HELP WANTED

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

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.

ADVERTISERS WANTED FOR OUR MADE IN AMERICA SECTION! - Do you offer a product or products that are made in America? This includes everyone who makes craft items or anything else out of their home! Let everyone know - place an ad in our Made in America Section coming in the Feb. 8 edition of the Buyers Guide. A 4"x2.5" full ad is only \$39! Deadline is Thurs., Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. Call 897-9555.

SPAY/NEUTER - \$20 for dogs & \$10 cats owned by low income families. Call 897-8865 to setup an appointment.

GO MELINDA! - She does it again! 2 houses SOLD in just 3 weeks, 1 more pending third party approval and still negotiating! If you are thinking about making a move in the next 6 months do yourself a favor and call Melinda Robison 616-648-0151 or visit www.GoMelinda.com Five Star Real Estate 791-1500.

RISNER ROOFING - serving you since 1961. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. New & reroofs. Ice & snow removal. Call Steve, 868-6015 or Terry, 897-7968.

DEAR LOWELL LEDGER READERS - Due to increased costs beyond our control, we are forced to change the price of our newstand copies to 50c. Newsprint prices have increased every month for the last 13 months making it impossible to continue to sell the paper at its current 35c rate. We hope you will continue to remain a loyal Ledger reader.

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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of Feb. 2, 2009

MON: Cheese pizza (chili also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), seasoned corn, fresh fruit, graham crackers, milk.

TUES: Taco w/cheese & lettuce (ham & cheese sub/lettuce also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fresh fruit, apple juice, animal crackers, milk.

WED: Macaroni & cheese (tuna salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), green beans, assorted fruit, soft pretzel, milk.

THURS: Hot dog on bun (turkey & cheese wrap also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), peas, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

FRI: Chicken mashed potato bowl (like KFC) w/ gravy & dinner roll (3 meat sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes/ gravy, assorted fruit, milk.

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<p>2003 FORD F150 X-cab, 4x4, off-road, like new, only 50k. #86241A \$10,956</p>	<p>2006 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 65th Anniversary, 4x4, moonroof, 21k. #86263 \$15,995</p>	<p>2006 JEEP LIBERTY 4x4, moonroof, only 14k, 65th Anniversary, full power. \$14,875</p>	<p>2005 HYUNDAI SONATA Fog lamps, CD, power everything, nice car. #86188A \$6,995</p>	<p>2007 JEEP COMPASS 4X4 Full power, MP3 connection. \$15,801</p>
<p>2007 SATURN ION Great condition, local trade, nicely, equipped. \$9,995</p>	<p>2001 DODGE CARAVAN 3rd seating, full power, dual sliding doors, clean. \$7,367</p>	<p>2008 DODGE CALIBER Great gas mileage, 1 owner. #88223 \$12,995</p>	<p>2007 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY Touring, power doors, hatch, 1 owner, only 19k. #87235 \$15,995</p>	<p>2004 MAZDA 3 Zoom - Zoom, leather, roof, alloys, fog lamps, auto., sweet car! #85175A \$9,995</p>
<p>2001 BONNEVILLE 3.8 L, V-6, leather, alloy wheels, auto-temp, great vehicle. Only \$5,965</p>	<p>2006 JEEP LIBERTY Limited! 4x4, 1 owner, leather, inferno red, only 19k. \$14,981</p>	<p>2007 PONTIAC G6 GT Leather, roof, chrome wheels, fog lamps, sharp 1-owner #87152 \$13,995</p>	<p>2000 MAZDA 626 Full power options, auto., CD, V-6, #87233A All this for only \$5,995</p>	<p>2003 VW GOLF GL Power windows, air, tilt, cruise, auto., fully serviced, ready to roll. #87240A \$8,995</p>
<p>2007 TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING Power doors, lift gate, rear air, loaded, 1 owner, only 19k. #87253 \$14,999</p>	<p>2006 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY V-6, auto., full power, 1 owner, 27k. #86247 Sale \$11,995</p>	<p>1996 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER 114k, alloy wheels, V-6, sunroof, great, inexpensive transportation. #85031A \$3,995</p>	<p>2008 DODGE CHARGER 1 owner, silver, like new, low miles. #88224 \$15,500</p>	<p>2006 TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING 1 owner, loaded, 30k, power doors & gate. #86251 \$13,900</p>
<p>2006 TOWN & COUNTRY Touring, only 12,000 miles, loaded, full power. #86220 \$14,995</p>	<p>2007 TOWN & COUNTRY Special Edition, leather, chrome wheels, much, much more, 29k. #87256 \$16,995</p>	<p>2007 JEEP WRANGLER 1 owner, only 23k., hard top, sound bar, 6 cyl., fog lights. \$17,900</p>	<p>2006 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 65th Anniversary, 19k, moonroof, fog lights. \$14,879</p>	<p>2006 CHRYSLER 300C Moonroof, leather, nav, rear seat, DVD \$16,995</p>

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