

*James - 9-19-88*

# Study reveals some flaws at Lansing's Flom library

LANSING — A recent comparative study has revealed a few shortcomings with the Lewis O. Flom Lansing Public Library.

Library Board Member William Lathrop said he came to that conclusion based on a study of 15 Illinois libraries and the population of each.

And the numbers aren't good.

Lathrop said Lansing's library rates last as far as the number of hours they are open and in the number of periodicals and full-time employees that they have.

The library is open 57 hours per week as compared to 65 or 67 hours by other libraries.

And although they have less employees than the other libraries, their budget for employees is about the same as the others, Lathrop said.

The library figures in the middle for what they spend on books, he said.

"There are a few areas we need to work on," Lathrop said. But overall, "we're not too bad."

Some of these areas are already being worked on, said Head Librarian Joann Jensen.

Lathrop said he would like to compile a wish list of ideas "to make this the best library."

Jensen also said the library's application forms for a state per capita grant are completed.

The library should receive the grant around the first of the year, Jensen said.

The library applies for this grant every year, Jensen said, and estimated the amount at \$1 per person, based on the population of the village. However, the state is cutting some of its funds, she warned.

The grant will probably be used to purchase new books, Jensen said.