Western State High School

State Highlights 3/13/1946

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Choir To Assist In May Festival

State High’s choir, under the direction of Mrs. Leoti C. Britton, having successfully completed its first semester’s project, the operetta, is now beginning preparation for its part in the Spring Music Festival, which will be given May 10. Many high schools and colleges from Southern Michigan will participate in this Festival which will be directed by guest conductor George H. Bickerton, choral director of Northwestern University, with Dr. Carter of Western’s faculty as baritone soloist.

Mrs. Britton and the choir are looking even further ahead than the Spring Festival to planning for next year’s operetta. One possibility is “The Mikado” which, however, requires a lot of men. Those interested in joining the choir next year should see Mrs. Britton, since the choice of the operetta may be affected by the personnel of the choir.

About twenty-five former choir members, most of whom had leads in past operettas, were enthusiastic spectators at “The Gondoliers.” Also in the audience was a lady who said she had played the part of the Duchess in a production of “The Gondoliers” in England. After the Saturday night show, about 100 choir and orchestra members and guests enjoyed refreshments and dancing in the Women’s Gym.

Hi-Y States Rules For Queen Election

The new feature of the Hi-Y carnival, which will be held in the Administration Building, Friday, March 29, is the election of a carnival queen. Each homeroom will choose one girl to run in the election which begins Monday morning, March 25, and will close at 11 F.M., March 29. A voting booth will be set up in the hall, and anyone who desires may vote, providing he pays one-cent per ballot. The candidate receiving the most votes will be awarded an appropriate gift, and will be crowned “Queen of the 1946 Hi-Y Carnival”, the night of the event.

Correction, Please!

The following names were omitted from the honor roll, published in the last issue of the Highlights: Joan Rood, who won a place on the first honor roll, and Jane Solomon, Nancy Upjohn, and Nancy Kurtz, who were qualified for honor roll No. 3.

Forensic Contest Open To Students

Mr. George E. Mills has announced that at 4:00 Wednesday, March 13, in 219A, he will meet with all students interested in participating in the forensic contest. Any student is eligible to enter any one of these contests, with the exception of Oratorical Declamation, which is open only to freshmen and sophomores. The divisions are as follows:

Oratory, in which a student writes, memorizes, and delivers a 10 minute speech about some important problem.

Dramatic Declamation, in which the contestants memorize and deliver a cutting from a play, impersonating all the characters.

Extempore Speaking, in which the participants draw their topics from lists of current events and problems, a short time before the contest.

Oratorical Declamation, in which the students memorize and deliver a speech written by someone else.

There will be school elimination contests preparatory to the District Tournament which will probably be held sometime in April. State High will be represented by two people in each field.

Red Cross Items

Convalescent Needs

The last meeting of the Senior Red Cross representatives from counties in this section was held in the Hart Hotel in Battle Creek, where it was reported that the nurses at Percy Jones Hospital make lists denoting the soldiers needs for articles which the army doesn’t supply.

The current list includes three water pitchers (half gallon size), four market or picnic baskets, six salt or sugar sacks (5 or 10 lb. sacks), four knife sharpeners, four electric corn poppers, and an infinite number of sugar bowls and creamers. If any student has one or more of these items that he would like to contribute, he should see Mr. George E. Mills, debate coach.

Entertainment is also greatly desired for the ambulant convalescents. Senior girls are urged to attend the chaperoned dances given by the hospital.

Collection of Comic Books Sponsored By Room 206

Homeroom 206 under the leadership of Skippy Bills and Pat Mitchell has undertaken a most unusual project, that of collecting comic books for Percy Jones.

Sometime before April 1st students should put their contributions in the box which has been placed in the hall.

Council Planning Honor Luncheon

State High’s Student Council, under the faculty supervision of Miss Pearl Ford, will present the annual Monitor-Highlights Luncheon Tuesday, March 19, at 12 noon, in Walwood Hall. This luncheon, originated to honor the monitors, will have a new feature this year, in that it will also give recognition to the newspaper staff.

Dr. Roy C. Bryan, Dr. Paul V. Sangren, Burton Upjohn, Herb Smith, and Carolyn Mitchell will deliver short dissertations relative to the luncheon’s theme, which this year will be “The United Nations Organization As Compared to Student Government in State High.”

Herb Smith is in charge of the program, while Carolyn Mitchell will supervise invitations.

Sexton Team Wins In Quarter - finals

State High’s debate squad was eliminated from competition for the state championship when the affirmative team, Alison Clark and Burt Upjohn, lost to Lansing Sexton in the Quarter Finals held in Lansing Friday, March 8. In the opinion of Mr. George E. Mills, debate coach, the contest was close, and the State High debaters did a good job even though they did not win. Now that the contest debating is over, the Advanced Speech Class will concentrate on its spring projects, forensics and the spring play.

"S" Club, Girl Reserves

Travel Club Elect Heads

As elected to date, the club officers for the second semester are as follows:

"S" Club—President, Gordy White; Vice president, Lloyd Fowler; Secttreas, Dick Cain.

Girl Reserves—Pres., Arlene Townsell; Vice pres., Shirley Dale; Sect., Martha Schuкарт; Treas., Jacquelyn King.

Travel Club—Pres., Bill Tuberty; Sect., Lionel Ketler.

CALENDAR

March 29—Hi-Y Carnival
March 19—Monitor-Highlights Luncheon
March 12—Inter-School Council Meeting at Central.
March 15—Council Sandwich Sale.
Student Body Should Show Social Support

BY JUDY OGDEN

Carolyn Mitchell is becoming a different girl. Just how many students have noticed that new wrinkle on her face? Yes, as our honored secretary secondly busily around the halls on Council biz we have noticed that something is bothersing this prominent senior.

Therefore we anned over to "Mitch" one noon and asked her, why the worry-worrin' around? To the question, "Mitch" replied, "Social Committee" in such a depressin' tone. Anyone who is near Carolyn at any time before a dance or any other social function at State High, knows that Carolyn and her little tribe of Social Committee members work their proverbial heads off promoting whatever the event might be.

Such was the situation at the time of our recent "Turnabout." Those in attendance had a great deal of appreciation for the committee's labors, and agreed that the theme for "Spring Fever" certainly was cleverly worked out. However, this dance and other school activities have not had the whole-hearted support of the student body!

It's been hard to find any real reason for this drop in attendance. We don't want to cut out Social activities altogether, therefore, the Social Committee has made the announcement that if we do not have better attendance at the future events, the Spring Formal at Wilwood will be called off!!!

This little missile is directed at every student in State High. It's up to you to get behind the social committee and show a little more SUPPORT!

Ten Join Highlights Club

Ten State High students have been invited to join the Highlights Club, an organization formed to train students in headlining, writing, and all-round high school journalism. They are assisting the Highlights staff this year, and will become full-fledged members of the '46-'47 staff. These "Best Founders" are Julie Carthaud, Betsy Davis, Phil Fast, Marilee Fonner, Dale Griffith, Ann Hoebeke, Donna Kowalski, Carolyn McLaughlin, Marilyn Morris, Hildur Sangren, and Don Sherman.

Student Teachers Know All; Tell All

There are a few individuals treading the halls of dear old WMC whose fate it is to have fallen into the clutches of both S. H. S. instructors and S. H. S. fellows and gals. These individuals are none other than the well-loved but all too often not appreciated student teachers.

The first WMC lass to tell all is red-headed Janet Royal, now teaching in Dr. Webb's English class and Miss Paden's 11 o'clock art class. When asked to voice an opinion of student teaching, she admitted, "It's all right! But I don't think I'm going to recommend this type of work done in one night.

Miss Royal claims reading and music as her hobbies, while in her opinion the most important ingredient in a good movie is a double dose of excitement. Gregory Peck's growing group of followers finds a new member in this student teacher who "real-ly enjoyed" his performance in "Val ley of Decision," and also claims "Spellbound" as a movie favorite. Comedians are human too, with her as far as radio programs are concerned, and she could think of no one to top Jack Carson. Proof that student teachers are human is presented by her confession that a banana split is utter ambrosia in the realm of nourishment.

Leaving Miss Royal to her future Rembrandts and Michael Angelos in 202 B, the ever-wanderer interviewer knocked upon the door of 108A where he found Maxwell Hamilton confronted by the studious seniors in Miss Steketee's 1 o'clock government class.

Sailing into navy man Hamilton with a barrage of questions, you'll truly come up with some of the statistics about this student teacher who originally hails from Pickford, Michigan, and is now a resident near Sault Ste. Marie. Glad in navy blues for the past 38 months, Mr. Maxwell has been at Michigan State, Northern State, and Michigan College, and is now receiving his discharge.

He plans to be a coach, and will be getting some of his athletic experience by helping Mr. Arnold coach State's baseball team this spring.
Rafferty Named Most Valuable

At the request of Len Colby, popular WKZO sports announcer, the varsity basketball squad held a meeting last Wednesday afternoon to choose the players on the City Squads that has done most for the team this season. This does not necessarily mean the high point man or the flashiest man on the team, but the one player who has been of most value to the squad.

The vote was very close because of the equal balance in ability of the first six men on the State High team. After counting the eleven ballots Coach Quiring announced that the most valuable player for the Cubs this year was none other than Paul "Slug" Rafferty of Schoolcraft, who is probably the outstanding defensive man in the Seven Conference. This is Rafferty's second year on the Cub quintet and he came through in more than just the seven somewhat limited action last year. There isn't much doubt in anyone's mind that Rafferty is the most improved player on the State High team and he should help a lot in bringing state basketball honors to the hilltop school.

The method in which Rafferty was chosen was perhaps the best possible way of finding out who the real un-noticed star of a ball team is. The men who play the game are in a good position to see plenty of action that escapes many a fan's eager eye.

Other high school teams in Kalamazoo have also named their most valuable players. These men are Bill Schuring and Ken Youngs of Central, John Walker of St. Augustine, and Vern Herder of Christian.

The S. H. S. Cagers On All-City Team

The State High basketball stars, Jim Ralston and Paul "Slug" Rafferty, both guards for Coach Bob Quiring's district cage champs, received a high honor recently by being named on the Gazette All-City basketball team. Ralston and Rafferty are veterans of last year's Big Seven Titleholders and have led the Cubs through the 19-4-6 season.

Rafferty who was also named State's most valuable man, received his high ranking because of his great defensive work throughout the season, while Ralston's point making and all-round play brought him his well earned spot on the mythical all-star team.

State High was the only team in the city to have more than one player named on the all-city squad. In addition to this, the Cubs boast the all-city captain with the honor going to Rafferty.

Other city high school stars to make the all-city team are Vern Herder of Christian and Babe Lascala of St. Augustine at forwards and Bill Schuring of Central in the pivot position.

Basketball Squad Closes 1946 Season

The State High Cubs ended a very successful season Feb. 26 as they lost to the powerful Holland Christian Quintet 44-36. Despite their defeat at Holland, the Cub's season record was outstanding with 12 wins and 3 losses.

As basketball play began this year, things looked fairly good for the Cubs because they had four starters from the '44-'45 squad.

In the season opener, State looked good as it edged out a tall Holland Christian team 31-30. The following week, the Cubs whipped the Niles Vikings 37-24, and repeated their victory the next weekend by dumping South Haven 26-21 in a game that was close for three quarters. State notched victories number four and five, over Dowagiac, 34-20, and from Three Rivers, 27-22. Then the Cubs met the Big Bears from Kalamazoo and won a fairly easy win to their highly touted team 31-25. However, State's hoosters bounced back after the St. Joe defeat to take the Buchanan 33-13, and began an outstanding beginning of another five game winning streak.

State High mowed down Niles, 50-44; South Haven, 37-25; Dowagiac, 35-25; and Three Rivers, 35-27. At this point, the Cubs met St. Joe for the conference title, losing to the Bears by a 47-34 score. In their next game, the Cubs met a non-conference opponent, Sturgis, and managed to eke out a victory 33-32. In the final conference game, State out-classed a scrappy Buchanan team, 43-22, to have a 10-0 lost against for conference play. Our last opponent in the season's schedule was Holland Christian who proved themselves to be too tall for our quintet, and won from the Cubs 44-36.

State was led throughout the season by Jim Ralston who was the team's high scorer and a good rebound man. The play of State's two forwards Bob Burns and "wee" Bobby Burns stood out, while the work of Gene West, junior center, and the defensive work of Paul Rafferty were features of the State High attack.

Cub Five Defeats Sturgis Hoosters

Saturday night, State High's hoopsters will travel to St. Joe to meet the Big 7 champions in the regional finals. Coach Harry Lee's boys have won 17 straight, while Bob Quiring's Cubs have taken against 3 defeats this season. If the Cubs win the game, they will reach the quarter finals which begin March 21 in Western's Gym.

During the regular season, St. Joe beat State High twice, but that is no sign that they cannot be defeated, for State's five is a hard-fighting team. The Bears qualified for the regional by defeating Niles and Dowagiac last week. The St. Joe team is led by Gay Ross and towering Dave Ankli, who did most of the scoring in Kalamazoo.

Five Lettermen Returning

This spring the baseball team is looking forward to a good season. Returning are the Cub's Whiteie White, Skip Boardman, and Jim Powell in the infield, and Jim Ralston and Slug Rafferty, outfield men. Other prospects are Dick Mahler and Tommy Woodworth as catcher and Jerry Hagan and Gene West at first.
**Impertinent Prattle**

By Al. Cl.

'Tis Spring, 'tis Spring! And so far it's been raining cats and dogs—there were puddles all over the street. However, with undampened spirits and dripping manes, we cheerily view the actions of the past fortnight or so.

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The first item on the list is, of course, a loud "Congrats!" to Lil Willie from all of us. She finally hooked Lee for good on March first and all the gals agree he a good catch!!

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Natch, the public eye of State High was fixed on the masterful presentation of the "Gondoliers" by the choir. It really had everything! Winsome women, manly males, charming costumery, sweet singing. Ah, what a production.

Just as all that is blonde is frequently peroxidized, not all the comedy appeared on stage; in fact, riotous rehearsals and backstage catastrophes were quite the order of the day. F'instance, the time Jackie Herr nearly took a nose-dive into the orchestra pit when the blind fold scene was in rehearsal. Fortunately for the piano in the pit, he was stopped in time. Well, love is blind, but surely Jackie wouldn't have been trying to escape from the encircling enchantresses!

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You've no doubt heard the one: they laughed when they saw me in slacks but when I sat down I thought they'd split! That wasn't so far from the truth in the cases of Joy Rodoff and Betty Ann Warren. When these gals bent over, they had 'em in stitches—or rather OUT of stitches. Unusually? No? Well, those cute velvet pants were small anyway, and, as the old saying goes "MEN are wide in the SHOULDERS."

At this point a feeble hand of congratulation should be extended to those art students who so laboriously created the gee-orgeous sets. No kidding, kids, that gondola was a chef-d'oeuvre (masterpiece to you German students); although at one point it looked as though a derrick might be needed to hoist Pat Herr into place. No offense, Pat, we know your costume was heavy.

Speaking of costumes, Frances Spitters was in dire peril of being throttled on the nose by her hoop whenever gracefully seated herself upon the throne. Is that what's known as "hooping it up"? Anyway, Frances, now you know how Leett O'Hara must have felt when she wanted to sit one out.

Enough of the operaetta!

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With spring the Bigelow's so-called car has come out of hibernation. Whatta contraption—wait till you see it!!!

**Sprightly Spring Sprints on Scene**

At last, dear old K-Zoo has relegated her winter winds to the attic, has packed her snow storms away in moth balls, and has finally consented to allow her shivering city this bit of spring. Ushered in by an awing blast of trumpets (known to us mere mortals as thunder), the carriages, or more aptly the car, lay down for her, acquitting spring-time is now smiling benignly upon one and all. Once again the familiar spring scenes will return.

The many figures of State's baseball stars will reappear on the diamond, and the tennis fiends will begin raising a racket (they're really on the ball!)

The female fatales of our institution will be gracing the fields and courts back of Vandercook with their charming capers, but without, unfortunately, the appreciative stares of the V-12's, after all there's a peace on!

Then the great epidemic—feared by teachers and student-teachers alike, as it will descend on the denizens of State. Yes, Spring Fever. Those afflicted with this dire disease show various interesting symptoms. There are of course, the inevitable window-hanger-outers. Before class, they hang by their toes from A-d and Science building windows and when class has finally begun, their minds take up the sport; only, usually, the mind doesn't even have a clue-hold on what is going on.

Then there are the lovers. It has been stated by some irrelevant jerk that in the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to what the girls have been thinking about all winter. However, that may be, the benches of our hallowed halls hold an increasing population of golly-adoring twosomes who crowd us ordinary mortals back on to the stair railing. We have (short pause) a drowsy sigh—or is it an asthmatic wheeze?

Another group of average cases here are the holiday hounds—the eager beavers who, if there isn't any vacation, make their own. To these yeilders to spring's temptations we say: quote—Fie!—unquote.

And then, friends, when all these brands of mania have set in—come the cotton dresses. The first shivers brave the breezes to open the season and then—ah, then, the cotton dress invades the school and we know, to our deepest delight, that spring is REALLY here!

**Happy Birthday**

March 14—Yvonne Hill, Ted Holman.
March 15—Larry Mayer, Edward Torrance.
March 17—Barbara Carl, Jim Mateo, Clare Rancie.
March 18—Betty Bond, Bob Vander Weede.
March 19—Barbara Graybriel.
March 21—Leon First.
March 22—Liesel Kestler.
March 23—Becky Fuller, Robert Redmond.
March 26—Joan Rood.
March 29—David Anderson, Bill Resseguie.
March 30—James Pellowe.
March 31—Richard Stephens.

**Springs Formal Christened**

Social Committee gamin'gusses got together Wednesday and decided on a name for S. H. S.'s Spring formal. Although Mr. George Mills advanced such original suggestions as the "Bullfrog Bubble", the most sensational title of "Over the Rainbow" was chosen. The affair is slated for April 24 in Wallwood—more about that later.