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State Highlights 10/23/1946

Western State High School

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Debate Team Begins Promising Year

Having started off the year with a bang by giving a debate and airing their views of current questions over radio station WKZO, the members of the advanced speech class, under the direction of Mr. George E. Mills, are looking forward to more participation in these same ventures.

On Friday, November 1, Carol Morris and Jim Osborn, together with two other speech students, not as yet selected, will discuss "Issues of the Election" over WKZO. Last Friday, October 18, the topic "How to React Rising Prices" was debated by a quartet composed of Jim Bigelow, Jim Osborn, Carol Morris, and Marguerite Klein. According to Mr. Mills, it will be the policy of the class to give each student an opportunity to appear on two consecutive programs. State High is to present a program every other week from 5:00 to 5:30.

Three trips to various schools in southern Michigan have been planned by the debates. Next week a practice debate will be held at Battle Creek Central High. On Thursday, October 30, eight debaters from State High will make themselves known among debaters from Albion, Marshall, and Battle Creek Lakeview. Lansing Eastern High School is sponsoring an invitational tournament Saturday, November 3, at which eight students from State High will be allowed to show what they can do.

Future Assembly Programs Announced by Committee

To insure weekly entertainment for students of State High, the Assembly Committee made plans for this year's assemblies. On October 23 there will be a program observing United Nations week which extends from October 21-25.

To inaugurate the movie series "Know Your Neighbors," dealing with nations in the western hemisphere, a movie will be shown on Oct. 30. The Annual Book Week Assembly will be held on Nov. 6. Other programs planned are the annual Junior and Senior assemblies, band, debate, Thanksgiving, the inter-school assembly with Central, and the football assembly, during which letters are awarded the members of the team and a football movie is shown.

The committee is composed of three Student Council members, Ralph Miller as chairman, assisted by Dick Schlick, Herb Smith, and the following members of homerooms: Phyllis Balch, 1A; Dorothy Worden 10A; Phyllis Manns, 11A; Sally Wyman, Melba Manning, 13A; Mollie Boylan, 15A; Sue Harlow, 206A; Jim Osborn, 210A; Barbara Jordan, 211A; Jim Stowell, 219A.

Variety Shown in Choice of Clubs

Among the clubs organized this year several new ones are prominent. The Swing Club, begun this year under the leadership of Elmer Beloof, consists of about ten members who are not only playing but also arranging swing. It is hoped that they will play for some future State High dances.

Two other music clubs recently formed are the Senior Girl's Trio and the Boy's Glee Club. The Trio, composed of Gerrie Klein, Marguerite Klein, and Marie Pomeroy, is a picket group under the direction of Mrs. Leotl Britton. The Glee Club gives boys who are unable to take choir a chance to have fun singing. The group is working with tenor Larry Moody of the college, and a boys quartet has already been organized including Lester Emery, John Post, Ray Doornbos and Dick Koloff.

The Stamp Club under the sponsorship of Jack Katherine Dukette has chosen Jack DeBoer as president and Neima Jean Connor as secretary.

With the help of George E. Mills the eleven students in the Forum Club are debating topics of interest. The current issue being discussed is Socialized Medicine.

In the Advanced Hunters Club, Jack Sipperly is president, Art Gilmore, vice president; and Leon First, secretary and treasurer. Lectures, hunting films and a field demonstration with Dr. Roy C. Bryan's hounds are but a few of the activities planned.

The beginning Hunter's Club also elected officers with Jack Herr, president; Dave Anderson, vice president; and Larry Okun, secretary.

Canteen Meet Underway

In order to make plans for the coming season and to elect officers, the members of the Student Canteen board of Kalamazoo met Wednesday, October 16, at the Y. M. Ron Harvey and Louis Crawford of Kalamazoo Central High School were chosen president and vice president respectively, while Judy Ogden from State High is to keep records.

Other representatives on the board are Skippy Bills and Jack Sipperly from State High, Sue Harper and Don Christian from Central High, and Bradley Allen from Kalamazoo College. Adult members are Mr. O. K. Christian of Central, Mr. Ray Deur of State, Mr. Bob Smith, Y. M. C. A. secretary; and Mr. Len Colby of W. K. Z. O.

Plans are "in the making" for a dance to be held at Central High on Halloween night for the price of 25 cents per person. The following Friday, November 1, the Student Canteen will be held at State High.
STATE HIGHLIGHTS

The STATE HIGHLIGHTS is published bi-weekly by the students of Western State High School.

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Former Students Attend Prep School

Although there are many new faces to be seen in the good old halls of State High this year, the Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, and Seniors have noticed the absence of some of their classmates. Investigation shown that twelve former State High students who were here last year are now enrolled in Prep Schools ranging from Canada to Florida.

Band Bolsters Pep

Have you noticed a larger crowd at the games? Don’t you think that school pep is getting a little better? Has some unforeseen miracle happened? No, not quite that. It’s just that a swell organization has been working like mad recently to promote school pep, and they’re doing a pretty good job. Who are they? Why the band, of course. Throughout the previous years, State has had a good band, even though its members have been few. This year the organization under a new director, Mr. Elmer Beelof, shows marked improvement and promises even better things to come. It takes a hard working group, as they are, to work together and to achieve the goals for which they are striving. Keep it up, band. Your school is behind you.

Band to Witness Festival

On Thursday, October 24, the members of the band and a few guests under the sponsorship of Mr. Elmer Beloof, director of the band, are going by bus to Pilistrip Field, Benton Harbor, to witness the Marching Festival arranged by the Southwestern Michigan Band and Orchestra Association. Due to its limited size, State High’s band will not compete but will observe in order to gain experience in the technicalities of marching. Among the fifteen schools participating in the event, Kalamaooz Central is the only local band entered.

The program consists of:
(1) a general marching of individual bands before the judges and audience; (2) playing of the Star Spangled Banner by all the participants in one huge massed band; (3) twirling exhibitions, massed and individual; and (4) the massed band playing two popular marches, “The Zooter” and “Military Escort.”

Questions Not Answered

The Highlights had a questionnaire sent to the Junior, Senior, Freshman, and Monitor homerooms with three simple questions to be answered. The questions were 1) Do you want mixer dances? 2) Do you want square dancing in-between regular dances? 3) Do you have any suggestions for improvement? After short consideration, some made very good replies. The remaining were typical of kindergarteners.

They obviously just took a piece of paper and without thinking about the questions wrote three no’s and handed it in. The people who answered with ‘girls’ choice, once in a while, entertainment during intermission, more advertising,” etc. have shown that they belong in high school. People who asked for refreshments and bands all the time weren’t using their heads because the Student Council isn’t made of money and bands are asking one hundred dollars and up for one evening. We have made an earnest effort to help the students of State High and what happens!!! You kick about the dances but when asked for suggestions, this is what we get. Students of this high school should grow up and its about time they started.

Women’s Gym Site Of Cub’s Caper, October 25

The latest caper planned by the Social Committee is an overall dance in the Women’s Gym at 8:30 to 11:30 o’clock on October 25, following the South Haven game. Cards and other amusements will be provided for those who do not wish to dance, and refreshments will be sold. Those working hard to make the Cub’s Caper a success are Betty Carver, music; Fred Meade, refreshments; Barbara Klop, Judy Ogden, and Maryellen Ward, decorations; and Louis Vander Lind, recreation. Carol Morris is general chairman of this event, and other members of the committee are Ronald Selner, Herb Smith, and Walt Storey.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

At the beginning of the school year the following Council Committees were appointed:
Counselor, Walter Storey, ch.; Pep, Bob Bills, ch., Tom Woodworth, Bill McGinnis; Social, Carol Morris, ch., Judy Ogden, Ron Selner, Barbara Klof, Louis Vander Linde, Betty Carver, Walter Storey, Herb Smith; Bulletin Board, Barbara Klof, Mary Jane McCarty, ch.; Friendship and Correspondence, Carol Morris; Inter-High School Council, Carol Morris; Finance, Herb Smith, ch., Dale Griffith, Dick Collin, Ken Green, Louise Linde; Assembly, Ralph Miller, ch., Dick Schlick, Herb Smith.

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Under the sponsorship of Mr. Sheldon Meyer, former Ohio State chess champion, a chess tournament is commencing in the Chess Club. This year the group consists of thirty members of whom approximately five are beginners. The tourney provides experience for all of the members.
Reserves Battle To 6-6 Deadlock

Earlier this season a weak Cub Reserve eleven met defeat at the hands of the stronger over-powering reserve team of Three Rivers with a score of 58-6. Last week this game supposedly weak team bounded back up, the result being a win of 6-6, with both teams handicapped by a cold half-rain.

As their pass attempts failed because of a very wet ball, the fighting reserve team turned to running. Neither seemed to gain by steady pressure but rather by long sweeping end runs. With one touchdown run called back by an off side, penalties greatly hampered the Three Rivers team. Both touchdowns were a result of heavy opponent.

The “Beer” have improved very much through the season and should send some valuable material to the varsity next year.

Bob Lewis suffered a fractured nose in the reserve game with Three Rivers last Thursday.

Girls Begin Gym Tourneys

“Oh, my sprained ankle,” “Ouch, my sore finger,” “Will I ever be the same again?” These and many other comments can be overheard in the girls’ locker room following a gym class, especially after the 3:00 class plays touch football. They have already done their best with the game and expect to continue struggling with it as long as fair weather continues. One brave 8:00 class has been plunging into the swimming pool, while the other 8:00 class and the 10:00 class have been playing volley ball. Soon a tournament will take place in each class.

Did You Know That

Did you know that the schools of the big seven have the following enrollment as of 1944 according to the Michigan Educational Directory?

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<th>Enrollment</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Three Rivers</td>
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<td>St. Joseph</td>
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<td>Buchanan</td>
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<td>Battle Stars</td>
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<td>Battle Stars</td>
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Cubs Romp to Win Over Chief’s, 13-6

State High Cubs football team defeated Dowagiac High, 13-6, Friday night at Dowagiac to win its first victory of the season. The game proved to be the Chief’s third conference loss against no victories.

Dowagiac had the ball on its own 13 to start the second period but was only able to go to the 31 before having to kick. State High took over on their own 37 at the start of the fourth quarter.

Gene West upon being asked, What is our best play? said he thought it was 42x on which Gene fakes to Gordie driving off tackle and hands the ball to Stelle who drives over the left tackle.

When asked for an honest opinion of this quarter of School spirit. help a team? Gordie answered, “Yes, it makes you feel that you’re not the only one on the field, and it especially helps it. We feel these, the kids are backing their team.”

Next we went down the hall to 219 where we found Jack Slippery deep in thought. To his reporter very rudely interrupted “Sip” to ask him the question, Do you think State High turns out good teams for the competitive state conference and those other Big 7 schools? Jack answered, “I think so. We have played the best three teams so far, and now maybe the outcome of the games will be different. We are a very small school, but just because we’re a small one doesn’t mean that every team we put out won’t be in there scrapping just as hard as it can.”

After quizzing Jack we returned to 21A where we found Bob Stelle and Dave Anderson. They were having a bull session. Your reporter barged right in to ask Bob Stelle for his opinion of the St. Joe game. He answered, “They did have an awfully good team, but if we’d have played in the first, we would have beaten them.”

While all this was going on, Dave Anderson was peeping over Stelle’s shoulder with a ready reply to the question, Does your size handicap you? Andy gave it a little thought while we were talking to Stelle and then replied, “Oh yes, I guess so, but I like to play against big guys because they are so awkward and easy to block.” We summed up his answer in this fashion, Slow-joe’s are easy meat for Andy.

Your writer then departed through the swinging doors of 211 and came face to face with none other than Jack Herr. We grabbed him before he could get away and dragged him to a seat where he was asked the following question, Does our backfield run as hard and work as hard as other backfields that you have played against? Jack answered, “You bet they do. Those guys work hard and are always running hard, isn’t that fault they go down. Everybody on this year’s team works hard but as yet we haven’t had any good breaks. But breaks or no breaks, we’ll be heard from this season.”
On The Sly

With Sue

Eleven illustrious females started out on a Saturday night to a nice quiet hen party. But as the evening wore on, some fellows came straggling in. The dining room table was the scene of a pitch game and some bridge fiends clutched up the floor used for dancing. It was a race all evening to see who would have the upper hand in the party. The girls left when the boys outnumbered them.

We hear there’s a little soul play in the newly organized band. It seems that Ed Torrence, Laffy Graybiel, Don Sherman, and Bruce Kitchen are running quite a racket. By nominating each other as their best friends, they now are dominating the positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Unsuspecting Mr. Be loof said nothing.

It seems that Jerry Hagen and Herb Smith, while out “hunting,” bagged their quota of peasants on the side. Why they had their guns along, no one knows; maybe they were running into some over eager ones. Who knows?

Hot off the wire—The Kleiris are now are dominating the positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Unsuspecting Mr. Be loof said nothing.

Who is this anonymous brunette seen sitting in the halls with “lover-boy” Jack? Hear say she’s sixteen and in college! Can you hold up your end of the conversation? Jack, or do actions speak louder than words?

Meretta Begins Band Day

Through the efforts of Mr. Leonard Meretta, director of Western Michigan College Band, a high school band day was staged Saturday, October 12, for the purpose of bringing various bands together. Those participating in addition to the college band were groups from Three Rivers, Coldwater, Grand Haven, Charlotte, Three Oaks, Paw Paw, and Kalamazoo Central. The program consisted of marching stunts by all the bands but two, and massed band performances. Western’s band shared in the program by forming a huge W and also playing for the flag raising ceremony. At half-time, Kalamazoo Central and Grand Haven High School put on an exhibition before the grand stands. Mr. Meretta wants to make this an annual affair at Western and hopes it will produce interest in other schools.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS

Future Teachers Seen in Halls

With the motto of the college section, “A teacher for every child” we find many of Senior, after having four years of college, student-teaching within the walls of State High. Probably the most familiar to State’s male population is Flossie Huyzinga, whose stunning blond face is seen behind the bar at the well known “Oak,” for a soda-jerk is Florence when she isn’t busy with Miss Dukette’s and Mrs. Deur’s English classes. Florence thinks State’s students are “real all right.” Along with jerking sodas, she has for her hobbies tennis and making mad excursions to Lake Geneva.

Another femme, pedagogue is bright-eyed Doris Kolkema who hails from Fremont. Doris has spent all four years at Western and is now helping out in Mrs. Deur’s English and Mr. Haasby’s History class. Music takes up her interests and she tells us she plays piano “amateurishly.”

In the art department we come to a gorgeous Brunette from Bloomfield Hills, Detroit, who goes by the label of Helen Haskins, Miss Haskins, who plans on getting married and teaching art after graduation, finds State Hi needs “preaching in.” Enough for the female representatives and on to the masculine side.

And who is this monster Joe Casonino that makes our eye in the H. S. History class? Harold Gensichen is getting some other kind of practical experience, this time in the line of practice teaching. Mr. Gensichen, who hails from South Bend, was previously at Western in the V-12 unit. His interest in basketball, as if Western cage fans didn’t know. “Many nice people come out of State Hi,” was his comment on the high school population. But obviously is oblivious to the noon-rush.

Class Officers Elected

The Senior, Junior, and Sophomore Classes have met and elected their new officers for the school year. They are as follows:

Senior Class President, Phil Avery; Vice-President, Bill Alman; Secretary, Betty Carver; Treasurer, Bruce Kitchen. Junior Class President, John Bigelow; Vice-President, Jack Sippery; Secretary-treasurer, Margery Steen. Sophomore Class President, Lawrence Fowler; Vice-President, Leonard Van den Berg; Secretary-treasurer, Pat Mitchell.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Oct. 24—Clair Mickle
Oct. 26—Carol Morris
Oct. 27—Verna Bussells
Oct. 28—Bob Gimbel
Oct. 29—Anthony Ver Hey
Oct. 30—Martha McKinley
Nov. 1—Sara Heitkamp
Nov. 2—Helen Flescher
Nov. 3—Phyllis Heidanus

Pertinalities

Flash—Be on the lookout! Lost—Lou Vander Linde and Carol Morris! Last seen—immersed in a book on parliamentary procedure.

ANCIENT HISTORY

Gad zooks, what will we do without Lou? After all, every school needs a president. His heartrending version of “Stouthearted Men” or his radio blaring out murder mysteries would surely be a loss to ye old school.

“Lou is ambition (brace yourself) is to be a success. His travels have dragged him to sunny Florida and Nebraska where he added to that famed stamp collection. Lately though, Louie has found himself forced to sell it, probably to keep supplied with ice-cream. Last signs of Lou were the pinups of Ella Raines and Cary Grant scattered along the way to the Kalamazoo (this summer’s hangout).

A small piece of paper was also found among these scraps—no doubt his last words before the strange disappearance; it said, “This school gives every student a chance to participate in a democratic society.”

INFORMATION PLEASE

And there’s Carol! Carol is a favorite. State High might as well fold up without a secretary—an experienced one at that, for Carol has had other political ventures: secretary of the Junior Class, and vice pres. of the Sophomore Class.

Come to think of it, she could be discovered debating on varied and sundry problems or listening to the Hit Parade, might even be in the cinema peeping at Ingrid Bergman’s face. If you echo of “I Don’t Know Enough About You” and strains of violin could disclose her whereabouts. Ye God, that trail of Hershey bar wrappers or those spare pieces of stationery might lead to her.

Here’s a brainstorm: let’s try the school library. She labored there all summer—perhaps habited dragged her back or the deep South could contain our missing person, as that was the object of her wanderlust in travel.

The last resort for both, I guess, will have to be the “Court of Missing Persons.” If found, please return to State High immediately as they are needed desperately.

Date Set For Mikado

As its opera for this year, the State High choir, under the direction of Mrs. Leoti C. Britton, has announced its plans to present sometime in January the “Mikado,” written by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The officers elected for the current year are president, Lester Shelley; vice-president, Marguerite Klein; secretary, Mary Ellen Ward; assistant secretary, Yvonne Hill; and treasurer, Larry Okun.