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State Highlights 12/18/1946

Western State High School

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Four State Highers Attend Boys’ Confab

With nearly 450 delegates of Hi-Y’s and churches all over Michigan, the 44th annual Older Boy’s Conference was held Friday November 29th at the Central Methodist Church in Detroit.

Bruce Kitchen, as a member of his church, and Dick Koloff, Bud Newberry, and Ron McCaul sent by the local Hi-Y, rode along with twenty other boys from Kalamazoo with Ronald Harvey, a Centralite, as their honorary leader. Mr. Ray Deur, Senior Hi-Y leader, and Mr. Bob Smith, Boys Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. took charge with the boys.

The large group presided over by Mr. Boyd J. Walker of Y.M.C.A. was divided into small discussion clinics with individual topics discussed. Then followed the making of resolutions on the themes Racial Prejudice, Military Training, World Peace, and Christianity.

As this was a two day meeting most of the boys were housed over night in private homes offered by church members. Because of this, the four fellows from State High were obliged to make use of the busses and trolleys as transportation to various parts of Detroit, and although they were all late to the meeting Saturday morning, none of them would admit having been lost or even slightly confused.

The Conference was officially adjourned at 3:30 Saturday afternoon after a speech given by Dr. Bernard C. Clausen, Baptist Church pastor, Cleveland, Ohio, in the Central Methodist Church. From then on until bus time, was a free period for seeing Detroit, and, quote Bud, Bruce Dick, and Ron; “We wasted no time!”

Social Committee Planning Battery of Dances For 1947

A whole battery of dances in 1947 is being planned for State Highers by the social committee of which Carol Morris is chairman.

The first light (?) fantasy on the new calendar is one planned by the monitors of 210A. It is to be on January 10—an ice-breaker for sure. As an added attraction, the St. Joe game will be played before the big event—incidental, of course.

On the first of every month, unless arrangements are changed, the Student Canteen is to be at State High from 8:30 till 11:00 "fee" being only one fourth part of a dollar.

Naturally the girls will be mightily engrossed in the February 15th struggle: The Turnabout. In case the Freshies are wondering what gives, here 'tis. Every year the Council sponsors a “dress-up”-girl-invite-boy affair.

T’was The Day Of The 18th-

T’was the day of the 18th when all through State High
Not a creature was studying—vacation was high
The books were flung into the lockers with care
In hopes that advisors would not find them there.
The students were slouched down all snug in their chairs
While visions of skipping excites one who dares
My colleagues and I in a lull and a gap
Had just settled our brains for a temporary nap
When out in the driveway there was such a clatter
I sprang from my seat to see what was the matter
Away to the window I flew like a flash
Stuck my fist through a pane and shattered the glass.
The sun on the crest of the new fallen snow
Gave a sparkling luster to objects below
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a broken down car with six men in the rear.
With a big husky driver so lively and quick
I knew at a glance that their plan was to skip
More rapid than eagles, his harem they came
And he whirled and shouted and called them by name.
“Now Alice! now Mary, now Betty and Carolyn!
On Judy! on Jane! on Helen and Marilyn!”
To the top of the ceiling, from window to door
They piled them high—three deep from below.

Winter Wonderland Theme of Formal

"Walking in A Winter Wonderland. As I was thinking with the idea of doing my homework, my mind was actually on what to wear to the Christmas formal. I found myself sweeping down an endless spiral staircase in a Salvador Daliish dream. At the edge of the carpeted stairs was darkness gleaming with stars. I looked down at my dress which somehow got out in bubble gum. It was strapless. This is a dream and Mother never would have broken down! Ah, yes, a dream dress and a dreamy night. December 19, the time of the Christmas formal! At last I reached the bottom of the stairs. But what is this that meets my eye? A MAN? Was my subconscious mind playing tricks on me, or had I a date with a Central fellow? What’s more, he had on a tux and placed in my room a fragile package whose transparency showed the delicate petals of an orchid. (That’s O-R-C-H-I-D not orchard.) Darkness descended again but soon the twangie tremors of Eddie Smith’s orchestra reached my mind and again my imagination soared. It was Walworth Hall at 9:00 o’clock. Yes the minute the dance opened we entered the floor, for the slight sum of $1.50 per couple. Beautiful decorations, enough for everyone to have a souvenir, gave enchantment to the unslippery dance floor.

After dancing half the night away, we were ushered into the refreshment room where delicacies were laid before us. Then back for more dancing with tall, dark, and handsome till the end of the dance, midnight. At the stroke of twelve the music melted away, my dress changed into jeans and my old plaid shirt. What had happened, I asked myself wildly! And then I woke up to find my sister shaking me for Frankie had just come on the air.

But if you really want to see a dream come true, see you at Walworth at the “Winter Wonderland” dance the Social Committee has planned for you lucky kids on December 19.

CALENDAR

December 22—Basketball with Dowagiac, here 7:00 P. M.
December 27—Basketball game with Holland Christian, away 7:00 P. M.
January 2—School Opens
January 7—Basketball Three Rivers, away 7:00 P. M.
January 10—Basketball with St. Joseph, here 7:00 P. M. (Overall Day)
January 17—Basketball with Buchanan, away 7:00 P. M.
January 24—Basketball, Niles, away 7:00 P. M.
January 31—Basketball, South Haven, here 7:00 P. M.
What Is Its True Meaning?

Merry Christmas! The well known phrase rang through the cold, brittle air and then died away into silence again. For one short second those two simple words seemed as radiant as the icy stars penetrating the black velvet of the winter sky. It was Christmas Eve in an American city. Everyone had finished work before supper time in order that he might freely enjoy the festivities of the following evening.

Generally speaking, the whole mass of them had very little in common, and yet the majority of them were observing this holiday. It is only natural for one to marvel at such a thing when he begins to think of the heterogeneous people spread over the face of the earth who join us in the observance of Christmas.

What causes this strong feeling of unity and brotherliness among men?

What does the word “Christmas” actually mean? Does it mean eating huge dinners with all the tempting dishes so well known to all of us? Does it mean the creche on the mantle, the holly, the mistletoe in the doorway, the snow, presents, parties, dances and all of the other things so well enjoyed by us in America? Or is it something deeper, something more sombre in nature, but still as exciting as the most festive celebration? Something, perhaps, that comes from one’s heart and is hard to explain.

Think about this on Christmas Eve while you’re enjoying the holiday celebration. Think about it all through this festive season, and perhaps you will find the secret to a kind of Christmas happiness and peace that will last you the rest of the year.

—Donna Rowalski

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR
Dear Santa:

Please put on a special bus to Portage every ten minutes, 24 hours a day. (I wonder why?)—Carl Cooper

Please send me a car so that I won't have to arrive at school at the early hour of 7:05 and have people who arrive later think that I am a hall Monitor and that I spend the night here—Loretta Pyne

I want you to let school out earlier. It's getting so we feel like moles. We come to school when it's dark and go home when it's dark. So please make my wish come true. I know you can do it—Jean Thoma

Send me by the speediest reindeer a nice, new, bright, shiny, portable radio-phonograph equipped with Bing Crosby records. Thanks—Mary Jane McCarthy

Bring back football season again, you faker!—Bob Stelle

Right away, quick, before Christmas you can send me about umpteen more shopping days until "C" day. Then I suggest that you just bring your sleigh full (do you think that you can get a 1946 car, any make, on your sleigh?) and I'll take care of the rest. If you need any help in loading, I'm free all evening. Also, Santa, how about some escalators for State High? You can deliver them directly to the "big hill," as I can't think of anyway to get them from my house to there. Well, Santa, my mind is a blank, now? If you can think of any other little items, just toss them in—Pauline Karling

Not to crack anymore of my hideous, so-called jokes. They're killing my family and friends. After they're gone, what have I got left? Those darn jokes—June Schuhardt

Please send me a new pin-up picture—Walt Storey

Would you please hurry and bring my diploma. I have been waiting for it so-o-o-o long. And seeing that football season is over, the only thing left in this school for me is my diploma—Dick VanDerKlok. P. S. Bring Bob Stelles, too.

A diamond ring from "you know who" would suit me fine!—Virginia Mitchell

Please help me to remember not to make two dates for one evening. It results in trouble with a capital T!—Bruce Kitchen

Please see what you can do about having some of Kazoo's stores open to men only for a few days. It would be helpful if we could shop without being shoved around by a mob of women—State Men

Give us a championship basketball team—Gene West

First comes Ellen, second a wonderful Christmas, third comes Ellen—Herb Smith

Please bring me a nice tall male for Christmas. He may be blonde or brunette, blue-eyed or brown, but please, Santa, make him tall! (I realize I'm not asking for much so I'll expect him soon!)—Marian Cook

Please give me strength—(to make decorations, of course!)—Maryellen Ward

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Please bring me a shiny, new airplane and a certain handsome pilot to help me fly it—Eve DeVries

Please give me about twenty-five more pounds and about six inches of height to go with it—Phil Avery
I Resolve

Never to call Mr. Deur Mr. Hathaway again—Dale Griffith

Never to talk back to a woman teacher (if she's goodlooking)—Jim Fastenrath

Never to drive the car over 175 miles per hour—Shirley Beebe

To leave parties before the parent, or parent, come home—Roger McMurray

To quit holding brute parties—Martha McKinley

To have as many dates with girls as possible—Roger Burns

To confess everything and let my hair grow out to its true shade of peroxide blond, and to get some "spike" heels just to prove I can be tall, too—Marian Cook

Never to trust a Dutchman—Dick Burkhart

To be a sociable woman hater—Don Brown

To keep my eyes from wondering to the freshman class—Bruce Kitchen

The Federal government should provide a system of complete medical care available to all citizens at public expense—Thomas Murray

To "waist" away!—Lorraine Frye

To charge a small fee for my gracious taxi service about town—Helen Fischer

Not to go to any more parties unless Bill Ryan can go with me—Dick Dorgan

To leave women (and girls, too) alone until I'm out of high school!—Jerry Hollowell

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

As the students before the hour bell sounds
When they dash to their class rooms like a pack of blood hounds
So down to the "Oak" the gay party flew.
With a car full of juniors and seniors they knew
And then in a twinkling, reaching the Pharm
The car was surveyed for possible harm.
Finding a booth and turning around
In the door Mr. Sebaly came with a bound
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot
And his clothes were all covered with ashes and soot.
A bundle of summon's he had flung on his back
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack
His eyes—how they glistened! His dimples—how eerie!
His cheeks were like flour—he looked rather weary.
His droll little mouth was drawn up in a sneer
And he looked all around with a sly sort of leer,
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a fake little beard,
A set of false eyebrows—at his costume we jeered.
He was chubby and plump, a natural asset
We laughed when we saw him, we're still laughing yet.
The fire in his eyes and the twist of his head soon gave us to know we had plenty to dread.
He lectured for hours and then went to work
Filled our hands with white slips and then with a jerk,
He strode out the door and giving a nod
Back to his office (the dungeon) he trod,
But dead in his tracks he stopped with a start
Turned his heavy boots 'round and then with a dart
Flashed back to our booth to finish his speech
For he'd left out the ending—his moral to teach.
He took a deep breath and firmed his stance
And stood for a moment as if in a trance.
Then remembering his schooldays he made a big grin
And forgave all his students—no longer to sin.
And we heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight
"Merry Christmas to All and to all a good-night!"

To sneeze 12 times in a row—Judy Miller

To do long term assignments within the first two months that they are assigned; also to throw snowballs only at my bitterest enemies—Mary Jane McCarthy

To refrain from skipping school—Tom Woodworth

Never again to pass a bus when a car is coming from the other way—Phyllis Mannes

Not to write my name every place—Elmer Blurk

To be chosen by the varsity basketball squad as the girl they would most like to make passes too—a senior girl.

That I won't take my camera to any other hayrides or dances (after January)—W. Wessels

To make better grades. Urgency is imperative—George Kirby

To grow at least three feet and to bring all my "A's" down to "A-" so I won't be so stuck up—John Post

To take care of myself and try not to get hurt before next football season—Ken Reeves

To keep my eyes off that certain sophomore—Nella Sweet

To have fun during Christmas vacation—Paula Richmond

To revolve not to resolve, for we always break our resolutions anyway—Judie Doornbos and Ruth Emerson
State High Defeats
South Haven 45-26

On Friday, December 13, State High won its second basketball game by overpowering the unlucky dog and to string a first place tie with Dowagiac in the Big Seven Conference with a score of 45-26.

Paced by Woodworth, the State High quintet pierced South Haven's zone to crack up a comfortable 21-10 lead at the end of the second quarter.

With Gene West, State High's only returning letterman out with illness, the Cubs lacked experience, but Dunbar and Orwin, two underclassmen, came through to lead the way in the third and fourth periods to seal the game for the Cub cagers.

At the foul line State High missed twelve out of fifteen chances.

The Cubs showed improvement over the Niles tilt and looked ready to take Dowagiac, St. Joe, or any other contender.

In the preliminary, the B team was outclassed by a taller South Haven team 25-14.

In other Big Eight games Dowagiac held off Buchanan 28-23 and to Jack Ward of St. Joe led his team to victory over Three Rivers 35-24.

SUMMARIES:
State High (45) B F P
Orwin 7 1 1
Smith 0 0 4
Hagan 2 0 2
Cain 1 0 0
Dunbar 5 2 5

Substitutions:
Woodworth 6 0 3
Moran 0 0 0
Fowler 0 0 0
South Haven (26) B F P
Smith 4 3 2
Filbrandt 6 2 3
Strebeck 1 1 3
Sheppard 1 0 2
Brinks 1 0 2

Substitutions:
Rogers 1 0 0
Pobuda 0 2 0
Ditch 0 2 1
Nelson 0

Score By Periods: 1 2 3 4 T
State High 7 14 12 12 45
South Haven 7 3 8 28
South Haven Res. (25) B F P
Fogland 1 1 3
Henry 1 2 3
Nixon 0 0 2
Squad 0 1 0
Eden 0 2 1
State High Res. (14) B F P
Maltby 0 0 0
Kline 0 1 2
Knowlton 1 0 1
Roberts 2
Fast 2 1 3

Substitutions:
Fogland 1 0 3
Score By Periods: 1 2 3 4 T
State High 4 3 2 5 14
South Haven 9 6 5 10 23

Bracket Standings: W L Per
STATE HIGH 2 0 1.000
Dowagiac 3 0 1.000
St. Joseph 2 1 .667
Niles 1 1 .500
Buchanan 1 2 .333
South Haven 0 2 .000
Three Rivers 0 3 .000

SPORLIGHT
This week's spotlight falls on State High's only two returning basketball letterwinners, Gene West and Dick Cain.

Gene, a senior this year, who deserves plenty of credit on his performances in football and basketball, came to State High in 1943 from Oakwood where basketball played the leading role in his school activities.

In his freshman year he was on the reserve football team and also played a few varsity games enabling him to get a feel for the game. With a year of experience in three major sports, Gene took his position on the varsity team as an experienced Sophomore.

Gene evidently had plenty of interest in basketball that year, too, as he received a varsity basketball letter. Last year proved to be another great season for Gene. For part of the basketball team, he says he played his best game when he scored 17 points for ye old school against Buchanan.

This year coach Fred Stevens is building his basketball five around thisOakwood boy who, along with holding the reserve football team, this year desires to captain the Cubs.

After school hours Gene's favorite pastime is transferring buses at Main and Buchanan. It seems he goes out East Main a lot. Guess why? In closing, our little interview with Gene he gives us this little bit of optimism. Gene thinks the team will reach their peak by their January 7 encounter with Three Rivers, and also remarks, "We should be red hot by tournament time."

BASKETBALL VETERAN

Coming to State High from the Training School is State's other returning letter man, Dick Cain, who claims he's been playing basketball as long as he can remember. But as a seventh and eighth grader he played on an organized team. He remembers well when they played against Vine Jr. High. The game went into an overtime, and in the extra period Dick shot three times and made three of them to win the game, giving us a sample of what we expect from him this year.

As a freshman he played on the reserve football team and captured the reserve basketball quintet. The same year Dick paired with Dick Barnes to win the State Class B Tennis title. Dick says his most thrilling experience was when he defeated Harold Upjohn in the City tennis tournament and won the Junior crown.

Last year he was captain of the undefeated reserve football team and was sub on the basketball team. Everyone will undoubtedly remember when Dick passed a long shot that swished and won the Holland Christmas game last year.

Dick is majoring in English and Mathematics and minors in Latin and History, and (brace yourself) claims his pet peeve is a guy who can't stand hot water. It seems he has the habit of seeing just how hot the water can get before he dashes from the shower. What a guy.

Niles Vikings Nosed Out By State Quintet

The State High quintet nipped the Niles Vikings 35-33 in the opening game of the season to move into a first place tie with Dowagiac in the Big Seven Conference.

With only two seniors on the floor, the Cub cagers whipped into a 9-2 lead in the opening minutes of the game with Cain, Hagan, West, and Smith adding a free throw. After Niles caught onto the Cub Offense, they narrowed State's lead to 13-8 as the first period ended.

With Smith and Hagan scoring often on tip ins, the Hilltoppers maintained the deliberate pace by piling up a 20-11 lead just five minutes before the half ended.

Niles suddenly switched to a fast break offense which caught States cagers off guard. Eden scored once and Vetter dropped two in to narrow the margin to a dangerous 20-17 as the half ended.

Soon after the opening of the second half Hagan put two through the hoop to give the Cubs a 22-20 lead, but Vetter added a basket and two free throws to cut the lead to 24-21. At this point play settled down and the closing of the third period saw the score stand at 29-24.

Two charity tosses by West and Cain and one by Geisbart put the score at what seemed to be a safe lead of 31-25. Niles' forward, Tony Marazita, dropped two through the hoop and Hagan scored on a tip in to put the score at 33-25.

With only one minute to go Marazita scored on a tip in to put the score at 35-33.

The last minute saw both teams fighting for control of the ball. Niles took the ball out of bounds on a foul, and Knoll got the ball that went in and out as the final period ended with Niles losing a 35-33 thriller to State's fighting team.

SUMMARIES:
State High B F P
Smith 3 2 4
West 3 2 4
Hagan 5 1 2
Cain 2 1 1

Niles B F P
Knoll 3 2 2
Marazita 4 0 0
Cannady 1 0 3

Score By Periods: 1 2 3 4 T
State High 7 9 7 35
Niles 8 9 7 33
When Nights Were Bold

Upon a snow-swept corner
Among the jostling crowd,
With anguish written on his face,
A State High-ite wept aloud.
A curious crowd soon gathered
To offer sympathy and comfort.
And when they said, "What grieves
you, pal?"
What makes you look so pale?"
This hill-top boy with courage fast
did tell this bitter tale.
"Into that crowded department store
I gotta go and shop,
Right through that grim revolving door
That spins without a stop;
If I live through that I gotta ride
On a jam-packed elevator,
Where little kids will bruise my hide
From my feet to my equator.
Up to a counter I must shove,
(My clothes all ripped at the seams)
To buy a present for the one I love,
That mellow girl of my dreams.
Oh, for the days yore
When a guy could win his charmer
And shop in safety at Xmas time
While wrapped in a suit of armor!"

Students Participate In Faculty Meeting

During the faculty meeting held
on December 9 at 4:00, Walter Storey,
Bill Alman, and Betty Davis,
representing the Citizenship Committee,
moved with Mr. Avis Sebalay and Miss
Elizabeth Jones representing the faculty
and Mr. Robert Kraai who represented
the student teachers, for a panel
discussion of school citizenship,
under the leadership of Miss Katherine
Dukette.
Each member of the faculty had
previously filled out a questionnaire
stating what phase of school citizenship
he wished discussed. The topic
which was most desired was that of
"student responsibility for his own conduct,"
although honesty in work,
derstanding of democratic procedure,
and the system of emphasis in
marks were also discussed.

Happy Birthday

Ann Solomon—Dec. 18
Sally Wykkel—Dec. 22
Phyllis Mannes—Dec. 30
Nancy Upjohn—Dec. 28
Lewis Sweitzer—Dec. 28
Hollis Weston—Dec. 30
John R. Smith—Dec. 30
Betty Carver—Dec. 30
Jackie Bowman—Dec. 30
Phyllis Mannes—Dec. 31
Robert Dukette—Jan. 1
Ronald Selner—Jan. 4
Virginia Glenn—Jan. 4
Jean Thomas—Jan. 8
Bob Hollowell—Jan. 9
Jerry Hollowell—Jan. 9
Jackie Leach—Jan. 10
Dale Griffith—Jan. 12
Maryellen Ward—Jan. 12
Marilyn Arison—Jan. 13
Marshall Paffhausen—Jan. 15

Pertinacies

Proceeding on the assumption that
no well organized pedagogic institu-
tion can exist without seniors, (just
ask the seniors) we shall give with
the main facts and figures in the lives
of two aspirants for graduation in the class
of ’47. Although it was hard
to pick any two, on account of all
seniors being so brilliant, accomplis-
ed, and good looking, after much
struggling through the records we decided
down deep, and came up with
some very interesting data on Mary
Jane McCarthy and Ralph Miller.
Mary Jane, in case you haven’t been
formally introduced, is the blue eyed
brunette often discovered walking
down our fair halls with a preoccu-
pled look in her eyes. Most likely
at such times she is trying to remem-
ber—when Van Johnson’s next
picture is expected, but—the accusa-
tive plural of the gerundive of that
Latin verb, or the gender of the
French word for “day.” Mary Jane,
you see, is a language enthusiast.
She seems to do all right with them,
her name having appeared in the
most honor roll.

Please don’t get the mistaken idea,
however, that Miss McCarthy knows
only “ye old book-learning” for she
holds the exalted position of feature
editor of the Highlander and is a
member of the Highlights staff. Exe-
cutive positions, too, are all in a day’s
work for Mary Jane who helped presi-
date over the Junior class last year
as vice president.

As to the immediate future—the
college campus is calling. Mary Jane
isn’t sure just which one yet—she
even announces magananimously that
it might be Western.

RIGHT ON THE BALL

For the male portion of this liter-
ary work we pass on to Ralph Miller,
thefuture pitching ace of the Major
Leagues (or he hopes). Ralph, who
prefers U. S. History in school, pre-
fers baseball outside. If you happen to
see any bats or baseballs floating
about these “haloed ballplayers”
expect to see Mr. Miller nearby.

Besides baseball, basketball, and
more baseball, Ralph finds time to act
as president of the SENIOR homeroom,
to serve on the Student Council, and
to belong to the “S” Club.

As an added item of interest, we
should like to call to your attention to
the aura of mystery and darkness
surrounding our would be Hal New-
house. You haven’t noticed it? It
may not be apparent but Mr. Sammy
was born on Friday the 13th! In spite
of this his tastes are quite typical of any
American youth for his favorite foods
are turkey, mashed potatoes and but-
terscotch pie.

In conclusion, Ralph, in looking to-
wards the future, predicts college as a
suitability and all his friends agree.
Sammy is always waiting around the
corner. But first, of course, is base-
ball and to the joy of all our loyal
fans he predicts that State High
will win the Big Seven Conference next
spring. Hope you’re right, Ralph.