State Highlights 12/15/1948
Western State High School

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Paste and Plans Produce Prom

Here it comes—the night of the "Candy Cane Caper!" We wonder if all those dreamily dancing pairs will realize how many people were involved in making the Christmas Formal a success? If, when buying those tickets at $1.50 per couple, they thought of all the committees, both student and faculty that were involved?

Well, in case they didn’t, here’s a brief resume of just what actually happened to bring about a successful formal:

Pat Mitchell, General Chairman of the Social Committee wears a triangular-shaped patch from Mr. John C. Hoekje’s office to the Walwood Hall office to the State High office in finding available dates for the use of the Walwood Ballroom on a night agreed to State’s schedule, getting a requisition signed, sealed, and delivered, and finally, formulating tentative plans to be put into operation as soon as possible.

The first big step, and one that distributes the responsibilities equally, is to appoint Committee chairmen, in turn, appoint members of their specific group and proceed to develop their plans. Advertising Committee—Bob Wood and Carolyn McLaughlin, Co-Chairmen, Chaperone Committee—Mary Lou Woodworth, Chairman; Decorations Committee—Ann Eldridge, Chairman; Programs Committee—Jill Gannaway, Chairman; Refreshments and Orchestra Committee—Jackie Kingscott, Chairman; Ticket Committee—Betsy Davis and Sally Wykkel, Co-chairmen. As the result of these committee get-togethers, you may expect the dance to follow this procedure:

Formal To Glow With Xmas Spirit

Slow, sweet strains of music; lights soft and low; fragrant greens and red ribbon—the traditional and beautifully decorated Christmas tree, peppermint candy canes—all this complete with jolly, laughing Santa to wish you a Merry Christmas, and a dreamy evening is yours if you attend the annual Christmas Formal, Monday night, Dec. 20 in Walwood ballroom from 9:00 to 12:00. (Tickets for this gala occasion are only $1.50 per couple). You are promised a perfect evening of glowing holiday spirit and fun.

Cups brimming with sparkling, red holiday punch—the mello music of Rex Smith, and yes, even mistletoe, will lend a touch of Christmas spirit to the atmosphere. "The Candy Cane Caper" spells an evening of wonderful, wonderful fun you won’t want to miss.

Needless to say "The Candy Cane Caper" should be a great success, and the people who have worked so hard to make it a success should be given a vote of appreciation. And they all say that the best way to do that is to BE THERE AND ENJOY THE FUN! So come on, all you fellas! You’ve still got time, get up your courage and ask that gal!
Debaters Prepare for Battle Creek Towne

The record for the debate team thus far is four wins and two losses, which means that they must win their round at Battle Creek early in Jan. in order to qualify for the State quarter-finals. The affirmative team dropped their first debate to Hudsonville, but has recovered nicely from this loss to defeat Holt and Hastings. The negative team on the other hand, had won all their debates, until they met Hastings on December 9, when they bowed to their affirmative team. Wednesday, January 5, Mr. Sack plans to take his debaters to Lansing where they will engage in a three way debate with Lansing Eastern and Lansing Sexton. This round of practice debates will give the debaters a chance to recover from a long vacation of inactivity. It is also hoped that it will whip them into shape for the debate with Battle Creek Central on Friday, January 7.

French To Receive Doctorate Soon

If you come to the second floor of the Ad building, take the left side of the track around the Women’s gym, stop at the second door, there among Highlights staff members and all their paraphanalia, a new faculty member can be found, Mr. John French. (Note: there is an easier way; he teaches two government and economic classes).

Mr. French is really a widely-travelled man. Five years after he was born in Winfield, Kansas, (pop. 10,000), he moved to Nebraska, then Oklahoma and so on to California before finishing high school. Both the high schools he attended in Tulsa and Long Beach were considerably larger than State, being 3600 and 1800 respectively. However, he claims to like State very much.

Upon graduating from the University of North Carolina, (yes, another state), he joined the air corps and was stationed at various places throughout Dixie.

Mr. French is married and has two boys, ages 3 years and 4 months. When questioned about his hobbies, he informed us that he enjoys taking home movies of the boys, and plans to embarrass them later by showing the pictures to their friends. (Hmmm) Classical music, sports, and dancing also number among his special interests.

Mr. French has been working on his doctorate at Columbia University, and will soon receive the degree.

That We Not Forget

Deck the halls with boughs of holly
We've plenty of reason to be jolly
This season life is full of folly
But what of Europe's kids?

Tell the ancient Yule-tide carol
Don we now our gay apparel
But don't forget the crying peril
Of Europe's starving kids.

We see the blazing Yule before us
We hear a song and join the chorus
While all the time these kids implore us,
"Don't forget us, Europe's kids."

So while I tell of Yule-tide treasure
Follow me in merry measure
To the land where there'll be no pleasure
Europe, 1948

33 Sox To Be Filled

Beginning the week of December 5, until Thursday, December 16, the State High Red Cross committee has asked each homeroom to fill two Christmas stockings for Perry Jones Hospital. This will result in a school total of about thirty-three stockings to be filled.

The Red Cross representative from each homeroom will collect either articles or money. A list of acceptable goods, such as gum, combs, toothbrushes, and non-acceptable items, such as perishable foods, has been handed to every homeroom. The classes are planning either teams or collecting campaigns to achieve the goal of this project.

Programs Planned

The 12:30 Chemistry Class home-room has found a very interesting and adequate solution of the problem "what to do on the Wednesdays when there is no homeroom meeting." The Class appointed a "program committee" which has arranged for a series of entertainments which are both interesting and entertaining. Such programs as movies, speakers, and discussions have been planned. In November, the Chemistry class invited Miss Burns' homeroom in for a movie entitled "Junior Prom." On December 15 they saw a movie on "telephone manners" and on January 5, their topic of interest will be "Search for Security."

State Highlights

Council Choose Movie Thriller

Maria Montez and John Hall will be starred in the technicolor movie production of "Arabian Nights" on January 12, from 12:30 to 2:00 in the Little Theater, and the price, just 25 cents.

The movie itself is about a Turkish monarch who has ideas of beheading his beautiful wife, and so to save her life he tells her stories that continue from night to night.

All this is done up in striking technicolor and of course with the help of John Hall and Marie Montez promises to be an enjoyable way of spending your afternoon classes.

This movie is presented by the Student Council and all the money made will be used for the Monitor, Highlights luncheon and future dances.

State Highlights

Editor in chief .................................................. Julie Cartland
News Editor ...................................................... Ann Hoebeke
Sports Editor .................................................... Jim Russell
Feature Editors .............................................. Carolyn McLaughlin, Sue Ralston, Sue Pullon
Art Editor ........................................................ Howard Morrison
Exchange Editor ............................................. Arlen Winther
Photographer .................................................. Dick McCallum

NOTICE! In the future hall permits will not be issued from the High School library.
Femmes Win Volleyball Title In Playday Sat.

On Saturday, December 11th, the State High girls captured the Volleyball crown in the Class competition of the Volleyball Tournament, which was held in the Women's gym. Teams from Paw Paw, Richland, and Portage participated in the tournament, and proved to be quite a stiff competition for the victorious State High Femmes.

The Junior-girls team of State High, sparked by such outstanding players as "Lou" Woodworth, Marilyn Carlson, and Jill Gannaway (a whiz at net play), provided the State High teams with the best record—as they won all three of the games they played. The Freshmen and Sophomore teams both added to the score by chalking up two out of three wins apiece. However, the senior team—although their players are of great potential ability—did not seem to hit it off Saturday and won only one of their games.

After the class tourney, the four schools participating each chose a varsity squad to play in the All-star elimination finals. The State High team, consisting of Mary Lou Woodworth (captain), Marilyn Carlson, Jill Gannaway, Vivian Smith, Julie Cartland, Julia Strome, Sandy Hackman, and Sandy Woodworth, won their first round with a large margin.

Cheerleaders Expect Good Response

Shirley Loughead, newly re-elected cheerleader, revealed that all the cheerleaders felt very much encouraged with the yelling during the first basketball games. "Although it is really too early to tell," Shirley continues, "If the attendance, responses, and co-operation are as good as they were during the football season, we will feel that we have made a great accomplishment."

The cheerleaders plan to get together three times a week, but it is anybody's guess whether they will be too hoarse and lame to do so after this past week's schedule, with games Friday, Saturday, and then Monday.

The six plan to split up into groups of two, three, and four for most cheers, but on the home floor they plan to do a few in full strength. Another idea they have considered is to re-acquaint the student body with the welcome song so that we could sing it at the beginning of home games.

Shirley concluded the interview by saying that she and the other cheerleaders, Sandy Hackman, Lois Green, Sandra Beebe, Mary Lou Woodworth, and Gene Logan, would all welcome suggestions for new yells or ideas for pep meetings.

Calendar

Dec. 17—Christmas vacation begins
Dec. 20—Christmas Formal
Dec. 29—Junior Auxiliary Formal
Jan. 3—Vacation ends
Jan. 5—Exchange assembly with Niles
Jan. 7—Basketball game with Buchanan, away

Cubs' Average Good In Season Opener

The basketball season is upon us and State High seems to have a potentially great team. The Hilltoppers showed promise in their first games.

The Cubs dropped the big Niles game (32-30), The Vikings got an early lead which they maintained throughout the first half and on into the third quarter. Then the Cubs caught fire and whittled down that lead, but they hadn't started soon enough and they ran out of time. Jim Orwin topped the Kalamazoo scorers for the third time this year.

The season began for the Cub five at Dowagiac. The team looked good running up an early lead and holding it throughout the game. The final score was 38-27 in favor of the Kalamazoos. Jim Orwin led the scoring with fifteen points.

At South Haven, the Cubs put up a good fight but lost 37-33. South Haven had a fine team led by Bill Fogerlund, who scored twenty points against the Cubs. Jim Orwin again led the State Cagers with eleven markers.

The Hilltoppers played well again for the home folks in the home opener against East Grand Rapids. The Cubs started off fast leading 15-0 with only six minutes gone, and kept a good lead all the way winning 43-23.

Tommy Woodworth marked up thirteen tallies to lead the Kalamazoo Quintet.

The team shows great promise and if they keep up the teamwork which they had against East Grand Rapids they should go a long way.

Let's all turn out and support the team on all their games!!

Sink or Swim

One of the classic "pep talks" stories is told on Michigan's great football coach, "Hurry-Up" Yost. Yost, as well as being a brilliant strategist, was a firm believer in dressing room oratory.

During half time of one important game, he pulled out all the stops in a fervent plea for victory. The players sat enthralled as Coach Yost poured it on.

"Go out that door to victory," the fiery coach screamed. So carried away was he that Yost pointed to the wrong door.

The Michigan players, fired to a fever pitch, dashed headlong into the swimming pool and encumbered with heavy football gear, narrowly escaped drowning.

Practice in New Gym Produces Better Team and Pneumonia

This year for the first time in several seasons, State High has had a decent time allotted to them for basketball practice. In the past, the Cubs have had only an hour of practice a day. This was not long enough. There was not time for full-length scrimmages, and the fellows never seemed to reach the peak of condition that comes with long, hard work.

This year, things are different. A new gym has been erected in Kanley Park and is being used for the practice sessions. This building has a good solid floor and is well lighted. But every silver lining has its cloud. The shower facilities are in another building fifty or fifty-five feet away—a very poor situated place indeed. It just isn't healthy for a heated player to come off the floor, take a cold shower (because the reserve squad had used all the hot water) and perhaps pick up a bad cold on the way home. Such conditions do not help the team or the fellow.

The team appears to be in better condition—a fact which might well be contributed to the facilities for longer practice, but improvements on the shower situation are necessary.
Girls Wrack Brains Over Gifts for "Him"

When considering vacations, it seems that the greatest number of people get dreamy-eyed and talkative about Christmas. Yes, one must agree that a "top of the world" feeling is not hard to achieve when surrounded by possibilities of enumerable parties, Christmas carols, brightly-ribboned packages under trees dripping with possibilities of enumerable parties, and best of all, there will no doubt be a chance to "bring home the bacon" this season. John Tubert, past owner of the United States Government, is the clubs' treasurer and has done a fine job with recruiting the cream of the line crop of college stars during the summer. In pre-season scrimmages, such veterans as bruiser fullback, Julie Cartland, and ace passer, Sue Ralston, looked exceptionally good and will probably be the nucleus around which coach Evelyn "Stek" Steketeet will build her ball club. Rumors have it that Miss Steketeet has received a special bonus of $50,000 to sign on the dotted line plus a salary of $3,000 per season.

The probable starters for the Hens are: at the ends, Shirley Hill, lanky Southern Methodist Banker and Julia Strome, a Parsons College graduate. Both are excellent pass receivers and vicious tacklers. At the tackles, line coach Sue Pullon boasts of two hard charging line women in Ruth Pinone, 130 lbs. bruiser from Pitt and Shirley Gary, all-American from Minnesota and recently purchased from the Buffalo Bickets for $5,000 plus mortgages. Bolstering the center of the line are rugged Maggy Burns who saw her college days at the College Inn is as fine a guard as we've seen in many a day and aided on the other side of the line by Big Barbara Weiss from Nazareth College, the line should be impregnable. At Center is Mary Lou Woodworth an pivot woman from Schoolcraft tech and great linebacker. "Lou" should go places this year.

Holiday Birthdays

Dec. 15—John DeGroat
   George Hager
   Skippy Kindleberger
   Ann Solomon

Dec. 21—Beverly Johnson

Dec. 22—Carol Sheldon
   Sally Wykkel

Dec. 26—Phyllis Balch

Dec. 30—John R. Smith

Dec. 31—Phyllis Manners

Jan. 1—Bob Dunbar

Jan. 3—Bill Hoyt

To Santa...

Dear Santa,

You're a busy man I know, and I don't want to bother. But I'm just asking for my friends, cause I don't want no other. I do wish you'd wrap up F. H. and send him to S. S. Then I could sit down—and get a little rest.

Lila Ann wants a date

To the Candy Caper;

Please send a mellow-man, wrapped in tissue paper. Bill Van wants a motorcycle, Janet wants a horse; Jim wants Mary Ruth, and Bill, why Shirley, of course! And Bill, why Shirley, of course! This is all I have to say. Except I hope you can.