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State Highlights 12/14/1949

Western State High School

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"Long Christmas Dinner" Prepared

The cast (in order of appearance):
Lucia........................ Ann Eldridge
Roderick........................ Dick Curry
Mother Bayard...................... Shirley Gary
Cousin Brandon..................... Bradley Smith
Charles............................ Hadley Osburn
Geneviève........................ Herta Payson
Leonora............................ Jackie Slaughter
Cousin Ermingard............... Ilyne Weisman
Lucia, II........................ Mary Tinkham
Sam.................................. Joe Spicketts
Roderick II......................... George Reeves

Hinckley Previews Play

On Friday, December 16, State High will present "The Long Christmas Dinner" by Thornton Wilder. The play is unusual in that a span of 90 years is represented in continuous action. The setting is so arranged that there are two doors at the back of the drawing room in the Bayard home. One door represents the beginning of life and the other, the end. A nurse will, from time to time, bring in the new arrivals, and as the people exit through the other door we know they have died.

The passage of time is indicated in the dialogue continually by little hints. Sometimes the characters refer to events we know about as having taken place several years ago. The unseen servants' names change, pointing out change in time. The play is about real human lives, but is very non-realistic. It is like a fairy tale with the rhythm of life.

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Deur States Winners

The Student Council-sponsored magazine sale is now in its final stages, with the awarding of the prizes and the big "drawing" remaining. A grand total of $4,256.00 was brought in, and the Junior class has sold $117.60. A special vote of thanks should be given to Paul Deal, who was chairman of the sale, and to his helpers, Bob Smith, Gaylord Kitchen, Mary Popeano, and Jack Hill. Also helping from the home-rooms were Shirley Smith, Jim Hoekje, Jackie Slaughter, Janet Snow, Doris Bell, Lilla Ellet, Pat Bloom, Mary Hilliard, Ann Frey, Kay Brower, "Red" Gemrich, and Brooks Godfrey.

The Eighth graders get the free bus trip to any basketball game they choose, while Bernadine Paull, top salesmaan, will receive a Parker Pen and Pencil Set. Winifred Craig, will get the second prize of any magazine subscription of her choosing. The awards for top homeroom salesmen go to the following:

Joe Scott, 201A; Polly Allen, 208A; Ilyne Weisman, 15A; Jackie Slaughter, Highlights; Dave Wank, Band; Ethel Peelan, 13A; Herta Payson, 301B; Bernadine Paull, 303B; Frank Goodrich, 219A; Joan Bauierla, 204A; Mary Thomson, 217A; Barbara Forbes, 206A; and Winifred Craig, Monitors.

Sophomores Elect Leaders

This year the Sophomore class has chosen two boys and two girls to represent them. Ted Emerson is president, Maynard Nieboer is vice president, Carole Smith is secretary, and Kathryn Wood has been elected to count the class money.

Ted Emerson came to the Training School, in the last part of the eighth grade, from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is now Captain of our reserve basketball team.

Maynard Nieboer, also a player on the reserve team, hails from Oakwood Junior High. Carole Smith has had previous experience as president of her eighth grade class at Millwood, and Kathryn Wood served on the Student Council at Parchment.

Moonlight Mood for "Mistletoe Magic"

"They danced 'til midnight, midst music, marquisette, and mistletoe"—this caption might well be used to describe our annual Christmas formal which is December twenty-first at Walwood Hall.

Jill Guaraway is chairman of the committee planning the formal. She has obtained Bobby Davidson's orchestra to furnish the music.

You may buy your tickets from Joan Bauierla or any other social committee member for $1.50 per couple.

Decorations are being planned by Pat Mabie and will be put up by Frances Frey and her crew of decorators.

Winifred Craig is inviting alumni from two years back, and Jack Hill is in charge of chaperone invitations. Nancy Strome is managing advertising.

Mary Lou Woodworth is responsible for refreshments. Annaliss Frey is making arrangements for people to take tickets at the door.

Remember, boys are not the only ones who will do the asking. You gals that would like to invite fellows from Central, St. Augustine, or an out-of-town school, don't hesitate. The more there are, the merrier it will be!

Other schools aren't to be forgotten. Central's formal, Frozen Fantasy, is on December nineteenth. John Drenth is chairman of the planning committee.

St. Augustine's plans for a dance at time of printing were undecided.

CALENDAR

Dec. 16—School closes for Christmas vacation.
Dec. 17—Basketball game with East Grand Rapids, there.
Dec. 21—Christmas formal.
Jan. 3—School days begin again.
Jan. 6—Basketball game with Buchanan, here.
Jan. 10—Basketball game with Three Rivers, there.
State Highlights
The STATE HIGHLIGHTS is published bi-weekly by the students of Western State High School.

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Pat and Lilla Win
Prizes for the Poster Contest sponsored by the Kalamazoo Exchange Club were captured by Pat Mabie and Lilla Ann Ellet on Monday, November 28, 1949.

First prize of six dollars was awarded to Pat Mabie, art editor of the Highlights and Highlander, while Lilla Ellet, sophomore, won a second prize of five dollars.

The Gift for Betty
"Uh-Dad-a, suppose I could have an advance on my allowance?"
"Young man! Don't you realize that money doesn't grow on trees! You've already had advances for nine weeks! Furthermore, it's almost Christmas and we've already overspent our budget. No, I'm sorry, son, but I can't advance you any more."

"Well, gee whiz! How do you like that. After all, I'd pay him back, some day. Maybe Mom'll loan me some." Jim went into his bedroom and combed his hair. Funny thing—only a couple of months ago Mom had been nagging him to keep his hair combed, and now she complained because he spent so much time in front of the mirror!

He went into the kitchen where his mother was getting supper, and broached the subject again. "Mom, ya know, it's less than a week until Christmas and... well... I haven't got any money left, and Mom, I've just got to get Betty something for Christmas. There's a compact down at the jewelry store I'd kinda' like to get her. It only costs five bucks, and I thought maybe you could loan it to me."

"Jim, I'm sorry, but your father and I have talked it over, and we really don't think that we can give you any more. I guess you'll just have to earn the money."

"Earn it! But Mom!" But, after all, he did have to have the money. He thought about Betty, who had blonde curls and laughing blue eyes. A couple weeks ago he hadn't even known she was around, and then, Bang! All of a sudden he was "smut" like he'd never been "smut" before. He thought about Harry Johnson, too. He knew that Harry liked Betty and that he'd probably get her something pretty nice. Yes, he'd have to earn the money. But how? Mom had an idea. "Well, Jim, sister is supposed to take care of the Archer's children tonight, but Joe asked her to go to a movie, so maybe you could take over the job."

"Me! Baby sit? But Mom!" But Jim "baby sat" and liked it, (though not too much). The next day he shoveled all the walks in the block and by five-thirty that night he had earned four dollars and a half. In the next two days he made no money at all. Even the grocer had a list of boys who wanted to deliver groceries.

The morning before Christmas he earned seventy-five cents more shoveling the walk again and helping Mary, his sister, do the dishes. That afternoon he bought the compact, and Mary wrapped it for him.

Right after supper he put on his coat (and combed his hair twice!) and rushed over to Betty's house. She opened the door and asked him in. She was quite excited and her eyes twinkled a little when she opened the package. She lifted the compact and turned to Jim. "Oh, Jim! What a beautiful compact. I just love it! It's just what I wanted, but Mother said I was too young to have one this year."

Suddenly baby-sitting and snow shoveling weren't such bad ways of earning money, after all!

Mr. Sack Welcomes Word From State Hi
Last spring, Mr. William Sack was taken to Fairmount Hospital to begin his fight against tuberculosis. He isn't forgotten, and many students have requested an article about the former speech teacher, debate and dramatic coach, and assembly committee advisor.

He divides his time between reading and listening to the radio, largely music. He says he reads magazines more than anything else, but reads anything, including quite a bit of poetry and some plays.

Mr. Sack said that he gets very little news of the high school and would like to hear about it. He asked about the Christmas play, the debate team, the choir and operetta, which boy is going with what girl—in short, he's interested in everything around the high school and would welcome any letters or visits from teachers or students here in State High.
IT'S IN THE BAG!

I'm not particular, but this I wouldn't mind. Send me a fellow five-feet-nine, a sparkling smile and big blue eyes. You know, one of those mellow guys. Please, dear Santa, bring him to me. You can leave him under my tree.

Mary Lou Woodworth

It's a snowy, blustery night at the North Pole, and Santa is beginning to pack his bag. He is putting in for Nancie Strome a bright, shiny, green convertible and a "Jack" to help her change the tires. Also while selecting convertibles, he has picked out a beautiful red Buick for Eva Aube and Dawn Williams. He is not forgetting the Chevrolet for Ruth Pionke's friend.

Dear Santa:

I know you're very busy, and this is nothing new. You did a swell job last year, will you try this year, too?

For the formal I've a mellow man, but won't you please, if you can, fix all my friends with a mellow date. So at the dance they'll really rate.

Clare Gemrich wants a locker of her very own, where she is safe from Carolyn's books, always tumbling down.

Please send George a bigger brain, fly a paper doll to Donnie Cain, John Smith needs some more hair, C. Kirkpatrick, a maiden fair.

Mr. Hackney and Mr. Bush will soon be under locks; unless you bring them, Santa Claus.

Synchronizing clocks.

Thank you, thank you, Santa Claus. To me you're really swell. If these are done 'fore Christmas Eve I'll know that all is well.

Love,

Kate Randall
Students of State High are thinking mighty hard about New Year's resolutions this year. Some are even beneficial. For instance, Miss Bernyce Cleveland resolves "to save a few lives in the halls, even at the risk of my own." We certainly should all resolve to help her keep her resolution.

A few of our fellow students wish to stick up for their own rights in the future. For example, Joan Biljum claims she is going to solve her own problems without assistance from others, and from now on, Joe Spickett's visits to Gull Lake will be strictly sub rosa! Barbara Forbes says, "I resolve never to stop fighting with my sister while she is in the lead." (We're wondering if Barb would sell us a few ringside seats for the performance?) Kate Randall says she is going to avoid Suzanne Sawyer's lemons in 11:00 geometry. (Perhaps Sue would like a proper juice-squeezer for Christmas?)

Another of the "higher ups" was heard from. Mr. Frank Fliess resolves to accept no more homework in excess of ten pages. I think he was referring especially to Dorothy Tucker and Helena Miles, but all you French and German students should bear that in mind.

Concerning State Hi's familiar triangle—Lorraine, Phyllisanne, and Arthur—it appears that not even the New Year can break up the threesome. The Great Casanova, himself, is determined to keep his two girls, and Loraine has sincerely resolved to love Phyllisanne.

Winifred Craig, says she'll tolerate no more back seat drivers, and as of Jan. 1, Jackie Slaughter, Mary Ann Tinkham, and Mary Fopeano, will ride in the trunk.

Eleanor Scamehorn has relinquished her habit of alibing—(She says), and Mr. Hinckley can now rejoice, for Jim Brosseau has promised never again to mumble words in speech class.

Robin Rose has a good idea. She resolves not to come to school any more 'cause it's a bad influence on her. Maybe she has something there.

The Student Council promises to be a better place next year. Paul Deal is not going to lose any Student Council money, and Jill Gannaway swears to get the minutes out at least one week early. More power to them!

Life should be more bearable for certain people now that Marilyn Carlson has decided not to tease Dale about all his women, and Ruth Pionke is planning to refrain from growling "Forget it" to her friends. Shirley Gary gives her word that she won't pinch "poor little tender Cofield anymore." (We didn't know Shirley was such a bully!)

As for those who are continually attempting to escape the walls of school, Carolyn Fox promises that she will not be excused from classes more than four days a week, and Bill Page says he will no longer try to get out of 8:00 study. There is evidence of a less-mild manner of dismissal from studies—Margaret Burns resolves not to get kicked out of gym class more than twice a week.

Jim Pore is really taking this seriously. He is giving up "cigarettes, whiskey, and wild, wild, women." Wonder what Lola has to say about this?

Of course there had to be a joker in the pack. Graham Bradley Smith resolves only to "fill this out properly and put it in the Highlights box."

During the remainder of our school year we shall watch with the greatest interest for all those who live up to their promises—if any!
Cagers Take On Potent Pioneers

The State High cagers will journey to East Grand Rapids on December 17, to play a non-league fracas with John Hoekel's pot. The Grand Rapids team has won three straight contests by impressive scores, and should prove to be one of the leading contestants of Class "C" in the state. Hoekel's five is led by three veterans who are all high scorers. These are Dave Nash, Dave McLaughlin, and Swaniey. Nash has been very impressive in the three opening contests, and should bear watching.

The Cubs dropped the opening game to Dowagiac by eight points, but showed a great deal of fight in doing so, something that wasn't seen in previous year's teams. What State High doesn't have in ability, they have in spirit and teamwork, which are good assets to any team. With a little experience, the State quintet should provide some stiff competition in Big Seven play.

Coach Al Bush will rely on Jerry Knowlton, Steve Fast, Joe Zitney, Frank Spitters, Frank Nugent, and Jack Mindeman to be the biggest factors in a win over Grand Rapids. John Gelder, Fred Hubbell, Bob Smith, Jim McCrumb, and Al Ryan will be ready for capable replacement duties.

B's Show Promise

State High's reserve basketball team lost its first encounter of the year to Dowagiac's seconds, 40-18. They started off well enough and at one time held a 5-3 lead. Later, they fell behind and began to lose their easier form, and never regained either their form or the lead.

The team, even in defeat, showed great possibilities. Ted Emerson, only returning with the team, and Zitney should improve with more experience. Players who showed promise included Maynard Nieboer, Pete Longjohn, Don Gill, Fred Dilno, and Dick DeFreese. With a few more games and experience, the team should be greatly improved.

Elect Football Co-captains

Congratulations are in order for Fred Hubbell and Jack Mindeman for being elected as co-captains of next year's football team. The selections were announced at the sports assembly last week. Both boys are popular with their teammates, and will certainly do good jobs. They replace Dale Crawford who did a wonderful job last season.

All-Sports Trophy

This trophy is a tribute to the fine work done by last year's senior class.
Meet Our Homeroom

While you are in your homeroom enjoying some good fun before the bell at 1 o’clock, the members of the Highlights homeroom are really doing odd things. Libby types with her mouth assisting as she speeds away at the keys. Jackie is pretty speedy at typing too. Ms. Cooper and Dick try to keep order while reading the news from the office. Carol sits in the corner listening to things in general while Ann sings "Baby It’s Cold Outside." Dorothy J's and Hadley’s thoughts will turn to the subject of debate. Mary Ann and Joyce try to find themselves a chair while Dale and Jack zoom in just in time to occupy the last seats, Marshall and Graydon assist Jim as he searches the corners for "lost members" to put on the little pink and blue slips.

What is It?

The Highlights wondered what would happen if Santa left a zanthorrhoeoid at each house as he made his Christmas rounds. The only way to find out was to ask, so we checked around and interrogated guys and gals as to what they would do. We got some strange answers:

"I’d throw it away." [Ed. note: I don’t believe it]

"I’d pet it." [Ed. note: You should've found out what does our Editor do?] She stands at the door with a big club warning us of the deadline.

Platter Patter

Did you know that both of the popular songs, "Mule Train" and "The Lucky Old Sun" were written for Frankie Laine’s voice? Most people think he sings them pretty well, too. They’re both on the Hit Parade. Other songs that we were well-off on our poll were "Dreamer’s Holiday," "Body and Soul," "I Can Dream Can’t I?" and “Don’t Cry, Joe." A song that seems to be catching on is "Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer."