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## State Highlights 2/1/1950

Western State High School

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# State Highlights

VOLUME XI

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 1, 1950

NUMBER 7

## New Senior Study

A new course, called "Social Problems", has been functioning for the past semester at two periods, 9 and 11 o'clock. It is open only to seniors and is equal to one credit in history when combined with Government. A class of this type is unusual in that it does not have a definite textbook, but several books have been suggested for use next semester. The purpose of the class is to aid the individual in his growth and attitude in living and in getting along with people. The methods used are planned in accordance with the size of the group, individual need, and group reaction.

Mrs. Saur, the instructor, has had a wide background in working with this type of class, and at present she is also teaching a similar college course. Next semester she will have two new groups of Seniors and has decided upon the following as the probable units for study: Getting acquainted with each other (not a full unit, but as an introduction to the subject); Dating; Understanding Yourself and Others (including personality, juvenile delinquency, and reproductive organs); Marriage (including going steady, engagements, budgeting, etc.); and the Family.

## Operetta Cast Chosen Opening Night, Mar. 16th

Gianette .....	Mary Ann Tinkham*
	Herta Payson
Tesa .....	Alene Waterworth*
	Cleora Fletcher
Casilda .....	Alda Marie Seaver*
	Dawn Williams
Duchess .....	Bernadine Paull*
	Margaret Burns
Marco .....	Fred Hoyt
Guiseppe .....	Dave Roth
Luiz .....	Steve Davis
Duke .....	Vern Ver Hage*
	Bill Persons
Antonio .....	Brad Smith*
	Jim Brosseau
Don Alhambra .....	Jim Brosseau*
	Brad Smith

Gilbert and Sullivan's gay and colorful operetta, "The Gondoliers," is now in full progress under the direction of Mrs. Leoti C. Britton. The choir plans to give the operetta the 16th and 17th of March and has chosen the casts for the two different nights. The starred names are for the leads who perform on March 16th, since there is a double cast for the leads.

## Seniors Lay Plans For Last Semester

This year, for the first time in the history of State High School, the senior class is planning its own graduation ceremony. Ann Elridge has been elected chairman of the graduation committee, which is trying to arrange a ceremony that will include more student participation. This committee has set up other committees which are in charge of the reception, flowers, music, and speakers.

Early in the year the senior class elected their officers; Jack Hill, president; Bob Smith, vice-president; Jane Smith, secretary; and Roger Mills, treasurer. These officers with the help of Mr. A. L. Sebalý and Miss Golda Crisman, faculty advisers, appointed the graduation committee and the following committees with their temporary chairmen;

Class cards-Linda Howard, chairman.

Farewell gift-Dick Curry, chairman.

Assembly-Ted Klinger, chairman.

Extra activities-Pat Mabie, chairman. This committee hopes to arrange a toboggan party at Echo Valley some time in January or February. The cost would be \$1.00 per person. The purpose of this party would be to raise the class spirit, rather than to make money.

Skip-Day-Frances Frey, chairman. It was originally hoped that the class could go on an excursion, but there is no chance of that, for the price is prohibitive. There were suggestions that the class go to Lake Michigan again, as has been done in previous years, or that the class take a trip to Detroit, Lansing, or Chicago.

At the last senior meeting, Roger Mills reported that there is \$108 in the class treasury. The class made \$25 earlier in the fall by sanding the study hall desks.

## Calendar

Feb. 8—Report Cards  
Feb. 3—Allegan—Here  
Feb. 6—Beginning of 2nd semester  
Feb. 7—Holland Christian—Here  
Feb. 8—Assembly  
Feb. 10—Buchanan—There  
Feb. 11—Turnabout  
Feb. 14—Three Rivers—Here  
Feb. 16—Blue & Gold Revue  
Feb. 18—Blue & Gold Revue

## "Revue" Date Set

On February sixteenth and eighteenth at 8:00 P. M., State High's third annual Blue and Gold Revue will be held at the Little Theater. This year's show is based on music throughout the last fifty years. Five acts containing a variety of talent will portray the decades between 1900 and 1950. The tickets for this show, which can be purchased from all band and orchestra members cost seventy-six cents.

An audition committee composed of band members and headed by Jim Brosseau has been selecting the performers for State High musical fantasy. This year, as last, the modern dance club will have a part in the revue. Vocal and instrumental groups and dance soloists will also take part. The band and orchestra under the direction of Mr. Elmer Belooof will play both novelties and semi-classical selections.

State High's dance band and also the "Pep" band, whose picture you saw in the last issue of Highlights, plan to take an active part.

## "Double Feature" Billed

On Tuesday, February 14th, some students from State High will be on the roads to Niles and Dowagiac to present this year's exchange assembly. If you remember last year, both Niles and Dowagiac entertained us with programs, and now it is our turn to show them what we have to offer in the way of a good assembly.

Under the direction of Mr. Ray Deur and Mr. Alfred Hinkley, a show has been chosen from the try-outs which were held on the 14th and 15th of January. The show will be build around the theme of Winter Wonderland.

The main features will be the following:

1. Bradley Smith—singing 'Because'
2. Carolyn Fox—dancing
3. Lorraine Hope and Clair Miche—piano duet
4. Joanie Harbour—acrobatics
5. Mary Ann Tinkham—singing
6. Bill Persons—trumpet solo
7. Jill Gannaway and Shirley Loughead—singing "Ain't She Sweet"
8. Alene Watterworth—singing
9. Janet Snow (Nancy Ford)—dancing "School Days"
10. Girls trio—"Londonderry Air"
11. Joan Biljum—dancing
12. Jack Hill and Jerry Knowlton—tonettes



## 'Come Play Canasta With Me'

Could somebody please teach me how to play canasta? I've tried so hard, but I can't learn. I've read the rules twenty times, but I still don't know what they mean. Dozens of people have tried to explain it to me, but I find myself holding a natural, while my opponent goes out. It's really awful.

The first time I played, I got taken in by a joker who told me the game was supposed to be played for a penny a point. You can imagine how much I lost. I had beginner's luck or I'd be in the poor house now.

I have the knack of forgetting how to play a card game as soon as I learn. If I could remember how to play rummy, I might have a foundation on which to learn canasta. The only card game I can remember is War. I'll beat anybody at that.

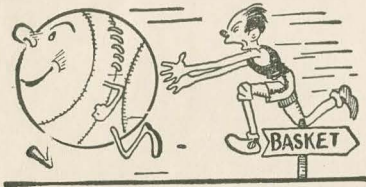
The game's making all my friends

into enemies. My partners get mad when I give our opponents the pack with a natural canasta in it. I get all mixed up over scoring and the points needed to get on the board. I've lost loads of points because I threw down cards that I should've kept and kept cards I should have thrown down. It's pathetic, I'm telling ya.

As for the finer points of the sport (for it is a sport the way they pick on me) I am completely and totally blank. Could somebody tell me how to freeze the pile? And what a meld is, I haven't the slightest idea.

I guess my salvation would be to have the game go back to where it came from, way down south in Argentina.

But it should be easier just to learn how to play. Won't somebody teach me? A cute blond with blue eyes maybe. Then I would learn.



## Allegan Tigers Meet Kazooans on Friday

Which is superior, the Cub or the Tiger? This Friday at the local "Madison Square Garden" our Cubs clash with the rough, tough Tigers from Allegan. Coach Ken Otis' crew has been riding on the victory band wagon all season and at the present are leading the Tri-County Loop, while our beloved scrapping Cubs have had some off nights and have lost several games, due to some last quarter "who do's".

The Alleganers hold two victories over South Haven and one over Dowagiac, both of the Big Seven.

The Tigers are led by starters, Delano, Harrier, and Hale. The latter has missed the last few games because of an ankle injury.

Coach Bush will count on Jack Hill, Steve Fast, Joe Zitney, Jack Mindeman, and Captain Jerry Knowlton. First line replacements will be fast improving Fred Hubbell and Frank Nugent.

The Allegan Tigers are quickly climbing the ladder to success. Let's hope the Cubs can hinder their progress Friday night.

When a fellow breaks a date, he usually has to.

When a girl breaks a date, she usually has two.

## From Under the Bench

By JIM RUSSEL

Congratulations are in order for me. I finally got a prediction correct. Yep, it was the Holland Christian game. I'm really happy. While I'm on the subject I'll stick'em in right here. I predict that the Cubs will knock over Allegan Friday, and Holland Christian next week. Allegan's just lucky and hasn't played any competition, and as for Holland, we beat 'em before and we can do it again.

\* \* \*

The team got back on the ball after lapses in the St. Joe and Three Rivers games. In the Holland Christian thriller, the Cubs were sharp. Friday's game with Allegan will be a toughie. So far as I know the Tigers are undefeated.

\* \* \*

The Reserve Team is coming along. They have some good boys who will help the varsity a lot next year. With better shooting they should win some more games this season. Their ball handling is very good.

\* \* \*

Although there are no indoor meets, several of the track candidates have already started working out in the Men's Gym. Although John Smith, who earned most of our points, is gone, prospects are good. Al Ryan, Bill Page, and Mel Copeland are back to form the nucleus of the year's squad. Frank Nugent, transfer student, will help, too.

\* \* \*

In case you're interested, the high scorer of the team, in the first eight games, is Jerry Knowlton with 65 points. He's followed closely by Steve Fast and Joe Zitney.

\* \* \*

It won't be long before Jim Pore will be eligible. He'll be allowed to play in the Holland Christian game. Jimmy should help loads when tournament time comes around.

## "Hub" of The Wheel

Fred Hubbell is State High's bashful blonde from Bronson Boulevard. And bashful is right! He was (pardon the expression) swearing up and down that he would kill me if I wrote an article about him. But, ignoring this modern Adonis' threats, I tried to dig up a few facts about him. Fred stands six foot one-inch and weighs about 165 pounds. And, to go with his blonde hair, Fred has blue eyes. Even with all these manly attributes, he is a womanhater.

Seriously, Fred is well-liked by all who know him. He is a good athlete, and was elected co-captain for next year's football squad. As a top-flight reserve for this year's basketball team, he has turned in some good performances. He also is expected to do a fine job as an outfielder in baseball. But he's not just an athlete. Fred gets good marks in all his classes. He was also Vice-president of his homeroom last year.

Here's hoping "Freddie" has lots of good luck.



## Cagers Cut Up On Bus Trips

The bus trips out of town are sometimes very interesting. Haven't you always wondered if the other school teams behave as the State High lads do? It doesn't seem as if they could, but, then again, maybe their trips are very similar to ours.

Take the trip to Holland for instance. Jerry and Al were just as loud as ever, but everyone got a big kick out of their "Love-al-ly Bunch of Coconuts." It was plenty windy with his tall tales that always keeps everyone in good humor. One thing I've noticed, though, a few of the varsity boys always look up a drug store where they can send a post card home to a girl. There are about five girls who have cards postmarked from about four different towns.

There is plenty of good harmony on all the trips, especially if we win. After edging the "Dutchmen" 38-37, the bus rang all the way back with deep voices and numerous uncertain tenors and baritones. We ate lunches in the bus, put up by the cafeteria.

All in all, the team certainly seems to have a lot of fun.

In the olden days, they used to kiss and make up.

Now the make-up comes first.



## State Highlights

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

Editor-in-Chief .....	Mary Fopeano
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Last Wednesday we saw a sneak preview of the Exchange Assembly. Let's hope Niles and Dowagiac enjoy it as much as we did.

Some time next month there will be a dance at which the students will have a chance to vote between using the amplifier and the juke box. Be sure and attend so that you can vote for the future music at the dances.

We don't want to clutter our halls with the remains of our lunches. Please try and use the wastebaskets so that all of us don't go "Slippin' Around" on orange peels, etc.

The dance program that has been set up in 217A isn't going along too successfully. The records have to be furnished by the dancers. However, there are decks of cards. You can play Canasta.

If you would like any informal snaps you have to be used in this year's Highlander, please hand them to Billie Forbes or any other member of the Highlander staff. Childhood pictures of Seniors are also needed for the book.

We now have a doctor teaching band. Mr. Elmer Belooof received his Doctor's degree recently from Columbia University.

Thanks to Mr. Hugh Hoebeke, Miss Crisman's 12:30 English class had a showing of war souvenirs. He demonstrated a grass skirt and compared some Japanese weapons with the American type.

Thanks for the new paint job! It's certainly an improvement. Pastel shades are very flattering.

## Look What You're Missin'

How friendly are you? Seniors and Juniors, how many of the new students do you know? Freshmen and Sophomores, do you know all your fellow classmates and also the upper classmen? Or are you too busy with your own secluded group of friends to bother with anyone else?

We are striving for better school spirit at State. A smile and a friendly "hello" can go a long way toward this goal. If everyone feels he is an important part of State High, we'll soon have better co-operation and school spirit for all our games and dances.

Let's get the whole school participating in and working for school activities. You'd be surprised how swell most of the kids are if you only take the time to find out. Let's make State High's a friendly policy.

Frances Frey

## Dot Jabcon's Poem To Be Printed in Annual High School Anthology

### STELLAE NIVIS

Golden and Silvery

Pink

Jocund—

The sweeping air was intricate with such flight,

Twirling and Twisting

Spinning

Dancing—

This broad swift radiance dazzled earth and air with lacy delight.

Blanketing each twig,

Coming with vast wings—

Leaving each swelling place glistening To the lamenting music that Winter sings.

No more stars are now in the air— Just hushed and heaping pearliness everywhere.

Even the pine, fir, and hemlock— The birch, elm, and oak were beautiful;

For their barks wore a cloak of ermine.

And yet—

There is no gold, no pink, no disguise to ruin or mar—

No more twirling, spinning, no more joyous dancing—

Just peace—and the intricate winter architect that has built—

This city of numerous ice stars.

## Overall Dances Lead

A poll is easily taken, and the results often prove very interesting. Take dancing for instance—I've found that among the students of State High, overall dances lead three-to-one.

In the Senior class, the girls like all kinds of dances except Sadie Hawkins Day and Overall. This presents a problem, because the Senior boys prefer overall dances to anything else. Of course, the Senior boys could always get together with the Freshmen girls! For among these young misses, overalls and Sadie Hawkins are tied for top honors.

Sock hops, Sadie Hawkins Day, and overall dances, lead the Sopomore class, while square dancing brings up the rear. Interesting to note, Sophomores like Sock hops. But the Seniors, Juniors, and Freshmen were very vehemently against them.

In the "new idea" department, several people mentioned a Movie Dance. For the benefit of those who don't know what this is, (including me), a motion picture of a big name band, complete with the actual sound track, is shown on the stage. Sounds as if it would be fun. At least, it would certainly be dark.

One "anonymous" Junior boy expresses the wish for an overall dance that was "strictly stag." Maybe I'm old fashioned, but it doesn't appeal to me in the least.

## Littig Boosts Net Hopes

State High's tennis team will get a big boost this spring in the services of sophomore John Littig. John, a transfer student,



has been ineligible for sports in his fall term, but will be on hand, as he modestly puts it, "to try to make the tennis team." Don't let him fool you, though, for he's no slouch on the court.

Last year he teamed up with former Cub Conrad Fischer to

win the boys' doubles' crown in the River Forest, Illinois, tournament and to reach the doubles' quarterfinals in the rugged national meet held here in Kazoo. John does all right in singles too, as he was a semifinalist in the Michigan State tournament and got through several rounds of play in the nationals.

John went to the Training School, and to high schools in Connecticut, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles before coming back to State High.

He doesn't have definite plans for the future yet, thinks State High is the best school he's been to, and wants to go to college out west.



## Exam Daze

By DOT CARTLAND

The twenty-ninth now rolls along,  
Tomorrow are exams!  
I gather all the books I own,  
And then my locker slams.

I, with dismal countenance,  
Trudge home through puddles muddy,  
Sit down before my battered books,  
Prepared for careful study.

And as I ponder hopelessly,  
My thoughts are all a tangle.  
I wonder why old Euclid  
Ever made an obtuse angle?

And how could Julius Caesar  
On his distant Roman shores  
Write such complicated Latin  
About his horrid Gallic Wars?

I'd certainly like to catch the man  
From some old foreign nation  
Who, while trying to improve English,  
Thought up verbal conjugation!

I will agree the Renaissance  
Brought trouble and unrest—  
(Especially for those who now  
Must pass that history test!)

But most of all I'd like to shoot  
The guy who made the rule  
That all intelligent children  
Should inevitably go to school.

"I'll bet," thought I, at half-past  
twelve,  
He never had to cram  
Or burn up any midnight oil  
Preparing an exam!"

But after all the worry's done,  
I think with glad elation,  
"State High's the grandest place  
there is  
In any land or nation!"

## Locker Slams

Do the girls who stand at the window  
across from the office before the  
2 o'clock class hold an attraction for  
DICK HAWKINS—or do they just  
like the view?

GEORGIANNA McCRUMB and  
BARBARA FORBES are running  
competition—make up your mind  
C.J.!

How is ANNE getting along with  
the Student Council?

HARRIET, why is your neck black  
and blue?

Hear some kids went down to the  
County Jail—of course,—just visiting.

JOYCE, JOANNE, and DORIS re-  
port that our inter-school system  
seems to be improving. The Sham-  
rock boys are keeping up the good  
neighbor policy. Lynda, Carole, and  
Pat will vouch for that.

Now while reading the classified  
ads in the newspaper from the library  
we find the following news—

Wanted: one large pair of tennis  
shoes for BILL PERSONS (His

others shrunk when he washed them)  
'Not Wanted' FRANK'S striped  
'tee' shirt.

Needed: Some "ENGLISH" for  
DORIS.

Noticed: Al is breaking up his  
Quadrilateral.

Noticed: MARY LOU is getting  
quite domestic with all that KIT-  
CHEN work.

Wondered: Since when have the  
Junior boys taken to sign language?  
Obituaries

SUE and BRUCE  
STEFFIE and JACK  
BEV and AL  
FRANK and NAN

Lingering illness  
NANCIE and JACK  
LOLA and JIM  
LYNDA and DON

"Flip Quips"  
Cap. DALE—I'm sure  
MISS KRAFT—"Don't Lend, Don't  
borrow."  
MR. WEBER—"Chalk and talk"

## Ladies Become Gentlemen

Well, girls, start polishing up on  
how to act like a perfect gentleman,  
for in a couple of weeks you will be  
required to do just that.

February sixth to eleventh will be  
Twirp Season. Girls will be seen  
toting a double portion of books,  
hurrying to open dooors and acting,  
in general, like the polished men-  
about-town.

As a climax to this reversal of  
natural events, the annual turnabout  
has been scheduled for February  
eleventh, and appropriately named  
the "Twirp Twirl". Of course the fe-  
minine half of the party will be re-  
quired to shell out one dollar of her  
savings to make the entrance legal.  
She will also be expected to furnish  
transportation to and from the dance  
unless the masculine member desires  
to escort the lady in his own mode  
of travel.

I've heard that it was rumored that  
certain girls, who, due to conditions  
beyond their control, do not intend  
to indulge in "such folly," but are  
planning to attend an Old Maid's  
party and spend the evening playing  
ping-pong and Canasta.

Those attending the dance will be  
faced with complications such as,  
who's going to fetch the punch and  
cookies, who extends the invitation  
to dance, and then who leads? So,  
girls, start reading the masculine sec-  
tion of the etiquette book, and boys,  
start acting like a lady of the highest  
caliber.

Our own Swing Band plans to  
practice up before the anticipated  
day and will exert its best efforts  
from 9:00 to 12:00. So, girls, ask the  
man of your choice.



## The Crystal Ball

Do you know anyone who has a  
birthday in early February? Have  
you ever wondered what their for-  
tunes were like? We did—so we con-  
sulted Zizi, mistress of the crystal  
ball. Here are her observations.

Feb. 3-(Fred Hoyt, Jim Toornman)  
-You should be married early in life  
to someone born in January, June or  
October. You are kind, generous,  
goodnatured and have excellent self-  
control. You love pets and animals.

Feb. 4-(Joe Zitney)-You are very  
frank and scrupulously honest. You  
have a strong personality and com-  
mand respect from all with whom  
you come in contact. You are fond of  
children.

Feb. 9-(Jackie Taylor, Ann Wise)-  
You have great possibilities which  
may attain high spiritual order.  
Study yourself and find your inclina-  
tions; then practice and apply your-  
self to them. You are loyal.

Feb. 10-(Kay Loughead, Pat Spro-  
use, John Weber)- Practice self re-  
liance and you will be successful and  
prosperous. You make and break en-  
gagements easily, if they interfere  
with your convenience. You are ener-  
getic and affectionate.

Feb. 11-(Doris Bell)—  
You have a keen sense of humor, are  
witty and fond of fun. You are in-  
clined toward sensitiveness. You  
should practice poise. You are dem-  
onstrative and loving.

Feb. 12-(Sally Schrier)- You are  
apt to be impractical. Speculation  
would be dangerous for you. You have  
ability in music and art. You prefer  
company of the opposite sex and are  
quite popular.

Feb. 13-(Skip Sterner)-You like re-  
finement and culture, have good taste,  
and are ambitious to learn. In dis-  
position, yours is a happy, exuberant  
one. You do not like to stick to one  
person in your love affairs.

Feb. 14-(Dawn Williams)- One of  
your outstanding characteristics is in-  
dependence. You enjoy praise when  
it is justly yours and dislike admit-  
ting error. You are masterful with  
men; indifferent towards women.

Don't take this uncovering of your  
inner self too seriously. Madam Zizi  
is just an amateur. Her crystal ball  
is only on overturned fishbowl.