State Highlights 5/3/1950

Western State High School
VOLUME XI  
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, MAY 3, 1950  
Number 12

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The whole gathering is pointed toward a recreational theme, and there will be only a short business meeting presided over by Reverand E. L. Watterworth. The committee is working on the possibility of a square dance to finish off the evening and bring to a close this year's P. T. S. O. meetings until next fall.

Alumni Earn Honors

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Chicago Expeditions Popular

Chicago seems to hold an irresistible charm for many State High students. Already this spring Mr. Ray Deur has taken a group to visit the Field Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry, and two other groups plan visits in the near future.

The choir is making its annual trip Saturday, May 15th. They will see the afternoon performance of the opera “Aida”. Since the bus will arrive before noon, many of the girls will have a happy two hours of window shopping. For more intellectual students, there will be Brookfield Zoo, and the Museums.

Another group, sponsored by Mr. Haack, will leave for the windy city on May 20. These lucky math students will go in private cars to see a baseball game. Any senior interested should see Jerry Knowlton. Sorry, kids, Senior math students only.

Choir Receives Gift

The State High choir has been presented with a gift of seventy-five dollars by an anonymous benefactress. This money, together with profits from the operetta, will be used to send four members of the choir to Interlochen Music camp for two weeks. These members were chosen for their musicianship, citizenship, character and service to the choir.

Mary Ann Tinkham, Alene Watterworth, Jim Brosseau and Eric Peterson were elected by their fellow members to take advantage of the opportunity pending their acceptance to the camp from Ann Arbor.

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

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Carol Cessna, Mary Tinkham

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Graydon Meints

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Dick Curry

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Pat Mabie

Reporters

Spring Formal

Just seventeen days from today "Over the Rainbow" will be held in the Women's Gym from nine to twelve. Tickets are a dollar and twenty cents from any Y-Teen member, or reservations for a group may be made by calling the Y. W. C. A.

Assembly

On May 5th at ten a.m., Dr. Allison Davis, professor of education at Chicago University will speak at an assembly in Walwood Ballroom on a topic about education.

Success

Sometime ago, Dot Jabon had a poem accepted for publication in the Annual High School Anthology. And believe it or not, she's done it again. The title of her second poem is "Poetry", a Swedish word which means poetry.

May Breakfast

On Sunday, May 7th, the Y-Teens are giving their May Morning Breakfast. Each member of the club here at school will don a white apron and become a waitress for the duration of the feast, from 8:30 to 10:30. Tickets can be purchased for seventy-five cents from any Y-Teen member, or reservations for a group may be made by calling the Y. W. C. A.

 Helpers Get Thanks

The last curtain has dropped, the stage lights are dimmed, and a weary group of workers is trying to catch up on the sleep missed, and last week. The on-stage performers are still receiving congratulations and criticism, and the director is still taking aspirin as he waits for those unexpected bills which always pop up. But work on the production is by no means ended. Costumes hang in dressing rooms, props wait back-stage, and ticket money needs collecting— all must be taken care of before a complete rest-cure can be enjoyed. These are the unglamorous chores which require much and are rewarded little. The names of the workers on the back of the program provided "reading matter" between scenes of the play and were the ignored.

A representative of the cast, I would like to hand "bouquets" to all those who helped us present "One Foot in Heaven" and especially to those who always seemed to be in the right places at the right time. We would like to give orchids to Zelma Albert, who had the task of rounding up costumes for eighteen people, to Joe Spicketts, who was general choreographer, worker on almost every committee, and of course, the play at the same time, to Steve Davis, Pat Mabie, and Mary Teugh, who literally gave us our gray hair and wrinkles, to Claire Miehe Arburi Shook, and Ingerid Van Stratton, who always had props and costumes ready for us during the mad scramble between scenes, to Helena Miles, Sue Sawyer, and Kay Malotte, who took care of costumes so well (the number of popped buttons, ripped trousers, and wrinkled blouses would have scared the most efficient seamstress!) to Clinton Drummond, John Weber, Arthur West, Jim Hoekje, and Winston Welsels, who seemed to be in ten places at once fixing blown fuses, collapsed flats, and "sunshine and thunder," to Lorraine Hope, Pat Bloom, Jill Gannaway, Francis Frey, Ema Marie Rush, and Ruth Mary Persons, who were the charming guides for all those who attended, to Dick Curry and Pat Mabie, who had so much to do with the wonderful programs, and finally to Winifred Craig, who, under the imposing title "Production Co-ordinator", did everything from furnishing the aforementioned aspirin, to dubbing in parts for absent characters. We all appreciate the extra-special work these people did, and probably there are other names which should be added, but have been lost in the shuffle. To all these people with duties big and small we say "Thanks for everything. Just think where we'd have been without you!"

Liverpool Louie Loves Steak

In this corner from merry old England, standing five feet two, weighing one hundred thirty pounds is Louis Marsh. Sophomore, Louie emanates here from Liverpool and has been in the U. S. for some months. Louie's chief pastime is girls. (Good pastime to pursue, Louie.)

The say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, but those angels for Louie will go broke. Louie loves steak. His hobby is hydroplane racing. Hydroplanes are speedboats in case you didn't know. His favorite sports are (English) soccer, cricket, and rugby; (American) baseball. His favorite class is World History.

Welcome, Louis, and make yourself at home.

Musician—A man who earns his living playing around.

Not Shakespeare?

"Is this a yellow book I see before me? The cover toward my hand? Come, let me open thee! I had the knowledge; now I have it not. Art thou not a cheater, fiend, dallying and seducing me with false semblance of mine eyes? It is a guilty conscience which informs this to mine eyes."

Courtesy of the Western Herald
**STATE HIGHLIGHTS**

Golfers Open Year With Two Victories

State High's champion Class "B" golf team started the spring sports schedule on the right foot by winning their first two matches. An early date match on April 6 was the first proving grounds for the Cub Quartet. In spite of extremely cold weather, State turned in very good scores of 80, 82, and 93. The match was against Three Rivers, and the final score was State High 12, Three Rivers 0. O. Jack Hill was medalist with an 80, John Gelder had 82, Maynard Nieboer, and Joe Zitney 98.

After having their second match canceled because of snow, the Cubs took on the St. Joe Bears at Gateway Golf course. The weather was again unfavorable, but the scores were good enough to hand the St. Joe outfit a 9–3 defeat. John Gelder was low with an 85, Jack Hill had 89, Joe Zitney 89, and Maynard Nieboer 101.

We are all hoping the makings of a good team don't go dry. The chance of a successful season is good, but it will demand a great deal of individual effort and practice on the part of the team members.

**Birthdays**

Between May fifth and May seventeenth inclusive, eleven State Highites have birthdays. Have you ever thought of the others that have been born in this same month?

For instance, did you know MARY KUZENGA was born on the birthday. May 5, of Karl Marx, the German founder of socialism? SANDRA THORP appeared on May sixth as Robert Peary, discoverer of the north pole. He died previously. DON SMITH's birthday is the same date as Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Brown.

**Gals Work on Plans For a Tennis Team**

Students of State High, don't let this following statement startle you, but we are going to have a girls tennis team! Last year we tried, but for some reason we did not succeed.

We have Miss Warner of Western to thank for making possible two courts on which to practice. The faculty is also doing a grand job of giving us a little support.

Our supervisor, Miss Barbara Krehmehl of Western is doing a wonderful job getting us started. Further notice her about our first practice will be posted on the bulletin board for the week.

We shall have strong opponents to challenge: Vicksburg, St. Augustine, and maybe Central. If we are good enough, we might play schools from our Conference.

Another activity being considered is mixed doubles. This should be both fun and work.

If you want to make a success of the team, and prove to the school we can do something worthwhile, please attend our first practice and the ones to follow.

**Congrats To Milburn**

Congratulations to the new track captain Milburn Copeland. This year, as he was last, Mel is our best miler. He racked up plenty of points last year in his favorite event and should do the same this spring. Mel got off to a flying start by winning the mile in the first meet of the year against Dowagiac and Three Rivers.

**Netters Dump Team From South Haven**

The State High thinline was the first to fall in a triangular track meet against Big Seven foes Dowagiac and Three Rivers, but couldn't muster enough seconds to make up for the losses. Thus the meet went to Dowagiac. Dowagiac finished with 59 5/6 to State High's 45 1/2 and Three Rivers' 31 2/3.

Al Ryan won the 100 yard dash and the low hurdles and placed third in the broad jump to register twelve of the State High's total. Other winners were Skip Sterner in the 220 yard dash, Jerry Knowlton in half-mile, Captain Mel Copeland in the mile, and the spring medley relay team of Dick Teugh, Ken Sherman, Maynard Nieboer, Duncan Carter, Jim McCrum, Bill Rhodes, Bill Page, and Ken Sherman.

Al Ryan was one surprised Three Rivers man was way, way, way out in front when Frank got the baton, but long-legged Frank caught him. I bet that was one surprised Three Rivers man!

Al Ryan also looked great. In fact all our winners did. This team ought to be a very strong contender for the conference title.

The team is aiming to repeat in the State tournament. They look like they can do it too. John Gelder and Maynard Nieboer have very capably taken over the vacancies left by graduates Phil Fast and Jack Rowe.

Here's the way the sports card stacks up for this week and next. Tomorrow Niles comes to town in a diamond tilt. The ninth there's a game with Allegan and on the twelfth we play Dowagiac. The Tennis, track, and golf all are in the conference meets on May 12.

**Track Team Places Second in 1st Meet**

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**From Under the Bench**

How about some more of you students coming out and cheering for our spring sports team? It happens every year. Everybody yells for the football team and the roof nearly gets blown off during basketball games, but comes spring, and nobody shows up. Two of the tennis players have their inspirations watching them play, however, and we hear Mr. Zitney has an ardent fan following him around the links, but how about some more of you turning out.

Frank Nugent was really zipping around that track in the mile relay in our first meet. The Three Rivers man was way, way, way out in front when Frank got the baton, but long-legged Frank caught him. I bet that was one surprised Three Rivers man!

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“Where is the Jim Crow section
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On this merry-go-round,
Mister cause I want to ride?
Down South, where I come from
White and colored
Can’t sit side by side.
Down South on the train
There’s a Jim Crow car.
On the bus, we’re put in the back.
But there ain’t no back to a merry-
go-round!
Where’s the horse for a kid that’s black?”
—Langston Hughes

Joey’s eyes stared wide and hopeful at the big merry-go-round. His little brown hand clutched the nickel tight and hard. It was the only nickel he’d ever had and his daddy had given it to him so he could have a ride on the merry-go-round. His daddy didn’t have many nickels, but Joey had wanted to ride badly and his eyes had looked so much like stars when he looked at the merry-go-round that his daddy had given him one anyway.

He dug his bare, brown toes into the dirt before the ticket booth and looked up at the man behind the counter. He was an old man with grey hair and wrinkles. He looked preoccupied and kind of sad. Joey thought, “Maybe he won’t let me ride with the other kids—the white kids. Maybe he won’t let me ride at all!”

His kind of gulped and swallowed and his heart was in his mouth and voice when he asked, “Can I ride on the merry-go-round, Mister?”

“Well, kid, anybody can ride who’s got six cents.” And Joey thought, “Anybody-why that means me!—but six cents-six cents?” Aloud he said, “Oh!” and turned his head so the man wouldn’t see the big tear that rolled down his cheek and fell in a shiny drop on the nickel in his hand.

“What’s wrong, kid? Ain’tcha got nuff money?” Joey looked down at his feet again and shook his head. His voice was hoarse when he whispered, “No.”

“Well, how much have you got?
Have ya got a nickel?” “Yeah I got a nickel, but—” The old man bent down to him, “Well, kid, you’re not the only one aint got that—penny the gov’ment wants fer tax, but, ya know somethin’?” “What?” Joey turned to leave. “Wait a minute, kid, ya don’t have to leave. See, somebody lost a penny the other day an’ I found it.” The man dug his hand in his pocket and brought out some change. His big, rough, tinge-tine searched out a penny from the rest of the money. “Here! We’ll put this yer nickel and get you a ticket to the biggest horse on the merry-go-round!”

Joey’s eyes still shone, but the tears were dry now. He thanked the man and the man knew he really meant it. He gave Joey the orange ticket and then picked him up and carried him inside the fencing.

“Hey, Pete,” he called, “here’s a kid gets a ride on the biggest fastest horse ya got!” He set Joey on the ground. Pete’s freckled face frowned. “But boss, this kid can’t ride—”

“It’s all right, Pete, he’s paid his money and he gets a ride on the best horse we got!”

“O. K., Boss, if you say so, but still—”

The ticket man walked away and Pete took Joey’s ticket, then left him to find a horse for himself.

Joey found a great, white horse with a red saddle and climbed up alone. The merry-go-round started and he gripped the horse tight and hard. His hands clenched hard on the reins around its neck.

The music began to play. The horse went up and down, around and round faster and faster. Joey’s hands sweated on the strap and his head fairly whirled with excitement and dizziness. Round and round his horse went, chased by lions and tigers and zebras—as eyes shone and his heart sang.

The music slowed down and the horse came to a stop. Joey was still kneeling with excitement near the car. He fell as he clambered down from the horse’s back. He jumped off the platform and ran to tell the ticket man “Thank you” again.

There was a gentleman at the counter with a little girl. She was wearing a pretty pink dress and white shoes. She had long blonde curls tied with a pink ribbon. The man holding her hand saw Joey and frowned, then he picked her up and held her. She was afraid to ride alone so he asked for two tickets.

Joey waited impatiently for the man to get his tickets. He stood away from them, looking down at his ragged jeans and bare feet. His hands were served malts at the counter in the same way his fingers searched under the counter for a penny. He wasn’t looking with his eyes—Joey suddenly realized that when the man looked down at him he hadn’t seen his brown face or tightly curled black hair. He hadn’t known that the little boy he lifted to the merry-go-round wasn’t white. The man was blind!

Joey tore his eyes from the hands that had finally found the tickets. His stomach felt hard and tight and empty, and big tears started down his cheeks as he ran from the merry-go-round.

“Where’s the horse for a kid that’s black?”

By Pat Mabie

Ride on the Merry-Go-Round

With the annual accompaniment of chirping robins and bursting buds, new conditions have been established and old ones continued.

Couples at Saturday performance of "One Foot in Heaven" were very appropriately chaperoned by various capable persons scattered throughout the audience.

Coach Al Bush kept the old Eagle-eye on Duncan, Carole Smith, and Jim Dollahan. Coach immediately began talking track business with one of his star pupils, I believe he asked him to run the 440. Right Dunc?

Frank and Nannette were kept under close scrutiny by Mrs. Jarmin and Miss Crisman.

After the play, Bob Smith, Nancy Strome, Paul Deal, and Betty Robertson drove out to plainwell and were served malts at "Moll's. Paul Deal was out with one of his old flames. Just one of the selections from his collections.

It has been reported that Fred Dilno rides his bike home from tennis practice every night wearing a tennis racket and carrying a pair of shorts in his hand. Shocked? Where’s that snazzy cream-colored convertible you were driving around town on Saturday, Fred?

The members of the cast had a swell time after the final performance. Mr. and Mrs. Hinckley proved to be able "Virginia Reeler's." Some unusual couples tripped the light fantastic; the Bishop was learning some fast steps from Louise, Major Cooper and Mrs. Dingby made quite an interesting Adagio Team. Father, who didn’t approve of dancing, must have been discussing "church business" with Mrs. Jellison (he was later seen jitterbugging with Mother too, so he must have changed his views). Hartzel and Mrs. Cambridge, Dr. Romer and Molly, and Mother and Ronny proved that the "old folks" can keep up with the younger generation. A very lovely orchid was running around back stage. Did Jim have anything to do with it, Pat?