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## State Highlights 11/18/1953

Western State High School

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# State Highlights

Volume XV

Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 18, 1953

Number 3

## A Student Says Thanks

Perhaps on November 26, when your immediate family and possibly other relatives are seated for the Thanksgiving day meal, you will be called upon to say the blessing. What can you say? What have you to be thankful for? What have I to be thankful for? Upon thinking about this question for a while, I solved my problem. I remembered God's bounty in the past year. There were dark moments, yes, but inevitably even they broke out into the light! I saw ever more clearly why this day should be given to thanks, to joy, and to gratitude!

Then I wrote my own Thanksgiving prayer.

"Thanks, God, for the past year. Thanks for each single day, every one filled with challenges and obstacles, but also flavored with happiness, joyfulness and accomplishments.

"Thanks, too, for sorrow which makes happiness more cherished and appreciated.

"Thanks for nature and its beauty, the warmth of sunshine and the stimulating cold of wind and snow, for trees which so majestically stand and protect and house the children of nature.

"Thanks for freedom, which is enjoyed by only a few in the world; the freedom to write, to talk, and to worship.

"Thanks for love and fellowship, for kind and understanding parents, for jovial brothers and sisters.

"Thanks for food and shelter which are so plentiful in our lives.

"Thanks for schools and for education and the opportunities life offers through them.

"Finally we thank thee, God, for everything, your guidance and love, your power and your mercy."

—Jim Elsman

## Order Highlander

The **Highlander** staff is happy to announce that this year's production of the yearbook is underway. The staff is busily preparing a rough draft of the book and its approximate 130 pages.

The staff is composed of 21 students under the supervision of editor Julie Davis, assistant editor Dick Wilsey, and associate editor Dave Swoap. Jim Elsman is circulation editor assisted by Ellie and Sally Clark. Gloria Weiss is responsible for advertisements, aided by Ann Carleton and Shirley Van Valkenberg. Penny Farr and Ann Malotte head the art department, while Carol Rice, Shirila Jennings and Mary Lou Spitters have the coverage of organizations.

Feature editors are Janyce Babcock, Cathy Myers, and Polly Allen and the sports department is chiefed by Jon Sebaly, assisted by Jim Van Tassel. Bob Herman and Bill Patmos are the staff's photographers assisting Mr. Lininger in preparing the many photos which will adorn the yearbook.

Advance orders for the **Highlander** are being received this week only. The cost of the yearbook is \$3.00.

### Coming Events

Saturday, November 21: All School Dance, "Sock Hop."

Tuesday, November 24: Thanksgiving Assembly at 10:00.

Wednesday, November 25: School out at noon for Thanksgiving vacation.

Friday, November 27: Basketball game: Holland Christian, There.

Thursday, December 3: Driver Training Conference.

## D. T. Conference to be Held Here

On December 3, a Driver Safety Conference for teenagers will be held at Walwood Hall.

Representatives from 13 area high schools are invited to the conference. State High will be represented by Joan Kohrman, Dick Tyler, Matt Peelen, and Charles Maloney. Twelve local safety advisers will be guests of the teenagers for the day.

The conference will break up into eight groups discussing traffic laws, law enforcement, problem drivers, driver education, driver attitudes, the family car, car maintenance, and automotive competition or hot-rod-ding.

## Food, Money to Be Collected for Needy

November 23 and 24 will mark the days State High will strive to give to the needy. A collection of canned goods to fill ten baskets will be taken in home rooms. Miriam Leimer and her service committee wish to stress that any home room can give one big donation. A chicken or small turkey would be a great blessing on some Thanksgiving table.

Wednesday, November 25, the committee will distribute the baskets. Any student that can drive or wishes to help would be greatly appreciated. Contact M. Leimer if you can lend your services.

## Juniors Sponsor Sock Hop

The Junior Class will sponsor a dance on the evening of November 21, from 8:30 to 11:30 in the Women's Gym. Admission will be 35c and general chairman, Ann Malotte, announces it will be a sock hop or drag and not a turnabout as previously believed.

Committee charimen for the dance include Sally Clarke, tickets; Joan Peelen and Sandy Spann, decorations; Shirley Van Valkenburg, music; Barbara Born, chaperones; Joan Stimpson, refreshments; and Carol Hartman, publicity.

The dance will be the first sock hop of the year and the money raised will go to the class treasury for the Junior-Senior Prom to be given in the spring by the Juniors.

## Seniors Discuss Gov't

Government Day was held on November 16, from 9:30 to 3:00. All seniors from State High, St Augustine, and Christian met at Central with officials of the city, township, county, and state to discuss current problems. The program was a question and answer arrangement.

Each school picked three different divisions of civil work. In each division there was a discussion leader, recorder, and host and hostess, all directed by a general chairman.

State High took charge of civil service, with Bobby Gleason as general chairman. Jon Sebaly was in charge of courts, and Martha Braden, welfare. Central had public utilities, law enforcement, and recreation. Christian took charge of roads, taxation, and possible re-organization of local units. St. Augustine discussed health, city planning, and education.



# Tidbits

by Fritz

**BELATED PRESENTATION:** JULIE DAVIS, our homecoming queen, will get a gold football after all, as has done in past years. The gift is simply late in arriving. Julie has announced that she will sew it to her neck in memory of the happy occasion.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CRUSADE OF THE WEEK:** It's about time some of the rules of sportsmanship were brought to light once again. It's not good to boo or hiss no matter what may be wrong. "Hit 'em again" and "Go back to the woods" are **STRICTLY OUT** as far as cheers are concerned. Let's see if STATE HIGH can't keep the good reputation it has had and start the basketball season with a new attitude. Keep up the fine spirit. It's been real ZORCH-O.

\* \* \* \* \*

Have you heard that the senior English classes are taking the next **PAN-AMERICAN AIRLINES** flight to glamorous Scandinavia? How about some stowaways, kids?

\* \* \* \* \*

**DEDICATED TO CAROL HARTMAN:**

Joe, Joe, the dogfaced boy,  
He walks and he talks and he's almost human;  
He crawls on his belly like an alligator;  
**SHOOT HIM, BOYS, he's got shoes on!**

\* \* \* \* \*

Oh, what these foreign language students will do! Quote Diane Sabo in Spanish class: "Fui a Chicago a un hotel con mi amigo." Come again? **WHERE** were you with **WHOM**?

\* \* \* \* \*

**A-HUNTING HE WILL GO!** John Garside, that is, whose prize kill is a 17 year old duck! To honor this unusual museum piece, John's home-room has awarded him a special plaque.

\* \* \* \* \*

The sedate **MONITORS** and their guests had a dignified hayride last Friday night. Each sat in his assigned seat and had two extra speaking permits to talk **QUIETLY** to the person next to him!

\* \* \* \* \*

**GOODIES:** To the **CITIZENSHIP** committee for the sharp job that's being done on the noon dancing—To the **BAND** which has co-operated so the bandroom could be used—To the **SERVICE** committee for their excellent work on the **RED CROSS** drive and to the students who supported it—To **ANDY WALTON**, dance band artist, for his continuing success with local and out of town orchestras.

## Theories On Romance

Remember the geometry proposition that things equal to the same thing are equal to each other? Let's see if it works on words:

Love equals attachment  
Attachment equals affection  
Affection equals an abnormal bodily state  
Therefore love equals abnormal bodily state

Personality equals charm  
Charm equals trinket  
Trinket equals article of little value  
Therefore personality equals article of little value

Engagement equals vow  
Vow equals swear  
Swear equals sin  
Therefore engagement equals sin

That which is not finished equals unfinished  
Therefore that which is not gone equals ungone  
He who returned, unwent.  
He who starts, unstops.  
He who stood straight, unbent.  
He who succeeds, unflops.

Have you unstudied today, chum?  
If so better undate tonight.

## Tatters and Tears

Everyone always said I'd never amount to very much and I guess I started believing them somewhat, but I never gave up hope completely. Always there was the thought in my mind that someday, somehow, I would prove them wrong.

I got off to a slow start in this world. I was undersized in my youth and because we lived on a poor farm, there was not much food to help me grow big and strong. My surroundings were the barest essentials, for I lived in a shack made of boards hung together with old, rusty rails. My only bed was a stack of hay and in winter, because of the poor protection, I spent many sleepless nights trying to keep myself warm.

Then one day something happened. Instead of the few crumbs of food I had been eating each day, I was given a meal fit for a king. I wondered if at last my dreams had come true and if people were realizing my merit and were treating me with care.

All that week and the next I was given wonderful meals, and I grew tall and fat. I realized now, for certain, that I had been chosen above the rest, and that at last I was going to be given a chance to prove my worth.

When the farmer came out with the hatchet I was quiet, for I was filled with great expectations. Tomorrow, at the dinner table, I would shine in all my glory; and people would surely say about me, "He's the most beautiful turkey we've ever had on Thanksgiving."

## Coming to Entertain You

**JULIUS LA ROSA** is coming to Kalamazoo soon. Making one of his promising stage appearances, La Rosa will delight bobby soxers in Central High School auditorium on the evening of December 5.

A recent protege and star of Arthur Godfrey's show, La Rosa is a nationwide star, entertaining appreciative listeners with his variety of popular tunes.

Starting December 3, the Civic Players will present **EAST LYNNE**. The play is an old time melodrama with the typical characters of villain and hero. The story takes place in the logical melodramatic period-1860-1870. **EAST LYNNE** is considered to be one of the ten most famous and popular plays ever produced in this country.

The Civic Players recommend the play to all high school students for its delightful mixture of pathos and humor.

"**The ROBE**" is destined to be the motion picture that will bring Hollywood once more into the limelight. It is launching a new type of viewing commonly known as Cinemascope.

The original story was written by Lloyd C. Douglas, a Lutheran minister, and concerns three people whose lives were completely changed when they touched Christ's robe.

The main role is played by Richard Burton, who is English by birth. He is assigned the job of the execution of Christ. As the movie proceeds, he becomes a Christian and defends his faith before the emperor even though he is condemned to death for sedition against the Roman Empire.

The rest of the cast consists of Jean Simmons, who is also British, as Diana, the lover of Marcellus, Victor Mature, playing Demetrius, the Greek slave, and Michael Rennie, cast as Simon Peter, the leader of the Christians.

This movie starts December 2 at the State Theater here in Kalamazoo and is recommended for everyone to see. It has taken eleven years to film and the finished product presents to us a clear and beautiful picture of the foundation of Christianity.

The Western Michigan College players are presenting a comedy, "**GOOD-BYE MY FANCY**," in the Little Theater on November 19, 20 and 21.

The play, to which the public is invited, tells the story of a prominent congresswoman who revisits her alma mater and raises a furor by showing a controversial movie.

The leading roles are played by Mr. Ted Dickerson and Miss Jean Artesani. The comedy is under the direction of Dr. York.



# Cagers Prime For First Game On Nov. 27

Basketball cheerleader elections were held recently with six being chosen from the ten candidates: Carol Hartman, Gary Forsleff, Dorothy Nieboer, Fritz LaCrone, Julie denBleyker, and Mary Frances Miller. Because the votes were so close, the cheerleaders thought it would be fairer not to have the two lowest on the reserve squad, so all six will cheer for the varsity team. Two of the six alternate in cheering for the reserve team.

## Successful Grid Season Ends

Although not displaying their usual form, the State High Cubs edged the Otsego Bulldogs in the final half minute 13-7, before 2,000 homecoming fans at Mc Camley Field, Portage.

Brooks Godfrey, receiver of the State High "Player of the Week" award, was in on both State High scores throwing a 2 yard touchdown pass to Bob Britigan in the second period; then with but 29 seconds remaining in the game, he loosed a 15 yard scoring toss to Kilgore, who threaded his way into the end zone.

Otsego, displaying perhaps their finest showing of the season, pushed the Cubs around in the second half, after being outclassed in the first two periods. Dick McPherson tallied for the Bulldogs in the third quarter to knot the count.

State High was handicapped in the last half after losing the services of Bobby Miles, fine running back, with an ankle injury.

\* \* \* \* \*

Completing their finest season in 13 years, the Cubs notched up victory number seven against the Vicksburg Bulldogs. 31-6.

The victory was not as decisive as the final score indicates. The Cubs had only three more first downs than Vicksburg during the entire game. However, explosive running by backs Olvitt and Kilgore gave the Cubs the needed offensive weapons. Kilgore scored twice, once on a 10 yard pass from Godfrey and later on a 73 yard run through the line. Britigan, Miles, and Olvitt each added single Cub T. D.'s. Olvitt, averaging nearly 20 yards apiece for five carries, scored on a 40 yard broken field jaunt.

The Vicksburg game was the final performance on a Cub gridiron eleven for 15 senior boys. The boys who bowed out at the Vicksburg game are Bob Britigan, John Warfield, Brooks Godfrey, Don Kilgore, Ron Kilgore, Gordy Berkhausen, Jim Hawkins, Matt Peelen, Jerry Hawkins, "Red" Gemrich, Bob Harback, Charlie Straub, Jon Sebaly, Pat Ryan, and Joe Scott.

Regular basketball practice began November 2. Our basketball mentor, Mr. Chance, reports that prospects are very bright for this year and has consequently arranged a game with Grand Rapids South, a class A school. Mr. Chance favors the shifting "man to man" defense. About 35 boys came out for the first practice. Returning lettermen are Britigan, Godfrey, Howard, Neal and Peelen.

## Stars in the Future

By defeating Otsego, 39-6, Coach Steven's Reserves finished a perfect season, the first in the history of our reserve teams.

Perhaps you'd be interested in knowing about the boys who will be stepping into the varsity's shoes in a year or two.

This year's team was a powerhouse on offense, averaging 33.4 points per game and extremely tough on defense, allowing their opponents only 8.2 points per game on the average. It might be added that most of the opponents' scores came in the last periods of the games after our regulars were taken out.

The squad was a big one with the line averaging 155 pounds and being 5 ft. 11 in. tall and the backfield, 148 pounds and 5 ft. 7 in.

Here is a rundown of the first team: The ends, good-sized boys about six feet were Joel Shepherd and Ted Garneau; tackles, Jim Malbone and George Peelen, who was the biggest man on the team, weighing 185; Jerry Schippers and Jerry Gildea played the guards; and Larry Littig had the center spot. In the backfield it was quarterback Bob Beisel, who was responsible for all those T.D. passes. John Simcox played fullback and Dave Vandewalker, this year's high scorer, had the right half position. The only freshman starter was left halfback Vern Wade.

These boys, then, and numerous others who went out for the fall sport, assure us that interest is high and that there will be "stars in the future."

## Class Officers Chosen

The officers for all four classes have been elected as follows: Freshmen: Clarke Godfrey, president; Jim Brown, vice-president; Jan Correll, secretary; John Garside, treasurer.

Sophomores: Chuck Warfield, president; George Peelen, vice-president; Mary Roberts, secretary; Dick Tyler, treasurer.

Juniors: Dave Swoap, president; Al Wise, vice-president; Diane Sabo, secretary; Al Glendenning, treasurer.

Seniors: John Warfield, president; Jim Elsmann, vice-president; Stevie Malone, secretary; Gail Hubbell, treasurer.

Schedule for the season is:

November 27—Holland Christian	T
December 4—Open Date	
December 11—South Haven	H
December 18—Portage	T
December 19—G. R. South	T
December 22—Vicksburg	T
December 29—Hastings	H
January 9—Otsego	H
January 15—Plainwell	T
January 20—Dowagiac	T
January 23—Allegan	H
January 29—South Haven	T
February 5—Portage	H
February 12—Otsego	T
February 19—Plainwell	H
February 26—Allegan	T

## Jim's and Gem's Gems

The football season has come and gone again, but before we move to basketball we'll wind up the past two games. Co-captains for these were Bob Britigan and Red Gemrich (your's truly didn't want that in and put up a lot of resistance, but Jim insisted on it; bless his little heart) . . . The last two players of the week were junior linebacker Jerry Olvitt and quarterback Brooks Godfrey . . . Now for a few statistics . . . This year's top ground gainer was Don Kilgore who averaged over 6.5 yards per carry. The greatest total yardage was piled up by Godfrey, this year's top scorer; Jerry Olvitt had the most tackles.

The Cubs averaged 24 points per game and had the best defensive record in the city, having an average of only 5.8 points scored against them per game. That is less than one touchdown a game . . . This has been the best season in 13 years for State High, with a 7-1 record plus a ranking of 10th in the state and 1st in the district! . . .

We would like to congratulate the two coaches, Roy Walters and Fred Stevens, and the boys on the squad on the wonderful job they've done . . . We would also like to comment on the spirit of the fans, for without it the boys could not have done so well. It has been a memorable grid season. We hope that the basketball team will make it a repeat performance of last year, only that they will not share top honors; they'll hold it alone!

If you want your dreams to come true—don't oversleep!

Otsego Bulldog



## O-o-o-o-oh Da Pain!

Here is a conclusion which I have arrived at after weeks of study in the 11:00 government class. This is a study of how the various students react posturewise in class.

First of all I'd better state my reasons for examining this particular group. Number one is that there happen to be a wide variety of people, including all shapes and sizes, and number two, the students are seated in a circle, thereby making observation exceedingly easier than under normal conditions. Note: To protect the innocent, the names of students observed have been omitted.

Let us start with that position which is the hardest to find but not difficult to recognize, the "upright." This is occasionally used by the teacher if he or she happens to sit down, and if one has a sharp eye, he may catch a glimpse of it when the students are shifting as the "upright" position is a fundamental one and all others must stem from it. The rarest type of all is the "superlative upright" position. This is complete with both feet on the floor, but the predominant "relaxed upright" is usually accompanied by the "two leg cross" (one leg over the other knee). Girls, it is noticed, sit this way habitually while boys do vary once in awhile.

Next we have the "attentive" position which is not hard to find, provided one knows when to look for it. This requires the student to be on the edge of his chair looking

straight forward. The "true attentive" is probably the rarest of all forms for it requires that the student be looking at the teacher and apparently listening. The "modified attentive" position is seen frequently and can be looked for just before five of the hour. At such a time every student, book in hand, sits on the of his seat listening with undivided attention—for the bell.

The "twisted position" is for those who like to be different or or want to "work out" in class. Also it's a situation some find themselves in when shifting quite by accident, but to "the died in the wool" contortionist, it is heaven.

The biggest deviation from all standard positions is the "semi-prone." In this position the student stretches out until he approaches an angle assumed in complete retirement. The most adept are able to appear they're sitting up white actually lying down. The best "semi-prone" I know is going all out for requisitioning the state for orthopedic chairs.

Naturally there are many modifications of the prescribed positions and people adjust themselves to those most suitable, but the above are basic.

And now, a reader might like to why I conducted this bit of deep research. Recently I heard that there is a new ad on T.V.—"After school backache—ache—ache?" and I wanted to know what caused it.

## Choir to Sing November 24

The Choir, under the direction of Mr. J. Frey, now has about 60 voices. At the P.T.S.O. last Thursday they sang "Come Thou Holy Spirit," "Lift Up Your Hearts," and "Where In the World But In America."

They will make their next appearance at the Thanksgiving assembly, November 24.

## Book Week Observed

On Tuesday, November 17, at 9:00 the Book Week assembly was presented. The speaker, Miss Anna Bird Stewart, gave a talk on, "Reading and Writing for Pleasure." Miss Stewart is the author of, **Enter David Garrick and Young Miss Burney.**

Miss Stewart has an interesting background and has taken many trips to England where she never fails to visit Lichfield the boyhood home of Garrick. She has written several articles about him from material found in American collections and at places where Garrick lived in England.

The national high school photographic contest of the N.S.P.A. is to be held soon. Here is a big chance for all amateur photographers to win fame and prizes. For additional information, see Mr. Engels.

## Disc Data

Do you really like music? Radio station WKMI has announced a schedule calling for no network broadcasts, but for 19 full hours of music, news and sports.

Heading the list of the song hit parade at present is a not too classical tune titled "St. George and the Dragonet" waxed by Stan Freburg. On the flip side is a similar tune following the "Dragnet" theme, "Little Blue Riding Hood."

"Vaya Con Dios," which for many weeks held the top spot, has slipped to second place. Probably it will not be too long before Les Paul and Mary Ford come up with another hit.

The Ames Brothers' rendition of "You You You" is third followed by a quickly rising tune "Ebb Tide," "cut" by the orchestra of F. Chacksfield in England. The now famous Julius LaRosa took time from his social disputes to wax "Eh Cumpari," good for the fifth spot.

Among the best selling new songs are "Istanbul," "Many Times," and "Story of Three Loves."

Miss Connie White, '53, a student at Southwestern at Memphis, Tennessee, has been elected to the governing board at the college.

## EDGEin' Around

I've been snooping again as usual and . . .

It seems that Bobbie Gleason's party was quite a success. Lilian Malone really got around. First she took a walk with Bob B. and then went home with Jim B. It's a wonder she didn't get mixed up.

After the party Carol Hartman took off with Matt Peelen, Don Neal took Joanie Peelen and Ann Bergdefer left with Pat Ryan. Have fun, kids? Ellie Clark and Bob Harback found an interest in each other also.

Note to Andy Walton: You'd better leave that girl earlier. Mr. Taylor is a patient man, but he does like his students awake in class.

Mike Palmer's theme song: "Catch Me If You Can." Better do something fast, you shemales!!!

Our top-notch football team continues to make records in different ways. Some of the players went to a movie one Saturday nite and met a few girls. Did you find out their names, boys?

Say, does Bill Andrus ever take the same girl out twice? That boy really gets around. Wonder if he'll ever settle down to one gal.

At the Friday performance of the play, the curtain didn't come down quite soon enough and as result Bob Herman got a song dedicated to him on the "Street of Dreams." The name of the song? "I Waited a Little Too Long."

Who were the boys that tried to crash the party at Linda Hawkins'? Jerry slept thru it all and didn't even wake up to protect his sister. Wonder if she needed protection???

Heard tell that two of Central's gals talked Al Shand and Rob Graff into going to their Homecoming Dance. They didn't have to twist the fellas' arms either. Another senior had a hard time explaining to Jean Allison why he couldn't go.

Gary Birch: You'd better get going with Sue L. if you care. She might not be there if you don't hurry!

It seems that Al Glendenning and Tony Nieboer are considered quite a catch by soooooo many girls.

Did you know that Ann Carleton has a new steady? Bob Mabie is the lucky guy. Nan Woodworth and Dick Ayler are a new twosome, too. Ken Morgan and Gary Forsleff have interests in two senior girls. Initials: C. R. and Z. G. respectively.

One ex-State Higher, namely Sally Reeves, has dyed her hair black. That gal really changes.

Hey, Barb Born, it's been rumored that you've really got it bad for a certain senior. Could it be true???

Who's the gal from Central that has snared our boy, John Warfield? Maybe that's the reason he snoozes thru Social Problems class.

Quotation of the week . . . "There's a million reasons why we girls dress as we do and every one is a man."