State Highlights 11/23/1954

Western State High School

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State Highlights

Volume XVI Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 23, 1954 Number 4

'Seven Sisters' Coming on December 10, 11


Students Honored

The mid-semester honor roll for scholarship has recently been announced. Students receiving four A's with no mark lower than a B are awarded an ALPHA, those with three A's and no mark lower than a B receive a BETA, and students receiving two A's with no mark lower than a B receive a GAMMA award.

Recipients of the honor roll awards are:

ALPHA—Mary Lou Allen, Mike Decker, Dean Griffith, Carolyn Kaerc-her, Mary Jane LaPlante, Larry Littig, Ann Mallotte, Alice Osterberg, Judy Schenkkel, Alfred Snow, Mary Stelina, Ronald Tanis, Victoria Wенner, and Karen Wilkins.

BETA—Patricia Anderson, Peggy Baker, Peggy Beloof, Marilyn Brink, David Britigan, Rosemary Burnett, Mary Carney, Darlene Chapin, Elizabeth Davis, Judith Dekema, Anne Doyle, Tom Elias, Elizabeth Hosick, Mary Luise Kaerccher, Phyllis Klevit, Suzanne Lennartson, John Light, Barbara McBride, Robert Miles, Concile Monroe, Mike Palmer, Peter Pullon, Diane Sabo, Mary Margaret Stainton, David Swop, and Robert Van Peen-

GAMMA—Susan Ashley, Ruthann Bryan, Julie DenBleyker, Allen Elias, Gary Forsleff, Carol Hartman, Cullen Henshaw, Carole Lemon, JoAnn Moon, James Otis, Joan Parkes, Jan Perry, Mary Roberts, Richard Schrei-

"All right, if I win the bet, I get three kisses, providing that I can get the other sisters married off soon."

Who's having all this delightful trouble? Does he succeed? Why not come to the fall play and find out?

The story of the play, "Seven Sisters," is based upon the series of books, "The Gyurkovics Girls," which were popular in Hungary and are very much like Louisa Alcott's "Little Women."

Under the direction of Miss Cleveland, and Mr. Sack, the play will be presented on December 10 and 11 at 8 P.M. in the Little Theater. Tickets will sell for 75 cents.

The student assistant director will be Martha Roth, with student teachers, Jan Rivard and Dona Young also helping.

The entire plot revolves around the attempts of Mrs. Gyurkovics to marry off her seven daughters. The only complication is that according to tradition, they must be married off in order of their ages. Nancy Hotneier plays the overbearing mother while Larry Littig as the dashing, romantic hero, Ferenz Horkoy, complicates matters by trying to marry Mitzi, the fourth daughter, portrayed by Mary Lou Spitters. Larry tries desperately throughout the whole play to get rid of the other sisters.

Katrinka, the dignified eldest sister, as played by Pat Anderson, finally finds her true love in Colonel Radivany, a middle-aged man, James Malone.

Frank Simonds, in the role of Gida Radivany, is left holding the bag, but finally marries Ella, the happy-go-lucky third sister, portrayed by Sandra Taylor.

Mary Smith, cast as Sari, the second sister, finds herself quickly engaged to Michael Sanderffy, accurately portrayed by James Causey.

Nancy Gay, Sandra Rex and Karen Wilkins are cast as the three younger sisters. James Neal is Janko, the butler of the family. George Peelen plays the godson, Toni Telek.

Of course, a play couldn't be presented without the help of the many stage hands.

Those who are pounding and hammering away are J. Wise and J. Neal, mgrs., R. Light, P. Lyon, A. Osterberg, D. Davidson, M. Squires, B. Noyes, Dexter Jennings, R. Drummond and D. Longjohn.

Planning and collecting appropriate costumes and ably assisted by a large group of parents are co-chairmen N. Perry and J. Perry, D. Weybright, J. Dargitz, P. Beloof, P. Anderson, M. Carney and J. Rock.

In charge of make-up are M. Roth, J. Dekema, G. Buchanan, and W. Locke.

Advertising the play is occupying the attention of R. Light, chairman, L. Scott, J. Malone, J. Wise, and P. Anderson.

Technical details of programs are being taken care of by D. Herman as chairman, M. Roth, P. Beloof, C. Lemon, E. Gemrich, and P. Weber.
Sugar 'n Spice
by Larry 'n Bryce

"It's a Woman's World!" Go to any gym class and you wouldn't think anyone else could survive. Girls, try to be a little quieter. Back in civilization, we menfolk are hard at work.

Hats off to our alumnae! Miriam Leimer was elected vice-president of the Western Michigan freshmen class, and Pat Lynch, named Frosh representative to the Student Council.

George P. tells us that Chuck S. missed two rabbits one day. Who says that rabbits' feet aren't lucky— for the rabbits, at least?

Old Mother Hubbard went to the freezer
To get her poor dog a steak
He stuck his nose in
Pulled it out frozen,
If he sneezes too hard, it'll break.

Mr. Jerse finally had to subject his
11:00 government class to alphabetical seating. Seems that there was a bad epidemic of "vocal dysentery."

While Mike Palmer was battling for the band's attention, a certain columnist told him, "I'm trying." Just a bit too trying. Ergo-monitor report.

In room 1E there is a door problem. The journalism class tried to solve it the other day. When the good-natured Dr. fell from the band room walked in, a chair fell at his feet. To say the least, Miss Giedeman's face matched his red hair!

It's a little early to say, but we think that there will be room on the bench for Miss McNeil, French I student teacher, who made this "boo-boo" while explaining baseball: "... and from third you go to fourth base!"

Those aren't beautifully colored cobwebs hanging down in your face, kids, they're mobiles advertising the play "Seven Sisters." Clever, unusual style!

Things are back to normal (?) in the cafeteria now that a certain drip has been fixed. From the pipes, we mean. Someone did try to sneak an extra dessert, though. Didn't do much good when the rest of his lunch took off for the floor.

Got any old flag poles you don't know what to do with? See Tom Elias; he's found a building 300 feet long and 3 feet wide to store them in.

Little Boy Blue come blow your horn
The sheep's in the meadow, the cows in the corn,
"I didn't know cows drank."
"Of course, they do. Haven't you ever heard of beef-stew?"

Three Centuries of Progress

Early in the seventeenth century a stalwart group of Englishmen, tired of British domination, escaped to the new country America where they could carry on as they pleased. On the anniversary of their landing they celebrated with a feast of thanksgiving for surviving the hard winter and having good crops.

It was a time of joy and a time of sincerity. The feast had a deep meaning for everyone there. They had struggled for what they wanted and finally achieved their goal.

Today, three hundred years later, we still celebrate this occasion. Those Pilgrims worked and suffered for what they wanted; ours has been given by birth. Are we willing to suffer and to work to keep our freedoms? Has our Thanksgiving Day fallen into merely a day to fill our stomachs to the top and then go back to the routine of before? Let's hope not!

Our meals today are often as near as the telephone. The Pilgrims' were as near as the musket that hung over the fireplace. Preparing the meals was no cinch either. The old log cabins have seen many a stuffed, smoky chimney and imagine how hard it was to carry those huge iron pots around even when empty. A modern push-button stove and a refrigerator solve those problems.

If someone was sick then, he had to "sweat it out," perhaps with the aid of a few herbs the Indians had shown them. We have the benefits of penicillin, sulfa and other drugs.

If we want to get word to a friend, we can drop a letter in a corner mailbox, confident that the note will be delivered within a few days. The Pilgrims' only means of communication was a young boy with strong legs.

Also, we have the privilege of the automobile and can drive across the state in a few hours. With the Pilgrims, travel took days and if the weather were bad, perhaps even weeks.

No, the Pilgrims didn't have much by way of material things, but they made use of what they had. Today we have many more conveniences and privileges. Who is the more thankful?

—Bryce Forester

Downbeat
by "Mr. Howie"

Dr. Beloof said, after the band had really mixed up a good piece of music, "Playing the notes is one thing, but please try to play in the right key. You know, there have been men who were shot for being in the wrong flat."

Tuesday, December 7, at two o'clock the Blue and Gold committee will have a talent assembly. Other acts will be seen only in early February.

The Band Parent Organization is sponsoring a potluck supper for parents and members of both senior and junior high bands. This event will be held in the cafeteria at 6:30 p.m., November 30.

Said Auntie to her nephew,
"You grew some, didn't you?"
"Yes, Auntie," said her nephew,
"And you're a bit gruesome, too."

Honor Roll (Cont.)

The past week, homerooms have been collecting money and food for the needy of Kalamazoo. Homerooms have given cans of food or money to buy a turkey or ham.

The baskets will be distributed tomorrow after school is out at noon with members of homerooms going to the needy families.

The State Highlights is published approximately every two weeks during the school year.

Members of the Journalism Class make up the following staff: Gary Birch, Jack Burke, Darlene Chapin, Anne Doyle, Bryce Forester, Ted Garneau, Jane Haney, Carol Hartman, Howard Jennings, Larry Littig, Tamsin Malone, John Schensul, and Danse Taylor.
Free Throw
by Ted Garneau

STATE HIGHLIGHTS

Proper Food, Rest, Cooperation
Make Better Athletes

As the basketball season approaches, members of the athletic department staff have made suggestions for both players and followers of the team. Perhaps one might think except for the part of eating and nothing that an athletic team can do to improve. Practice is helpful, yes, but there are other things that go into making a successful team. Just as important is keeping in training. All the practice in the world won't help a player if he is full of food or so tired he can't stand up.

Now comes something just as important as eating—sleep. All one can say about that is that an athlete should get from 8 to 10 hours of sleep a night. If the game is played on a day when there is no school, the player should get up before 10 o'clock. He should eat and take a good long walk. Two nights before the game a player should get the most sleep, for on the night before the game, he usually is too excited to get very much sleep.

A third important item and a definite morale builder is for parents to do their best to see the games. Parents can set the example for the rest of the students. If the parents start booing a player or the referee or if they criticize the coaches, the rest of the school may chime in with them. As a result the team may be hurt. After the game, one should reserve a grandstand seat, and though it's easier to be a coach after the game than while it is going on.

State High can't help but have a successful season if the players, coaches, and parents work together.

On Making the Team
AN ATHLETE'S PRAYER

"O God, I made the team today. I still can feel the thrill that came when I knew that my muscles and nerves, my skill and intelligence had been weighed in the scales of struggle and been found sufficient.

I rejoice in these limbs of mine, for they are Thy gift.

"I am glad for these lungs, these hands, my keen eyes, the quick cooperation of nerve and muscle that make me what I am.

"I exult in the strong, steady heart, pumping away within me, and that in the time of test, it does not fail.

"I thank Thee for my parents and their long lines of ancestors who have lived the clean and active life.

"I thank Thee for all the opportunities that have been mine. Save me from pride and conceit. Grant that I never be so weak as to whine in defeat.

"May I be chivalrous to my opponents, generous to my comrades, modest in victory, steady in defeat.

"Save me from ever believing that my body is all there is to life. Grant that I may increasingly regard it as a temple of Thy divine Spirit. Amen"
Buck Fever

It didn’t take me long to secure the right shells and soon I was racing back to the happy hunting grounds to get my share of the deer. However, surprisingly enough I didn’t see any deer, not that morning or that afternoon and still not the next day. Only then did I realize I was playing it wrong.

The third day we went to a different spot where there were plenty of hunters, plenty of woods, but again, no deer. Then about 2:00 P.M. I heard it—the noise in the brush. Rustle, rustle, (10 minutes), rustle, rustle, rustle. It was a deer; I knew it was a deer; it was my buck. Steady, Peelen, don’t lose your composure. Quit shaking! In just a moment he’ll break out of the brush and you’d better be ready.

Suddenly it was standing there before me. I didn’t make a move, but a strange feeling started in my feet and moved slowly up through my body. The deer appeared before my eyes while my jaw touched the ground. There before me stood my brother Matt with his eyes popping out as though he, too, were expecting to see a buck.

—George Peelen

Grateful Because—

Thanksgiving is almost here again. In our wanderings around the halls of State High before the start of the Thanksgiving holidays, we decided to stop various students and teachers to ask them this question. “What are you thankful for on this Thanksgiving?”

Patti Pauli replied that she was glad she lived in a democracy, that she’s allowed to go to school, and that everyone has the right to vote.

Jo Ann Moon answered, “I am thankful for the fact that everyone can spend Thanksgiving as they choose and that it’s up to us to determine what we believe.”

Our language teacher, Mrs. Monroe, replied that she was thankful for her country, peace, her good health, and a few intelligent students.

Betsy Hosick, one of State High’s new freshmen, remarked, “I am glad that I have a good home.”

Peter Lloyd said that he was happy that the whole family is able to get together on Thanksgiving.

Joan Blanchette, a new sophomore, replied, “I’m glad we don’t have a dictatorship in America.”

Then there was Ann Malotte who said that she was thankful that we in America have all the rights and privileges of a free nation, and that we are not involved in the world war.

George Schaal smiled and said, “I’m glad I don’t have to do all the dishes from the Thanksgiving dinner.”

Nancy Gay replied wistfully, “It makes me think of Kenny, the boy who died on Thanksgiving Day and how thankful I am that I’m alive today.”

Carol’s Cubbyhole

Football season is over, and basketball is about to begin. This hasn’t slowed up the romance department any; in fact, business is pretty good.

Have you heard the latest? GEORGE PEELEN is going steady with a girl. George has been raiding some other schools and he seems to have hit the jackpot.

While I was gasping for air in the halls the other noon, I learned that MARY SMITH, the quiet one, has been going out with JOHN SIMCOX.

State High has royalty in its midst. JOAN HARBACK was crowned queen of the Marines here in town. Congratulations, Joan, that is really swell.

It seems as if the senior girls are always doing something scandalous. Now they have DAVE PLATT in their grasp. What’s the attraction, Dave?

Observance of the week: CHARLENE SCHULTZ was sleeping with her head on MARY BALCH’s shoulder during an assembly. Hmmm, what have we here?

Say, do you know what the sophomores have over the junior boys? . . . junior girls!

What’s this? TOM MANNING and HARRETT HOWE! Wha hoppon to the Gibson brothers?

Combined class seems to be the center of an interdigitation period. We understand that JOEL SHEPHERD should have more assignments to keep him from holding hands with MARY ROBERTS.

According to all reports, last weekend was really a rare one, the turnabout being the reason for the turmoil. SANDY SPANN accompanied MATT PEELEN, and we understand they had a great time. Don’t worry, Peter Lloyd, your gal still likes you.

The underclassmen didn’t waste any time on the turnabout. ROSEMARY BURNETT and ALLEN ELIAS, CARL KINO, SANDRA BURKE, or GAIL WRUBLE expect to get your names in the paper, you’ll just have to be more rowdy. Speaking of names in the paper, we understand that MARY JANE LAPLANTE wants her name in. Well, here it is!

Gosh, kiddies, where has this paper gone to? Kind of looks like we’ll have to close this bit of rubbish. I can’t think of a better way than with a famous quotation. Think of the long, dark, jungle-like paths of lockers, comes the cry of the big cat, “GET OFF MY SUEDES!”