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Western State High School

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State Highlights

Volume XVII

Kalamazoo, Michigan, October 5, 1955

Number 1

\$4,000 Goal Ahead For Magazine Sale

Blue and Gold Teams Vie for Peak Sales

Tuesday, October 11, is the kickoff date of the Sixth Annual Magazine Sale. The sale will last 10 days, ending Monday, October 24. This year's sale promises to be the best ever with a \$4,000.00 goal set for the whole school and a \$12.00 quota set for each person. Dick Tyler, Student Council Treasurer, heads the Finance Committee which is composed of homeroom treasurers and whose duty it will be to direct the sale.

Dick thinks the best plan for active student participation is to divide the school into two teams. Larry Littig and Barbara McBride will head the Blue and the Gold teams respectively. The two captains will be aided by a team representative in each homeroom along with homeroom treasurers who will collect sales totals in their homerooms daily.

All students who sell their \$12.00 quota and are members of the winning team will receive a free pass to a dance or the school play. Each day the homeroom which has sold the most magazines will receive free candy bars for being high salesmen.

Many valuable individual prizes will be awarded to the highest salesmen during an assembly after the sale is over. Prizes offered this year are: the highest salesman will have his or her choice of a clock radio, table radio, or one of two portable radios. The second and third highest salesmen will receive their choice of a camera, watch, or one of four radio styles. These are all very beautiful gifts well worth your sales efforts.

The Student Council is an organization run by the students to make a better school. Every member of the student body is represented indirectly. The Student Council has eight committees which it sponsors. To function efficiently it needs money. So far, the most successful method for raising this money has been the magazine sale. Many different methods have been tried and have worked, but they couldn't raise the required amount in the desired time. If each student would sell at least \$12.00 or more, better than \$4,000 could be earned. Some money from the sale will also be used to start a foreign exchange program here at State High or to support some poor Korean War Orphan. Remember, the Student Council is your organization and it needs money.



The homecoming queen, chosen from the above candidates, will reign over the homecoming festivities. Left to right—Judy Grote, Beverly Fender, Joan Parkes, Barbara McBride, and Suzanne Lennartson.

Plans Progress

For Gala Week-end

Homecoming will begin Friday Oct. 7 with "Freshman Dress-Up Day" and the big pep assembly. In the evening things will be underway at 7:30 with the Kickoff between State High and Allegan. During half time the band will play and the King and Queen will be crowned. The candidates for queen are Barbara McBride, Joan Parkes, Beverly Fender, Judy Grote, and Suzanne Lennartson. Bob Miles, football captain, will be crowned king.

The excitement will keep right on going through Saturday with the Homecoming Dance being held at the Women's Gym from 8:30 to 11:30. The dance is dress-up and the music will be furnished by Joe Hackney's Band.

Coming Events

- Oct. 7 Fri. Homecoming game with Allegan Here
- Oct. 8 Sat. Homecoming dance
- Oct. 11 Tues. Magazine sale begins reserve football Portage There
- Oct. 14 Fri. Football game with Portage There pep assembly
- Oct. 18 Tues. Assembly 9:15 Little Theatre, reserve football South Haven There

Math Club Visits Chicago

Saturday, September 24, the Math club and other persons willing to dig up four dollars went to Chicago for the day. Their main objective: Pow-erama. They left Kalamazoo at 7:00 A.M. and arrived in Chicago at 11:00 A.M. Generally, the lines were too long for them to spend their time at the larger exhibits such as the submarine, the new diesel train, and other items of interest. However, they did find time to watch the stage show.

Cub Senseless

Back to school and funny things have been happening. Some senior during 8:00 English planted a cat in Mr. McKee's drawer. Pretty cruel isn't it, Dick?

And a junior class met one day in the Home Ec. room. You know the clocks on the stoves? Well, by some queer coincidence the class let out half an hour early. Who done it?

What will be funnier yet will be freshman dress-up day, Oct. 7th. Don't forget to roll those jeans up.

We have three celebs at State High this year. Two of them are new: Tilman Gefers, from Germany is here at State as a junior. "Dass sie uns gern haben." Another new one is Sue Hodgman. This summer she won the under 15 State Tournament and reached the semi-finals in the Nationals in the same division. In an exhibition match at Stowe Stadium she defeated Donna Floyl (winner of the Nationals) and later in Santa Monica she defeated Tina Rodi (the other finalist in the Nationals). The third, VIP Jim Rock, a student at State for several years, won the State Golfing Championship this summer. During the match girls followed him all over the course, and some even got to hold his golf clubs.

An English Lesson

A Kiss is a noun because it's common and proper,
And a pronoun because both he and she stand for it,
An adverb because it makes an explanation,
A conjunction because it connects,
A preposition because it has an object,
And an interjection because it shows sudden strong feeling.

Why Is It

We sometimes sit and wonder,
And stew and fume and fret;
For fear something may happen,
But it hasn't happened yet.

If you hear any unrepeatable words coming from the speech class, it's because the innocent sophomores are engrossed in "Life with Father."

According to the minutes of the 15E secretary, the class elected someone who wasn't even nominated. Way to go, Tom.

In the 10:15 World History class Mr. Walter's thought he'd use an association system with Egypt as a subject. It went thus: Egypt, terrible. Why? Because we're studying it. Congrats, Boudeman; you're on the ball.

Consider This

Every person in this school wants to be recognized. Some of us wish to be actors and actresses, some wish to serve on committees, some wish to be debaters, some aspire to be athletes, and a few attempt to collect more monitor reports than the combined total of the rest of the school. The latter is not surprising. Psychologists tell us that people who are lazy or who do not have what it takes to gain recognition constructively, often seek attention through obnoxious behavior. But neither is it surprising that students want to serve their school. However, somewhere we fall short.

Examine the results of committee projects last year. The Errands of Mercy Drive was a complete flop. Why? It was poorly organized; no one wanted to waste his time on it. We have no quarrel with the committee chairmen. We are only pointing out faults in order that we may remedy them this year.

Another committee-sponsored activity that resulted in failure was the Christmas Carol Sing. This has annually been a bright spot for State High, but last year it wasn't given much attention.

Turn your attention to the school play. During the period of casting before actual rehearsals began, it was practically impossible to induce boys to take part. The faculty sponsor put in long weary hours before the cast was finally assembled. The production, however, was considered to be one of the best in the past few years, but attendance was poor.

These activities failed because you were unwilling to support them. But there is another side, too. Many people are willing to participate, but decline for fear of the ridicule that may be thrown at them. A prime example is the band. We have a fine band, one in which we should have deep pride. Yet, many people in our school look down upon the band. You figure it out.

However, there is a brighter side. In the past few years, our athletic fortunes have risen tremendously. As a school, we stand behind these teams as never before. At the moment we appear to be headed toward a successful football season, and prospects for other sports are very bright. A strong Booster Committee, P.T.S.O., and a hard working principal deserve our thanks.

We have come a long way. We can go even farther. Do your part and State High won't let you down.

Larry Littig

Upbeat

Once again our band looks to another marching season. Performances will include half-time shows, band days at both Western and the University of Michigan, and Western's Homecoming parade.

The following new members have been welcomed into our band this year: Bass, David Anderson; Baritone, Skipper Baden; Trumpet, Barbara Balch; Cornet, Bruce Schuur, Bob Tracy; Flute, Judy Brown, Kathy Kersjes, Susan Van Riper, and George Brown; Drums, Eddy Dougherty, Aileen Greanya, Mary Householder, Linda Shand and Sandra Schau; Trombone, Tim Estes; Saxophone, Weldon Johnson; Clarinet, Sandy Riley, Ginger Schau, and Jim Thurston; and last but not least Bass Clarinet, Allen Dowd.

Assisting our able director, Dr. Be-loof, will be two student teachers, Mr. Smart and Mr. Robinson. Our officers are: President, Gary Forsleff, Vice President, Paul DeKorte, Secretary, Pat Anderson, and Treasurer, Carol Sutton.

The band sincerely hopes to make this season its best. We'll see you at the Homecoming game.

Downbeat

Under the direction of Mr. Jack Frey, the choir is looking forward to a promising year. Aside from their big production, the choir has received invitations to sing for various organizations. At the present time they are working on a program to be given in October which will include mostly sacred songs. We will be hearing a lot from our choir in school activities and otherwise.

Hit Paraders

Terror Of Highway 101—Thurman Bryant
Seventeen—Sharon Lynch
Crew Cut And Baby Blue Eyes—Bobby Miles
Rock Around The Clock—Nancy Gay at the Canteen
They Call Me Hawkeye—Vern Wade
Same Old Saturday Night—State High girls without dates
Moments To Remember—Getting little white slips from the office marked M R
Mr. Sandman—Jon Scott during the mental tests
The Impatient Years—Being an underclassman
Sweet Georgia Brown—Marcia Sugg

Cubs Vs Allegan In Homecoming Game

Rock, Rock, Rock Around the Clock Tonight

The sign flashed "Fasten your seat belts," and we were off on the long anticipated trip to Europe. Our flying weather was beautiful and we spent about 15 hours in the air.

We arrived in Prestwick, Scotland, and proceeded to Edinburgh. We stayed in a university house in Scotland. The next day we went shopping in the city. (Many of the group lightened their billfolds by buying some of Scotland's famous cashmere sweaters.)

That night we took a night train to London, and arrived in London about 8:00 A.M. After registering in our White Park Hotel, we walked through famous Hyde Park and then went to our first church service. Our sightseeing in London included such famous attractions as the changing of the guards at Buckingham Palace, 10 Downing Street, and St. James Castle. One of the favorite pastimes was shopping in and around Picadilly Square. At night we would go to Hyde Park and listen to soap-box speakers. These speakers were people who believed they had something to tell the world so they used soap-boxes as their stages and set them in the park.

After 3 full days in London, we left by plane for Holland and arrived about 11:30 P.M.

We had our first Continental breakfast in Holland the next morning and then left for a day of sight-seeing. Our sight-seeing in Holland included a wooden shoe factory, the famous Peace Palace, the famous art museum in Amsterdam, and points of interest in Rotterdam. In the art museum we saw several of Rembrandt's paintings.

The next day we spent a wonderful day on a bicycle trip along the canals. We had to rent our bikes from a downtown station, and we gave the people of Amsterdam a surprise when 32 people in bermuda shorts went riding through their fair city. Our bike trip was pretty tiring, but we all survived it well enough to get up at 5:00 the next morning to leave for Brussels, Belgium.

Brussels was very interesting and we bought a lot of lace for which they, in Belgium, are famous. Two hopeful girls even bought their wedding veils.

Luxembourg was our next stop and we stayed in the tiny resort town of Mondorf. In that beautifully scenic country, we were surprised to see the miniature golf course and a large swimming pool which we made good use of.

We left Mondorf by a luxurious bus and arrived at the German border late that morning. We were on the bus all day and followed along the

Call Me Splinters by Ted Garneau

It's the start of another year, so here is the "Redhead" with his etiquette for all of you grandstand coaches.

For the past two years State High has been very lucky to win its first two football games. This year is no exception. Against Buchanan, an outplayed, outfought, and a very lucky State High team finally came to its full potential in the last quarter to push over a touchdown and stop a determined effort made by an impressive "Buck" team. This year's "Cub" eleven has showed both laziness at times, and then played tremendous football to nip two tough teams, Buchanan and Dowagiac respectively. In my estimation Dowagiac is a better ball club than Buchanan. But if State can play all season as it played that second half against the "Chiefs," we might be an undefeated team about the time November the 12th rolls around.

Four men have particularly stood out for the "Cubs" in the first two games. Bobby Miles, Vern Wade, Gary Birch, and Dick Tyler have carried the main load for our team.

Congratulations go to you fans, who have displayed the finest spirit that I've ever seen. The squad wished to extend its thanks to you and we hope we won't let you down.

Another big factor in our team's success is the enthusiasm of our bench. Every team can only put eleven men on the field at a time, and consequently out of the thirty-five who dress there are going to be around twenty-four sitting down. Some sit more than others. In the past there have been many complaints from a few players who feel they are getting "tapped." This year the bench has set the pace for the game. Every boy who's in uniform has showed great pep and an even greater desire to win.

KEEP IT UP ! ! !

It's time for another prediction and without further ado, here it is—State High 26, Allegan 7. Remember this is only a prediction and also remember the past two years! !

Mosel River. We all found the German countryside beautiful and very interesting.

That night we stayed in an old castle that had been converted into a youth hostel. It was on a high hill overlooking the beautiful Rhine River.

The next afternoon we sailed down the Rhine to Bingen and then by train to Heidelberg.

(Continued on page 4)

Tough Trojans Downed, 7-0

Friday night at 7:30, the Allegan Tigers invade Kalamazoo for the annual tussle with our "Cubs" at the Catholic Athletic Association Stadium. The game has two important meanings for State High. First, Allegan has yet to lose to us in a Wolverine League football engagement. Those Tigers have won for the last three years.

Secondly, this is our homecoming game. State High in the past has been hard to beat in front of its Alumni. Allegan has been the only team to beat State High in the past two years.

Potentially State High was at least three touchdowns better than Plainwell. As it worked out, Plainwell beat themselves. The game was very rough and the Cubs lost a very fine fullback temporarily. Rough games can be expected and injuries are bound to happen. However, as the final score proved, all the poor sportsmanship in the world won't make touchdowns. Plainwell had two definite threats stopped. The second one, coming in the second half, was stopped, thanks to a 15 yard holding penalty against the aggressive team. One thing must be said for Plainwell; they were fired up in a way to make the Cubs' winning streak very insecure.

Beisel and Shepherd were the big boys in the State offense. Tyler, Warfield, Miles and Peelen were the stars on defense. The great Beisel to Shepherd pass combination clicked for the only touchdown of the game. Miles' extra-point was perfect. Another big factor in the team's success was shown by you fans. Please keep up the good work; your team needs it.

Little Cub Triumph

Led by Larry Johnson and Tom Brown, the State High reserves wallowed a completely outmanned Battle Creek Lakeview squad 26-0. Coach Fred Stevens' little "Cubs" acted like big bears in conquering Lakeview. When you put in subs for a whole second half and still keep scoring, you can consider our little "Cubs" a real powerhouse. Johnson, Brown, and Cecil Connors had a tremendous night. Judging from their first game, it looks like State High will have an excellent football team for years to come.

Schedule Change

State High will match strategy with Marshall instead of Buchanan in its 1956 football opener. The game will take place at Marshall next year.

Yes, M'Lord--No, M'Lord

Upon achieving senior status, students find that they have become the lords and masters of their high school. When they walk down the halls at school, they can't help noticing the idol worship in the eyes of the freshmen and the envious glances of the sophomores and juniors. If a senior wears a pair of chartreuse pants to school one day, half the underclassmen are apt to be sporting the identical thing the next day. They find that wherever they go there are at least one or two freshmen right at their heels, waiting for a pat on the head or at least a sign that they exist. Their teachers are constantly telling them that since they are seniors they should conduct themselves accordingly.

Yet, they do not feel any different. No magic formula has transformed them into perfect ladies and gentlemen whose every thought and action serve as a model for the rest of the school.

Becoming seniors brings to them the startling realization that they are growing up. They find that being a senior is not exactly what they had dreamed it was for so many years. They find that being a senior brings with it many new responsibilities. All

the school looks to them for leadership. Whatever they do, the rest of the school will follow.

This is a challenge. It can be met in one of two ways. Seniors can refuse to accept their responsibilities by doing senseless acts that set a bad example for everybody around them; or they can assume the responsibilities by showing the rest of the school the kind of leadership that will be a credit to their class and themselves as individuals.

When students reach their senior year in high school, they find themselves confronted with a challenge that they can either accept or refuse. To accept it is to accept the responsibilities of growing up, showing their teachers and their fellow students that they have earned the right to be called seniors. But, to refuse it is to tell everyone that they have not begun to grow up, that they cannot accept the responsibilities that have been given them.

It takes a matured person, both in thought and deed, to act like a senior. Anyone can act like a junior, or a sophomore, or (heaven forbid) a freshman.

—Tim Otis

Rock Around—(Continued)

Heidelberg is a college town with the famous university situated there. The town's shops offered a good place to buy such things as beer steins and cuckoo clocks. We went sight-seeing and that night we left by train for Switzerland.

In Switzerland, our first stop was Kussnacht on the Lake of Lucerne. We went shopping in Lucerne and many bought their famous, well-made, and inexpensive watches.

On August 11, 1955, we conquered Windy, a local mountain. A ski-lift took us up part way. After leaving the lift, we followed a trail to the top. Our climbing method was climb for 5 minutes and rest for 5 minutes. We finally reached the top after climbing 3 hours. We thought we had really achieved something by climbing the mountain, but when we reached the top we found that other people had also achieved reaching the top . . . by a train.

After Lucerne, we went to Geneva. We all found Geneva interesting because we had heard so much about it. We saw a display of "Atoms For Peace" at the Palace of Nations.

From Geneva we left for Paris by night train.

We visited all the famous places in Paris which we had heard and read so much about. We saw the Eiffel Tower and viewed the city from the very top. We visited Notre Dame and Saint Chapel. We went to the Louvre and some took a tour to Versailles. We had a chance to see the Paris night life, and it turned out to be as

wonderful as we had expected. We did some shopping in Paris with the little money we had left. Most of the girls managed to scrape up enough for some French perfume. It was also a good time to catch up on our washing for the trip home and every room had washing strung from one end to another.

We left Paris for LeHavre where we embarked on the M/S Seven Seas for our voyage home.

We made one stop in Southampton where we picked up enough passengers to make a passenger list of 1,100.

The next morning we were somewhere on the Atlantic and rolling and tossing. By the 3rd day most of the passengers had green faces and were leaning over the rail. A real exciting bunch! The passengers who were on their feet indulged in various types of recreation. Just before entering St. Lawrence River, we saw some whales and icebergs.

Once we were on the river, everyone was on his feet and things were livened up considerably. We made a one-day stop in Quebec where everyone could go ashore for the first time in 8 days.

The next morning we were in Montreal where we disembarked. We arrived home in Kalamazoo about 2:00 A.M., a tired and happy bunch.

We would like to say thanks to the Deurs for planning and chaperoning our trip. If it hadn't been for them we probably could never have gone.

a little this

A LOTTA THAT

As we eagerly (?) step into this brand new school year, we find, per usual, that ROMANCE is in full swing. After all there's no better place to get acquainted than a nice crowded hall in State High!

And by the way . . . seen around the halls: Connie F. and Ken H., and Jim K. and Pat B., Gil S. and Vickie W., Jan C. and Rod W., Sue L. and George P., Judd W. and Anne T.

The Dowagiac game brought out some interesting couples: Pete Pullon and Joan Blanchette, also Gail Buchanan with Ricky Light.

Congratulations to Bobbie and Dal who have been going steady six months. Also Ruthie and John who are running a close second with four months.

Larry L. is really in a predicament. At last count he didn't know if he was going steady or not (?)

Sorry girls, Arnold Nieboer is going steady but cheer up! Joe Sugg isn't !!

Why does Fran M. get hall permits during 10:00 study? Hall monitor Pete P. seems to be the reason!

"Old loves never die, they just stay and stay." . . . huh, Mary Jane and Mary ?

"ADVERTISEMENTS"

Wanted: Boys. . .

When, October 8

Where, Women's Gym

Why, Homecoming Dance !!

You too, can write stimulating letters to college men. Contact Libby D. or Marcia S. for future information. Perfect situation: Dave Warner and Anthony Nieboer went over to Bev Fender's house at the same time! !

Dick Tyler takes Mary Joy to school every morning. Don't have car trouble, kids !! !

There's a certain girl who's mighty interested in Dick Blow . . . right, Katie?

Alice Osterberg is going steady with Harvey Randall.

Marilyn W. and Bob B. have been seeing a lot of each other . . . new couple, maybe ?

Beware, girls !!! Tom Brown is looking around. Likewise, Joe Sugg who's been dating the 4:10 Central cutie, Becky Crockett.

Joel S. dates Sue Van B. (a central import) on Friday night and Joanie P. on Saturday night.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK—Senior Boys, "There's nothing quite so awkward as a first date."

Senior Girls "Maybe so, but why let it scare you so?"

Kiss—an anatomical juxtaposition of two orbicular shaped muscles in a state of contraction.