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## State Highlights 3/28/1956

Western State High School

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# State Highlights

Volume XVII

Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 28, 1956

Number 9

## State High Cubs Victorious In Regionals



Shown here is the 1955-56 State High School basketball team with the trophies they collected by winning the Wolverine League Championship, the District Championship, and the Regional Championship. They were also awarded the GAZETTE plaque as the top class "B" team in this area. Pictured above are: (back row, left to right) Coach Fred Stevens, Jim Kemerling, Clarke Godfrey, Richard Howson, Gil Seeley, John Fleckenstein, Dave Fuller, Nate Taylor, Pete Parker, and Coach Barney Chance. In the front row are: Manager Dave Schroeder, Vern Wade, Jim Brown, Bob Miles, Captain Chuck Warfield, Jack DeKreek, Randy Crockett, Bob Beisel, and Manager Dan Davidson. The trophies represent a team and a season of which the school can be proud.

### Choir To Sing At Easter Assembly

This Friday State High School will once again hold its annual Easter Assembly. The assembly will be held at 11:00 at Kanley Chapel.

Immediately following the assembly school will be dismissed until Tuesday April 10.

The assembly will be highlighted with the choir's singing of the **Crucifixion**. The soloists who will be performing for the choir are Jim Betke, Mike Decker, Paul DeKorte, George Peelen, George Schau, Gil Seeley, Chuck Warfield, and Judd Wise. Tim Otis will read a poem and give the final prayer to round out the rest of the program.

The assembly committee, under the direction of Gary Forsleff, is in charge of the program.

### "S" Club To Sponsor Bowling

The "S Club" is sponsoring a bowling tournament to be held Saturday from 2:00 until 4:00 at the **Bowl-a-Drome**.

There are three different divisions in which bowling competition will be held. This is boys, girls, and faculty.

Medals will be given to the winners and runners-up in the girls and boys division. Only the winner of the faculty division will receive a medal.

The winners will be determined by everyone's rolling three games, and the one with the highest average being declared the winner in each of the three divisions.

This week there will be a chart posted in the hall telling who you bowl with and on what alley you bowl.

### Season Ends In Quarter-Finals

Last Wednesday night the State High Cubs closed out their 1955-56 basketball season by losing to Battle Creek Lakeview 90-73 in the quarter-finals of the state tournament.

When the State High team lost to Battle Creek, that finished the best season that any State High team has ever had. Their record of 19 wins and 3 losses is the best in the history of the school, the string of 17 consecutive victories is also the longest winning streak ever posted by a State High team. This year the Cubs set a new school record of 83 points against Vicksburg, and Bob Miles set an individual scoring record of 30 against Battle Creek Lakeview. Four trophies were won by this year's team. They are the Wolverine

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## Cub Senseless

The chemistry students' hopes were diminished after Mr. Engles came back the day after drinking the solution he thought was plain salt water.

I heard there was quite a mix-up in the marriage booth at the carnival. It seems Alice Osterburg married Jim Malone. Is that right, kids?

Flat-tires seem to be quite the popular thing lately. Can't you think of any other way to get a boy, Fran, Mary Jane and Sharon? I don't think they appreciated having to change tires at 1:00 in the morning.

Hey, Joan, when driving a car around a corner, do it smoothly: that way you don't hold up so much traffic.

While coming home one night Sue A. and J. S. seemed to have a little trouble with the muddy roads. Tell us about it sometime, Sue.

Jean De Haan seems to keep her promises. Jeff Lane received a cherry pie and ate it on his program.

When Mary S. said that her neck hurt because of gym, she meant GYM not JIM, in case anyone is wondering.

Larry L., after we read a French story in class everyday for quite a while, it seems as if you would know whether the main character was a cat or a dog, especially if you were told.

If all the freshmen in the world were placed in a line holding hands, they would reach half-way across the ocean. Many people favor this scheme.

It seems the kids in homeroom 2 E really got a laugh. Everyone walked out of class and John Garside was left inside sleeping! Let's go to bed at night, John.

There's an excellent new book in the Library—right, Cullen Henshaw? Boy, the questions girls ask !!!

## Season Ends—Cont'd.

League Trophy, the District Trophy, the Regional Trophy, and The Gazette Trophy for being the top Class B team in the area.

Eight senior lettermen are graduating from this year's squad. They include Chuck Warfield-capt., Bob Miles, Pete Parker, Gil Seeley, John Fleckenstein, Nat Taylor, Jack De-Kreek, and Bob Beisel. All of these boys played outstanding ball for the Cubs, and they will be sorely missed by Coach Chance next year.

This year's team is a team to be proud of. The mark they have left on this school will be a long time in wearing off.

## State High Rates Well

During this basketball season a record has been kept of the visiting and home cheerleaders, student bodies, adults and the contestants. These ratings were kept for all our home games by a boy and girl student of State High and a parent.

The results of this record were quite good. It showed that the most part our school has behaved very well at the games. To be sure there have been some things that the students have done that are undesirable, but the ratings showed that their conduct is much better than it has been in past years. There were two games this year that could have been pretty nasty affairs if our student body hadn't, for the most part, acted in a very sportsmanship manner. These games were the second Plainwell game and the St. Augustine game. In both of these games there was a large amount of rivalry, and I think the students should be congratulated for the way they behaved.

The results showed that when the crowd did act bad it was very often not the students but our parents who did the yelling and booing. Maybe it would be a good idea if our parents were taught to act like a little better sports at the games.

From the comments along with the ratings many interesting facts were brought out. For instance, one comment said that our cheerleaders didn't watch the game while another said that the players sitting on the bench booed the referee. There were many other comments besides these, and I think that many of them show that it is not just the crowd that needs to be good sports but also the contestants and cheerleaders.

As a whole our school has acted very well at games this year. I hope that this can continue for the rest of this year and on into the years ahead, because every time we go out of our way to be good sports, we improve our relations with other schools, but every time we do some foolish act we have left a black mark across the name of our school.

## Up Beat

On March 2 at 12:15 the members of the band packed up our music, instruments and lunches and boarded our bus for Sturgis and the Class "B" Band Contest.

We arrived about 1:30 and unloaded the equipment in our homeroom, which was in the "Sturgis' Young Auditorium." This building had been completed only a short time ago and we were glad to have an opportunity to be in such a modern and beautiful auditorium.

We heard several bands play and then went into the practice room for our warmup period. At 3:10 our band assembled on the stage and played three songs: PRELUDE and FUGUE, SAINT JULIAN and AMERICAN FOLK RHAPSODY. After our renditions we were asked to appear in another room for sightreading. The judges chose a concert piece and a march.

We were anxious to know what our standing was, but we had to wait until Tuesday afternoon when Dr. Belooft told us we had received a "Second."

## Staff Box

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## Call Me Splinters

by Ted Garneau

All you people are showing your intelligence again by reading old Splinters.

During the St. A. basketball game I squirmed around so much that when I got home I had to sit in a bucket of ice water to bring down the swelling. It was worth it though. Some seniors won so much money that they had to hire a Brinks truck when they went to collect.

I feel that this is a good time to compliment the St. Augustine students for the noble way they acted. They were such good sports that even in defeat they did honor to their school. I wonder if we State High students could have acted as great as did St. A, if we had lost. Next year you kids that will still be here might find yourself in their situation. Remember, "He who laughs last, laughs best, but he who doesn't laugh is dead."

Everyone seems to be surprised about State High's performance in the state tournaments, that is everyone but Splinters. Your old cousin here has known all along that we had it in us; he just wondered when the Cubs were going to prove it. Here is how we have made our success. State High has four rebounders, five good scorers, and the best substitutes in the state. Pete Parker, after a mediocre season has completely redeemed himself in the tournaments. Gil Seeley and John Fleckenstein have kept up their fine season showing how to control the boards for State High. Splinters' vocabulary just can't say all of the fine things that Chuck Warfield and Bob Miles deserve. Nat Taylor, Bob Beisel, Jack DeKreek and Dick Howson certainly haven't hurt us either. Taylor has been especially effective in his role as sixth man. His rebounding and new found shooting eye has played a big part in our success. State High has earned every game it's won by undoubtedly outplaying every opponent.

And now if all of my little members of Laringitus Club behave themselves, Splinters will see you again in a few weeks.

## Minute Men See Action

On March 16, State High won its semi-final game in the regional tournament and its sixteenth game in a row when they defeated East Grand Rapids by the score of 63-51.

The first half was rather slow and State High was only ahead 20-18 at halftime. The Cubs came to life in the third quarter though, and scored 24 points to turn the game into a rout. Every State High player saw action in the fourth quarter as Coach Chance cleared the bench. Pete Parker was high man for the Cubs with 16 points.

## State High Wins Regional Title

Saturday night's final regional game between the Cubs and the St. Joseph Bears was a thriller from the start to finish. The Cubs were outstanding as a team against their toughest foe of the season. Even though the percentage of baskets made was low for the Cubs, the scoring was balanced. Parker, Miles, and Seeley each tallied 12 points; Fleckenstein scored 11; Warfield dropped in 8, and Nat Taylor, who only played a few minutes added 4 more. Except for a short period during the first quarter, the Cubs led all the way and held that lead during the last few minutes of the game by using a stall that was a beautiful example of ball-handling.

The final score was 59-55 to net State High the Regional Basketball Trophy on display in the office.

## When the Saints Marched Out

State High Cubs scored their 16th win in 18 games Saturday night, March 10. The Cubs downed the Irish of St. Augustine by a score of 46-38 for the District title. The game was a good team effort. Leading the scoring was Pete Parker with 18 points. Gil Seeley and John Fleckenstein were tremendous on the boards along with the great floor work (despite the injured heel) of Bob Miles. Captain Chuck Warfield looked exceptionally well on defense. The mighty Irish of St. A were lead by all-city star, Darroll Wotta, who flipped in 10 points. The Cubs won on hard work and good clean play.

## Roving Reporter

The roving reporter went through the dictionary again and came up with this one: seraglio. The following people replied thusly when asked what they would do with it:

Tom Lason: I'd take it to a football game.

Harriett Persons: I'd wear it around my neck.

Larry Johnson: I'd give it to Mr. Sack.

Ralph Valentine: I'd take it out for a date.

Jack Schrier: I'd play ball with it.

For those who are interested a seraglio is a harem.

## Coming Events

March 30—Easter Assembly at Kanley at 11:15

Spring vacation starts

April 10—Vacation ends

## Cubs Beat Grand Haven

On Tuesday, March 13, State High defeated Grand Haven 75-62 allowing the Cubs to advance to the semifinals against East Grand Rapids. This was State High's fifteenth win in a row and the Cubs remained unbeaten on Western's floor this year. Coach Chance's charges now have a 17-2 record for the season. Gil Seeley paced the scoring with 28 points, the highest individual output in three years for Cub cagemen. The big center scored 6 baskets and hit 16 out of 19 from the charity stripe, thus establishing a new school free-throw record. Seeley had able assistance from Chuck Warfield and Nate Taylor who tallied 11 points apiece and Pete Parker who hit for 10 points. John Fleckenstein contributed to the victory with timely rebounding.

State High started out slow and found themselves behind 15 to 12 at the end of the first quarter. For the second game in a row a hot second quarter sparked the victory, as the Cubs took a 37-27 halftime lead. Although Grand Haven came within three points midway in the third quarter, State High never relinquished its lead. Grand Haven, possessing a 5-12 record previous to this encounter, played spotty and ragged basketball throughout the game. Jerry Green of the losers, who scored 25 points despite tight defensive work by Bob Miles and Bob Beisel, was the standout of the game.

## Annual Carnival Great Success

State High's annual carnival was held in the women's gym March 3 with prizes and surprises for all.

Tim Light and Vickie Wenner, voted the two students who have contributed the most to the school, were crowned King and Queen of the Carnival.

The title of ugliest man was taken by John Curren.

In the basketball throw, sponsored by the S club, Jack DeKreek and Peggy Baker took top honors, while Joel Shepard and Pat Borgman came in second. The winners were awarded two free passes to the State Theatre and the holders of second place received two free passes to the Capitol Theatre.

Records were won by Mary Carney at the booth raising money for a Korean war orphan, Penny Lyon for being the girl married most in the justice of the peace booth, and Jim Brown for the honor of being the most married male of the evening.

Of the numerous door prizes donated by Kalamazoo merchants, the grand prize of a clock radio was won by Mr. Seeley.



# B. M. O. C.

All the boys know Mr. Bill Jerse as the man who is always around when they would like to have a little illegal fun. We also know Mr. Jerse as the person at State High School who has helped the boys in our school to grow up and realize their abilities. He helps the fellows with any problems they might have. These problems might be anything from a little ruckus in the upper hall, to helping them choose which college to attend.

Mr. Bill Jerse, a native of Illinois, received his Bachelors Degree at the University of Illinois, his Masters Degree at Wisconsin, and is now working for his Doctors Degree at Colorado State. Mr. Jerse was married in 1947 and has two children, a boy four years old and a girl two and a half years old. Mr. Jerse has been with State High School for the past six and a half years. For the first four of the six and a half years, he was an eighth grade teacher in the Junior High School. The last two and a half years he has been the Boys' counselor in both the Junior High and High School. He also teaches a class for seniors in government and social studies.

In a small school like State High, a teacher has many extra jobs around school for which he is responsible. The extra jobs around school which Mr. Jerse does are very important, like arranging the classes for the coming year with Miss Crisman. He is also sponsor of the senior class and teaches the senior math clinic.

Mr. Jerse is the man responsible for much of the good feeling between the faculty and student body. He last year gave our school a popular cheer in a skit he did with Mr. Engels. At this year's carnival, he was one of the faculty's star players in the Chinese soccer game. The faculty and students can always count on Mr. Jerse to come up with the right answer, whether it is in a committee meeting or a personal conference.

All students, girls as well as boys, find him congenial and always ready to listen to our problems and help us solve them. Although the "rowdy" set of our school are often on unhappy terms with him, we all appreciate and acknowledge his contributions to the life at State High and know life in our school would not be as rich without his services.

## Ads And Doodads

**Wanting You**—for junior girls from Clarke Godfrey and Frank Ell.

**I Hear You Knocking**—for Tom Brown

**I'll Be Home**—for Mary Joy Sawyer from Marv Balch.

**The Great Pretender**—Alice Mabie and???

## Tragedy Strikes In The Night

It was late at night and our car hurried through the darkness. It had been a long strenuous trip and we were all tired. I leaned back in my seat exhausted. To keep awake, I began hunting for the small dipper, but was interrupted when we passed another car. It was a green Buick. I'm not sure just why I remember it so distinctly, but I do, nonetheless, and, as our car pulled away, I saw two small faces peep from the inky interior of the car. They waved and smiled shyly, and we returned the gesture as our car slid off into the night.

A little farther on, we decided to stop at a refreshment stand for a snack. Then, refreshed, we hit the road once more.

Suddenly we topped a hill and witnessed a scene too horrible to behold. Two cars had met in a head-on collision; an indistinguishable car had collided with a green Buick. People were everywhere, and an ambulance, which had not yet arrived, could be heard, it's siren screaming like a wounded bird and adding to the confused picture before us. Then we saw something that made our blood run cold. We saw the bodies of the two little children who had waved at us, lying, exposed, on the bloody pavement.

Our minds had just grasped full recognition of the green car, when a policeman stepped to the car and told us to drive on. This we did obediently, and, with a silent prayer in our hearts, we continued homeward.

Jean Beulke

## Campaigns Finished For Another Year

The newly elected student council officers are: President, John Boyd; Vice-President, Suzanne Lennartson; Secretary, Joan Blanchette; and Treasurer, Dick Born.

The candidates and their campaign managers presented speeches in an assembly on March 13. The speeches climaxed a week of intense campaigning.

The student body cast their votes the rest of the day and by 3:15 we had only two new officers, President John and Veep Sue. There was no majority in the offices of secretary and treasurer and a revote was held the next day with Carol Schutz and John Blanchette running for secretary and Dick Born and Carol Sutton vying for treasurer. Joan and Dick came out on top, but the voting for these offices was especially close.

## a little this A LOTTA THAT

Since the last issue of the Highlights you kids have really been making some news for your reporters, so without anymore gabbing let's get down to business.

Congratulations to Rosemary Burnett and John Boyd who have been going steady for more than a month; also to Karen Wilkins and her man from Central.

Hear tell Tilman Gefers has a girl in California. Was that letter in history class from her, Tilman?

While snooping around the halls we heard that Sandra Hybels has turned to college men now. I guess those college European meetings are pretty neat, huh, Sandra?

Judy Grote, next time you tell Dave Fuller you'll go into the marriage booth with him don't turn around and run when they say, "You may now kiss the bride."

We heard that Ted Garneau and John Simcox are back in the running with Central again and that John is going steady with his girl, Sue W. Congratulations, John, seems as though you pick the same day every year. Who'll it be next March?

A plea to Mary Smith! Please either go back to Jim or give him up for good; I can't take it.

Signed:  
Your ardent English III  
poem writer

It has come to our ears the Barb McBride is going steady. I'll bet that trip to Texas was really neat, huh, Barb?

We bet Frank Ell had a terrible time at the Future Nurses Tea with all those girls. Isn't that right Frank?

If you are wondering why the girls are limping down the halls lately, boys, it's because of those craz-z-y stunts in gym class. Don't give up now, girls; you've just begun.

The footprints imbedded in Davis St. are due to Judy Rock's patient pacing. Who is he Judy?

Bud Roodbergen seems to be stepping in on Jim Neal. What's it all about Kathy Kersjes?

Something old is that Dave Britigan and Nancy Hotneir are still going strong.

Hey, Mike Weaver! What's this we hear about a redhead from Mat-tawan? What was wrong with Central?