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Sue Callendar Named New D.A.R. Pilgrim



Each year, the Senior Class and the faculty select a senior girl to receive the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award. The D.A.R. Pilgrim is chosen on the basis of leadership, dependability, service, and patriotism. Honored this year is Sue Callendar.

One can easily tell that Sue is well qualified for this award by the long list of activities in which she has participated, and by the many responsibilities she has been given.

During Sue's three years at U-High she has served as homeroom secretary and as vice-president, Student Council representative, general committee chairman of the Prom, corresponding secretary to our Greek foster child, president of the Senior Class and vice-president of Finettes. Sue has been a member of the Friendship Committee, Service Committee, and Social Committee. She also is a member of her church Youth Fellowship, and served as chairman of their Youth Budget Committee, and sang in the church choir.

Sue's hobbies include reading, playing the piano, sewing, and knitting. She also writes some lovely poetry. Sue plans to attend Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio and major in later elementary education.

Erudition to Be Recognized

On Wednesday, February 20, from 12:30 to 1:10 p.m., the Honor Society will induct new members in an assembly to be held in the gymnasium. Mr. Neil Schoenhals, the sponsor of the society, will be in charge.

It is hoped that, although every one is not able to become a member of the society, the assembly will serve to spur on all students to exert the greatest effort in their academic pursuits.

UNIVERSITY HIGH *Highlights*

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

FEB. 13, 1963

VOL. 24 NO. 4

Thespians Await Opening Night



Left to right: Marcia DeKorte, Sue Sprau, Sue Strube, Sue Southon

An unusual undertaking for a high school will appear in the form of this year's school play, "The Death and Life of Larry Benson," written by Kristin Sergel. The play, which first appeared on CBS Television Studio One, is produced by Mr. Christensen and directed by Mr. Robert Murphy, aided by Daphne Szmuszkovicz, student director. The play will be held in the WMU theatre on Thursday, February 14th, and Saturday, February 16th, at 8:00 p.m. "The Death and Life of Larry Benson" has a unique plot; Larry Benson, a soldier in the Korean War, has been thought dead by his family for several years. Mrs. Benson receives a phone call one day from Larry. He says he is coming home. Larry returns home, but no one recognizes him. He strangely can recall, however, all his past experiences as a young boy, a baffling situation.

The cast consists of JESSIE BENSON, Sue Strube; SUSAN, Sue Southon; MARY ELLEN, Marcia DeKorte; FRED A BENSON, Sue Sprau; GRACE WILKEY, Sue Eglund; MRS. PORTER, Rosemary Siwik; WALTER PORTER, Frank Abnet; SAM BENSON, Tom Wilcox; MRS. FITCH, Karen Gunnette; NETTIE CLARK, Julie Birkhold; MELVIN CLARK; Jim Heersma; THE BOY, Joe Stulberg; and BUD MERKEL, John Manske.

Committee chairmen are Ingrid Nelson, costumes; Kathy Michaud,

social; Daphne Szmuszkovicz, properties; Peggy Brunner, tickets; Nancy Fox, publicity; Claire Anderson, programs; and Kris Nelson, make-up.

Tickets are now obtainable from play members.

Town Meeting Scheduled

On February 27, 'U' High's annual Town Meeting will be held. The topics for this year's meeting are to be taken from these areas: school spirit, cheating, and home rooms. All students are urged to take advantage of the opportunity that the town meeting presents to consider the topics under discussion and recommend possible action to be taken on them; there is no better way to put the democratic principles to work.

Bear Blunders

Stuart Starkweather, while performing a chemistry experiment, carefully connected his bunsen burner to what he thought was the gas pipe. However, when he tried to light it nothing happened. Probably the reason it wouldn't light was that you had hooked it up to the water pipes. Don't you agree, Stu?

* * * * *

Being an ardent drag racer, Jane Hotneier pulled up to a stop sign and started to drag the car beside her. However this soon stopped when she found out who was in the car next to her. Do you think Mr. Fox will drop your history grade, Jane?

* * * * *

While placing animals in their proper habitats, Mr. Deur, in Biology, asked the class what realm the tiger lived in. Cam Carter quipped, "in Detroit!"

* * * * *

Mr. Engles was trying to demonstrate in physics class what materials heat up when hit with a hammer. He asked Frank Abnet to tell whether the hammer felt different when Mr. Engles touched it to Frank's cheek after striking it on two materials. The results turned out the opposite of what they were supposed to, and Mr. Engles accused Frank of not having tender cheeks.

* * * * *

In an effort to demonstrate the braking effect the atmosphere has on a space probe returning to the earth, Mr. Nuzum held a small steel ball over a beaker of water. After dropping the ball and missing the water it seemed the only thing it proved was that if the space probe missed, the atmosphere would shatter into 500 pieces and a great amount of water would be spilled.

* * * * *

While discussing the danger of carbon monoxide in chemistry recently, Mr. Engles was telling his 10:15 class that if they ever found it necessary to stop with a friend on a dark deserted road in an old car with the motor on, to make sure at least one of the windows is open. Is this so things will stay cool, Mr. Engles?

* * * * *

Mr. Chance has a fatherly attitude toward his book-keeping class, but don't you think putting diapers on Brom DeMink is going a little too far?

* * * * *

Mr. Murphy has the following advice for the more delicate gentlemen in his classes: "The next time anybody calls you a sissy, hit him with your purse."

Grades Should Be Abolished

"Our schools must be a good place for all youth, because there are no other places in our society for them. The number of students who leave school before completion is proof enough that our schools are not meeting the needs of youth. It is a sick institution that loses 40% of its customers when they have no place else to go." These are statements made by E. C. Kelley, Professor of Secondary Education at Wayne State University, in his book, *In Defense of Youth*.

Today our educational system harbors a complicated and effective process of youth rejection. Evidence of this rejection can be seen in many places. Yet the key that could remedy the problem has been turned in very few instances. This key lies in our grading system.

All people are different mentally as well as physically. This is a fact often overlooked in student evaluation. Everyone is not expected to run equally well, but standardization and grading demand all to produce to a certain level. Only some can master the pre-planned course of study. The uniqueness of the individual is only slightly recognized. Yet change may be coming. From a conference on mental health came, "The idea is gaining ground, that high schools should proceed with each student at his own level of ability, to help him make the most of what he has."

What are the effects of student competition for grades and rank in class? The idea that a student works harder is certainly a valid argument. Yet the harmful aspects of grades seem to overshadow the good ones. Students often evaluate each other on grades alone, rather than the assets of the individual and his personality. The "A" students are regarded as smart; the "D" and "E" students are "dumb." The so-called "good pupils may be resented; the "dumb" ones may be scorned. For some students the constant competitive pressure seems to cause social maladjustment. Demanding parents put constant pressure on their children. Sometimes penalties are imposed because students do not achieve to their parents' desires. The result of such habitual pressuring can often be seen in the psychiatrists' offices! A student may resort to cheating to "keep up" with his classmates. To what degree does education exist when one must cheat to pass as the goal, instead of working to learn? The ideal of education has somewhere been lost. The student's attitude is wrong. He is working for the grade. Learning has become secondary. If schools were not established for learning, why do they exist?

The "late-achiever" demonstrates very clearly some of the faults mentioned. This is the person who has gone along for many years without seeming to develop his potentialities. Although he may have ability, it may not show up in the usual academic way. He is judged by the standard grade performance and may have trouble even getting into college because of his grades.

Under our present system the creativity of the student is hindered rather than developed. After studying for the test and doing homework a student often has no time to read or develop an outside interest that could really challenge his mind and inspire some creative thinking. On the other hand, many creative people perform poorly under the grading system. They become bored, often rebel, and many times leave school. Thomas Edison had to drop out of school because he could not keep up with the work. Albert Einstein flunked math! These men are two classic examples of failure to recognize ability under the grading system.

The "under-achiever," one who wants to do well but is not able to, also suffers from our grading system. Dr. Blain, professor of adolescent psychiatry at Harvard, says, "There are many reasons for this inability," listing reasons such as fear of attracting attention, fear of making enemies, feeling of inferiority, or feeling that no one cares about him. In treating the under-achiever, the teacher must separate learning from discipline and get the spirit of adventure into study, according to Dr. Blain. Then the individual will study to have fun and not to compete. What holds true for the under-achiever is equally true for other students. Less emphasis should be placed on grades, thus removing the tension from learning. There should be less competition between students since this makes poor classroom relationships develop. Instead, everything possible should be done to encourage a student's intellectual curiosity.

Several experiments prove the advantages that changes in our grading system might bring. The Summerhill School in England is a forty-year illustration of a radical educational change. This school is without grades. No one is required to attend classes, yet the pupils do. The students develop their interests without fears or pressures. Closer to home, in Melbourne, Florida, a different method from our standard school practices is being demonstrated. Melbourne students work at their own rate in different phases based on ability and interest. Some are working in rocketry and advanced college chemistry in one phase and at the same time attending an English phase on a much lower level. If they plan to go on to college, state requirements are, of course, necessary. Students may move from one phase to another at any time during the year, with teacher recommendation or favorable examination results.

(Continued on Page 4)

Victory for Cubettes!

'U' High's girls basketball team, the Cubettes, outclassed the Little Caesar's 33 to 3, for their third victory. They have lost two. The Little Caesar's are made up of eighth graders from St. Mary's and Northeastern. Scoring honors went to Dianne Ketcham with eight points, while Carol Whitfield tossed in seven and Barb Percy and Sue Hamilton had six apiece.

The Cubettes had a rather cold first half, failing to score in the first quarter. By the end of the half they had rallied for eleven points. The Cubettes shot a rather cool 31% in the first half but picked up the pace the second half with a 61% shooting clip to end up with a sharp 48%. Ann and Carol Whitfield provided the board work with each grabbing six rebounds.

The Cubettes play their games on Monday nights at Central High School.

Intra-Murder Key to Action Teams Fight for First

With one game to be played before the Intra-Murder tournaments begin, Hames' Hackers stand in the lead, followed by Harada's Hot Shots in second place and one of the pre-season favorites, Manske's Maulers sharing third with Starkweather's Sluggers. Two other pre-season favorites which have fallen off the pace are William's Wonders and Tobias' Toughies who hold fourth and fifth places respectively. High scoring honors go to Jack Tobias, Dave Hames, and Bruce Williams.

Gulf Area to Be Featured On Vernal Excursion

The dates April 12-20 mark the annual Spring Trip supervised by Mr. Deur. The sojourners will be leaving by bus on April 12 for Vicksburg where they will see the Showboat Play "Gold in the Hills." From there the group will journey to Natchez where they will visit the old ante bellum homes and eat at the famous Carriage House. Then they will go on to Baton Rouge and finally to New Orleans. Two days will be spent in New Orleans visiting the French Quarter, eating in famous restaurants and taking a trip up the Mississippi on the steamship President. Other places to be visited will be Audubon Park and the University of Mississippi. In Biloxi the group will stay on the Gulf where a Harbor Cruise is planned, and later they will visit the Kester Air Base and Marineland.

The cost will be \$100.00 per person which includes transportation, lodging, sightseeing trips, special meals, and all special events. Anyone interested should check with Mr. Deur, immediately.

Cubs Beaten by Racing Redskins

Inspired Team Narrowly Misses Upset

Displaying a fine effort, the Cubs dropped a close fought decision to the Paw Paw Redskins, the top ranked team in the Wolverine Conference, Friday night.

'U' High played without the services of guard Jeff Rhuland, but Dan Rhodes filled his place very well with his fine ball handling and floor work. Paw Paw got off to an 8 point lead at the end of the first quarter, but they lost key man Scott Smith. The Cubs closed the gap with excellent team work and by half time 'U' High was within 3 points of the Redskins.

'U' High's team fought hard throughout the entire second half, but the taller Redskins proved to be too much for the Cubs to handle. This game ended a three game winning streak. Last week the Cubs beat South Haven, the week before they squeezed by Vicksburg, and three weeks ago defeated Otsego.

The team hopes to get back on the winning trail next week when they travel to Plainwell to meet the Trojans.

Students Show Interest In Taking College Classes

Presently at 'U' High there are twenty-six seniors participating in college classes at Western Michigan University. These classes give them an opportunity not only to preview college, but also to further enhance their knowledge of a particular subject which they are interested in.

They seem most anxious in their pursuit of knowledge in the languages. Seventeen students are enrolled in one of four different language classes. Spanish and French are the most popular, although some of them show interest in German and Latin. Other enthusiastic scholars are engaged in the field of social studies where there are six students enrolled in either sociology or psychology classes. Although languages and social studies seem to be the most popular courses, there are several students who are enrolled in math and English classes.

The fact that so much interest is being shown in taking college classes verifies the fact that the 'U' High students are eager to assume more challenging classes in their pursuit of a better understanding of the world around them.

Homecoming Anticipated

The 1963 basketball homecoming dance will take place Saturday, February 23, in the gymnasium. It will be dress up and last from 8:30 to 11:30. Tickets will be on sale a week prior to the dance and will cost \$1.00 per couple.

F.N.C. Earns Charter

The Future Nurses Club of 'U' High has had a very busy program. On February 5, the group baked and sold cookies in the hall. The club, currently in the process of becoming a member of the national organization, will use the proceeds to finance their charter. This membership will enable the girls to wear the pin of the national association.

On February 2, the group visited the technical laboratories and blood bank of Bronson Hospital. The girls try to explore other careers in medicine besides those strictly associated with nursing. The trip should prove valuable to those girls interested in a career in medical technology.

All the Future Nurses in Kalamazoo met together on Friday, February 8. Participation in this meeting and the other activities have made this year's Future Nurses Club one of the most active yet.

78 Students Honored

The Honor roll for the fall semester has been tabulated; twenty students made the select "Alpha" classification. Those on this semester's honor roll are:

Alpha—C. Carter, S. Eglund, R. Gilkey, R. Glaser, J. Harada, R. Holaday, J. Hotneier, A. Karr, K. Luke, B. Margolis, K. Palmer, J. Norris, J. Patton, D. Riege, A. Rosegrant, B. Stulberg, T. Sykes, D. Szmuszkovics, W. Todd, P. VanderBeek, C. VanDeventer.

Beta—F. Abnet, I. Barr, G. Blanchard, J. Blankenburg, S. Callander, P. Clements, R. Dew, N. Fox, C. Galbraith, D. Gladstone, J. Greiner, M. Groulx, J. Heersma, C. Martin, R. Nadelman, K. Nielson, B. Pearson, S. Perkins, J. Rhuland, C. Speck, S. Sprau, D. Stevens, K. Stillwell, K. Sykes, M. Trimpe, K. VandeGiessen, P. Wallace, B. Wichers.

Gamma—W. Barr, S. Betz, R. Callander, K. Dana, J. Davidoff, P. Fox, J. Grossnickle, B. Hannon, S. Hoy, K. Humphery, C. Manske, S. Masters, T. Miller, K. Nelson, S. Nelson, V. Nunes, R. Phillips, L. Prange, S. Southon, C. Stanlake, S. Strube, J. Stulberg, M. Sutherland, N. Todd, T. VanderMeulen, C. Whitfield, C. Yzenbaard, J. Zeman.

Voice of the Students

Dear Students:

In the last few weeks before Christmas vacation these changes effecting your Student Council were made:

1. The new constitution states that committee chairmen are not allowed to vote in Student Council.

2. A motion was passed that committee reports would now be written into the agenda and not given orally unless a chairman believed it was necessary.

3. By request of the president, the committee chairmen are no longer allowed to sit with the members of the Student Council.

The result of these decisions is that there is really no need or purpose for a committee chairman to attend the Student Council meetings (although the constitution still compels them to).

I wonder whether this separation of the cabinet and Student Council is wise. The cabinet is an essential part of the Student Council. Isn't a strong unity between the two necessary? Our Student Council has the reputation in Michigan of being one of the most effective. I wonder if we can uphold that reputation with these new changes.

The cabinet is composed of the officers of the Student Council and the committee chairmen, all of whom are elected in the spring of the preceding year by the entire student citizenry. Always before a major part of the work of the Student Council has been performed by the committee chairmen who form working committees such as the Citizenship, Service, Pep, Social, Assembly, International, and Friendship. The cabinet itself meets as a whole every week to plan the next Student Council meeting.

The students voted for these people with the understanding that they would help carry out the work of Student Council. Thus complaints and ideas that are brought to Student Council are usually referred to one of the committees to be worked out.

At the last meeting before vacation the Student Council appointed the cabinet to decide on which record

player to buy. The cabinet itself had no vote on this motion. It seems something like taxation without representation.

Each chairman of a committee has about 30 members from the various classes and home rooms. No one in Student Council represents the wants of these groups of people. A homeroom president probably has only a few members of any one committee in his homeroom and he may not be informed of their interests. Also the interests of these few people may not coincide with the majority of people in his particular homeroom. It seems to me that a committee of 30 people have just as much right to be represented as a homeroom of 30 people.

The main objection to chairmen voting is that it gave the seniors too much power. However being seniors or juniors, committee chairmen are more experienced and better informed on what would be good for all.

In the past as a rule, committee chairmen have contributed most of the ideas to Student Council, and in general they have voted wisely for the good of all.

If that is the only major objection, it seems a compromise could be made by either restricting the chairmen to matters concerning their committees or by reducing the chairmen's individual votes to three or four collective votes, and I believe one of these changes is necessary.

—Name Withheld

Band Festival at Sturgis

February 23, is the big day for many bands and orchestras all over Michigan. The District Band and Orchestra Festival is being held that day, and the 'U' High band will also respond to the call. The band will participate with the other District 11 bands at Sturgis. The selections to be played are: "March and Chorus" by Handel, "March Forth" by Moore, and the required number, "Overture in Classical Style" by Carter.

Check-Mates

Ann sure has used a lot of **Whit** in the right field to trap **Maris Rush-evics**.

Tao has been thinking about getting a **Patton** on a certain **Ron Gatwood**.

Mary must be **Wise** to have found such a good catch in **Jerry TerBeck**.

Sue has now become the **Master** of **Noble John**.

Jan Larzelere seems to be getting quite a few phone calls from **West Point**. How is **Dave** anyway, **Jan**?

Is there any truth to the rumor that **Joe Koenig** and **Connie Tobias** have been seen together many times lately?

Homemaker Selected

The 'U' High Homemaker of Tomorrow is **Sharon Glendening**. On December 4, 1962, 410,000 senior girls took the fifty minute determining test dealing with homemaking knowledge and attitudes. The examination consisted of one hundred multiple choice questions and an essay. The tests were scored by the Science Research Institute.

The search for the American Homemaker of Tomorrow, sponsored by General Mills, has three main purposes. The first, to enhance the dignity and prestige of the American home, second, to stimulate interest in the art of homemaking, and last, to emphasize the outstanding contributions to the home being made by high school teachers across the nation.

Sharon's scores will be sent on to the state headquarters where they will enter competition with the scores of other school winners. The girl with the highest score will receive a \$1500 college scholarship and an educational tour of Washington, D.C.

Sharon will be awarded a pin and a certificate of merit at the annual awards assembly in the spring.

Honoring . . .

Judith Larzelere for making the dean's list at Radcliffe College.

David Murray ('62), **William Hightower** ('60), **James Albert Jr.** ('61), **Fred Kolloff** ('59), **Susan Schroeder** ('59), and **Richard Doyle** ('59), for making the dean's list at Kalamazoo College.

Tom Betz, who received all A's at the University of Michigan.

Alan Mimms ('61) for being elected activities chairman of the **Brian Hall Dormitory** at Michigan State University.

More About Grades (Continued from Page 2)

The difference between this school and others is that these students are competing with themselves, not with one another. Dr. B. F. Brown, the principal, states that, "the success of the school is evident in many ways: 1) college enrollment of those graduating is up from 40% to 70%; 2) the academic work of those students who go on to college has improved by 100%; 3) the percentage of drop-outs is now 4% as compared to the national average of 33%." He adds: "Even more convincing is the mood of the school . . . Students and teacher alike are possessed by a boundless enthusiasm and an energetic desire to learn."

Dr. Kelley feels, "A standard to hold onto is that every human being should have the opportunity to develop his own unique potentialities so that the full meaning of being human can emerge." At Summerhill and Melbourne this ideal is being met in a happy, energetic atmosphere. Isn't it about time that schools across the country evaluate the grading system in terms of what it is really accomplishing? If, as seems likely, they find it is not serving the purpose for which it was set up, should not a change be made?

—Fred Margolis