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University High Highlights 11/20/1963

University High School

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Cheryl Chosen D.A.R.

Cheryl Van Deventer has been chosen as this year's DAR Pilgrim. This is a "Good Citizen Award" offered by the Daughters of the American Revolution to an outstanding senior girl in our school.

Cheryl was chosen by her class, as one of three, and then by the faculty as the one worthy of this award. The basis for choice was on the following qualities:

1. Dependability
2. Service
3. Leadership
4. Patriotism

Through all her high school life, Cheryl has demonstrated excellence in each of these areas. During these four years she has been on the friendship, citizenship, AFS, and service committees; more important, however, she has not been just a member of these committees but an active participator working diligently to see that the objectives were accomplished.

Perhaps her most valuable asset to 'U' High has been her work on the yearbook. Last year she was the assistant editor, and this year she is carrying the responsibilities of editor.

Along with the dedication and fine work Cheryl gives her school, she blends in her creative ability by writing, sewing, and painting.

College Night Held

The annual College Night was held at Portage High School, Monday, November 11. This occasion provided an opportunity for students from area schools to visit with administrators and representatives from various colleges in and around Michigan.

UNIVERSITY HIGH

Highlights

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

NOV. 20, 1963

VOL. 25 NO. 2

Birkhold Heads Thespians

The Dramatics Club of "U" High met on Thursday, October 31, to elect officers. Julie Birkhold was chosen president; Carol Manski vice president; and Bill Barr the secretary-treasurer.

The Club will be in charge of the school play to be presented on February 1, 1964. Members will meet bi-weekly until that time. Chairmen for the following committees are being chosen: technical, cast, programs, make-up, tickets, properties, costumes, social, play selection, and publicity.

A meeting of the play selection committee is being held to determine what the production for this year will be. The director-sponsor of the "U" High Dramatics Club is Mr. Arthur Christensen.

Food Drive Helps Needy

Monday and Tuesday, November 25 and 26 the Service Committee, under the leadership of Jane Hotneier, together with the Friendship Committee headed by Chris Cronley, will present the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. The baskets of food will be given to needy families whose names are obtained from the Family Service Center.

The food will be collected in homerooms, and each homeroom will appoint one person to be in charge of making sure everyone donates. In addition to canned goods and turkeys, the baskets will include donations of bread, milk, cottage cheese, and potatoes from companies in Kalamazoo. Also students will be asked to give 15 cents for the turkeys.

The food will be collected Wednesday, November 27, in the cafeteria.

Stillwell Featured Soloist

For Thanksgiving vacation school will be dismissed at noon on Nov. 27, immediately following the Thanksgiving Assembly, which will be held in the Little Theater. The program for the Assembly will include the Choir's rendition of "Ballad For Americans," a contemporary choral arrangement. The baritone solo will be sung by Ken Stillwell.

Eligibility Reviewed

Because of some apparent confusion on the requirements for admission, the Honor Society has asked that this review of the rules be put in the paper for everyone to read. In order to be considered for membership in the Honor Society, a student must have an A- average from the beginning of his sophomore year. From that time, all semester classes for which one credit is given, will be averaged to determine the student's eligibility. Eligibility will be determined on a grade scale where A=8, A-=7, B+=6, B=5, B-=4, C+=3, C=2, and C-=1.

A student who has maintained at least a 7.00 (A-) average in his sophomore year will be inducted into the society at the beginning of his junior year. Those who achieve this average by the end of the first semester of their junior year will be inducted in the second semester. Students who have gained a 7.00 average by the end of the junior year will become members at the beginning of the senior year. Seniors who have maintained a 6.50 average from their sophomore year through the first semester of the senior year will be admitted at the beginning of the second semester.

If there are any questions concerning eligibility for membership in the Honor Society, Mr. Schoenhals, the Society sponsor, will be happy to discuss them.

Understanding Y Teen Goal

A few weeks ago "Y" Teens made candy for World Fellowship in which all "Y" groups participate. At Christmas they will be helping with the hanging of the greens at the YWCA. Other activities include Teen Council at which all the "Y" Teen members meet to discuss problems that arise at their own clubs. Another activity is the All State Council held each year to give representatives from "Y" Teen groups throughout the state the opportunity to discuss their clubs and get new ideas to take back to their clubs. Still more activities are sports, slumber parties, service projects and guest speakers. All these projects help in giving girls a better understanding of the YWCA; this is the chief purpose of "Y" Teens.



Administration Building, 1905

From Normal High to 'U' High

For the past few months, there has been much talk concerning the future of 'U' High. Let's go back to the beginning of the school to perhaps find a clue to its future.

No one is exactly sure when the school began. At first, the school was an extension of Western State Normal School for teachers who did not have high school diplomas and did not want to go back to high school for them. (The teachers were 22 or 23 years old then.) It was called the Preparatory Department, and the graduates would then be able to go on for graduate work. The first graduating class of this department is listed as in 1910 (three boys and four girls).

Many of the graduated eighth graders were allowed to continue on into high school work in the fall of 1912. The Class of 1917 is believed to be the first class to have graduating members who had been at the high school their entire school life. In that same year, Normal High School was recognized by the National College Association.

In 1915 interscholastic basketball arrived; football, in 1921. The school was Class A then. In 1922-23, under Coach Hyames, the football teams went for two seasons without a defeat. Al (Doc) den Bleyker, Hart Anway, Howdie Jackson, and Spud Barrett were some of the outstanding athletes of those two years. In the late thirties State High's top athletes included Deane Foster, Al Mulder, Bob Anderson, Gary Koopsen, Adrian Klepper, Bill Honey, John Hoekje, Ken Stillwell, and the Scott brothers. In the 1935-36-37 seasons, the 'Cubs' won twenty three straight football games,

and in 1935 were unbeaten, untied, and unscored upon. In 1935 (the early 30's) the Cubs were regional C-D tennis champions. One of the players, Jack Sims, was later one of Jimmy Doolittle's Raiders. In 1936 the school climbed to Class B, where it has remained ever since. A long string of tennis successes began in 1938 with the winning of the first of eleven consecutive state tennis titles.

The school had an orchestra in 1924 and in 1939 a band. In 1931 a woodwind quintette (Glen Allen, Ruth Bartoo, Ruth Blair, Elizabeth Kitchen, and Don Nibbelink) won a first group rating at the National contest in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The choir was organized in 1927 from the Girl's and Boy's Glee Clubs, and over the years they have given many fine performances, including twelve of the operettas of Gilbert and Sullivan.

Our present Education Building was two buildings; the Training School (elementary section) and the College building (which was partially occupied by Normal High). These two buildings were connected at the second story by the Bridge of Sighs (named after a bridge in Venice which connected two places; one the palace of justice and the other the prison). It was not until the early 1940's that the present office area and lobby were built; before that there was a driveway which circled around the present playground and back down to Oakland Drive. The office was in the room now used by the library. (The library consisted of a set of encyclopedias and a dictionary.) The children's room of the present library used to be the music room. Otherwise, things have remain-

ed nearly the same for all this time. (I have heard some say that the paint has stayed the same, too, but that is just a vicious rumor.)

The cafeteria was at first an all-College affair. It was open only at noon, and served soup and sandwiches. Most of the students lived in boarding houses (at least, the teachers who had come back for their high school diplomas did) and so ate most of their meals there.

The faculty was able to provide some moments of levity in the early days of the school. Mrs. Biscomb's English classes were always interesting and full of variety. The interest was perhaps furthered somewhat by the fact that she liked to experiment with hair dyes.

She was again involved when the 1935 Commencement schedule was changed, and the faculty was to march up the center aisle and sit in the front row of seats instead of on the stage, as was usually done. The first pair of faculty members, Mrs. Biscomb and a Mr. Huff, both forgot and marched up onto the stage, where there were no seats. Mrs. Biscomb just giggled and ran back down, but Mr. Huff (a long faced man) never changed his expression, but kept right on going out of the building and never taught a class here again!

At the time, Oakland Drive was mud. Only the delivery wagons used it. In back of the road were a scattering of private homes, but the area was mostly unsettled. Down at the site of Hyames field was a creek, Arcadia Creek. There was a path along it, called the Indian Trail, which was much favored for private strolling, and a glen (called, appropriately enough, the Glen) for picnics. At the corner of Eddie's Lane, by the boulder, there used to be a mill, Henderson's, which used the water from the creek for power. Much of Arcadia Creek now runs underground, thanks to the city engineers.

The eastern side of the buildings looked down on Kalamazoo from the hilltop. The hill down to Davis Street was landscaped, and the gardener kept the grounds in beautiful shape, with flowers blooming all year. The land the school was on had originally been an apple orchard; many of the trees were kept and some can still be seen today.

The steps up the hill were there then, although they were board steps, and there were boardwalks instead of our present cement ones.

The trolley was at the north end of the campus, Al (he must have had a last name) ran it up and down the hill. He used to get mad at the students for crowding into the trolley (he was known to have spanked them). The trolley service was discontinued, and ever since the students have had to trudge up the hill to classes.

(Continued on Page 4)

Fall Athletes Honored

At the 1963 Fall Sports Banquet these honors were given to various team members. Next year's varsity football co-captains are Jeff Rhuland and Mark Mrozek. The "most valuable player" co-winners on the varsity squad are Rick Russell and Maris Rushevics. The "most improved" lineman for the varsity is Mike Moyer, and the "most improved" back is Maris Rushevics.

On the reserve front, Mark Calhoun was voted the "most valuable" player, Bob Correll the "most improved" back and Cam Carter, the "most improved" lineman. The co-captains for this last season were Mark Calhoun and Bunkie VanderSalm.

The cross country team voted Jim Giachino as the "most valuable" runner and Chuck Brown as the "most improved." The 1964 co-captains are David Stevens and Jim Giachino.

It Happens at U High

On a third hour English test, the answer to one question was that the raft sailed 4,000 miles. Bill Jackson insisted that he was counting the curves they made, so it was more. Mr. Sack promptly replied, "You are always noticing curves!"

* * * * *
Mr. Kotecki, to his third-hour Latin class: What's a Grecian Urn?

Class: A vase or pitcher.
Mr. Kotecki: You're wrong. It depends upon where he works!

* * * * *
Mr. Delay, a government student teacher, gave a mickeymouse quiz to which the class strongly objected. On the final chapter test students were surprised to see a case listed as, "Delay versus Mickey Mouse."

* * * * *
Mr. Fox was talking about the recently elected city commissioners in government class, when Gay Blanchard (waking up?) asked, "Was he a good president?"

* * * * *
In fifth hour Spanish, a sentence on a test was translated: He dropped the camera, this frightened him because it wasn't his. A bright student translated it: He dropped into bed, this frightened him because it wasn't his!

FNA Make Tray Favors

As a Thanksgiving project, the Future Nurses will make tray favors for approximately one-hundred Bronson Hospital patients on the third floor. The tray favors are decorations made in the Thanksgiving motif. The tray favors will be placed on the food trays for the Thanksgiving meal.



Basketball Season Opens Nov. 26

Hopes Run High

With the football season finished, the main sports action turns to indoors and the hardcourts. For two weeks now Coach Barney Chance has been sending his cagers through strenuous practices as he looks forward to the opening game. **Although it is customary for coaches to be optimistic at the beginning of the season, Coach Chance feels that his optimism is solidly founded. "We have experience and plenty of height—in fact, we can start five players that are all taller than six feet."**

Among those returning from last year's squad are center Duane Riege, Jeff Rhuland, Pat Gallagher, Joe Koenig and Rick Russell. Joining the varsity from last year's reserve squad are Pete VanderBeek and Mike Low, who Coach Chance hopes will be able to give the team added strength; both are over six feet and good shooters.

The first game of the season will be played at Comstock on November 26. The team will then play at Allegan in their first conference game on November 29 before returning home for another conference contest with Vicksburg on December 6. The Cubs will play a regular schedule of sixteen games, finishing the season with Otsego on February 28. Last year the Cubs closed with a 10-9 record; Coach Chance and the team expect to improve on that.

The freshman basketball team faces a rigorous schedule not only with other schools in its conference but with several local junior highs. The frosh are pitted against the freshman squads of the same schools which the varsity plays and will also scrimmage with Hillside and Portage Junior Highs.

Coached by Mr. Robert Suter, the team has 17 players. Coach Suter feels his team has "good desire." The boys show this by being willing to practice at irregular hours. This is necessary because the varsity and the reserves have priority in the gym.

Last year's freshman team won 11 games and lost only 4.

Red and White Scheduled

Planning of the annual band follies is under way. The tentative performance nights are Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2, in the Little Theater. Any people intending to be in the revue should see Mr. Grill or a Red and White coordinating committee member.

The coordinating committee members are also chairmen or co-chairmen of additional committees concerned with the show. These members are: Sue Beukema, Barb Brannock, Ingrid Nelson, Kay Miles, Don Clapp, Jill Klammer, Chuck Prange, Celeste Cutler, Mike Holaday, and Karen Decker.

Suggestions concerning this year's program can be given to any one of the people listed above.

Voice of the Students Why Not Be Honest? Honoring . . .

Our Reputation

I have been a student at 'U' High for most of my school life. I am a junior now, at an age where young men and women are supposed to be acquiring a sense of value and a knowledge of right and wrong. However, I am beginning to wonder after what happened a few weeks ago whether this concept is actually recognized or accepted.

I'm talking, of course, about the Norrix escapade. For those of you who might not know what I'm talking about, or who have let it slip conveniently back in your memory, let me refresh it a bit.

Not long ago, a few artistically minded young men (and I use the term loosely), who are students at our school, practiced their handiwork on the sidewalks and on the walls of Norrix's school. When the students came to school on Monday morning, they were confronted with a new addition to their school. Written in paint for all to see was the name "University High." On the side of one building, these words were written so large, they literally screamed at you from the road. Because of a few misguided individuals, our school received some publicity, but a kind which we could well do without. Unless of course, you like publicity that gives your school and the people in it the unfavorable reputation we now have.

Some might contend that there isn't anything wrong in this. After all, look at the gym entrance of our school. Isn't N.H.S. written all over our steps? Since they did it to us first, we have every right to retaliate. If you agree, and many students do, then maybe we deserve the reputation we now have.

Those of you who see nothing wrong with this type of behavior, the question might be asked, "What are you trying to prove?" Do you think it's smart damaging other people's property? Maybe you believe that it builds up your prestige or makes people look up to you. If that is what you think, let me tell you something. People will look up to you a lot more if you are man enough to come forward and say that you are sorry. Then again, I think it takes someone who is grown up to admit when he is wrong.

So why don't you grow up and stop thinking just of yourself? There are other people in this school, and if you don't care about your reputation, why don't you think of the rest of us?

—Jim Giachino

A very important problem in our schools today is cheating. A few weeks ago the instructor of a class left a room during a test and as soon as he was out of sight everyone in that class with the exception of two or three students was comparing his test with those of others. These students weren't even ashamed of themselves. Apparently they have cheated so often in the past they never even think about it as they do it now. I am not exaggerating when I say I felt like quitting school. What is the use of studying and doing your work alone when almost everyone else does it by getting the answers from someone else's work?

What must foreign students and visitors from other countries think when they visit our classrooms and see these shameful actions which we seem to do from habit? I am not saying that these students and visitors are perfect. I am only trying to point out how terrible we as AMERICAN students are. And how many times have we seemed hurt when we have heard that young people are "soft" or "lazy? Yet, isn't cheating an excellent example of our laziness? If we are too lazy to study now, how can we expect to hold jobs when we get older?

Cheating is everywhere in our school; in every class. The majority of the students seem to think there is nothing wrong in doing it. Even those whom we look up to as being very nice people, cheat. If we consider a person who tries to deceive people by cheating as the kind of person we would like to be, what is the person like whom we would not want to be seen with?

I cannot understand why a person would want to start cheating. When he gets his assignments from someone else he, most likely, will have to cheat on the tests. After this he will have to cheat on his exams or probably get a very bad grade. And he is always in the fear of being caught. When I think of all this, I would think any person would rather put a little more effort into his studies and do them himself. It really isn't hard and one gets a great deal of satisfaction from knowing he did his schoolwork alone. The only reason I can see for cheating is that everyone is doing it and to not do it makes a person a "square." If this is true, then we as teenagers really are soft, just as many adults feel.

The only way to stop this problem is through one's own will-power. It will mean working harder and possibly losing some friends, who aren't really your friends, when you refuse to let them get answers from your paper. You should try to help these people with their schoolwork, but not by using your paper. This will only hurt them.

—Name Upon Request

Al Karr and Marty Groulx, who have been chosen to represent "U" High as applicants for the AFS Junior Abroad program.

Patricia Wallace and Nancy Fox, who have been admitted to the Honors Council of the University of Michigan. The Honors Council is a program of enriched study for entering freshmen.

Mike Holaday, who has been invited to join the Kalamazoo Area Community Science Seminar. Members are chosen on the basis of competitive examinations.

Cadet David Wilson, who is on the dean's list at West Point for the second straight year. The former "U" High three-sport star is also on the varsity golf squad.



Early Days, (continued)

Normal High's prime purposes were to provide an opportunity for teachers to get high school diplomas, and to give students practical experience under a directed teaching system. The first purpose was nullified when it became law that teachers must have high school diplomas. The second decreased when Western made arrangements with the City of Kalamazoo to send its students there for their directed teaching experience.

That is what 'U' High was. Now the school is at a pivotal point in its history. What will it become? An experimental school, perhaps? If so, the experimentation will probably be in teaching methods and content of class studies.

What will happen, no one knows. It is almost certain that there will be change of some sort. It reminds me a little of the Roulette Wheel at the Fair: " 'Round an' 'round an' 'round she goes, an' where she stops, nobody knows."

—Rosemary Siwick
The preceding material was gathered from the Fiftieth Anniversary Highlights and from a personal interview with Miss Eunice Kraft.