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State Highlights 5/19/1954

Western State High School

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State Highlights

Volume XV

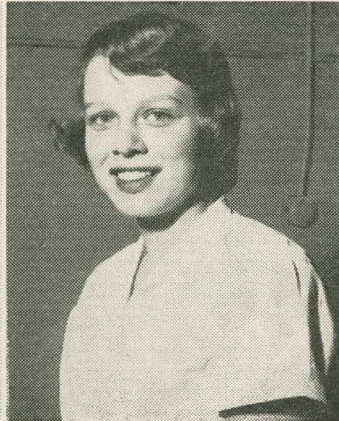
Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 19, 1954

Number 12

Swoap Elected; 1954-1955 Plans Progress



David Swoap
President



Lois Fuller
Vice-President



Mary Lou Spitters
Secretary



Bob Beisel
Treasurer

COMING EVENTS

- May 21—Parents' night at Canteen
- May 24—Assembly at 12:30, Sports Awards; All-school Picnic
- May 25—Forensics Assembly; 9:00 A.M., Little Theatre
- May 27—Concert by choir and band—Women's Gym
- May 28—All-sports Banquet
- May 31—Memorial Day Holiday
- June 1—Honors Assembly—2:00 p.m. Walwood
- June 2—Senior Banquet; 7:00 p.m., Schensul's Cafeteria

Honors Day Assembly

The honors assembly, most dignified and traditional of all school assemblies, will take place on June 1 at 2:00 in Walwood Ballroom. Parents of all the students are invited.

This assembly honors those students who through scholarships and achievement have earned recognition.

Those to be honored include officers, Cabinet members and others on the Student Council; staff members of the **Highlights** and **Highlander**; monitors; homeroom and class presidents. Also to be recognized are members of the choir and band; Forensics members who won District and Regional Awards; Library Service personnel; and high scholarship students in special fields. There are also individual awards to seniors and recipients of scholarships.

This assembly also will feature the installation of new Student Council.

Fuller, Spitters, Beisel Capture Other Posts

As Student Council elections have formally subsided after last week, the newly elected officers have begun to formulate plans for the 1954-55 school year. These officers, Dave Swoap, President; Lois Fuller, Vice-President; Mary Lou Spitters, Secretary; Bob Beisel, Treasurer, will take their oath of office at the Honors Day assembly June 1. With the exception of Bob, a sophomore, all of the officers are juniors at the present time.

Varied Events Climax Year

A major item on the seniors' list of commencement activities will be held on June 2 at 7:00 P.M. This, the Senior Banquet, will feature the theme, "Ten Years From Now." Carrying out this idea will be the decoration committee, headed by Janet Hughes.

The entertainment committee, under the direction of Don Kilgore, has planned an interesting, diversified program. As the class treasury has appropriated \$50 toward the banquet, individual expense has been cut to \$1.25 per person.

The all-school picnic will be held May 24 at Long Lake. There will be a baseball game with Vicksburg plus other entertainment. The committees are: Publicity — Joan Harback; Food — Jim Causey, Don Kilgore, and Jim Elsmann; Entertainment—Jim Brown. Don Kilgore is general chairman.

Parents' night at the canteen will be held Friday, May 21, from 8:30 to 11:30. There will be a reception committee plus student guides. State High and Central will each have ten guides. The committee chairmen consist of Jiggs Harbour as general chairman, Lois Fuller, reception, and Bob Harvey of Central, guides.

In their respective campaign speeches Tuesday, May 11, the candidates pledged to join with the present officers in outlining a program for the coming year. One of the major problems that the winning four wish to study is that of the financial program. In addition, President-elect Swoap and his three co-workers plan to confer with the present members of the Cabinet to discuss plans for revision of that body for next year.

The four new officers journeyed to Buchanan today for a conference of the Cooperative Association of Southwestern Michigan Student Councils. This meeting was scheduled for the purpose of selecting officers for the regional group.

European Trek Foreseen

According to present plans, the administration is sponsoring a trip to Europe for State High students in August, 1955. Although permanent plans are not yet complete, a temporary agenda calls for a 30 day trip through England, France, and Belgium at an approximate cost of \$600 for each person. Traveling is to be by steamer, with trains and buses in Europe.

Tidbits

by Fritz

Spring is BUSTIN' out all over—and the wealthier students are riding around town with the tops down on their convertibles—NEAT!

Who are the HOODS that persist in rapping on the door and waving during Creative Writing class? Matt Peelen is suspected of being number one culprit!

Check the STRANGE NOISE in 11:00 government. Last week it was a tuba playing "Humoresque" in the next room and the week before it was some horn-happy individual who honked his horn only when Mr. Jerse opened his mouth.

Jim Boylan's latest boat-racing TROPHY was Jerry Hawkins. GLASSES, ANYONE?

NOT SO GOOD—The last inter-school dance wasn't all it should've been. How about YOU being there the next time to get all mixed up with the other schools?

Hear tell that one of State's students, "TONY CAMPANELLI," is finally being investigated by the F.B.I. A well known senator may be called in later.

WHO DUN IT? One clever student of Mr. Weber's didn't have his assignment done, so he hid all the rest of his fellow students' papers until his was done. Then mysteriously enough the whole stack appeared right there on Mr. Weber's desk.

WHAT NEXT? Mr. Walters is now teaching judo to the girls in his classes in the hope that some guy will "fall" for them.

CALIFORNIA, HERE I COME—Mrs. Gladys Rowe, homemaking teacher, who will attend a national home economics meeting there this summer.

Next year's STUDENT COUNCIL looks like it's going to be just as good as this year's. CONGRATS to Dave, Lois, Mary Lou, and Bob and to the new committee chairmen. You all have tough jobs ahead, but you folks can do it.

CHECK THE BRAINS in the Senior Class. Scholarships are being handed out all over. Big announcements will be made at the Honors Assembly.

VANTASSEL does it again! Now it's a pair of shocking fuschia trousers. Get rid of them, Van, we liked the red suit better!

Who Is My Neighbor?

I am America with rolling hills, deep valleys, tropical paradises, numerous bodies of water, and steep, picturesque mountains. I am surrounded by the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, with Canada and Mexico to the north and the south. I am your America, a nation of free people, a power in the world.

In my position I find myself looking in all directions and vitally concerned with affairs in the remotest parts of the globe. Through the United Nations and through defense plans I have committed myself to resist aggression whenever it may threaten. My people are always quick to defend their rights and respect the rights of other nations. I am ready to stand guard and protect any of my allies.

Yet, who is my neighbor? In World War II Russia was my ally. We fought side by side, hand in hand. Today we are no longer close friends, but coolly neighborly. What about Europe. Is she really my neighbor? Yes, I'm her neighbor; she can come to me to borrow sugar, but can I go to her?

Children get acquainted more readily than older folks, for they are not hampered by prejudices and social barriers. Many times when neighborhood children play together it gives their families a common interest, the essential for unity, and they find themselves through their children drawn together to friendship. That is what must be done. My children must play and work with those of other nations and bring to us parents, the slaves of social, nationalistic traditions, a motivation for world unity. If only we could trust each other and join hands in the United Nations, for it is only through this door in New York that I, America, will find the answer, to the question, who is my neighbor?
—Susan Locke

And It's Short?

I don't have an I.Q. four points below Einstein, so I am not original enough to invent my own breed of note-taking. Therefore, I placed myself under Coach Chance to learn the art of shorthand. Now Mr. Chance guaranteed it to be simple, fast, pretty to see, and more dependable than basketball teams. I found it to be arduous, nerve-racking, slow, illegible, and blurry. His comment: "You just don't push your pen!"

And so I begin all over. Open the book to page two, hold it with one hand while flipping the notebook to a clean place, holding both of them with elbows while unscrewing the cover on the pen. THEN—he begins, "Dear Sir: I appreciate your—"

"How do you write appreciate," I mutter to my leaky pen. When I finally decide to forget that word, I hear him close with "Yours very truly,—now YOU read that back to me."

After failing this attempt, I am always sent to the corner to at least try to decipher the odd little pictures in the book. After looking at the first three symbols, I decide they closely resemble two chairs facing each other with a small rug behind. It was explained to me that this was a sentence containing five words. I then suggested it would be best to assign the glossary to me for homework—then others could read the shorthand and I could spout the English translation.

You Habeas My Corpus!

Various "don'ts" were signed into State High statutes recently by President Roy C. Bryan. The Honorable William Jerse, Male Majority Leader, and the Honorable Miss G. L. Crisman, Female Majority Leader, inaugurated the bills and influenced their passing both Houses.

In effect, here are what the laws say:

Anyone caught moving in the halls of the Education Building exceeding the speed of five miles per hour will be apprehended and charged with the misdemeanor of "speeding and unnecessary negligence." Mrs. Monroe has been authorized to purchase an electrical timer, consisting of "two trip cords" and a stop watch, to enforce this law.

Anyone apprehended while in the process of "snooping" in or about teachers' desks, office files, or other property which does not concern him, shall be guilty of burglary or "grand larceny," both felonies.

Anyone guilty of, or engaging in owning an untidy locker, disturbing the peace and quiet of an orderly classroom, or challenging the stated facts of a teacher, shall be accused of disorderly conduct!

Anyone who, with the intent to defraud, materially alters a writing which, if it were genuine, would have legal force or signs the name of another to a State High library permit, shall be guilty of forgery, a serious felony.

Thinlies Win Regionals; Try for State Win

As We See It

Two more trophies are on their way with the Conference and Regional track titles. Who knows what Walters and his boys will do next, maybe win the State? . . . Congratulations to Tony Nieboer, Bob Miles, Pete Parker, and John Warfield who not only broke the school record again, but also broke the Regional 880 yd. relay record . . . It's good to see Jim VanTassel is going to the State Meet again this year. Captain VanTassel, who had difficulty recovering from an illness, came thru Saturday with a second in the broad jump . . . Brooks Godfrey led the way Saturday with a 79 for a tie with Three Rivers for Regional Golf honors. The trophy was won by Three Rivers in a play-off afterwards, but Godfrey, Joe Shepherd, Jim Rock and Dave Britigan will be out to avenge them in the State Match at Port Huron this weekend. It might be mentioned that in the past the top teams in this region have usually finished the same in the State . . . The tennis team plays this week to decide the Conference crown before entering a comparatively easy Regional tournament Friday and Saturday. There is hope for a State championship after downing last year's champs, Holland Christian . . . We've two home run hitters so far this year in Gordie Berkousen and Bob Miles, each with a total of one.

Sebaly Voices Net Hopes

"Our chances are better than average, barring unforeseen incidents, for taking the Conference tennis crown. Of course, our major goal is to walk off with a regional and possibly a state crown. Pat Ryan and Larry Littig are our top singles threats in the regionals. Our most coveted conquest this year was our 4-3 victory over Kalamazoo Central."

That statement was made by Jon Sebaly, captain of this year's powerful tennis squad. The handsome 5'10" senior was very optimistic about the tennis aspirations for this year and said the first position in the conference would aid our school very much in our quest for the All-Sports Trophy.

Dinner To Fete Athletes

The All-Sports Banquet will be held Friday night, May 28, at Schenul's Cafeteria. Representatives from the *Gazette* and the two local radio stations will be on hand along with the boys and their dads. Each boy who has participated during this past year is invited free of charge, and tickets for the fathers are available at a cost to be announced later.

Baseball Team Shares Lead With Portage

Coach Stevens' diamond club, displaying little of their early season form, have played just mediocre ball for their last half dozen games and now find themselves in a deadlock with Portage for the Conference title. The Bruins' 5-2 record in the conference and 3-2 non-league mark combine for an overall record of 8 victories and 4 defeats.

Allegan, a team that was blanked by the Cubs earlier this year, squeaked out a 7-6 win last Thursday in ten frames. The Hilltoppers held the lead on three separate occasions, but couldn't stave off the rallies of the determined Tigers. In the tenth inning the Cubs virtually put the game on ice with a three run cushion, but back stormed the Tigers with four runs in their half of the tenth for the win. Harbour took the loss for State High, allowing Allegan twelve safeties. Parker, Berkousen, and Britigan chipped in two bingos each for the losing cause.

On the eleventh of May, the Cubs unleashed a hitting attack, which blasted South Haven 9-3. Bob Miles led the slugging parade with three hits, while Berkousen and Britigan contributed two each. One of Berkousen's blows, a grand-slam homer, sewed things up for State Hi in the sixth inning. "Jiggs" Harbour went the first three frames on the mound and Guy Hess twirled the final four.

In a non-league contest, State Hi edged an upstart Kellogg nine, 3-2. It was not until the final inning that the Bruins won the fray, with Al Glendening squeezing Bob Britigan home for the margin of victory.

Golf Team Heads For Port Huron

In the regional golf contest last Saturday, State High's undefeated linksters came through with a tie for first place. The Cub team qualifies to journey to Port Huron for the state meet Saturday. Brooks Godfrey, Joel Shepherd, Dave Britigan, and Jim Rock leave tomorrow to make the trip. In the regionals, Godfrey topped the team with a 79, while Shepherd was close behind with an 81.

Under the expert piloting of Coach Walt Biber, pro at the Kalamazoo Country Club, the golf team has erased last year's winless season with the unblemished column of wins this season. The Cubs defeated Dowagiac 12-4 in their last match, and Godfrey again had the low score of the meet.

Nine Men Travel To Lansing Saturday

After twice upsetting the odds to cop both conference and regional titles, Coach Roy Walters has a select group of his thinlies primed for the state meet this Saturday at Lansing.

Amazing is one of many adjectives that fall far short of describing the track men's success. Rated only a question mark team at the season's start, the Cubs are presently undefeated in duel meets. At the famed Hastings Relays they finished a close second to defending state champion Battle Creek Lakeview. Also they performed quite ably in the Class A studded John Bos relays. Then with a bevy of dashmen and great strength in the field events the Cubs cleaned up the Conference meet. Last Saturday a fitting climax for the entire team was reached. Using the same victory formula as in the conference, the Walters men ran away from Big Four Champs Niles and this time Battle Creek Lakeview.

Among the qualifiers for the state meet are; John Warfield 100 and 220 yard dashes, Jim VanTassel, broad jump; Joe Scott, high jump; Larry Miller, 880 yard run; and both the medley and 880 yard relay teams. The Cubs more than likely won't be top heavy favorites in this meet. However, with Walters coaching and the boys coming through with sensational clutch performances, don't be surprised if next Monday there is a State Championship trophy in the halls.

Netters Eye State Crown

Not to be outdone by other spring sports teams, the State High tennis team is posting an enviable record against an unenviable schedule. Yesterday's final Wolverine match was with Plainwell, and the netters have been undefeated in conference play. More outstanding are the non-conference matches, though. After losing the opener to Class "A" Holland Central, the Cubs romped over such opposition as "6A" leader Kalamazoo Central, defending state class "B" champion Holland Christian, and Big Four power Dowagiac.

Sophomore Larry Littig, Pat Ryan, and Al Wise have been the big individual guns thus far. Mike Palmer, Jon Scott, Pete Platt, Don Neal, Don Flower, and Jon Sebaly hope to back the big three up to knock over all opposition this Friday and Saturday in the regional meet. Littig, Palmer, and Neal will be the Cub singles entrants in the big meet. Flowers and Sebaly, Wise and Ryan, Scott and Platt will make up the all important doubles teams.

Ethereal Prognostications

As a new season of the year nears, the stars chuckled to themselves and began thinking up the futures that they would provide in the horoscopes of all of the earth mortals, including the students on the Hilltop.

On advance information from **HOROSCOPE**, May, 1954, the following students are to be given "the word for today" according to their birthdays. Advice to Gerry Green, May 25, Don Marshall, May 26, Mary Louise Kaercher, May 30, Frank Simonds, June 1, Bryce Forester, June 9, Alice Osterberg, June 11, Marilyn Brink, June 15, and Dick Schreiber, June 17: Do your utmost to win cooperation and help from others who are not in a position to go it alone at the moment. Wait for them to make vital moves.

Exam Cram

Now that exams are once more almost upon us, many of the nights in these weeks will be spent in study. After closing the Latin book for the fast time or doing the last algebra problem, most of the saner ones among us will manage to retire to the soft comfort of their beds at 1:30 or 2:00 in the morning.

But often sleep doesn't come. Formulas for physics and chemistry go swimming through your head. You try to push them out, but all you can think of is square roots, subjunctives, theorems, the Civil War, social problems, assets and liabilities, the rules for safe diving, or the representative system of government. You turn over in anguish, and try counting sheep. But for some strange and unknown reason, all of the faces of the sheep resemble teachers jumping at you, clutching 30 page exams.

Many of such troubled students try their own personal method of combating insomnia. They produce ice bags, night shades, foam rubber pillows, ear plugs, and other similar sleeping devices. But they have not thought of the one **sure** cure for insomnia due to overstudy. Not only will you be able to sleep, but no nightmares will come your way.

As in all modern miracles of science, this method has one drawback. It can only be used before exams. It cannot be guaranteed that it will be successful after exams. This wonderful solution to all of your insomnia problems will completely stop all visions of school objects. For this solution is simply: **DON'T STUDY AT ALL.**

As has been stated before, this may occasionally result in recurring nightmares after exams. One of the most common complaints is that all of the objects in these nightmares are shaped like "E's." Strange . . . !

Make note of this, Barb Born, July 2, Henry Gaylord, July 3, Ellen Davis, July 7, Sandra Spann, July 8, Larry Littig, July 18, Martha Braden, July 19: The evening is your best time for getting good ideas on how to finish work or business. Folks dependent upon you will be in your thoughts now.

As for another group, a change of heart is occurring, which will prove beneficial in relation to folks around you. Events provide you a bit of liberty, so enjoy yourself, Richard Howson, August 1, Merton Norman, Margaret Borton, and Gary Birch, August 4, Don Flower, August 10, Andy Walton, August 11, Judy Hayward, August 13, Dan Ward, August 16, and John Curren, August 22.

Of Present, Future Interest

In honor of Miss Elsie Bender, who is retiring this year from teaching in the Campus Elementary School, a tea is being given on Wednesday, May 26.

All former students of Miss Bender are cordially invited to attend this event, which is to be held in the Davis Room, Walwood Hall, from one to four in the afternoon.

The choir has just given two scholarships to Interlochen for this summer to Joan Stimpson and George Peelen. Congrats, Kids ! ! !

Pete Parker, '56 has been selected to attend Wolverine Boys State at Lansing, June 17-24.

At camp the boys have a typical State government situation in order to learn the practical functions of public office.

The choir and the band are going to give a combined concert on Thursday, May 27, in the Women's Gym to honor the seniors. Invitations will be sent to the parents, but everyone is invited to come.

Officers for 1954-55 were recently elected in the Math Club and heading the group for next year will be Mike Palmer, president; Bob Beisel, vice-president; Libby Davis, secretary; and Tom Elias, treasurer.

The 1954 edition of the State High literary magazine, **The High Light**, will be ready for sale by the end of May.

Featured in this will be short stories, humor, poetry, and essays.

You will want to have a copy to keep, so order yours now. Price will be 25 cents.

EDGEin' Around

Here I am again with some news of the gang that clutters the halls of our "little" school.

Don Moss made a "boo-boo" a little back when he roared past a certain car. Later he found out that the certain car was Miss Cleveland's. Chalk up another ! ! !

Bev Fender and Tony Nieboer are very buddy-buddy as of late. Way to be, kids . . . The closer the better, you know ! ! !

There's a certain triangle in this school consisting of Connie Kuizenga, Sherla Jennings and Don Neal. Hey, Don . . . hadn't you better choose between the two of them ? ? ?

Jiggs Harbcur chauffeured Joanie Parkes home from a party the other nite. Have a good time . . . ? No doubt you did !

Some of the senior guys have been seen in the outlying 'till' areas of Vicksburg, Plainwell and Richland. What's the attraction, fellas . . . as if we didn't know ? ? ?

Bob Harback and Pat Lynch have been having lively conversations lately. One must have been real lively since he asked her to the Prom.

What's the deal with Bob Britigan and Cathy Myers ? ? ? A rather new couple, aren't they?

Mr. Walters joined the ranks of Mr. Taylor . . . now he found lipstick on his collar. Pretty sneaky!

John Warfield really took his time one day in government when Mr. Jerse called him for an errand. It seems that his "catty" key chain got caught on the chair when he hurried to get up. That won't rate an "A" . . .

Pat Ryan and Ann Bergderfer have finally ironed out their difficulties. They're back together again . . . seems real good, doesn't it?

Carol Hartman and Jon Sebaly are mighty cozy these days . . . Could develop into something. Maybe it has . . . who knows?

Seems that Rob Graff broke up with his Central gal when she "flubbed" (?) on a book report for him. Huh—what's this? That's a reason?

Congrats to Diane Pullan for being pinned at last to Tom! Have you set the date yet ? ? ?

Tom Elias was put on the spot in the elections . . . seems he used to go with Darlene Chapin yet he turned out to be Tom Howson's campaign manager. Ummmmmm yea!

What four band members got stuck in a cemetery of all places and almost didn't make it to the band concert at Paw Paw? It was during the day yet!

We see that Gary Forsleff and Zoe Gideon are being seen together again after a long time. Glad to see it!

Quotation of the week: "A secret is something you tell one person at a time." You know . . . that is really true.