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State Highlights 3/29/1944

Western State High School

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State Highlights

VOLUME VI

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, MARCH 29, 1944

NUMBER 9

Debaters To Enter State Finals April 21

New Building Plans Underway

The recent release of the preliminary plans for a new high school building to house State High has brought to at least the underclassmen of the school an added reason for hoping that the war will be over soon. This issue is one in which the underclassmen have it over the older students in that they will be much more likely to see and benefit from this project than will the juniors and seniors. The plans were made known simultaneously with the announcement that Western Michigan College has secured the long nine of Arcadia golf course to be used as a site for recreational projects and a new training school building, which is to front old U.S.-12 on the golf course.

This building, which will be used for nursery and training school, as well as the high school, will be constructed as soon as possible after the war is over and building restrictions are lifted. After the architect has submitted the first plans, the faculty will have a chance to make any changes it may deem necessary in the departments.

Special features of the new building will be an all-school cafeteria, and special rooms for music, art, home economics, industrial arts, and speech. There is also to be an auditorium, and a radio system by which every room is connected to a central radio. Insofar as possible, the nursery and grade school will be housed on the first floor with the high school on the other floors. The school will have facilities for 700 students.

Dr. Sangren Honors School

"When you are the hammer, strike," was the theme of a speech given by Dr. Paul V. Sangren, President of Western Michigan College, when he spoke at the Monitor Luncheon held on the 15th of this month. The whole speech emphasized the fact that many people ask for responsibility on some committee or other, and, when given the chance, completely fail to take any part in the activity. He stated that the ones who are wanted on the committee are the ones who really work.

Dr. Sangren praised the Monitor system in the school, and said that he found that the system has worked out very well.



Red Cross Dance To Be at Walwood

What keeps students from coming to games, dances, and plays at State High? The fellows and girls keep asking for more dances and school activities, but when a committee spends several weeks planning one, only about one-third or one-half of the student body turns up.

By sponsoring a Red Cross Benefit Dance March 31 at 8:30 in Walwood, the Student Council decided to give one more chance to show school spirit. The V-12 orchestra will furnish the music for dancing as they did at the War Bond Dance. For the first time, the Men's Union will be open to State High students so that any who don't wish to dance may play ping pong, or billiards, drink cokes, or just sit and talk.

The committee urges that outsiders be brought, since all that is necessary is the getting of a guest slip from the office.

It is important that many students attend this dance not only for the benefit of the Red Cross but also to prove that students at State High have as much school spirit and school pride as any school.

The committee in charge is headed by Phyllis Smith and includes Hope Thezelius, Barbara Glendenning, Bob Gleason, Adele Kuempel and Bil Gilbert. Mr. Frank Householder and Mr. Donald Dolan are the faculty advisers.

CALENDAR

April 10—Marks for the third period.
April 25—Election assembly.

Negative Wins At Ludington

By defeating the Ludington High School debate team on Friday, March 25 at Ludington, State High became one of two schools in Michigan still contending for the State Championship in debating. Coached by Mr. George E. Mills, Bil Gilbert and Paula Harrington were victorious over Ludington's affirmative team as they debated before a capacity audience in the Center Theater.

The team's next debate will be on April 21 in Hill Auditorium at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The debaters have won three trophies and a wall plaque for the school, and the debaters themselves will be presented with gold watches by the University of Michigan. This is the first time since 1921 that this honor has been won by State High debate teams.

The semi-final debate was a close one, as was evidenced by the fact that the judges voted two to one in favor of State High. Those judging the contest were Mrs. Eva Hampton, Battle Creek; Dr. Paul Bagwell of Michigan State College, and Dr. Wilbur Moore of Central State Teachers College. The debaters for Ludington were Richard Lund and Donald Keith.

All four debaters, Bil Gilbert, Don Griffith, Paula Harrington and Bill Shumaker, accompanied by Mrs. G. R. Harrington and Mr. Mills, made the trip to Ludington on Thursday, March 22, and the debate was held on the following afternoon.

Sophs' Plans Sizzle

Rasputin Fuddleduddy and Count Alucard will be the honored guest speakers when the sophomores present their assembly on April 25. The theme of the program will be "The Perfect Sophomores" which will be a take-off on the poll published on page 2 of this issue of Highlights. Music will be presented by Franklin Fulton. The committee in charge of the assembly is Dunlap Clark, chairman; Jim Ralston, Margretta Burdick, Hank Berry and Bill Ryan.

Highlander Proofs Needed

Members of the Highlander staff are hard at work on the annual. Everything is going on schedule, but Bill Shumaker, photography editor, says, "There will be no pictures in the Highlander unless proofs are turned in to Slocum Brothers by Friday."

State Highlights

The STATE HIGHLIGHTS is published biweekly by the students of
Western State High School

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Results of Research

A lot of people knew that Grant was a drunkard. A few know that Shakespeare was a rootin' tootin' old gent, but few of us realize that we are the inmates of the most wonderful architectural phenomenon facing east on Davis Street.

This fact was brought home to me just the other day. My only friend visited me. He is from Ann Arbor and so naturally he couldn't fail to appreciate the beauties of the countryside. I, of course, thought he would notice the symphonic melodies that come with our trolleys, but when he remarked on the excellent location of our water fountain, I was flabbergasted. "My," he said, "It is just one hundred forty-one steps down and three steps up from the barracks and one hundred forty-four steps from the 'Cheerio.'" My friend went on to say, "Why, the steps themselves are the work of a mathematical genius. How did he make them just far enough apart that you stub your toe on every other one? Besides that, you have the most beautiful opaque windows. There are seven-hundred thirty-one panes on the west side of the Administration building alone. Nice place you have here."

Golly, I never realized all that before. The only artistic things I noticed were the column in 219 and the fact that those in front of the study hall windows looked like giant iron bars. Why, there are so many things about this school we don't know. I'd give a dollar to anyone who could tell me off-hand how many bricks there are on the front wall of the library. I bet if you looked, you could find out even more important things. That's what's nice about this school. It's different from the ordinary run of life where there are no opportunities and everything is so blasted regular.

—Don Griffith.

Ideal Sophomore Boy and Girl Poll

Intelligence	Tom Hickmott	Gisela Keck
Personality	Bill Ryan	Mary DeLano
Popularity	Bill Ryan	Gretta Burdick
School Spirit	Bob Burns	Carolyn Mitchell
Artistic Ability	Jim Powell	Gisela Keck
Musical Ability	Franklin Fulton	Carolyn Mitchell
Dancing Ability	Bill Ryan	Gretta Burdick
Humor	Bob Burns	Shirlee Chapin
Hair	Henry Berry	Nancy Kesler
Eyes	Bob Burns	Lorraine Donoghue
Nose	Lloyd Fowler	Nancy Clement
Smile	Jim Mateer	Mary DeLano
Complexion	Harold Upjohn	Carolyn Welp
Mouth	Jack Stiles	Joanne Scougale
Voice	Jim Ralston	Lola Cheyne
Legs	Harold Upjohn	Pat Sipperly
Figure	Jim Ralston	Lola Cheyne
Clothes	Henry Berry	Gretta Burdick

George

This is to introduce a new personage in the State High scene, George by name. He is rather a queer sort of a whatchamacallit; in fact, he isn't even strictly human. George migrated to State High from the Sahara Desert, a spot he was forced to vacate because of a certain amount of ill feeling stirred up in this area by Mr. Eisenhower and Herr Rommel some time back. George picked State High as his new home because many of the conditions here so closely resemble those he just left.

George is used to large blasts of hot air and he was assured he would find these here; also he is used to the sound of sandstorms, toppling pyramids and other such loud noises. When he first looked in on the halls of State, he was heard distinctly to remark to a nearby monitor, quote, "Home," unquote.

George is rather an inquisitive fellow, as can be readily seen when you happen to notice that he has seven and a half eyes, plus a three-foot nose. Because of these traits of inquisitiveness, George has been making some rather pertinent comments upon the State High school life. At the time we have only one of these gems to pass on. It is his remark upon the figure that the Hon. Dunlap Clark cut as he strode magnificently down the halls. Said our friend, "There ain't no such animal."

But enough of this chatter. We hope to run several stories regarding George and his antics in the near future. One fact that we forgot to mention is that on Monday mornings George is always a pale green color, takes after some of our student body, it seems. Also, we hope to get a picture of George next time.

Mr. Five by Five

This week the subject under discussion is one Mr. Leonard Gernant — a well-known individual around here by dint of his history classes, and an especially prominent figure in the boys' daily activities. "Lennie," as his more intimate associates call him (he adores this cognomen) is a versatile creature and thus we find him equally at home playing house with mud-pies or debating the possibilities of George Washington having worn pink garters rather than blue as is generally thought.

Like the armadillo and wolf, "Lennie," too, has methods of protecting himself from the advances of his tumultuous admirers (although it's admitted that he doesn't wear his armor often or show his fangs in public) namely, a barbed-wire picket fence to which is attached a delicate alarm system.

We leave you now with pleasant contemplations of this mysterious, omnipotent character, who has risen to be the Supreme Commander's aide de camp, literally, by pulling himself up by his own teeth. Friends, we give you now Mr. Gernant for safe-keeping.

What Say!

By BIL GILBERT

We were glancing over the copy and we see that Martha still persists in her rather infantile attitude in writing that masterpiece of something or other, The Cubbette News. Its purpose was accomplished for the first time it was printed. We, the boys, as the more sensible part of State High, now realize what silly things go on behind the scenes. We ask no more; let this idle chatter cease, enough.

Here's a short round-up of things going on in the Spring sports field: **Track**—They are still searching for some kind of a pole vaulter — until now no such luck. Bill Ryan whipped off another lap in fifteen flat the other night and Andy and Boomer had themselves quite a 440 sprint. The comic angle was added when Dave Auxter took a corner too fast and fell flat on his well-known profile. The hole in the track was sufficiently filled in with gravel and other such things so that operations could be resumed.

Baseball is just getting under way and the practices aren't quite so violent as track. Yet it has been reported that Chuck Peterson, a pitching prospect, was having a bit of trouble with his control. Seems like he almost tore Bill Perrin's leg off. I guess we'll excuse it this time, though, seeing that Chuck hails from the wild state of Oklahoma. Other pitching prospects for this year are Bob Kistler and Stan Chase. Bob is the only one of the trio with any experience on last year's team where he alternated splitting the pitching chores with Hank Grifeon. Gordy White has been showing up well in practice and it looks as if he might give last year's regular catcher, Dick Husted, a fight for the catcher's spot. At pitcher the team seems to have quite a lot of experienced material. Returning men from last year's team are Harry Parker, Bill Lee, Bill Watson, Bill Cox, Bill Perrin (pretty popular name, that Bill), Bob Burns.

A \$64.00 Answer

Remember a few weeks ago when "What Say" asked for five sports not requiring the use of a ball or any form of ball? Well, Amy Lou Brown, well-known to the girls as one of the stars of the famed "Team One," went to work and compiled the following list:

Roller skating, fencing, cross country sprints, shell racing, track, sailing, ice skating, tobogganing, swimming, pole vaulting, horse racing, all card games, boxing, wrestling, dog racing, riding, canoeing, calisthenics, matching pennies, chess and checkers, diving, auto racing, flying, and shooting.

Which takes care of the subject rather well, don't you think? Thanks, Amy!

Sportsters Scrutinized

By R. M. SSUANKXOC, ESQ.

Again the members of the sports staff of the Highlights think it wise to broach the subjects of spring sports, this time, however, in a slightly different form—that is, write-ups of some of the major returning letter men. Well, here goes:

First on the list is an esteemed student of our fair school in the personage of Bill Watson (no less), the president of the Student Council. Bill immigrated to the school as a sophomore. That year he went out for football and received a reserve award. Last year he tried baseball at right field and received his varsity letter. Already this year he has received a football letter and hopes are again high for baseball.

Number Two on our list is Harold Upjohn. Though young in years, Mr. Upjohn is by no means lacking in ability. As a freshman he did a good job at reserve football and basketball, but his outstanding achievement came at the sport of tennis. In his first year, he nailed down the No. 2 position and did a splendid job. During the summer, he showed even further proof of his merit by being rated first in the boys' tournament both in Michigan and the Midwest as well as ninth in the entire United States.

Next we have that esteemed "character" and man-about-town, William Miller. William hails from the side of the tracks known as Woodward, from where he came as a sophomore. His first year here he went out for basketball and golf, getting a letter as number three man in the latter. He has been out for golf ever since, and doing a splendid job of holding down his position. This year, with the graduation of Hanna and Hicks, last year's No. 1 and 2 men, he will undoubtedly move up to No. 1. As the No. 4 man of last year, Dean Ruple, also graduated. William is very liable to be the main spring of the teams,

Another of our esteemed letter-winners is Bob Espie. He distinguished himself quite well last year as number one singles man on the tennis squad where he did all right for himself. Bob also entered the State Junior Tennis Tournament where he defeated all rivals except Harold Upjohn, a team mate, and was ranked second in the state only to Upjohn.

Next we come to that speedy individual Ted Lawrence, a three letter winner in track. Ted had a little trouble with a certain rival from Three Rivers who finally graduated. But don't let this go against Ted, for he defeated this rival in the 220-yard dash last year in a dual meet.

From here we look to baseball and see Bill Lee whom you all know as a hard charging, pile-driving fullback

Cubette News

By MARTHA DE LANO

The tennis, baseball, and badminton season is rapidly approaching, and all members of the classes are eagerly looking forward to these sports. Aside from the wise few who have a special drawer for tennis balls, the net enthusiasts are rummaging through closets and cupboards searching for balls, racquets, presses, sun-tan lotion, and all the other necessary impedimenta, while the baseball fans are digging out their catchers' mitts and limbering up "that ol' pitchin' arm." All in all, the indications are that this is going to be a busy spring season for the girls and Cubette News will do its humble best to keep up with them.

Late Bulletins from the Calisthenics Corps

We were right—the track audience has increased! And shows no signs of falling off either (although everyone thought the debaters would all join the girls on the floor any moment, Monday, they were leaning over so far!).

Who was responsible for that awful mix-up during the "countermarching" last Wednesday? Rumor has it that Mary DeLano was at the bottom of it. Could be!

The ten o'clock gym class is the victim of the expending of Judy Ogden's and Becky Fuller's excess energies! Girls, you have our sympathy.

(Continued from Col. 2)

from the football team. Bill spent a good deal of time last year roaming in outfield of various baseball parks. Not only was he a first rate performer in the field, but he was the team's slugger, batting in the clean-up position.

Next on the baseball list we see versatile Bill Perrin. We need hardly mention the name before one thinks of the lanky, pass-catching end on the football team or that flashy center on the cage squad. But Bill does not stop there. He uses his height to good advantage, stopping throws from all directions at first base. Also this year, Bill is out for the tennis squad where he shows promise. He also numbers in his accomplishments running the half-mile for the track squad last year.

Last, but far from least, we come to Mark Thompson. "Boomer," it will be remembered, was wingback on the football squad and also played good ball for the cagers. "Boomer" is better known for his accomplishments on the cinder track, for the last year he took first place in the regional 440 yard dash. This year "Pa Boomer" is raring to get into that State meet and it will surely be hard keeping him from it.

True Confessions

Dear kind Friends: I am just a harmless little blue box with a pad-lock. I sit quietly on a bench in the hall and molest no one and yet, what is my reward for receiving your contributions to your paper? You shake me and hit me and even try to break my lock. Please don't. I've got to last the Highlights for years! And you may be sure that nothing which might injure you or your reputation will get past the censor's scissors. The Ed and I are on very good terms and I'll ask her to be very careful what she puts in the paper. It would make me so happy if I could just sit on my bench all day eating your little pieces of paper with the writing on them and never have to wonder who's going to shake me up next. Is it too much to ask? I hope not.

CLASSIFIED ADS

You Name It? We Got It.

FOUND: A billfold containing \$25 and a new C book, but bearing no name. Anybody interested see us.

WANTED: Information concerning one Robert Laydon, whose address has been circulating through the school. Anyone who knows anything about Mr. Laydon, who hails from Iron Mountain, Michigan, will kindly so advise the Ed.

Thanks!

FOR SALE: Three good gym suits. People seem to like our new ones better.

Steve, Snuffy, and Shanks.

FOR SALE: One briefcase with built-in brains. See Tom Hickmott.

WANTED: Ride to and/or from Benton Harbor anytime. Dave Crawford. (Persistent boy!—Ed.).

WANTED: Two pairs of roller skates capable of doing 15 miles per week-day and 50 or 60 on week-ends. The DeLanos.

LOST: One heart, slightly used. Several small cracks and one rather large one. Doris Krudener.

FOUND: One comb showing no signs of use. Will Bil Gilbert kindly come around and identify.

LOST: Fifty-three test tubes, sixteen glass bottles, thirty-one corks, and twelve rubber tubes. Mr. Greenlee.

FOUND: One body, time of death undetermined. Ask for further information at the cashier's desk in the soda bar.

WANTED: One orchestra for the rapidly approaching Spring Formal. June Albertson.

Lowlights

FROM THE HIGHLIGHTS BOX

The 2:30 English class has its own pin-up girl. Bil, Bill, and Don will tell you all about it. They are unanimously madly in love with her.

Overheard in the locker room when Jim Ralston reported for baseball:

Coach: Say, Jim, you look a little under the weather. Have you been smoking or drinking?

Jim: No, Coach.

Coach: Staying up late or going out nights?

Jim: No, Coach.

Coach: Studying?

Jim: Well, a little, Coach.

Coach: Cut it out—do you want to ruin the team's chances?

It seems that some of the State High boys have turned to Central for dates. Why the sudden change?

"Time Marches On" seems to be a favorite greeting for several students here. What's behind it all?

Have you noticed the stylish Sophomore Slump? Jack Stiles and Kent Aach.

What does Yvonne Moshier call Lloyd Fowler?

What do Margretta and Company do at noon besides eat and walk?

"East is east, and West is west, and never the twain shall meet."

"East is east, and West is west, and you can't get a 'twain' going either way."

The Sophomores must really be something! Even the Seniors are interested in them. How about that, Jane and Barb?

Say, Espie, keep up the good work, and hold on tight! There are some others who think that Gladys is pretty swell.

It seems to be the general consensus of opinion that the S.S.S. Club should be changed to the S.O.S. Club. They need help!

Has anyone heard who the giggling sisters are? Just listen—they're still around.

And some brilliant writer contributed this gem: "Why don't State High have another overholl day?" (At least, that's the only message our decoding experts could get from it. Good idea, though, don't you think?—Ed.).

WORTH TELLING AGAIN

He: May I kiss you? May I kiss you? Say, are you deaf?

She: No. Are you paralyzed?

What do you do when the world's dark and gloomy?

I deliver the milk.

Why did you marry such a homely man?

He asked me.

Smith: I understand your wife's brother is an author. Does he write for money?

Jones: Yeh—in every letter we get.

1st Soak: Why do they call them "pink elephants"?

2nd Same: 'Cause they're beasts of bourbon.

Pat: Did you hear the one about the bed?

Mike: No.

Pat: It hasn't been made up yet.

Wife: That terrible Miss Vamp boasts that she's been kissed by every married man in town except one.

Husband (absently): Wonder who he is?

Bob: Our principal is a man of few words.

Jim: Who told you so?

Bob: He did—for three hours.

Sam: The boss told us that when he was a boy on the farm, they had a mule that was just like one of the family.

Joe: Yeah, and I know which one.

"Ya look worried, soldier. What's the matter?"

"Aw, there's so many women in uniform these days, we GI's have to wait to see whether we should salute or whistle."

Old Friend: Where have you been the last few years?

Student: At college, taking medicine.

O. F.: And how do you feel now?

"I married six old maids."

"Say, do you know what that's called?"

"Sure, everybody says it was big of me."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY APRIL

1—Vincent Solomon

Lester Shelley

3—Jack Stiles

4—Lisel Goldstein

5—Maria Frey

Mary Rooney

Ernest Gibbs

6—Mary Jane McCarthy

7—Margo La Crone

8—Carolyn Welp

9—Dunlap Clark

10—Dick Barnes