

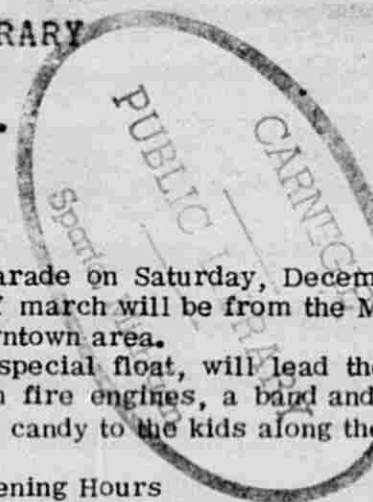
Free hot dogs & balloons to be "Family Night" features

Prizes to be Given

Several prizes will be given during the Sparta Chamber of Commerce's two week pre-Christmas promotion. Prizes will be given on December 12 and December 19. Additional information will be available from participating merchants beginning right after Thanksgiving.

Free hot dogs and balloons for the children will be given away by the Sparta Chamber of Commerce as it opens its two week pre-Christmas downtown promotion program. The free goodies will be given away between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10 at a place in the downtown area to be announced later. The Sparta merchants will begin their holiday season

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with a Santa Claus parade on Saturday, December 5 at 2:00 p.m. The line of march will be from the Methodist Church through the downtown area.

Santa Claus, on his special float, will lead the parade which will also contain fire engines, a band and a group of elves who will throw candy to the kids along the parade route.

Evening Hours

Most Sparta merchants will begin staying open evenings until 9:00 p.m. from December 10 and will continue to keep evening hours until December 24.

Santa Claus

Santa Claus will be in his Santa Claus house at the telephone company lot on December 5 and the two weekends that follow. He will also be downtown each night during the last week before Christmas.

Family Night

A special Family Night will be held on the evening of Thursday, December 10 during which time participating merchants will give special attention to the children as they come to shop for their Christmas gifts. Some merchants will designate special sales clerks to attend to the children and help them find suitable gift items.

Family Night will be the time when the free hot dogs and the free balloons will be distributed to the children. The Chamber emphasized that, because they cannot estimate the number of children that will come to town that night, the Chamber will have 1,000 free hot dogs to be served to the first 1,000 children that ask for them.

Free Movies

Free movies will also be on the agenda at the Sparta Theater. The movies will be run for the children from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 19. The movies will give Mom and Dad a chance to leave the children in a safe place while they go about their Christmas shopping.

The Sentinel Leader and Comstock Park Courier-News

Volume 93 - Established 1876

Sparta, Michigan - Monday, November 16, 1970

Number 46

Best season since 1953



Back row, Left to right: Coach Ron Helmboldt; Jack Bullis; Gary Nason; Brian Tindle; Randy Parmeter; Don McCready; Jon Soderstrom; Mike Norton; Darrell Baehre; Bob Rambow; Clark Olson; Jim Knauf; Leo Andrus; Jim Jakeway; Mike Eaton; Dan Kent; Steve Wever; Jerry Ritzenheim; Randy Taft; Don Cheslek; Head Coach Tom Christopher.

It could be said that the Sparta High varsity football team came of age this season, as they finished their best season in 17 years. Most of the members of the 1970 squad were babies when the 1953 team completed that historical unbeaten, untied season.

Going into their final game last Friday, the Spartans had a 7-0-1 record with only a 6-6 tie with Coopersville spoiling a perfect season. In eight contests the Blue and White scored 194 points while holding their opponents to only 40.

The Spartans finished Tri-River play with a 4-0-1 record, giving the team an undisputed League crown. Greenville finished one half game behind the Spartans, with a 4-1-0

Front row, Left to right: Dennis Lang, Mgr.; Coach Dave Stoy; Bob Postma; Pat Heinbeck; Tim Klein; Mario Burns; Rick Krause, Co-Captain; Roger Andrus, Co-captain; Bob Blaauw; Dennis De Boer; Dale Soderstrom; Larry Carter; Kim Myers; Mike Ritz; Ken Whitaker; Mike Bitely; Terry Bayes; Jeff Lovell, Mgr.

Tri-River slate, their only loss being a 22-14 decision to Sparta.

Other accomplishments of the 1970 team were a 20-0 victory over arch-rival Rockford in the season opener, 28-0 and 26-0 shutout wins over Lowell and Grand Rapids East Christian respectively, and the win over Greenville which snapped a four game Yellow Jacket win streak.

Friday night's contest at Comstock Park saw 12 seniors play their last football game for Sparta High as Roger Andrus, Mike Bitely, Mario Burns, Dennis DeBoer, Bob Blaauw, Larry Carter, Pat Heinbeck, Tim Klein, Rick Krause, Kim Myers, Bob Postma and Dale Soderstrom hung up their cleats.

SPARTANS WIN FINAL GAME

The Comstock Park Panthers jumped off to an early lead against the Spartans last Friday in the season final, but fell to defeat as the Sparta team scored three times to take a 22-7 victory over their arch-rival.

The Panthers marched the opening kick-off 54 yards in 8 plays to the Sparta 15 before the Spartans held off the determined squad and a field goal was tried. The Spartans were guilty of an off-side penalty on the kick, however, and with fourth down and goal on the ten the Panthers scored the first touchdown of the game. Coming around his own left end, Bob Schumaker went in for the score and after a penalty on the first try for point, Renier Bulder split the uprights for an early (8:22) 7-0 Comstock Park lead.

At 3:21 of the second quarter, Mario Burns of the Spartans put the visitors on the scoreboard as he ended a 59 yard drive by scoring from the 1 on a second down and goal situation. A Blaauw to Jack Bullis pass for the conversion was incomplete, giving the Panthers a 7-6 half-time edge.

The Spartans came back strong in the second half and scored twice while holding their opponents scoreless. The first second half Sparta score came with 6:14 left in the third quarter as Blaauw hit Bullis along the western sidelines and Jack scampered 20 yards untouched for the TD. Once again Blaauw connected for the PAT, this time to Larry Carter, and the Spartans held a 14-7 lead.

With a little over a minute played in the final period, Bullis scored his second touchdown of the evening as he went over from the 9. Blaauw ran for the points after.

With the victory, the Spartans finished their best season since 1953, as the team finished with a 8-0-1 season record. The loss for the Panthers was their eighth against no wins and a tie. The Sparta victory was also the eighth consecutive Spartan victory over a Comstock Park team after having losing eight straight to the Panthers.

Main St. Christmas lights to be installed soon

The Sparta Main Street Christmas light program is entering its final stages with the new decorations due to arrive in Sparta within a few days.

Over 40 decorations will be used, one for each light pole in the downtown shopping area. The total cost of the project will be about \$2,500 with most of it going towards the costs of the lights. The balance, about \$600, will be needed to pay the Consumers Power Company for installation of the lights on the light poles. The newest of the decorations used in previous years will be put up also. The older and more worn holiday decorations will no longer be used.

The Village has contributed \$1,000 to the Christmas light program with the balance of the funds coming from the local Chamber of Commerce. A Chamber spokesman said that they were still short of their share of the fund but expected to raise it before the end of the month.

Former Sparta teacher returning to classroom



Mrs. Klenk, a retired Sparta teacher, is showing her materials from Japan to some of the Sparta Central Elementary fourth graders. During her visit with the children, she also showed and narrated slides she had taken during her trip to Japan. The fourth graders from Mrs. Holland's, Mrs. Stout's, Mrs. Sharp's and Mrs. Trimble's rooms are studying Japan. From left to right are Patty Denhof, Mark Moody, Tammy Jacobson, Mrs. Klenk, Carl Nickolai, Leonard Miller, Evelyn Grzybowski and Amy Lang.

The Sentinel Leader

343 S. UNION ST., SPARTA, MICHIGAN 49345
 Published Weekly on Monday at Sparta, Michigan
 Phone 887-9008
 SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, MICH.
NIELS T. ANDERSEN, Editor - Publisher
BARRY D. BRAND, Co-Publisher
 Subscription postpaid, one year in advance -
 \$3.00 in Michigan, \$5.00 outside Michigan,
 \$6.00 outside U.S.A.



After a tense game Friday, November 9, Sparta tied Coopersville 6-6. This means that we are the champions in our league.

The following Monday the school held a special assembly. Mr. Bradford, a quarterback from Sparta's last championship team during 1953 spoke. Then the 1970 championship team received their trophy.

Saturday, November 10, Steve Okkonan was Sparta's runner at the state track meet in Ann Arbor. He placed 13th. Congratulations!

Two school clubs, the Future Homemakers of America and the Spanish Club, held their initiations last week. Everyone had a great time initiating their new members.

Last Tuesday several Government classes took a field trip to the Grand Rapids Police Station and to the U. S. Justice Court where they saw a jury trial. The trip was interesting as well as informative.

As the date of the school play swiftly approaches, the cast and crew busily prepare for those big nights of November 19, 20 and 21. This year the play will be theater-in-the-round. This means the audience will sit in circular rows around the performance.

Tickets may be purchased at the door for the regular price.

Students received their report cards Friday. Once again groans echoed through the halls of Sparta High.

Steven Quay receives WMU assistantship

Steven C. Quay, son of Mr. and Mrs. LaGene Quay of 105-13 Mile Road, Sparta, has recently received an undergraduate assistantship from Western Michigan University's Honors College.

He will work under the direction of Dr. Stephen B. Friedman, associate professor of biology, on a project entitled, "Regulation of Metabolism by Glucose and Gluconate in Pseudomonas Fluorescens."

Quay is a junior at WMU, majoring in biology and minoring in mathematics and chemistry.



At the general meeting of the Sparta Cooperative Nursery held at the Masonic Temple, a creative workshop was prepared by the teachers of the Nursery School, Mrs. Donald Gohn and Mrs. James Panches. After a short business meeting, the mothers were put to work creating pictures from soap suds, making collages, finger painting, sculpturing forms from Magic Clay, creating monsters from milk weed pods, and decorating felt finger puppets. Many clever, original articles emerged. There were lots of displays with inexpensive ideas to provide some creative experiences for pre-schoolers. Mrs. Gohn and Mrs. Panches passed out sheets they had compiled, "Helpful Hints for Haggard Homemakers" which have additional information for home projects. Much work was put into this workshop, and it was very worthwhile. The children have been making costumes for a Thanksgiving program to be given for their mothers the two days before Thanksgiving, a half hour before their dismissal times. They made headdresses of feathers and colorful necklaces. They will be keeping time to Indian music with drums and shakers. A very impressive teepee has been decorated by all the tots with lots of Indian designs and many original ones. Indian songs and dances will be prevalent around a campfire. The tots will be aware of the part the Indians played in our first Thanksgiving.

Sparta Scout Troop 280 holds Court of Awards

With the Boy Scouts of Troop 428 attending, Sparta's Troop 280 held its Fall Court of Awards at the Sparta Community Building on Monday, November 9.

Scoutmaster Ralph Stadelman, Assistant Scoutmaster Leon Armock and Counsellor Harold Moody conducted and impressive ceremony.

Four Tenderfoot Boy Scouts were inducted: Jim and Tim Beardsley, Dan Armock and Mark Elliott. Promoted to Second Class was Jim Elliott. Paul Ellerman became a Star Scout and Allen Kiefer was promoted to Life Scout.

During this past summer many Merit Badges were earned with those associated with the outdoors being most prominent. It is through the earning of Merit Badges that Boy Scouts advance through the various ranks with that of Eagle Scout being the highest award.

Two Sparta Boy Scouts were advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout, Bill Wheat and Steve Helsel. Bill Wheat was presented by U. S. Attorney John Malinowski and Steve Helsel was introduced by Judge John T. Letts.

Judge Letts, in his recollection, recalled only one Eagle Scout appearing before him in the courtroom, and that for a minor offense. Attorney John Malinowski did not recall any instances in which a Boy Scout was involved.



Fifty-two senior citizen ladies met in the Methodist Church basement on November 5, 1970. Two visitors, Jennie Condon and Dora Priest were welcomed. Bertine Hetland, Ruby Saur, Elnora Gentz, and Clara Halstead were back with us. Today, being our 5th anniversary, Lillian Blough read a brief history of our club's activities. Fifteen charter members were present today. Birthday cake, ice cream and coffee were served. A cake with five candles was lighted by Cora Saur, Jessie Cheslek and Myrta Nequist. The girls had some trouble blowing the candles out, but quickly discovered the reason. This cake was taken to Florence Spangenberg, a former president who is recovering from a stroke. Margaret Gillet, our new president could not attend. Her husband, Howard, has returned from the hospital and is still suffering much pain in his back. Our vice president, Hilda Snip, opened the meeting by reading a poem. The secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved. Our Sunshine Chairman, Cora Saur, reported two get-well cards sent. Sorry to hear Velma Brock is in the hospital for surgery, and Rebecca Pulsifer who is in California has a broken arm. Mrs. Snip read a letter from our friend, Vernice Courser. We enjoyed the witty manner in which she told of their trip to Florida and the new residents in their trailer park. (Rattlesnakes) Paul DeYoung, a Rotarian sent a letter explaining a dental service project which Dr. Roseberry is working on. The Rotary Club gave \$500 to hasten the work and now are asking contributions from others to pay them back. We discussed this matter, but did not have enough in the treasury to give now. We have informed them we could not donate now. November 19th hostesses will be Ida Gillam, Alice Lamoreaux, Cora Carpenter, Lilly Borkowski, Muriel, French and Geraldine Free.

Lynn Bradford tells about old Sparta photo

Lynn Bradford called us the other day, wondering if we had questioned what all the manure spreaders were doing on Division Street in the picture run on the first page of our last issue.

It seems the picture was taken as part of Trade-Day, sponsored by the Henry Smith Implement Store, in introduction of the 4-Leaf Clover Manure Spreader by International Harvester. The Smith Implement Store was located where the new Western Auto Associate Store has just opened.

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