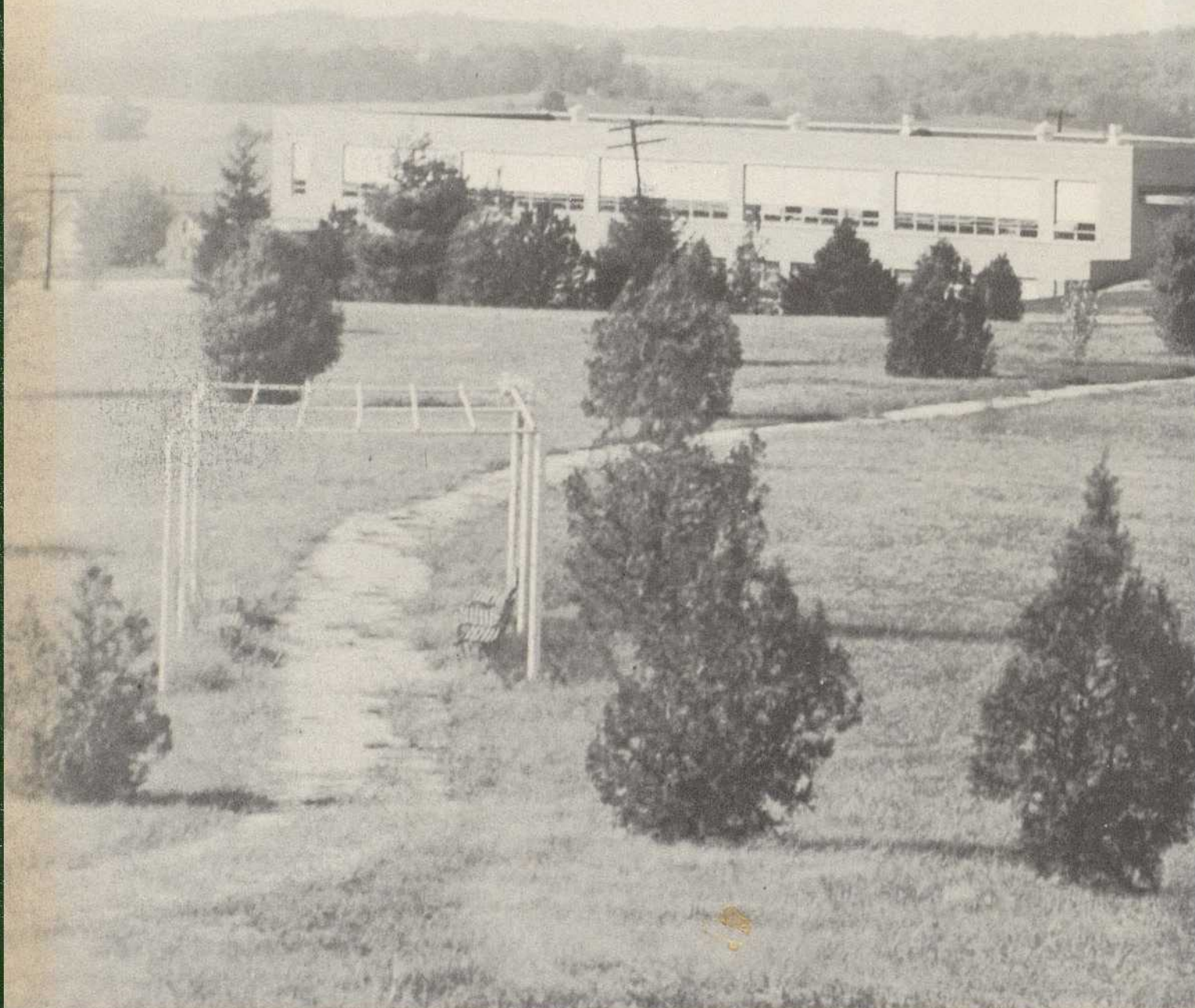


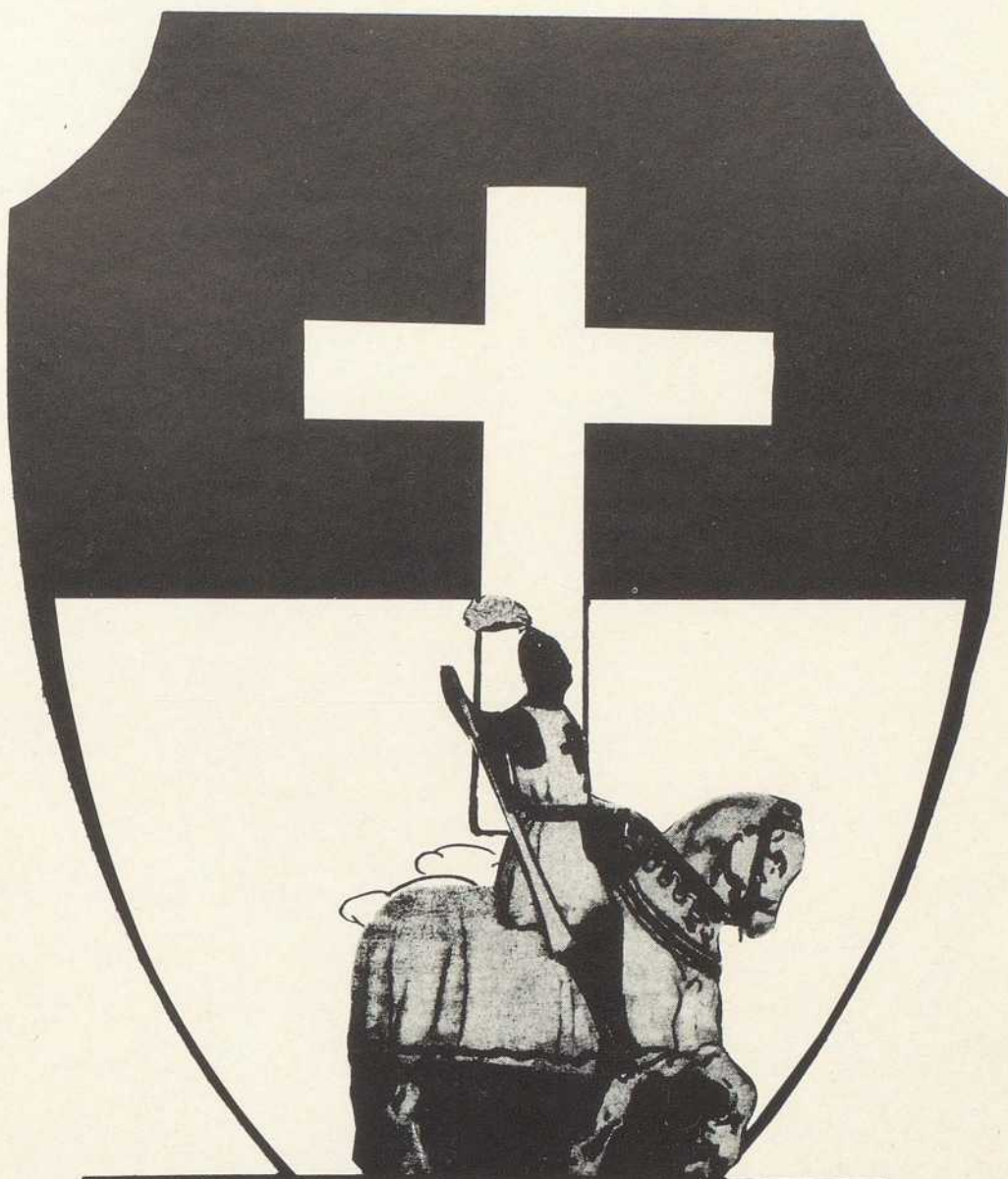
The '55

Crusader









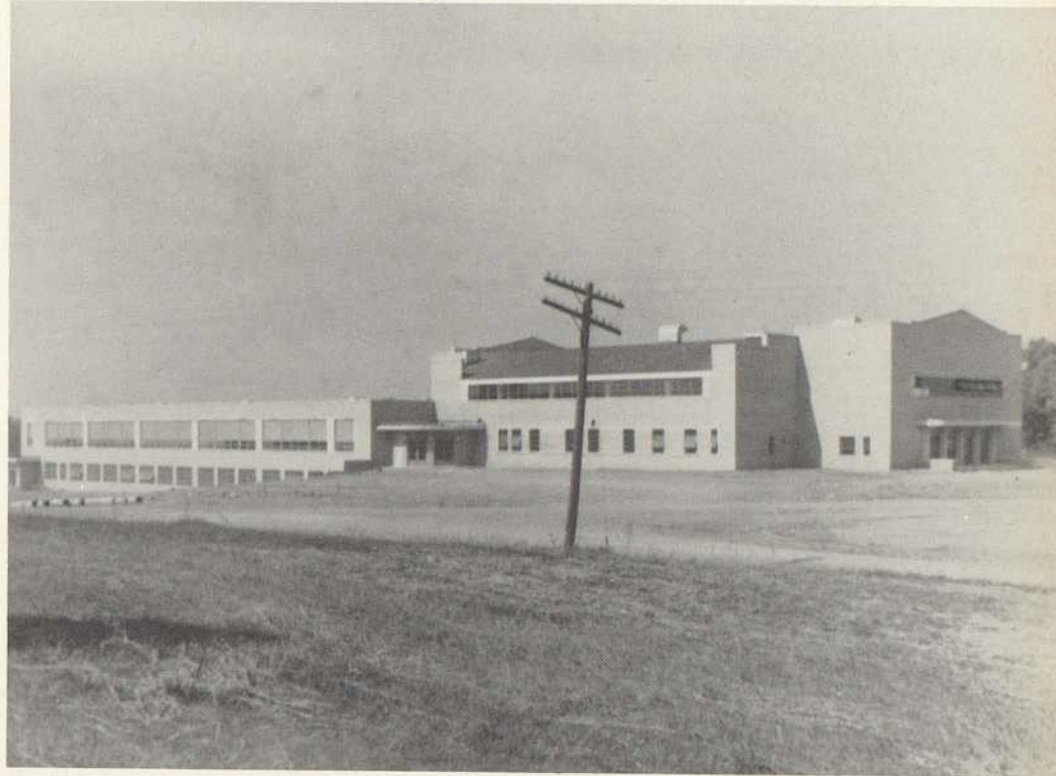
The Crusader

The Senior Class of 1955
of
ST. FERDINAND HIGH SCHOOL
Ferdinand, Indiana



The Reverend David Duesing, O.S.B., pastor of St. Ferdinand Congregation
and Superintendent of St. Ferdinand High School at Ferdinand, Indiana.

Dedication



It is but fitting that we, the Class of 1955,

dedicate this Annual to

FATHER DAVID, our pastor, superintendent, and friend, through whose untiring and often thankless efforts St. Ferdinand High School became a reality. Through years of work and worry, the great enterprise was accomplished. Because of the huge debt, additional years of the same are his burden. St. Ferdinand High School will be a lasting monument to the courage and zeal of Father David.

APPRECIATION

We, the Class of '55 of St. Ferdinand High School, wish to express our appreciation and deepest gratitude to Father David, our superintendent; Sister Frederica, our principal; to all members of the Faculty of S. F. H. S., and to our Parents. May God reward you abundantly!



The Most Reverend Henry J. Grimmelsman, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Evansville, presenting the first 1955 diploma to Anthony Auffart, first in alphabetical order and proclaimed "First Citizen" of the Class of '55.

To left of His Excellency, the Right Reverend John N. Dudine, pastor of St. Elizabeth Church, Louisville, Kentucky, who presented the awards.

To left of His Excellency, the Reverend David Duesing, O. S. B., pastor of Ferdinand and Superintendent of St. Ferdinand High School.

Faculty



SISTER M. FREDERICA DUDINE, O.S.B., Ph.D., our Principal, Counselor, and Friend at all times. Sister says her three Reverend Brothers pictured here help her very much through good days and bad, by their compact of prayer for one another.



MR. MARK LAGRANGE
Coach, Mathematics



REV. EDWIN MILLER, O.S.B.
Religion



SISTER M. JOSEPHA, O.S.B.
Sociology, Science, Algebra



SISTER M. AURELIA, O.S.B.
Band, Piano, Instruments



SISTER MARY CARMIN, O.S.B.
Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Typing



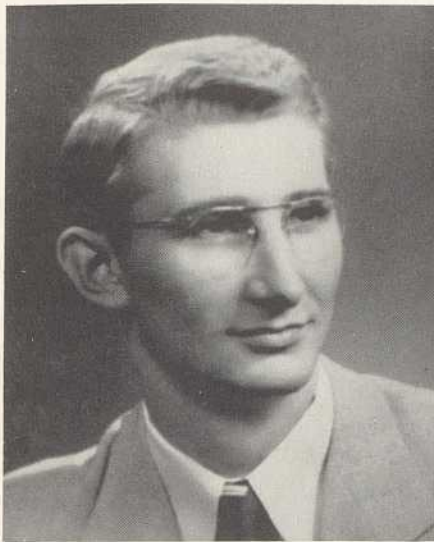
REV. AMBROSE FREY, O.S.B.
Religion, English



SISTER M. DAMIAN, O.S.B.
Home Economics
Religion, General Business



SISTER M. THERESE, O.S.B.
Religion, English, Librarian



MR. J. RALPH KESSANS
Industrial Arts, Typing
Latin, Mechanical Drawing



MR. ALFRED SNYDER
Social Studies, Health, Biology



MISS ALBA MENEGHEL
Girls' Athletics, English
Spanish, Health

Seniors



Our appreciation to
Our SPONSOR
MR. J. RALPH KESSANS



KENNETH BOLTE
President
"When he's around, you
can't be blue."



SHIRLEY SCHNELL
Vice-President
"I chatter as I go, and I
go on forever."



ELSIE MEYER

Secretary

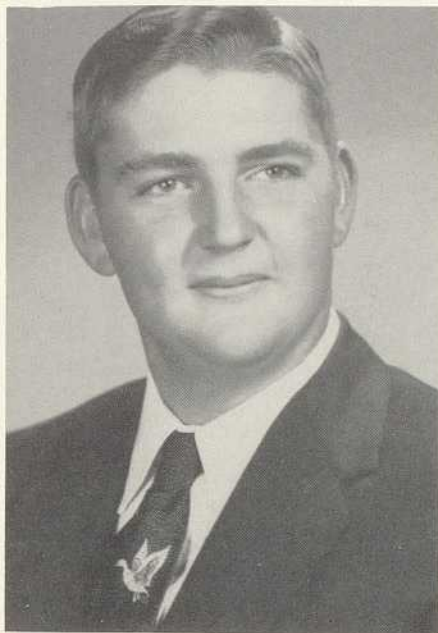
"Here today, gone to-morrow."



JOE KNUST

Treasurer

"Let the world go as it may--I will take it any way."



ANTHONY AUFFART

"How wise he must be to be always kind."



LARRY BACKER

"All the sleep I need is five minutes more."

PEARLINE BARTLEY

"Life is too short to be forever serious."

REBECCA BECHER

"In every rank, be it great or small, she fills a place among them all."



EDNA BEGLE

"Her laugh means laughter
to all."



RALPH BETTAG

"It is better to break one's
heart than to do nothing
with it."

IRENE BOLTE

"Mirror of all courtesy."



DELPHINE DENNING

"A good girl is always
quiet."



SUSAN DOUGLAS

"She thinks the Irish can't
be beat."

BETTY DURCHOLZ

"Personality plus, an in-
tellectual mind, a nicer
girl you cannot find."





HAROLD EGLER

"To live and die is all I have to do."



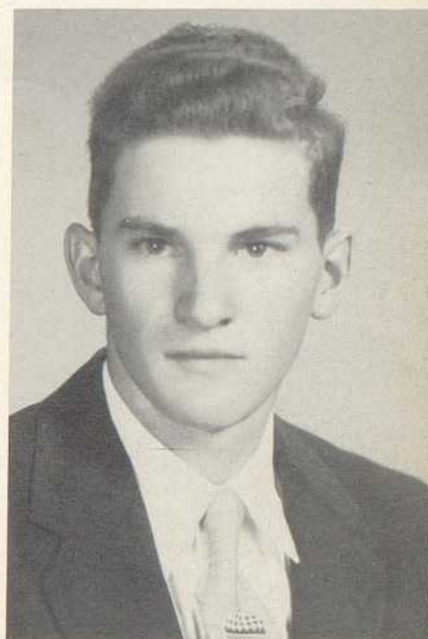
LEONARD FISCHER

"A lot of pep in a small package."



FRED FLEIG

"To stay or not to stay."



EUGENE A. GEHLHAUSEN

"Fun is like insurance--the older you get, the more it costs."

EUGENE M. GEHLHAUSEN

"Have a good time while you're living, 'cause you'll be dead a long time."

EUGENIA GEHLHAUSEN

"Women are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of men."



KATHLEEN HASSFURTHER

"She knows them all out of town; she's one Senior who gets around."

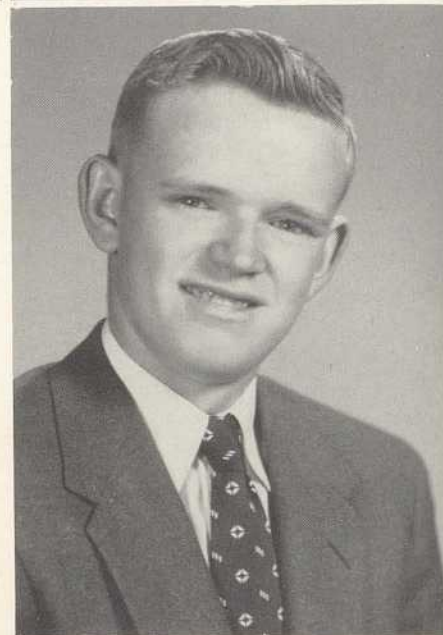


BARBARA HOFFMAN

"Laugh, and the world laughs with you."

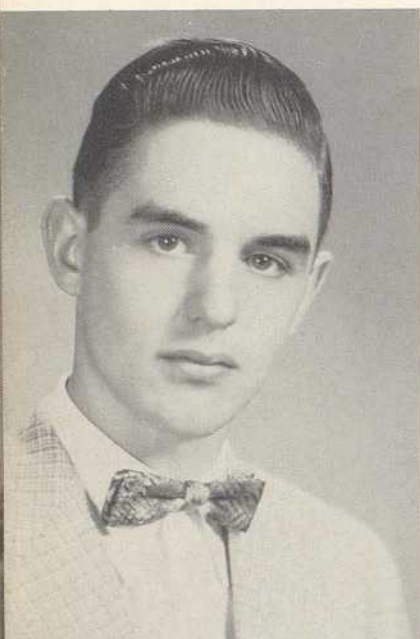
THOMAS HOFFMAN

"A quiet man, he doesn't snore in class."



DANIEL HOLTZMAN

"To appreciate him is to know him."



DONALD HOPPENJANS

"If silence is gold, I'm broke."

ROSE MARIE HORNEY

"All that I've learned I've forgotten, and what I know I've guessed."





GERALD JACOB

"What I don't know won't hurt me."



MARLENE JASPER

"Willing to do your least command."



EARL KEMPF

"I have never let my schooling interfere with my education."



HAROLD KEMPF

"I'd rather catch a ball than a girl."

LEONARD KITTEN

"Women disturb me not."

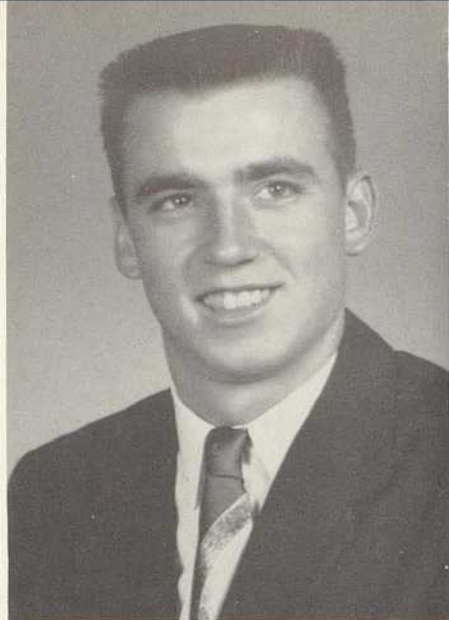
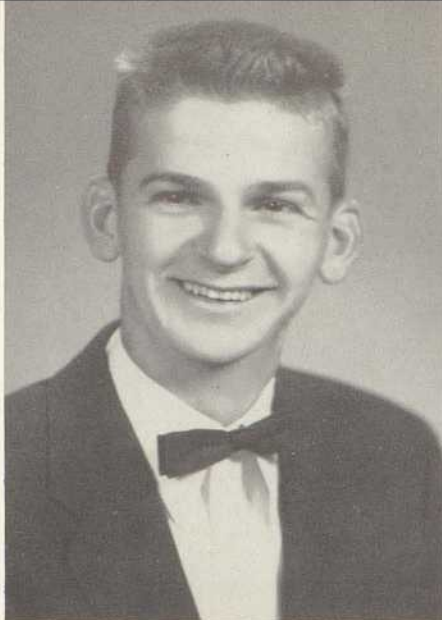
FRANCIS KLOECK

"The more I see of girls, the more I like my dogs."



JOHN LAAKE

"Give me a dozen girls
and I'll be good."



JAMES LEINENBACH

"Chase me, girls, I'm full
of fun."

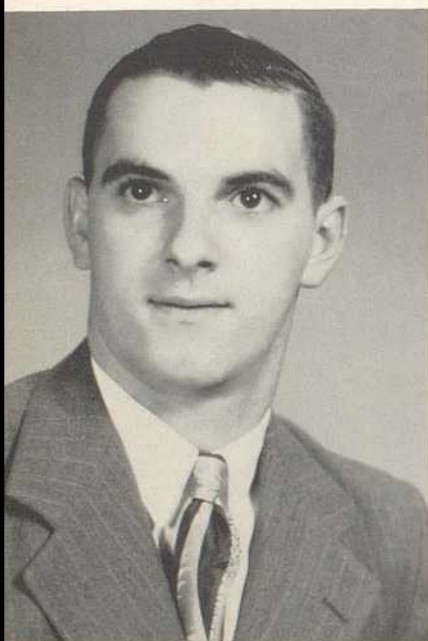
LEROY MCKITTRICK

"I'm getting along fine in
everything but school."



ROBERT MOHR

"The world is full of willing
people; some willing to
work, others willing to let
them."



RALPH MULLIS

"Why aren't they all con-
tent with me?"



RITA OEDING

"On with the dance; let
joy be unconfined."



MARY LEE OLINGER

"I'm a smart girl, but I have a hard time convincing anyone."



RITA OLINGER

"She's a favorite around the town, never lets worry get her down."



ARTHUR OSER

"When I feel like exercising, I just lie down until the feeling goes away."



ROGER QUANTE

"I don't want anything that won't fit in my coffin."

MARY ANN RUPPRECHT

"A good heart's worth gold."

MARILYN SCHIPP

"Sugar and spice, and everything nice, someday she'll be sparkling with rice."



PEGGY SCHNIEDERS

"The Bell Telephone Company's steadiest customer."



EUGENE SCHWINDEL

"What he wants to get out of school most is himself."

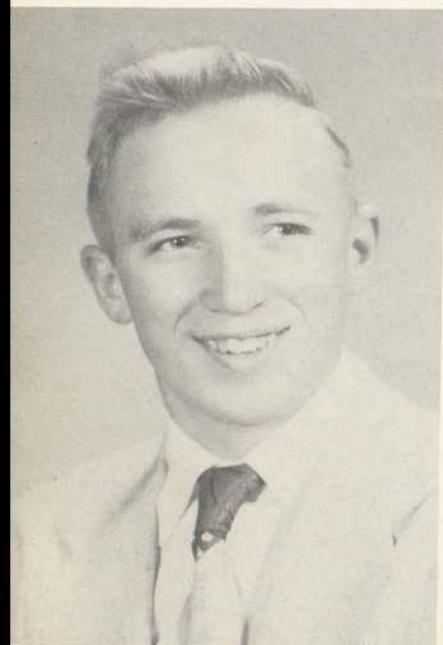
STANLEY TILLMAN

"All men want to succeed; some want to succeed so badly, they are willing to work for it."



JEROME VAAL

"If there's brewing, he's doing the stirring."



RITA ANN WELP

"Quiet and cheerful, yet friendly to all."



SARAH WOEBKENBERG

"If there is anything to do, let me do it."



CLASS WILLS

- I, HAROLD KEMPF, will my ability to drink "Punch" to any Junior who can stand it.
- I, EARL KEMPF, will my sleeping in class to any Junior who can get by with it.
- I, JOHN LAAKE, will my music teacher to any green Freshman.
- I, RALPH MULLIS, will my chauffeur job to any good driver.
- I, LEONARD FISCHER, will my hourly wage to any one who can live on it.
- I, JIMMY LEINENBACH, will my ability to drive to Dennis Welp.
- I, KENNY BOLTE, will my trombone to anyone who has enough wind to blow it.
- I, BOBBY MOHR, will to any Junior the day after the night before.
- I, GENE SCHWINDEL, will my brains to any Junior who can use them.
- I, JEROME VAAL, will my half days in school to Cyril Egler.
- I, RALPH BETTAG, will my ability to date a girl to Robert May.
- I, LeROY McKITTRICK, will my rattles in my Chevy to Johnny Seufert's Oldsmobile.
- I, ROGER QUANTE, will our trip to Washington to any Junior who can take it.
- I, FRED FLEIG, will my Religion book to someone who needs it.
- I, LARRY BACKER, will my bookkeeping ability to the hardest working Junior, Robert Schipp.
- I, HAROLD EGLER, will my muffler in my Plymouth to Walter Schnellenberger's Chevy.
- I, BECKY BECHER, will my A's in conduct to Rose Ann Becher.
- I, DANIEL HOLTZMAN, will my locker to my brother.
- I, JOE KNUST, will my wavy hair to Frank Lee.
- I, MARY LEE OLINGER, will our garage to the Junior girls for parties.
- I, EDNA BEGLE, will my curly hair to Gloria Wollenman.
- I, RITA ANN WELP, will the honor of being Prom Queen to some Lucky Junior.
- I, BETTY DURCHOLTZ, will my A's in bookkeeping to Bernice Begle.
- I, DELPHINA DENNING, will my ability to study to my brother, Roman, and grades to cousin, Marcelline.
- I, DOLLY GEHLHAUSEN, will my long hair to Dolly Mohr.
- I, ROSE MARIE HORNEY, will my errors in typing to Joan Kemper.
- I, MITZIE HASSFURTHER, will my pierced ears to Marie Krampe, and my government grades to Eileen Oser.

CLASS WILLS (continued)

- I, SARAH WOEBKENBERG, will my love for typing to anyone who wants it, and good behavior to my sister, Pearline.
- I, RITA OEDING, will my "54" Chevrolet to my sister, Almeda, so that she may ride back and forth to school.
- I, PEARLINE BARTLEY, will my bookkeeping grades to Eileen Oser.
- I, MARLENE JASPER, will my willingness to study to my brother, Henry.
- I, MARY ANN RUPPRECHET, will my locker to my brother and my glasses to anyone who will wear them.
- I, ELSIE MEYER, will my short hair to Beatrice and my acting ability to anyone who wants it.
- I, BARBARA HOFFMAN, will my typing grades to my sister, Anna Lee, and my short hair to Margie Lindauer.
- I, SHIRLEY SCHNELL, will my honor of being chosen basketball queen to any lucky Junior girl, and my love for dancing to Katy Tillman.
- I, PEGGY SCHNIEDERS, will my bookkeeping book to Janis Leinenbach.
- I, IRENE BOLTE, will my faithful blotter to anyone who takes bookkeeping.
- I, ANTHONY AUFFART, will my A's in conduct and effort to my brother, Robert.
- I, RITA OLINGER, will my plaid skirt to Juanita Schaeffer and festival crown to Marilyn Kemper.
- I, MARILYN SCHIPP, will my little feet to Ann Oser and my shorthand book to my sister, Clara Mae.
- I, GERALD JACOB, will my government book to anyone who can understand it.
- I, ARTHUR OSER, will my wavy hair to a faithful Junior.
- I, STANLEY TILLMAN, will my size 12 shoe to my sister, Katy.
- I, FRANCIS KLOECK, will my locker to any faithful Freshman.
- I, SUSANNA DOUGLAS, will to my sister, Becky, my short brown hair; to my brother, Phil, my interest in reading.
- I, DONALD HOPPENJANS, will my quietness to Stanley Bartley.
- I, EUGENE A. GEHLHAUSEN, will my seat in government class to any Junior who can get it.
- I, EUGENE M. GEHLHAUSEN, will my ability to miss school to any Junior who can get by with it.
- I, TOMMY HOFFMAN, will my bashfulness to my brother, Kenny.
- I, LEONARD KITTEN, will my nickname "Puss" to my brother, Leander.

Juniors



MR. SNYDER
Class Sponsor



John Seufert
PRESIDENT



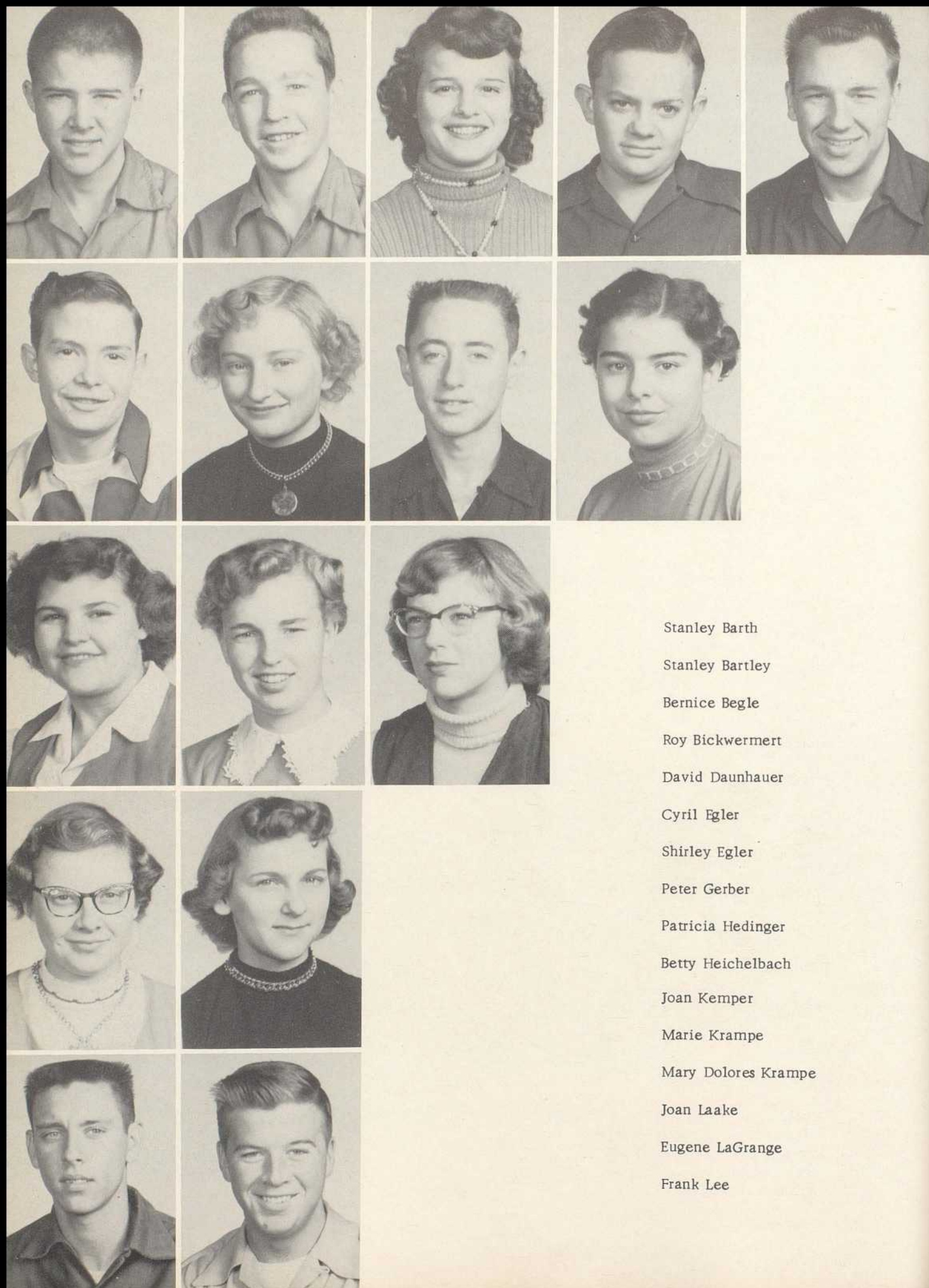
Frances Hoffman
VICE-PRESIDENT



Joyce Albert
SECRETARY



Louis Boehman
TREASURER



Stanley Barth

Stanley Bartley

Bernice Begle

Roy Bickwermet

David Daunhauer

Cyril Egler

Shirley Egler

Peter Gerber

Patricia Hedinger

Betty Heichelbach

Joan Kemper

Marie Krampe

Mary Dolores Krampe

Joan Laake

Eugene LaGrange

Frank Lee



Janis Leinenbach

Leander Mehling

Mary Louise Mohr

Monica Nordhoff

Jerome Olinger

Eileen Oser

Clara Mae Peters

Dorothy Rickelman

Vincent Ruhe

Juanita Schaefer

Ralph Schipp

Robert Schipp

Walter Schnellenberger

Dennis Welp

Dolores Werne

Pearline Wobkenberg

Gloria Wollenmann

Sophomores



MR. LAGRANGE
Sponsor



John Olinger
PRESIDENT



Joe Boeglin
VICE-PRESIDENT



Ray Schnellenberger
SECRETARY



Sandra Leinenbach
TREASURER



Aline Altman, Robert Auffart, Thomas Backer, Dennis Durcholtz, Rebecca Douglas, Albert Dilger, Martha Brosmer, Wilfred Brinkman, James Bolte, Peggy Bettag, Virlee Begle, Esther Begle, Rose Ann Becher, Bonnie Fischer, Kenneth Fischer.



Patty Hagedorn, Roy Haake, Daniel Hauser, Imelda Hedinger, Mary Heichelbech, Barbara Helming, Anna Lee Hoffman, Lee Roy Hoffman, Gerald Holtzman, Kenneth Jacob, Henry Jasper, Viola Jacob, Leona Kitten, Leonard Kitten, Richard Lee, and Norman Leuken.



Paul Mehling, Stanley Mehling, Mary Ann Oser, Bernard Pund, Anna Marie Rahman, Patrick Recker, Dennis Reutman, Edward Ruhe, Dennis Schaeffer, Clara Mae Schipp, David Schneiders, Linda Steczyk, Kathleen Tillman, Edward Wendholt, Rosa Lee Wirthwein, and Vera Lee Wirthwein.

Freshmen



MISS MENEGHEL
Sponsor



Timothy Fischer
PRESIDENT



Marilyn Kemper
VICE-PRESIDENT



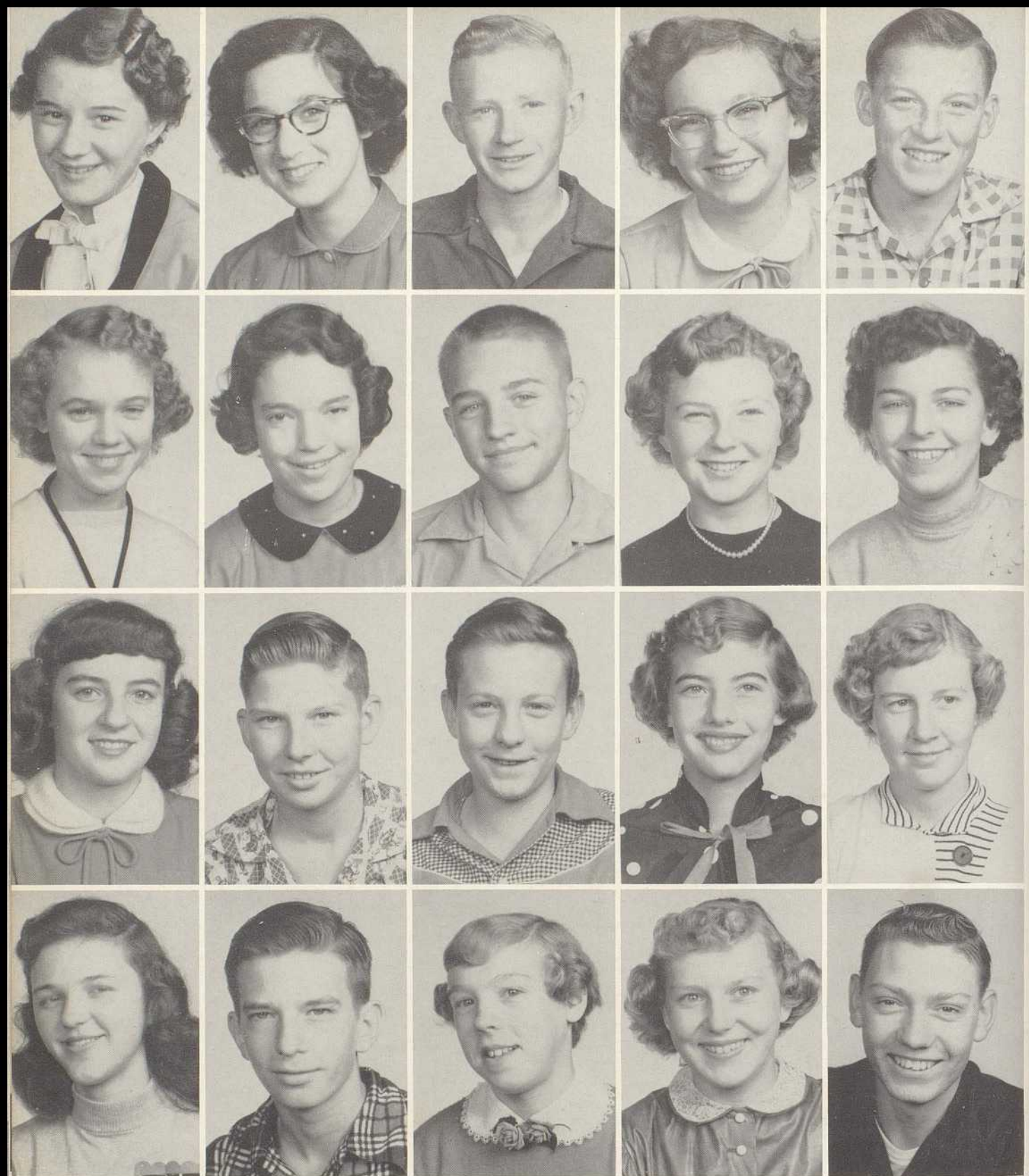
John Bettag
SECRETARY



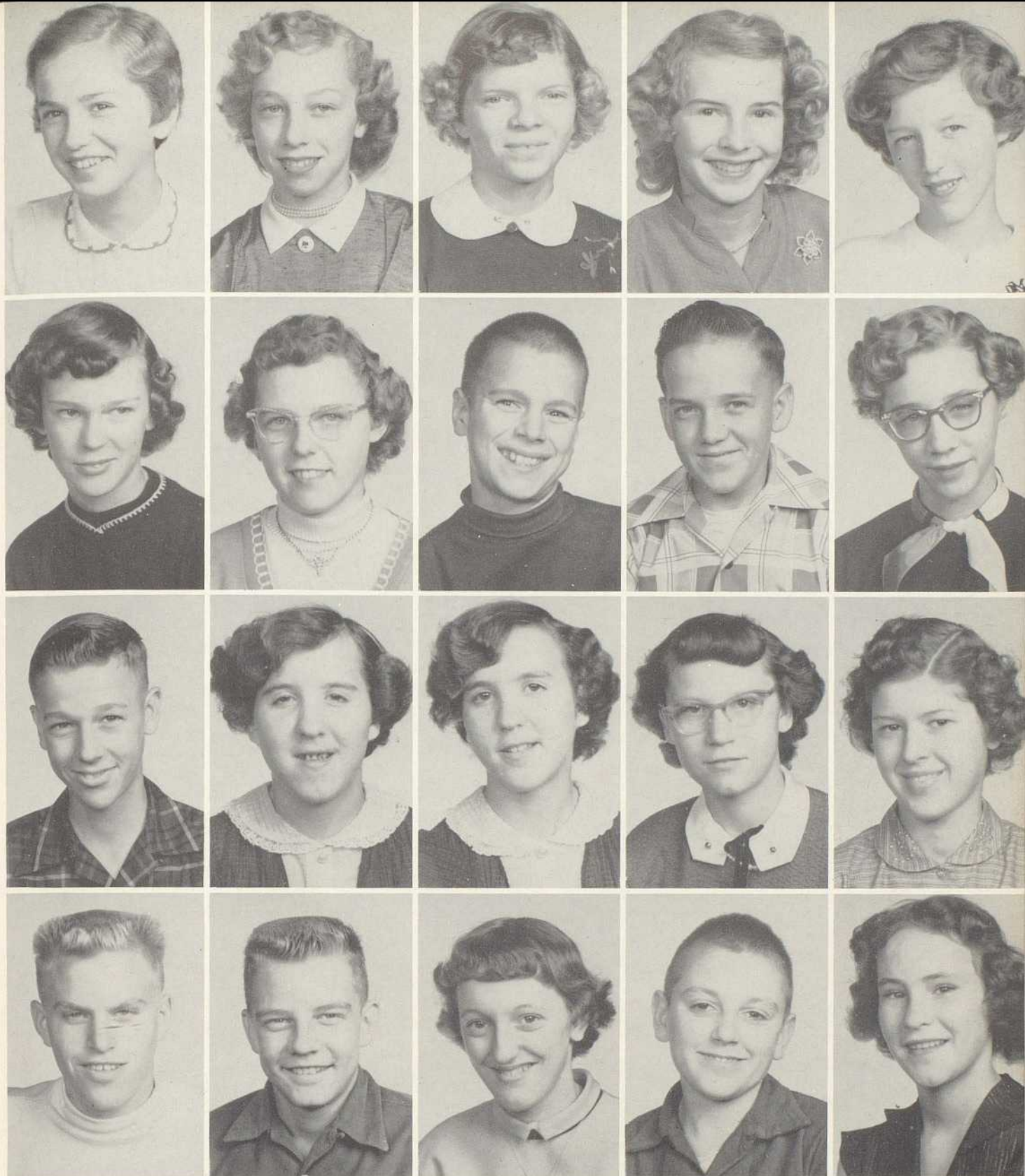
Richard Leinenbach
TREASURER



Joseph Backer, Evelyn Begle, Loretta Berger, Maryetta Berger, Lina Boehman, Ronald Boehman, Rosaline Brinkman, Norbert Dall, Philip Douglas, Marcelline Denning, Clara Mae Ebert, Fred Ebert, James Egler, Larry Haake, Albert Hassfurth, Frederick Hauser, Donald Helming, Richard Helming, Melvin Hildenbrand, and Kenneth Hoffman.



Dorothy Kapp, Mary Helen Kaufman, Jerome Kerstiens, Mary Frances Kerstiens, Ralph Kitten, Betty Ann Kloeck, Imogene Kleuh, James Knust, Patricia Kunkler, Bernita Laake, Margie Lindauer, Lucas Lubbehusen, Robert May, Anna Rose Mehling, Mary Alice Mehling, Beatrice Meyer, James Niehaus, Almeda Oeding, Barbara Olinger, and Leon Olinger.



Janet Oser, Shirley Ann Oser, Rita Peters, Alma Schipp, Evelyn Schipp, Janice Schlachter, Shirley Seng, David Seufert, Linus Tretter, Patricia Tretter, Raymond Vaal, Betty Vonderheide, Carol Vonderheide, Adelene Waninger, Ruth Waninger, Clifford Werne, Dennis Werne, Norma Jean Weyer, Matthew Wollenmann, and Wanda Zink.



Corner-stone laying and dedication of St. Ferdinand High School, by the officiating Prelate, the Most Reverend Henry J. Grimmelsman, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Evansville.



The eighty-six pupils comprising the first student body of the new S. F. H. S. -1951-2



ENTIRE STUDENT BODY - 1954-1955 - 200

**YEARBY - PHOTOGRAPHER
ROCKPORT, INDIANA**

From the intelligent faces here below, one can predict a great future for--



KEY TO OPPOSITE PAGE

FIRST ROW:

Stanley Tillman, Rita Ann Welp, Kathleen Hassfurth, Mary Lee Olinger, Daniel Holtzman, Fred Fleig.

SECOND ROW:

Peggy Schnieders, Roger Quante, Earl and Harold Kempf, Kenny Bolte, Rita Oeding, James Leinenbach.

THIRD ROW:

LeRoy McKittrick, Elsie Meyer, Harold Egler, Marilyn Schipp, Arthur Oser, Irene Bolte, Francis Kloeck, Edna Begle.

FOURTH ROW:

Pearline Bartley, Barbara Hoffman, Delphine Denning, Marlene Jasper, Sarah Woebkenberg, Anthony Auffart, Rebecca Becher, Joe Knust.

FIFTH ROW:

Shirley Schnell, Betty Durcholz, Eugene Schwindel, Rose Marie Horney, Robert Mohr, Leonard Fischer, Mary Ann Rupprecht.

SIXTH ROW:

Rita Ann Olinger, Eugenia and Eugene M. Gehlhausen.

.....

NOW, that our baby-days were over, we began a new chapter of our very important existence. Most of us entered the Ferdinand Consolidated School as first-graders. A few, or rather about one-fourth of the class, spent their first day away from home and mother in one of the elementary schools of neighboring towns. Some of us remember how terrible it was and how long the day, but most of us have had so many things to remember that the earlier impressions have been blotted out or dimmed. From one grade to the next and on until the final eighth grade examination which gave us our passport to high school.

Where would we go to continue our education? For those of us who lived in St. Ferdinand Parish, this was not a big question; for St. Ferdinand High was now actually there and ready to receive us--its first Freshman class. Children from neighboring towns and schools had received their high school work at Huntingburg, Dale, Oil Township, Bristow, Birdseye, Jasper, and a few at the Academy Immaculate Conception at Ferdinand. For these, a decision had to be made, and happily there were fourteen in-coming Freshmen from these parts.

Looking back to September, 1951, we see ourselves, the first Freshman class of St. Ferdinand High School, a very important group of scholarly and handsome lads and lassies--at least we think so. Our parents were very happy to have the opportunity of starting us in a Catholic high school so that our education for soul as well as for body--the spiritual as well as the intellectual--could continue to grow without interruption. One great advantage which we had was the privilege of attending daily Holy Mass if we wished to do so. We realize now to our regret, that we did not prize this great grace as we should have. There will come times when we would like ever so much to be present at Holy Mass, but it will be impossible.

The newly constructed St. Ferdinand High School opened its doors to us fifty-six Freshmen, and thirty sophomores; the latter having been collected from the various high schools mentioned above. Forty-two Freshies were home folks, eleven came from St. Meinrad, two from Fulda, and one from St. Henry. We were positively confused, walking around in a daze most of the time those first few days. There seemed to be no end to the bells; hour after hour, bells, bells, bells. And every bell meant a different teacher. How could we ever remember them all?

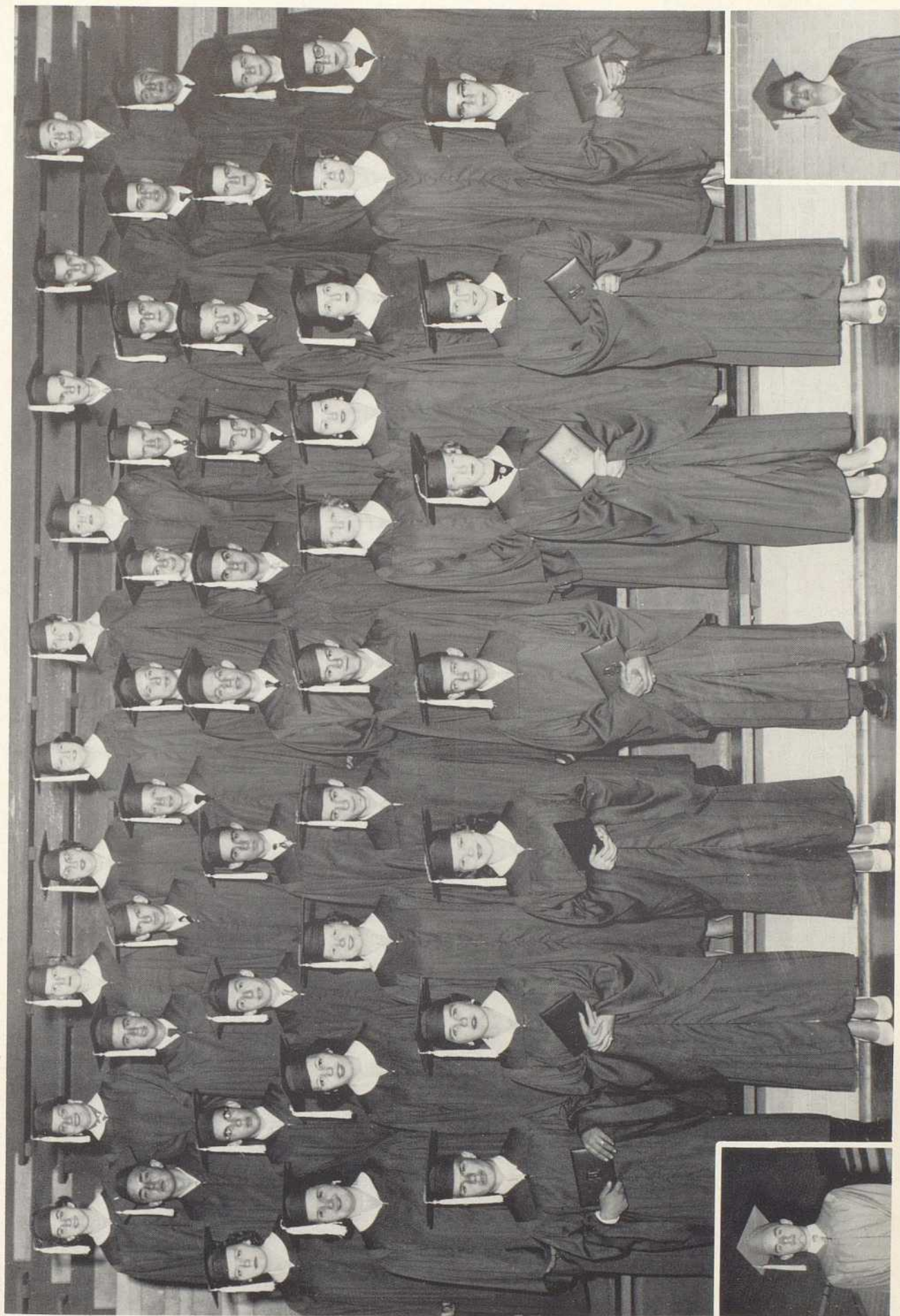
The faculty under whose teaching, guidance, and supervision we were to begin our new "era" consisted of: Father David, Superintendent; Sister Priscilla, Principal; and teachers were: Fathers Edwin and Prosper; Sisters Aurelia, Acquina, and Josepha; Mrs. Marie Senninger and Mr. Mark LaGrange. The interesting (at times) and confused (at times) faces into which this group of teachers had to look day after day appear at this point in our history to help you and us remember that glorious Freshman year.



Our Sophomore year brought greater variety in our numbers, with five dropouts and five newcomers, leaving us yet fifty-six. We found quite a change in our faculty: Sister Frederica was our new principal, and Sister Mary Kenneth and Father Ambrose replaced Sister Aquina and Father Prosper. Three new teachers were added to fill the needs of our fast growing institution: Sister Mary Carmin, Mr. Omer LeClere, and Miss Matricia Scott. The latter three took over the three new departments added this year: commerce, industrial arts, and girls' athletics. We were beginning to have real organization now, and our opportunities grew with the expanding curriculum.

As Juniors we were expected to grow up and to do things. We did both. On Passion Sunday we staged a play, "Who's Running This World?" produced and executed under the direction of Father Ambrose, our Religion teacher. There was some change in the faculty: Sister Valeria, Sister Therese, Mr. Rex Courtney, and Miss Vaneda Ridenour joined the staff; and Sister Kenneth dropped out. The school enrollment had now mounted from 86 (1951) to 188 (1953.) Our class lost six students and gained one. The high-light of this Junior year was, without a doubt, the Junior-Senior prom--the first for St. Ferdinand High School; but not the first in S.F.H.S. (for in the spring of 1952 the AIC girls held their prom here. That was the first and only AIC prom.)

Resurrected after a long summer vacation, fifty of the original and added bright-eyed and intelligent Freshmen came back to rule in their capacity of Seniors. One of the group, Gladys Schlachter, did not return to S.F.H.S., for she had answered the call, "Come, follow Me!" and is preparing to be received into the Benedictine Order as novice May 31. The vacancy was filled by a lovely little girl from Schnellville. Again, a few faculty changes: Mr. Kessans replaced Mr. LeClere; Mr. Snyder took over Social Studies; Sister Damian, Home Economics, leaving the door open for Science courses to Sister Josepha; Miss Meneghel was the new teacher of girls' athletics. The outstanding activities of our senior year were: the senior festival, senior play, and the never-to-be-forgotten prom featuring "Star Dust," and above all the Graduation High Mass and Commencement.



LOOKING FORWARD

Recently I had been given a most delightful assignment. The Dubois County Daily Herald wanted a study made of all Dubois County High School graduates of the Class of '55. I applied, and was given the task to get an account of all the graduates of that year from St. Ferdinand High School.

Although ten years older, I'm still a good walker. So I started my voyage on foot, having sent on my baggage to the Evansville Airport. Before I had climbed the Temple hill, who should come along but our good old faithful chauffeur, Ralph Mullis, headed for the Airport to pick up Irene Bolte, just flown in from California. With a bit of persuasion, I got Ralph to take me for half fare.

If airplanes were not furnished with safety belts, I might have ended my journey as soon as I was seated. What do you know! Mrs. Jerry Richey came sailing through the aisle, stewardess on the plane. She had relieved Irene for this trip. When she told me that Harold Egler was the pilot--well, remember those cute turns he used to make up by the flag-pole??? Marilyn came by every little while all the way to Washintgon, D.C., to tell me a bit of news, and I learned a lot.

Arriving in the great city, I looked for my hotel. The following morning, John Laake, our Congressman, met me to show me Washington. That night he took me to a meeting of top scientists at which Larry Backer was the main speaker. He and his confreres were trying to disprove Einstein's theory of relativity. This, I found most interesting. But there was more to come. Washington was in an uproar as Harold Kempf, Chief of the F.B.I., was closing the dragnet on a nation-wide crime syndicate, spotted by Fritz Fleig. The chief having found refuge in the Florida Everglades, was spotted by Fritz and reported to the F.B.I. Harold invited me to accompany him to the scene; so I took my first ride in a new U.S. Air Force Jet-o-Liner--the pilot, Arthur Oser.

We touched down at Miami, and were met by State Police Chief, Roger Quante. There was much business for our F.B.I. and Co. which gave me time to "do the town." I managed to procure the address of Florida's largest citrus fruit grower, Eugene Schwindel. For once, I got my fill of grapefruit. Gene's efficient secretary, Shirley Schnell, was given the afternoon off to take care of me. Just as we were leaving the groves, along came Donnie Hoppenjans with little Donnie. There were four little "Hopps" and Don believes in getting them started (to work) early. Shirley showed me a picture of her little Darlene (Olinger, of course.) She says life is wonderful in Florida.

Gene yelled after us to be sure to stop at Jerome Vaal's mansion. Talk about the "idle rich," Vaal was preparing to attend a diving contest in which Lennie Fischer was favored to win. Shirley and I were invited to dinner (not supper) at 8, when Roger and Gene would join us. (Naturally, poor little "Hoppie" had to hurry home to look after his little "Hoppers." But he and the Mrs. joined us at dinner. My! talk about food! It was terrific to such a frugal eater as myself. A big surprise awaited us. Roger had his man, none other than Bobo (Robert Mohr.) Having been apprehended as an unknown member of the crime ring, Bobo at once sought sanctuary with his good friend and protector, Police Chief Quante, and promised to tell everything.

Instead of returning with Harold, I took passage on a coastal liner to New York. The ship captain, Ralph Bettag, informed me that there was to be an entertainment by some of our former pals. Earl Kempf and Tommy Hoffman were putting on a trapeze act, followed by a musical program featuring Rita Ann Welp, accomplished pianist, Peggy Schnieders, soprano artist, and Elsie Meyer, renowned dramatist. Their manager was none other than Leonard Kitten. While strolling on the deck later, I chanced to see two fellows shooting dice. Sure enough! they're still at it. Our two old-time jackpot-hitters, Eugene M. and LeRoy McKittrick, were busy clicking the little white cubes.

I was refreshed when I reached New York. While there, I had the opportunity of witnessing a big love triangle with Mitzie as defendant in the case. Her attorney, Daniel Holzman, filed charges against Stanley Tillman and Francis Kloeck for tampering with her affections. During the trial, the attorney fainted, and a police woman, Betty Durcholz, called in the nurse, Rebecca Becher, who revived him. Rita Olinger, now a rich society woman by the name of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller III, had arranged to meet me for a tour of Radio City. Just then, Joe Knust's "Strike It Rich" program was coming on the air. Joe always a nice and obliging fellow. He held the program for my entry; and believe it or not, I hit the jack-pot for a cool \$10,000. What a life!

After leaving New York, I had planned to meet Rita Oeding Jacob at the Turnpike just before entering Philadelphia. There she was, high up on the seat of an enormous truck. Rita was a truck driver for Trans-Continental Truck Lines, Inc., owned by herself and Eugene A. Gehlhausen. I missed E. A., but had a lovely visit with his charming wife, the former Mary Lee Olinger. Mary Lee, Rita, and I had lunch together in a Chinese restaurant. By the way, Rita uses her maiden name in her business, but she is happily married to Gerald Jacob, a junk dealer. Gerald has his shop at the home; so he can take care of the kids, says Rita, while I work, you see. IT'S A GREAT LIFE! REMEMBER?

Oh yes, wheeling along the Turnpike, we stopped at "Happy Jack's 66 Station" for gas. Who should come out to greet us but our dear friend, Kenny Bolte, sole proprietor of a super-super gas station. He looked good and he looked prosperous, standing 285 lbs. on the hoof. After filling the tank, Kenny insisted that we come in for "a bite to eat." Eat again! Why, Kenny, I just couldn't! But we did. And we had the surprise of finding Rose Marie Horney and Mary Ann Rupprecht, who served us a most delicious drink (probably sneaking in a little Scotch by Kenny's orders) and an enormous banana-split. The treat was on Kenny, of course. It would have been grand to stay on, but I had to be off. My next stop was Pittsburgh, with plane reservations for Reno, Nevada.

A short stop-over in Chicago afforded another surprise. Jimmie Leinenbach and Barbara Hoffman were at the airport taking off for Niagara Falls, Canada, and Washington, D.C. Jimmie said, "We didn't make it in '55, but you bet your life we're getting to see Washington in '65. And how! Why don't you do your honeymoon over, Sarah, and come along? Wire the old man to meet you at Niagara Falls. It's a great life!"

Having arrived in Reno, my excitement grew when I chanced upon Delphine Denning playing the roulette wheel in the famous hang-out, "Silver Dollar." Delphine had come a long way from the demure, shy senior of '55. But she had a good reason for being in Reno. She was there to help a friend who had sued for a divorce from a "lover-husband of one day"--the girl having learned that he was not only a gangster, but that he had two living wives. Delphine was able to persuade her friend to get rid of him and go back to St. Meinrad with her. Then they would both look around for some eligible bachelors, of whom there were yet a few in southern Indiana. Maybe they could go back to Reno after launching one apiece, and play the roulette some more.

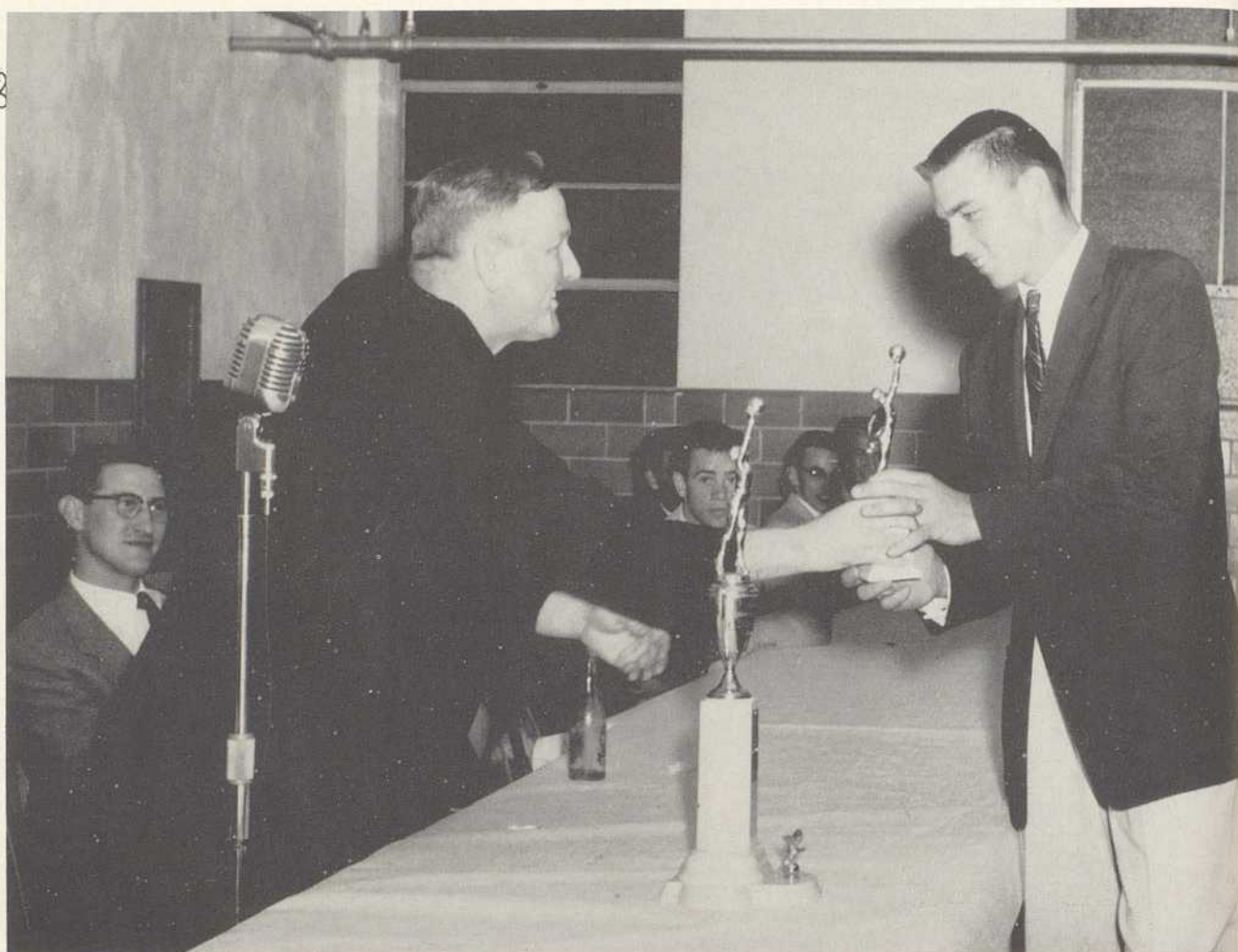
Well, this was a full day, I must say! The next day I just rested and loafed. An unusual advertisement attracted me. Upon close observation, I learned that Anthony Auffart, movie director from Hollywood, was shooting a desert scene. Edna Mae Begle was the star in the picture which had to do about a love affair in the background, but was designed to show up the work of the missionaries among the Navajo Indians. In the picture were two more of our classmates (probably the luckiest of the lot,) Sister Mary Davidica (Marlene Jasper) and Sister Fredilia (Gladys Schlachter), both members of the Ferdinand Community of Benedictines. They had volunteered to go out west with two other Sisters and Sister Frederica (as superior) to start a new foundation to work among the Navajos. All of us, Edna Mae, Delphine, Anthony, and I, went to see the little convent and to visit with Sister Frederica and Gladys and Marlene. Ten years sure didn't do much damage to Sister Frederica. She hadn't changed a bit. Gladys and Marlene looked more sedate in their Benedictine habits, of course, but they, too, were as jolly and cheerful as ever. That too, must be a GREAT LIFE!

This very interesting bit of experience at the end of my journey gave me a different outlook on life. You just couldn't guess how it affected me. So I'll tell you. I split my fortune--the \$10,000, quickly before I'd have time to change my mind. I sent \$5,000 to the struggling Navajo Mission and the other \$5,000 we (Dennis and I) will use to renovate our cottage on the Bretzville Highway. Do come to see us. I hope you are as happy as we are.

Yours as of old,

Sarah Woebkenberg Wilmes

Activities



The Reverend David Duesing, O.S.B., S.F.H.S. Superintendent, presenting the Sportsmanship Trophy to winner, James Leinenbach. To left, Bob Sakel, ex-coach of Rockport High, Guest Speaker at the Banquet.

ST. FERDINAND HIGH SCHOOL BAND



TOP ROW: Rose Ann Becher, Anna Lee Hoffman, Kathleen Tillman, Janis Leinenbach, Beatrice Meyer, James Knust, Kenneth Bolte, Patty Hagedorn. SECOND ROW: Betty Kloeck, Norman Lueken, Dolores Werne, Marie Krampe, James Bolte, David Seufert, Donald Helming. BOTTOM ROW: John Laake, Margie Lindauer, Joan Kemper, Alma Schipp, Clara Mae Peters.

PIANO STUDENTS



Joan Laake, Kathleen Tillman, Monica Nordhoff, Frances Hoffman, Esther Begle.



Boys' Home-making Course for Seniors.

A day in the Home Economics Laboratory



Part of Exhibit of Freshman and Sophomore Sewing Classes, May, 1955



Serving the Lunch



Crowning of Peggy Bettag as Betty Crocker Silver Queen



Mother-Daughter Banquet

Rita Mae Welp
chosen Queen
of
Marylike Homemakers



We cook and we sew, we bake and we clean, and thus learn to become real home-makers



LUNCH HOUR IN THE CAFETERIA



Mrs. Edward Weyer, Mrs. Rob Remke, Miss Freda Kippenbrock--our cooks.



MR. ROB REMKE
our janitor

Sports

VARSITY RECORD 1954-55

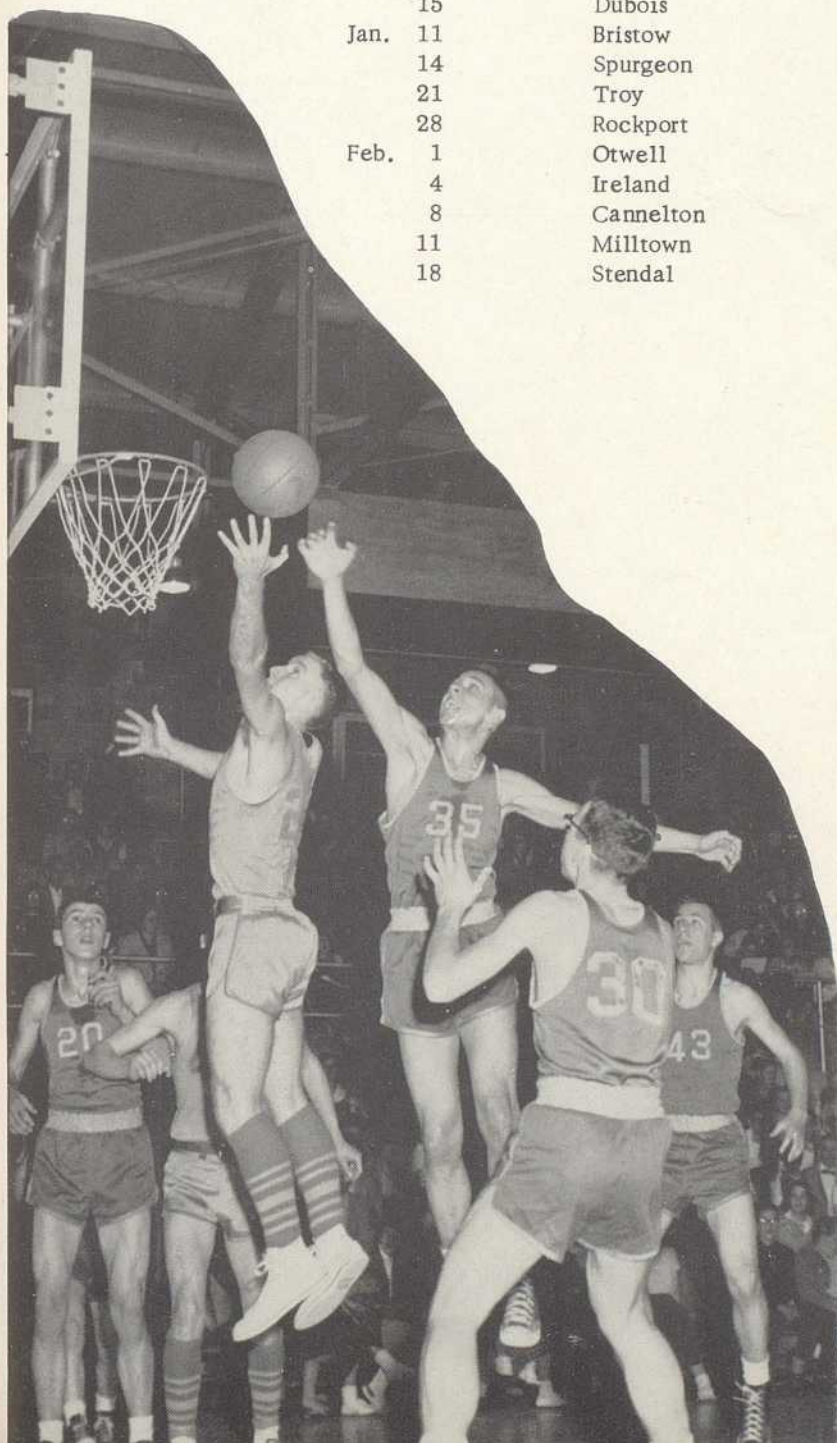
Nov.	3	Oil Twp.	We--They	58-51
	5	Chrisney		69-49
	12	Tennyson		57-35
	18	Lynnville		48-47
	24	Holland		44-61
Dec.	3	Dale		39-66
	10	Loogootee		41-43 (double overtime)
	17	Newburg		63-91
	15	Dubois		59-62
Jan.	11	Bristow		70-43
	14	Spurgeon		42-47
	21	Troy		52-38
	28	Rockport		38-51
Feb.	1	Otwell		64-66
	4	Ireland		65-45
	8	Cannelton		54-55
	11	Milltown		44-50
	18	Stendal		65-39

SECTIONAL RESULTS

Troy	52-29
Richland	52-49
Tell City	20-28

HOLIDAY TOURNEY

Otwell	48-63
Dubois	66-63



MR. MARK LAGRANGE
Coach

BASKETBALL
QUEEN

Shirley Schnell

ATTENDANTS

Kathleen Hassfurth
Rita Oeding
Eugenia Gehlhausen
Bernice Begle
Joyce Albert
Eileen Oser
Kathleen Tillman
Clara Mae Schipp
Margaret Lindauer
Marilyn Kemper



BASKETBALL
CAPTAIN

Johnny Seufert

TEAMMATES

Larry Backer
Robert Mohr
Leroy McKittrick
James Leinenbach
Peter Gerber
Vincent Ruhe
David Daunhauer
Leander Mehling
Gene LaGrange
Dennis Durcholz

CHEERLEADERS

Harold Egler
David Seufert
Ralph Bettag





VARSITY TEAM 1954-55

ROW ONE: Manager Robert Schipp, Leroy McKittrich, Robert Mohr, James Leinenbach, Larry Backer, Coach LaGrange. BACK ROW: David Daunhauer, Gene LaGrange, Vincent Ruhe, Peter Gerber, John Seufert, Leander Mehling.

SECOND TEAM

FIRST ROW: Coach LaGrange, Joe Boeglin, Henry Jasper, Norman Lueken, Thomas Backer, James Bolte, John Olinger. BACK ROW: Manager Dickie Lee, Paul Mehling, Pat Recker, Danny Hauser, Dennis Durcholz, Roy Haake.



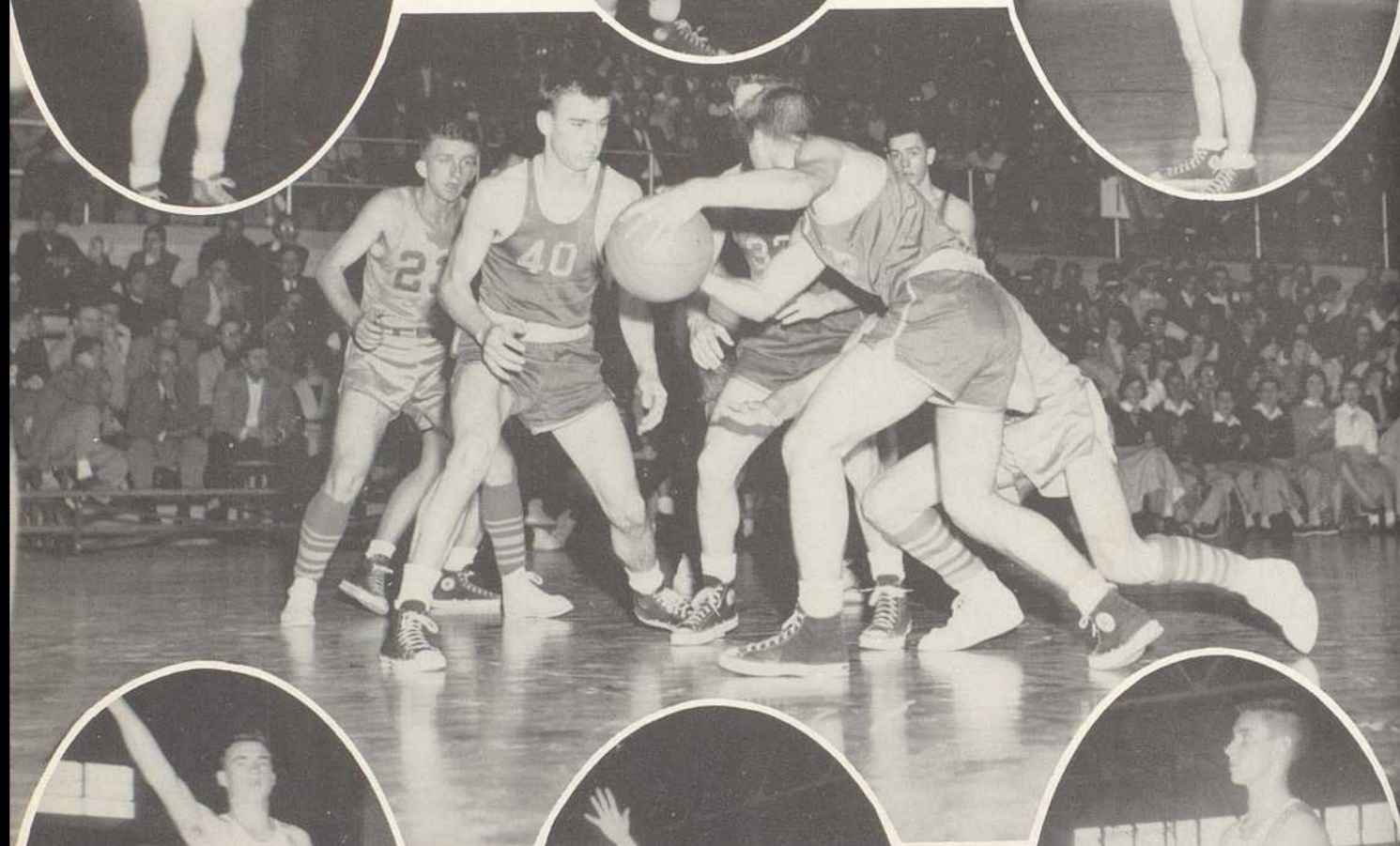
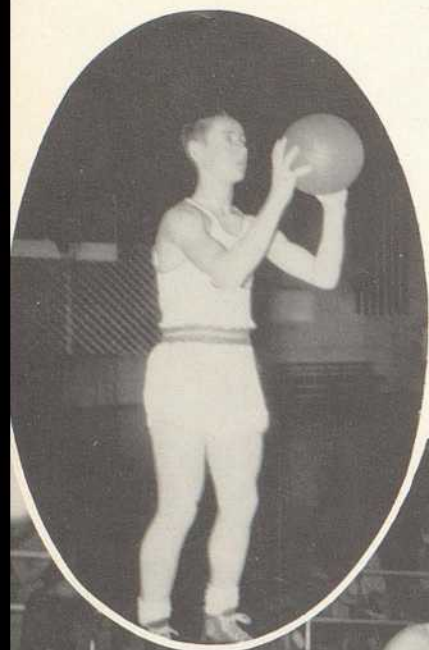
FRESHMAN TEAM

FIRST ROW: Matthew Wollenman, John Bettag, Donald Helming, David Seufert, Dickie Leinenbach, Joe Backer, Coach Mark LaGrange. BACK ROW: Manager Ray Vaal, Dennis Werne, James Knust, Leon Olinger, Clifford Werne, Timmy Fischer, Robert May.



PETER GERBER

ROBERT MOHR



JAMES LEINENBACH

Top Center: LARRY BACKER

JOHNNY SEUFERT

GENE LaGRANGE

Center: JAMES LEINENBACH
No. 40

DANNY HAUSER



VINCENT RUHE



LEROY MCKITTRICK

Top Center: LEANDER MEHLING



DAVID DAUNHAUER



DENNIS DURCHOLZ

Center: DANNY HAUSER
No. 20



FRESHMAN GIRLS' GYM CLASS



Ferdinand Fans at Sectional - Tell City - Where St. Ferdinand was Runner-up

Basketball



The Seniors had as one of their projects a donkey basketball game. The Senior boys played against some business men of the community. This is an event which will not be forgotten, as can plainly be seen by the pictures.

"STAR DUST"

JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM

April 19, 1955



Mr. Alfred Snyder, Sponsor, crowning Rita Welp, Queen, with King, Larry Backer, standing by.



A Handsome Couple



Another Couple Posing in a beautiful Arch-way



Cutting the Cake



Does it ever taste good after all the hard work!



Dancing among Stars



Filling 'em up



Willie Bartley and His Orchestra



That first dance



Six happy seniors around the fish-pool



Stag Party at the Prom

Senior Class Play



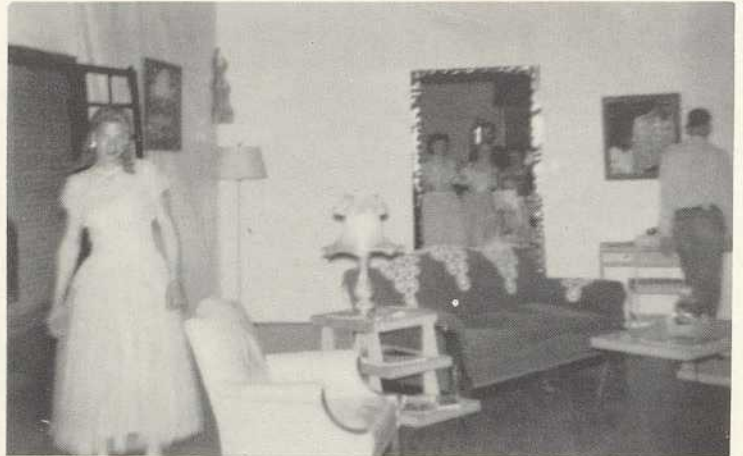
ACT I



ACT II



ACT II



ACT III



ACT III



MISS ALBA MENEGHEL
our director

Our class play, "IT'S A GREAT LIFE", was staged April 14 and 17

VOCATION SPEAKERS



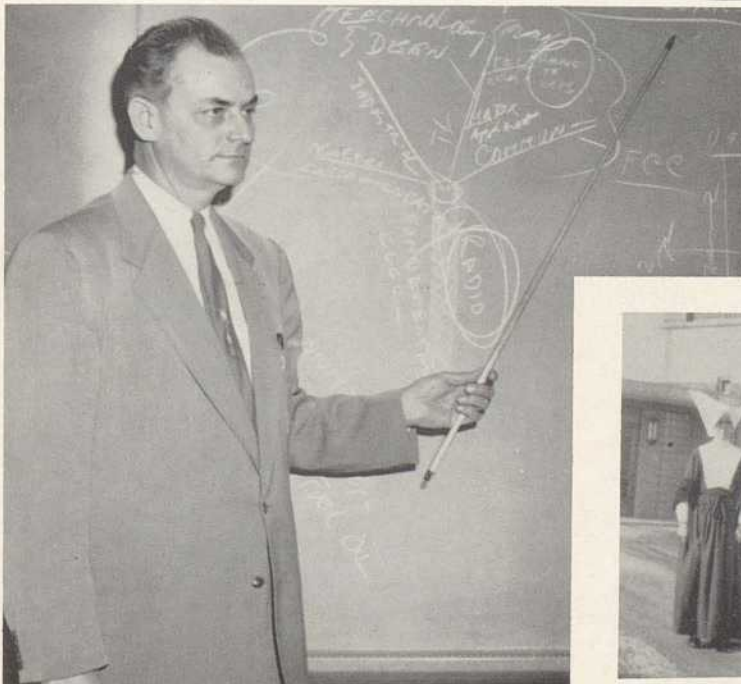
The Most Reverend Leo Arkfeld, SVD., D.D. Bishop Protonary Apostolic of the Diocese of Wewak, New Guinea of the South Sea Islands--in Flight over New Guinea visiting out-lying missions of his diocese--has earned the title, "the Flying Bishop."



BROTHER EYMARD, CSC.
Vocation Director



THE RIGHT REVEREND
MONSIGNOR JOHN N. DUDINE
National Consultant for
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work for the Catholic Stu-
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Sister Felicita, Sister Hilda,
Miss Nancy Apple, R.N.,

A. F. Allen - Chicago School of Electronics



MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

Marlene Jasper
Larry Backer



MOST COMICAL

Elsie Meyer
Kenneth Bolte



BEST DANCER

Rita Oeding
Joe Knust



FRIENDLIEST

Peggy Schnieders
John Laake



BEST DRESSED

Shirley Schnell
Harold Egler

MOST POPULAR

Kathleen Hassfurth
James Leinenbach



MOST SHY

Leonard Kitten
Delphine Denning



MOST ATHLETIC

Betty Durcholz
Robert Mohr

BEST LOOKING

Barbara Hoffman
Ralph Mullis



THE THREE CHILDREN OF FATIMA



In the summer of 1949, when the famous Fatima statue was honored for an entire week at St. Meinrad, three members of the Class of '55 of St. Ferdinand High School had the great privilege of impersonating the three holy children of Fatima; Francis Kloeck was little Francois; Susanna Douglas represented Jacinta; and Mary Ann Rupprecht portrayed Lucia. Every day the three children were in their places during the services and at various times they were a part of the pageant, riding on the beautiful float of Our Lady and marching in processions. Truly a great event, inspiring and beautiful.

TWINS



Joseph and Mary Knust



SISTER M. FREDERICA
Principal



REV. FRED W. DUDINE
Deceased December 29, 1953



Eugene M. and Eugenia Gehlhausen



SISTER MARY CARMIN
S. F. H. S.



SISTER MARY CARMEL
A. I. C.



Earl and Harold Kempf

VISIT OF THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

His Excellency the Most Reverend Amleto Giovanni Cicognani



LEFT TO RIGHT: Father David, O.S.B., Pastor; the Most Reverend Paul Schulte, D.D., Archbishop of Indianapolis; His Excellency the Most Reverend Apostolic Delegate; Father Edwin, O.S.B., Assistant Pastor of Ferdinand.

STAFF OF THE BLUE SHIELD - The School Paper



BACK ROW: Mr. J. Ralph Kessans, Sponsor; Rebecca Becher, Elsie Meyer. FRONT ROW: Ralph Mullis, Stanley Tillman, Shirley Schnell, James Leinenbach, Rita Oeding, Editor; Sarah Woebkenberg, Barbara Hoffman, Betty Durcholz.



"Called to the service of the Master."

Miss Gladys Schlachter, Class '55 - after May 31, Sister Mary Leona, O. S. B.

The Class of 1955 of S. F. H. S. is justly proud of one of their number being called to the special service of God in the Religious Life. We are grateful, too, for the grace which God has given to Gladys to "leave all and follow her Spouse, Christ, in her chosen field." We wish her abundant satisfaction and happiness in her vocation, and we ask her to remember us in her prayers.

Congratulations to you, dear Sister Mary Leona!

ANNUAL STAFF



ANNUAL STAFF

BACK ROW: Sister Frederica, O.S.B. Principal and Year Book Sponsor; Barbara Hoffman, Betty Durcholz, Rebecca Becher, Mary Ann Rupprecht, Elsie Meyer, Delphine Denning, Rita Welp, Gerald Jacob. FRONT ROW: Ralph Mullis, Stanley Tillman, Shirley Schnell, Anthony Auffart, Assistant Business Manager; Marlene Jasper, Irene Bolte, Co-editors; John Laake, Business Manager; Kathleen Hassfurth, Pearlina Bartley.

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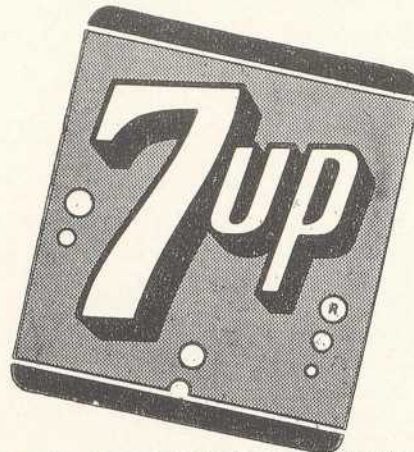
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