

Reaching the graduates of Grand Blanc High School

Bobcat *Alumni* Banner

11920 S. Holly Rd
Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439

The Alumni Newsletter of Grand Blanc High School



Volume I, Number 2

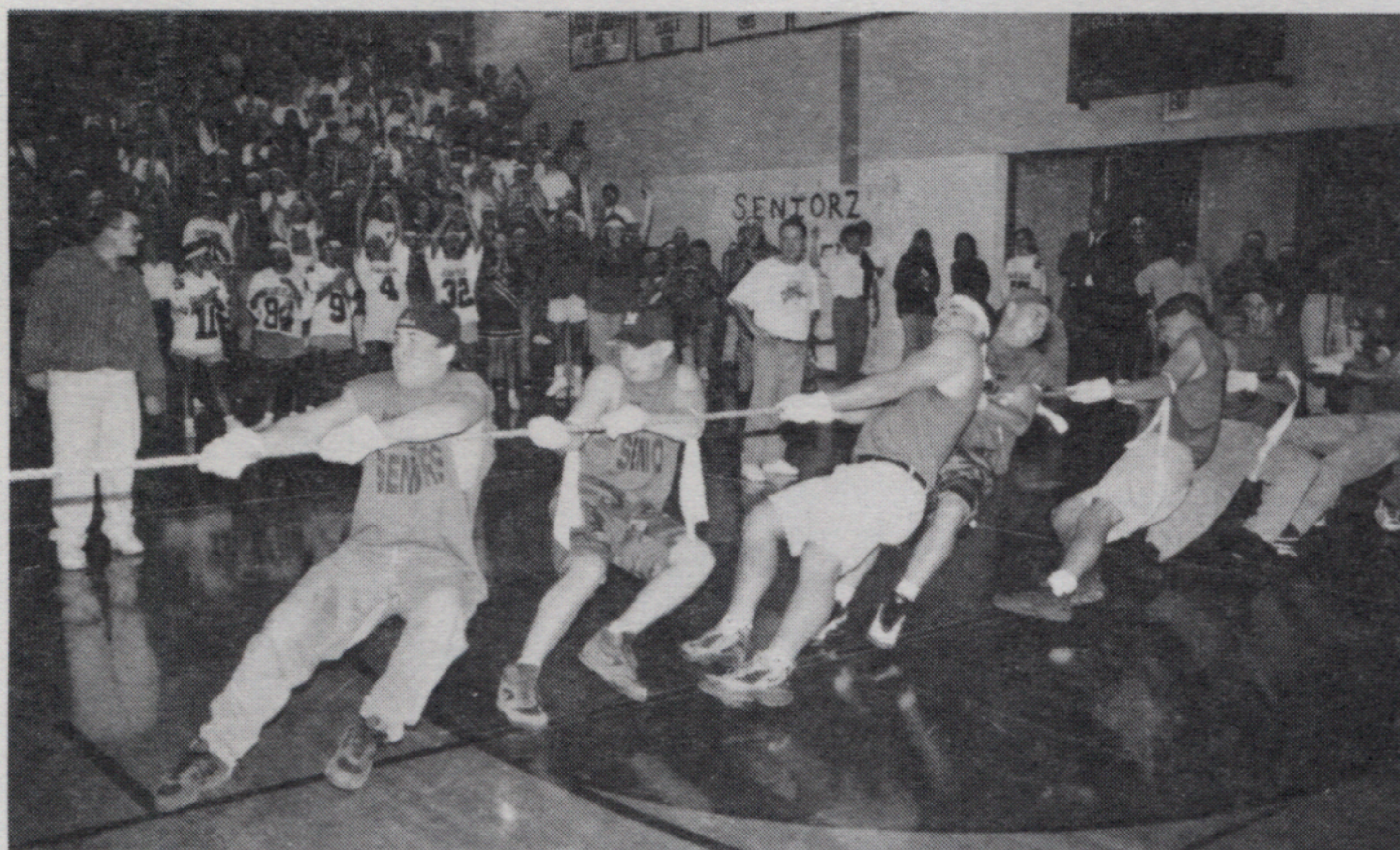


Homecoming queen Andrea Gaines '96 waves to parade-goers during annual parade down S. Saginaw Street

GBHS Celebrates 75th Homecoming

Excitement and competition filled the minds and hearts of GBHS students on Friday, October 20 as the sophomores took the victory over the entire school during inter-class games and the float competition. Despite the rain and freezing cold weather, the parade marched proudly down Saginaw Street to the Grand Blanc Coliseum where senior Andrea Gaines was crowned the 1995 Homecoming Queen.

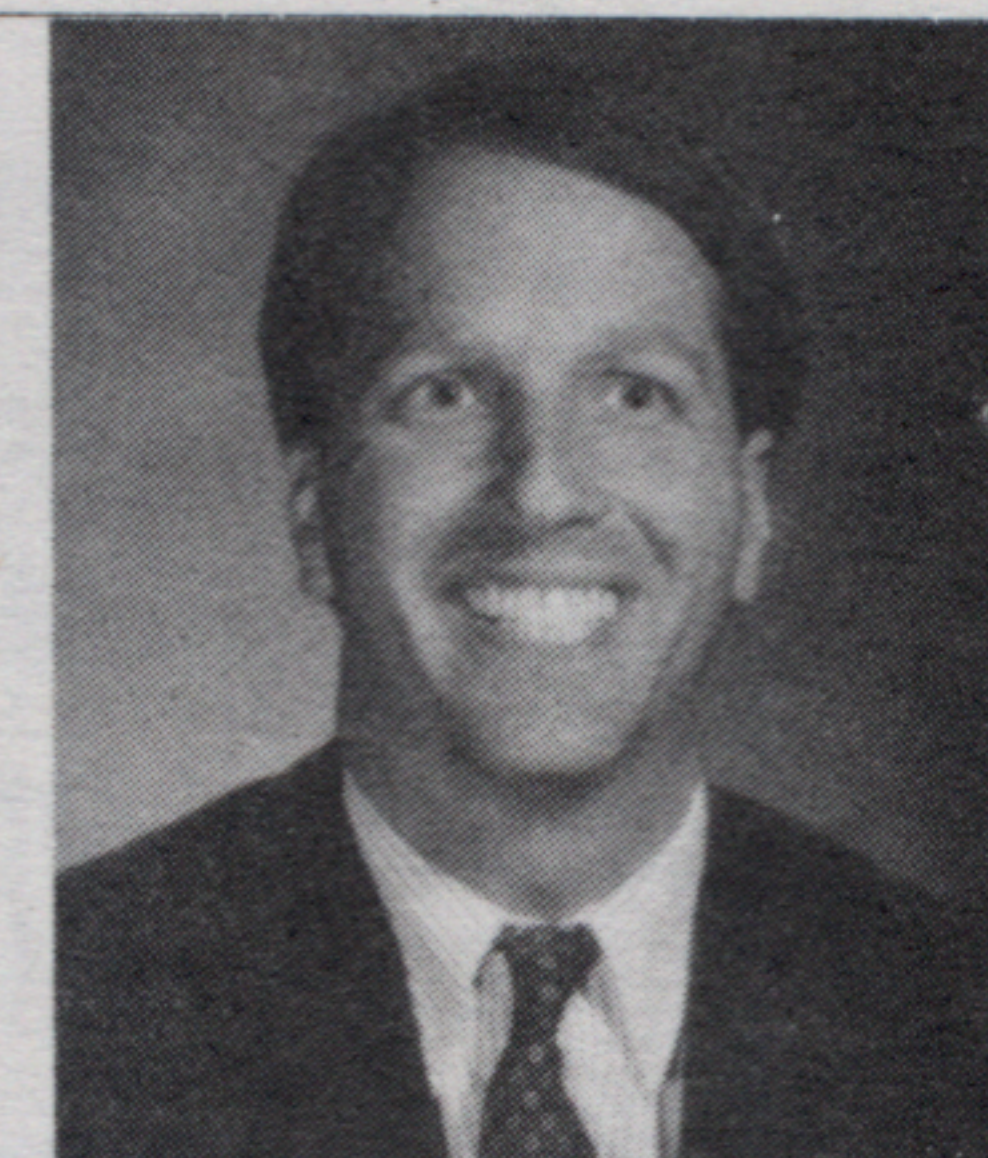
Immediately following at the football game, the Carman-Ainsworth Cavaliers defeated the Bobcats 35-13, despite two touchdowns by Nick Nickola '96. The Homecoming festivities concluded Saturday night at the semi-formal dance with over 700 students attending.



1996 senior boys tug-o-war team pull to victory in Interclass Games

A Message from the President

Charlie Carmody '80
Alumni Association
President



A sincere thank you to everyone for their financial contributions and sharing of ideas, old pictures, and interesting stories. Through your contributions we are able to produce another issue of the *Alumni Banner*. The Alumni Association received over 600 responses from our first newsletter. We are currently in the process of updating alumni addresses so if you know of any address changes, please forward them to the Alumni Association. Our goal is to produce two editions a year, winter and spring, with the resources we currently have. If you have not yet made your contribution for 1995, it's not too late. The *Alumni Banner* is entirely written and published by Grand Blanc High School journalism students for GBHS alumni. Use the enclosed envelope to send us old photos, messages, and suggestions for future stories.



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Christopher Odette '69

Football in the school was a great comradery," recalls Odette, a former Bobcat football player. In 1968, as captain of the varsity football team, Odette led the Bobcats to a 5-4 slate. Looking back, Odette reminisced about a memorable moment in football.

"We played our Homecoming game during a Saturday afternoon and there were thousands of people there. It was really exciting." The Bobcats went on to blast the Davison Cardinals that day, coming in with a fantastic finish of 13 to 7.

He also went on to be a key runner for the varsity track team. Odette served as Student Council President and was a member of the National Honor Society and *The Banner*. His passion for government didn't stop there. Today, Odette serves as the 67th District Court Judge.

"Grand Blanc sure has changed," says Odette, "but it's still a great place."

Odette lives in Grand Blanc with his wife Peggy and their three children.



Odette leads the Bobcats to victory in 1968

Ducking for Dollars

And they're off! Imagine thousands of ducks racing through the rapids of Thread Creek in Rust Park, crossing the finish line as the roar of the crowd echoes like thunder. Ok... how about a few hundred little yellow plastic ducks meandering down the creek, some caught in the creek's edge, some stalled by weeds, some eventually crossing the finish line? Anyway you look at it, the First Annual Duck Classic, sponsored by the Grand Blanc Educational Foundation, successfully raised enough money to award cash prizes totaling \$1000 to the first seven duck entries to cross the finish line. Participants in the event paid five dollars for each entry. Profits from the Duck Classic as well as the First Annual Golf Scramble, held this summer, will be steered toward extended educational opportunities within the Grand Blanc School district by the Educational Foundation. The Foundation, which sponsors the Alumni Newsletter, welcomes any financial support which may be in the form of direct contributions, bequests through a will, life insurance policies, charitable trusts, memorial gifts or private foundation transfers. For more information on how you can make a difference in education, please write or call:

Bruce Blevins, Chairman
Grand Blanc Foundation Board of Directors
11920 S. Saginaw Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Phone (810) 694-8211 Ext. 114
Fax (810) 694-1269
Michigan Charitable Solicitation #715-465

Change of Address? Questions? Comments?
Please contact the Alumni Association at
810-695-7378

or

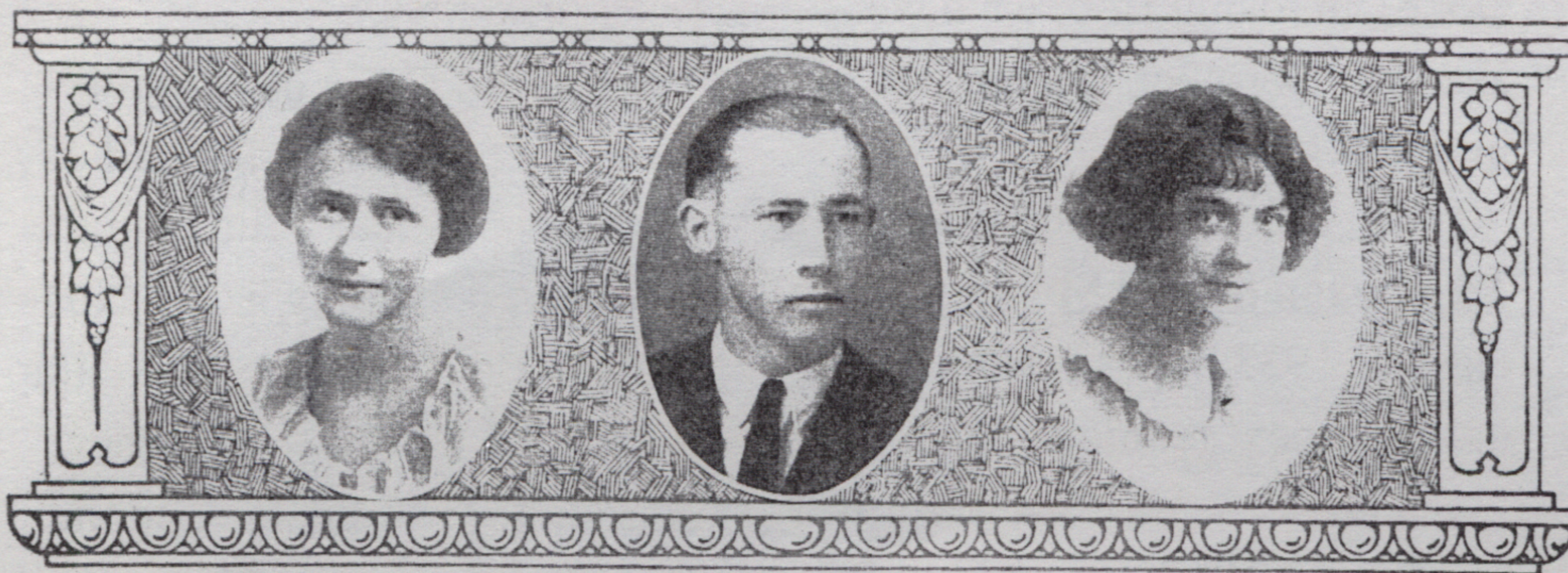
GBHS Alumni Association
11920 S. Saginaw
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

In the next edition...

Reunion information

Teacher Feature: Jim Rule

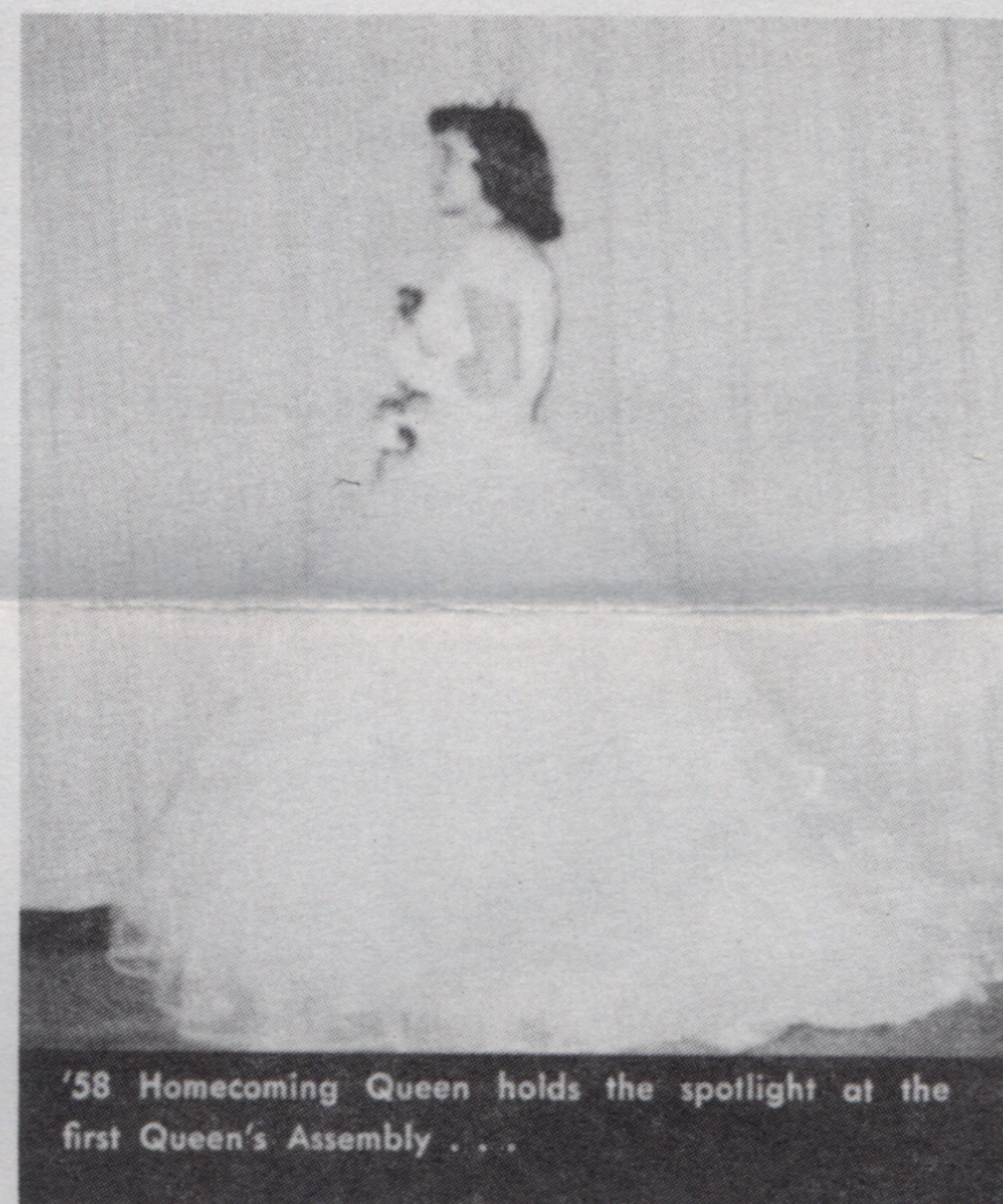




Left: The senior class of 1922 included only three seniors: Ethel Tyler, Valedictorian; Ernest Somers, President and Berneda Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer. The class began the school year with 11 students but, for various reasons, only 3 were left to graduate. Out of these three, Ernest Somers became a judge and the mayor of Grand Blanc.



Left:
Harry Smith,
Neomi
Voltenburg,
Virgil McDowell,
Jennie
Waterous,
Florence Spencer and Frances
Gorney celebrate their
1937 graduation
with a trip to
Mackinac Island.



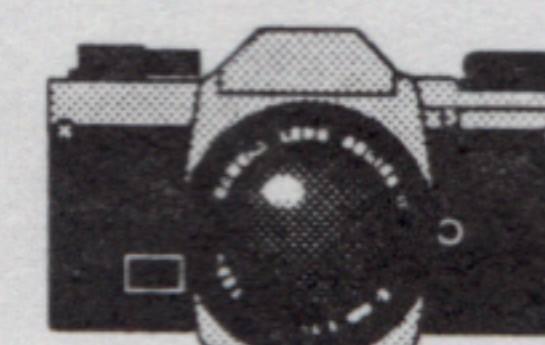
'58 Homecoming Queen holds the spotlight at the first Queen's Assembly . . .

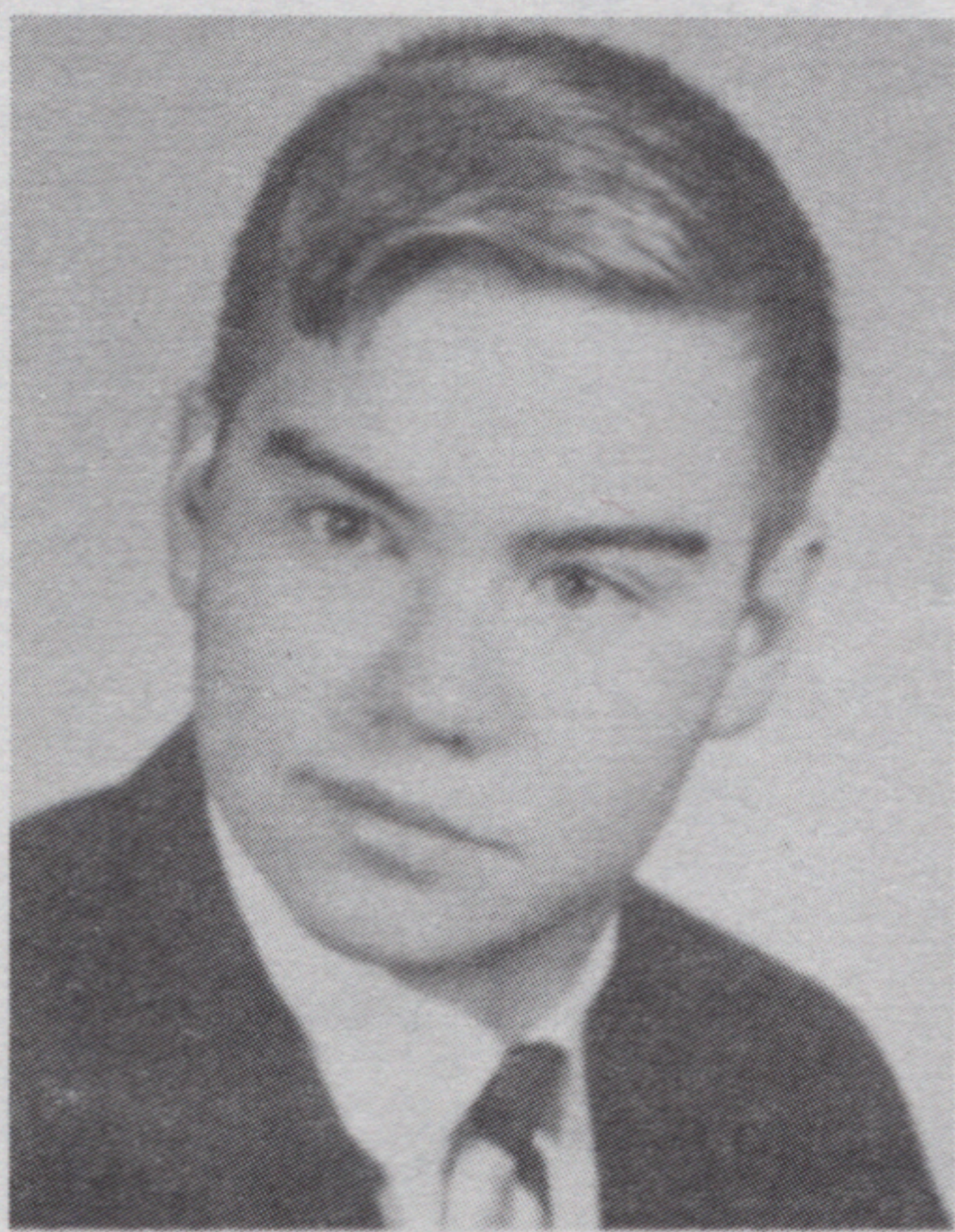
Above: Betty Jennings was only a freshman in 1957 when she was chosen Homecoming Queen.



Above: A new T.V. show, The Flintstones, inspired this scene as the class of '62 stormed into the gymnasium on June 6, 1961 to answer the "Senior Challenge" from the class of '61. Cave-man junior Dayton Newman '62 addresses the crowd.

Do you have old photos you would like to share in future newsletters? Please send your identified photos to the **GBHS Alumni Association, 11920 S. Saginaw St. Grand Blanc, MI 48439.** We will return them!





Catching up with the Valedictorian of 1969, Herbert Foresman

Attention class of 1969! Many of you may be curious to find out what happened to your classmates after graduation and what paths they have taken in life, especially your Valedictorian. The top of the class of 1969, Herb Foresman, has become Herb Foresman, M.D.

After graduating from GBHS, Foresman attended Michigan State University where he earned his B.S. in Biology/Computer Science. In 1977, he earned his medical degree. He moved to Oregon when he decided to do his residence training there upon completing medical school.

Dr. Foresman is a family doctor in Milwaukie, Oregon, where he specializes in pediatrics and obstetrics. He has even delivered nearly 2,000 babies!

In addition, he has also earned his pilot license. He's been married to his high school sweetheart, Darlene Haynes, who also graduated from GBHS in '69, for twenty-four years. They have two children, Aaron, 12, and Alena, 11, who are aspiring lawyers and want to attend the University of Michigan Law School.

Looking back upon his high school memories, Dr. Foresman says he mostly misses his high school friends, some of whom he still keeps in touch with.

He would like to extend a special "hello" to Larry Lafontaine, Bill Mestrezat, and Carl Gano. His chemistry teacher, Mr. Keith Burget, was his favorite throughout high school. When asked why, Foresman replied, "He would swear in German at the students."

Throughout his four years at G.B.H.S., one of the things he enjoyed most was attending sporting events. His all time favorite high school memory is prom night with the girl who would become his wife. However, he doesn't miss high school dances because he claims he was an "awkward dancer."

Reflecting on his shining moment as Valedictorian of his high school class, Dr. Foresman says, "That success and experience became the pattern I followed in college, medical training, and life in general." Through good teachers and hard work he says he has learned that any goal can be accomplished if it is wanted bad enough. After all, he has accomplished one of his lifelong goals in becoming a successful doctor.



Grand Blanc Stadium Blankets

Our acrylic stadium blankets are 45 by 60 inches and come in either red or black. The black blanket is in the classic design with the traditional, staggered, red letters "GB" sewn in the middle. The red blanket has the bobcat's face along with the words "Grand Blanc Bobcats" surrounding it. The blankets come in a vinyl garment bag with a zipper closure.

The cost for one blanket is \$40 (includes shipping and handling). Please make your check or money order payable to: Grand Blanc High School.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Color: _____ Quantity: _____

Please mail back to:
Grand Blanc High School
Junior Achievement
12500 S. Holly Road
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Your blanket(s) will be mailed to you as soon as possible. Thank You.





Mr. Joe Jewett

Mr. Joe Jewett taught at Grand Blanc High School for forty-one years and was respected and loved by the students, faculty, and the Grand Blanc Community alike. Mr. Jewett still resides in Grand Blanc and remembers the days when Hill Road wasn't paved, 4H and Future Farmers of America were booming clubs, and the "new" High School property was farmland owned by Sam Crapser. "I love Grand Blanc. The people are friendly and I've been friends with them all my life," declared Mr. Jewett.

Joe Jewett taught Biology, General Science, Agriculture, and Horticulture while also in charge of the school's 4H and FFA clubs. After retirement in 1980, Mr. Jewett continued to guide the 4H club for 5 more years. The Grand Blanc High School 4H club, while under Mr. Jewett, was the largest in the state of Michigan. The high point for the club was the summer show held at Grand Blanc School. Typically 200 to 300 Genesee County 4H members, which included many Grand Blanc students, would participate in the fair.

"We were the best. I had good kids; a lot of winners. That's hard to be, and I appreciate what they did. The kids brought home the trophies."

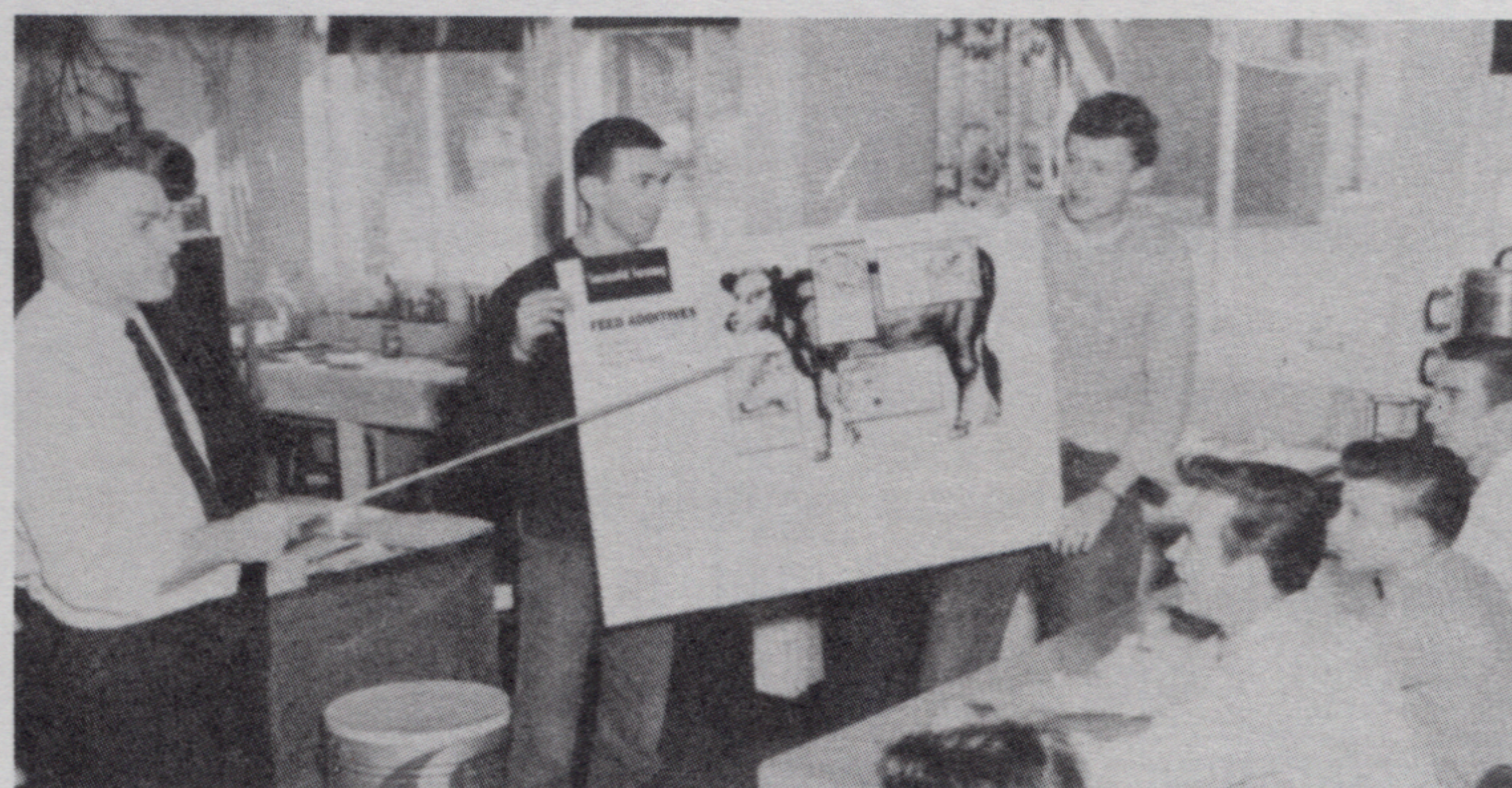
Another event that the 4H students enjoyed was the trip to Chicago every three years to visit the stock yards. "We were the best. I had good kids; a lot of winners. That's hard to be and I appreciate what they did. The kids brought home the trophies."

The FFA at Grand Blanc was the best out of 300 chapters for three different years. "Grand Blanc had the best farm boys," he boasted.

Mr. Jewett's devotion to the community was apparent in the way he taught his classes. "We did our lab work raising corn, trees, flowers, and shrubs around the school. Beautification was one of our goals," he stated. He would often take the sheep dipping tank out to the local farmers to rid their sheep of ticks and other parasites.

Little acts of kindness like this were nothing out of the ordinary for him. In fact, these simple gestures won the respect and admiration of the community, and in return, they named a road after him; Jewett Trail. "I have always felt it a great honor," he remarked, referring to the road which borders the high school, middle school and Brendel annex.

Today Mr. Jewett and his wife Helen enjoy their retirement in the same home where they raised their three children. Mr. Jewett is still an active Mason and member of his church. He also participates in a Liars club made up of former students and co-workers. "I'm still alive, feeling good, and would appreciate a note or letter from a former student. It means a lot to me."



In 1959 Mr. Jewett's agriculture class pays close attention while he points out the anatomy of a cow.

You can write to Mr. Jewett at:
11609 Schram
Grand Blanc, MI 48439



Messages.....

To the class of 1936 and all

G.B. grads: We in Oklahoma thank you for your prayers and support following the April 19 bombing of our Federal Building.

-Terence J. Little

To the class of 1936: Hi. I'm sober and kicking!

-Hugh C. Gundry

To fellow classmates: Please write to us with names and addresses for our Reunion next August 1996. 3602 Sherry Lane. Flint, Mi. 48506.

-Class of 1976 Reunion Committee

To Cindy, Scott, and Mark

Sassack: Hope all is going as well as it can. We also wanted you to know that you are not

alone. In losing Bob, we have also lost a brother. Please keep in touch.

-Love, Clark, Jeff, Jerry, and Bill
To Marion Stiefel Sprang: Your class of 1933 hopes you will join us at our next reunion.

-Class of 1933

To class of 1963: I would like to know where my classmates are and what they are doing. What about a class letter?

-James (Jim) Brown

To anyone who knows: What happened to my chemistry teacher, Mr. Baer?

-Rebecca Mosse Fischer

To the class of 1986: Why was there no five year reunion? When is the ten year?

-Wende S. Elliot

Memories.....

Vera Koth, Class of 1938:

I remember one nasty late fall day, Mr. Bachelor had written on the blackboard in study hall. "No football practice today, too damp and cold." Some smart student erased the "p" of damp and the ampersand, leaving "No football practice today, too dam cold."

Joan Batchelor, Class of 1945:

Grand Blanc was a good community and school during my years living there. My heart never left Grand Blanc - I return every year.

The Bobcat Alumni Banner is a publication of the Grand Blanc High School News Publications class.

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