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Chronology Biography of Collins School

1882 – 1983

My Life of Education

101 years

Part VII Era

Fall 1952 – Spring 1956

Primary source: Collins Gazette

FREE

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Collins Alumni

Dedication

Who – The entire Collins School Community – School Board Members – Faculty Members – Transportation Staff – Maintenance Staff – Food Service Staff – All Students attending with near 1500 graduates.

What – A well-earned sincere tribute to all those acknowledged below for achievements of the past that we recognize and retain for posterity.

When – Today and *Tomorrows* unto the Horizon.

Where – Throughout the Collins Community and Beyond; Border to Border and Sea to Sea to all with Collins Heritage plus others unlimited.

Acknowledgements

To - Authors of “Collins Alumni 1892 – 1979,” Anna (Stevens) (Moses) Wesenauer (1924), Alice (Heintz) Marsh (1926), Frances (Denniston) Gilley.

To – Author of “Remember When – Collins and Collins Township 1848 – 1976,” Verlie (Etnier) Huggins (1958)

To – Authors of “A Century of Living – Collins, Iowa, 1882-1982” Anna (Stevens) (Moses) Wesenauer (1924), Donna (Huntrods) Ose (1933), Esther (Downing) Jacobson, Alice (Heintz) Marsh (1926), Vera Vasey, faculty member.

To – Collins Library (Librarian Chris Evans-Winfield), and City of Collins (City Clerk Theresa Findlay).

To – Collins-Maxwell Community School District

To – Maxwell Community Museum – Maxwell, Iowa

To – The many, many, many others who provided helpful information and other assistance

Collins School Chronological Journey

Part VII Era: Fall 1952 – Spring 1956

August 14, 1952 Collins Consolidated School will begin September 1. The High School building has undergone a thorough redecorating and needed repairs taken care of during the summer. The **faculty**: E. E. Jackson – Supt. (Algebra and Physics); Robert Lawson – Prin. (Geometry and Commercial); Louis Schrader – Social Science and Athletics; Joann Underwood – Home Ec and General Science; Mrs. E. E. (Miriam) Jackson – English and Dramatics; Robert Graves – Voc. Ag.; James Hart – 7th and 8th Grade and High School Vocal Music; Mrs. Florence Lewis – Grade School Music, Junior High and H. S. Band; Mrs. James (Mary) Hart – 6th Grade; To Be Filled – 5th Grade; Grace Vincent – 4th Grade; Anna Meeker – 3rd Grade; Marie Jacobs – 2nd Grade; Clara Brown – 1st Grade; Valee Snow – Kindergarten. **Bus Drivers**: Marlin Long (Rt. 1 – Northwest, 36 riders); Joe Tiffany (Rt. 2 – West and South, 34 riders); Dick Keagle (Rt. 3 – South, 39 riders); Fred Elliott (Rt. 4 – East and South, 38 riders); Lloyd Campbell (Rt. 5 – Northeast, 36 riders). **Hot Lunch Cooks**: Mrs. Flora Morrison, Mrs. Hazel Johnston, Mrs. Myra Vasey.

August 28, 1952 Approximately 350 teachers will attend the **Story County Teachers Institute** in Ames' school building on August 29. The theme of the Institute will be "The Improvement of Pupil Adjustment to Guidance." The teachers will be divided into four sectional groups. The teachers can attend different sections in the morning and afternoon to hear discussions of different topics.

September 11, 1952 Optic Staff: Editor – Phyllis Jeanie Carroll; **Assist. Editor** – Dale Derby; **Feature Editors** – Mary McGrane, Sandra Long; **Girls' Sports** – Dorothy Long; **Boys' Sports** – Jack Koehler; **F. F. A.** – Howard Hofer; **Reporters: High School** – Reda Smith, **Junior High** – John Vasey, **Grades** – Maris Slauson; **Typists** – Lee Ann Ridgeway, Dolores Milligan.

Class Officers – Seniors: Pres. – Jack Koehler, Vice Pres. – Bob Moses, Sec.-Treas. – Phyllis Jeanie Carroll, Student Council – Donald Johnson, Sponsors – Supt. Jackson, Mrs. Lewis; **Juniors**: Pres. – Dale Derby, Vice Pres. – Marilyn Carver, Sec.-Treas. – Reda Smith, Student Council – Carla Smith, Sponsors – Prin. Lawson, Mrs. Underwood; **Sophomores**: Pres. – Maris Slauson, Vice. Pres. – Tom Reese, Sec. – Janet Evans, Treas. – Mary McGrane, Sponsors – Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Graves; **Freshmen**: Pres. – John Vasey, Vice Pres. – Jim Dodd, Sec.-Treas. – Jerry Nichol, Student Council – Jim Wilson, Sponsor – Mr. Schrader. **Eighth Grade** – Pres. – Daisy Maxwell, Vice Pres. – David Maxwell, Sec.-Treas. – David Fitzgerald, Sponsor – Mr. Hart. **A complete listing of all students by grades is printed in the September 11, 1952 issue of the Collins Gazette newspaper.**

Baseball – Collins lost the opening game of the fall season to Slater 8-2. The Clippers scored one run in the 1st, Slater tied the score in the 2nd and went on to win 8-2. **Lineup**: Ronnie Long (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (1b) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (3b) 2 hits; Don Johnson (p) 0 hits;

Jerry Nichol (c) 0 hits; Dale Derby (rf) 0 hits; Jack Koehler (cf) 0 hits; Gary Coughenour (lf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 0 hits; Rex Morrison (cf) 0 hits; Gene Fitzgerald (lf) 0 hits.

September 18, 1952 - School Enrollment is 263 with 56 in high school and 207 in 1-8 grades. Grade enrollment is: Kgt. – 27, 1st – 18, 2nd – 25, 3rd – 31, 4th – 33, 5th – 25, 6th – 19, 7th – 19, 8th – 16 totals 207; 9th – 24, 10th – 12, 11th – 15, 12th – 8 totals 56 for a grand total of 263, 137 are girls and 126 boys. Eighty of the pupils live in town and 183 are rural residents. There are 56 tuition pupils with 50 in the grades and 6 in high school from the following districts: Ashton – 16, Harsh – 16, Pleasant Grove – 5, Clyde – 5, Ind. Jasper County – 3, Indian Creek – 1, New Albany – 10. **Average daily attendance last year was 243 students.**

High School Subjects - English (4 years), Algebra, Business Training, Bookkeeping, Geometry, Typing, World History, American Government, General Science, Homemaking, Vocational Agriculture (4 years), Physics, Vocal Music, Band, Physical Education, Athletics.

Financial - Total taxable school district valuation of Collins Consolidated School District = \$2,278,688 and the indebtedness balance of the district is \$15,000.

September 25, 1952 The seniors were dismissed from school to gather **advertising for the annual**. We wish to extend our thanks to the merchants and business people who helped us.

The **officers of the Parent Teachers Association (PTA)** entertained the standing committees, home-room mothers, faculty members and their families at a tea in the Home Economics room Wednesday, after school.

Grade News: Ktg. – We have been telling stories of our pets at home and drawing pictures of them. We are learning about trains and pictures were drawn of them with colored chalk. Wednesday afternoon a movie was shown to us on “Trappers Festival of the Northwest.” They have contest events such as sled and dog team races, fishing from holes cut in the ice, snowshoe races, climbing poles covered with ice, and election of the queen. **First** – We wrote numbers from 1 to 100 to pin on our bulletin board. For Language, we told stories about a picture and guessed what the picture said.

October 2, 1952 Freshmen Initiation - The freshmen and sophomore classes were required to write themes of their viewpoints. **Sophomore view:** Friday morning the halls were filled with many strange characters, lo and behold they were freshmen. The ancient world was meeting the world of tomorrow; Mr. and Mrs. Caveman, the presence of Uncle Zeb from Kentucky with his jug of moonshine, Big Chief and his squaw, Buffalo Bill, a gypsy and hobo, the cigarette girl from the Stork Club, Captain Video. We sophomores ridiculed the freshmen and embarrassed them to some extent. I really believe they enjoyed it, although they wouldn't tell us so. **Freshmen view:** The week was full of excitement as we had to find costumes to wear and also worry about what we had to do initiation night. We didn't have to do much in the daytime, but this was made up for at night. The most humorous was performed by Jim Dodd, much to his embarrassment, had to put on women's clothes. This got pretty technical before he was done. There were also other interesting stunts. After the initiation, there was a party with dancing

and refreshments. The freshmen enjoyed all the things that happened this initiation day and I think we should have a party to repay the sophomores – John Vasey.

Music – The Collins School band, Mrs. Florence Lewis, teacher, sponsored an amateur contest Friday evening in the high school auditorium. A fine program was very well presented and a **free will offering was taken for the band's benefit. First prize** in the contest to Carla Smith, Janet Evans, Reda Smith, and Marilyn Carver (Shirley Smith, accompanist) for their can-can dance. **Second prize** – Janet Evans for piano numbers. **Third prize** – D. G. Partridge, vocal solo. **Special mention** – Zola Gilley, vocal solo; Gary and Jimmy Bates, accordion duet. Others participating – Darwin Luing, Pamela Luing, Betty Taylor, Esther Swaim, Linda Wiese, Wiese trio, Partridge trio, Alice and Carroll Smith, Mary Perin, Gary Wycoff, Edward Smith, James and Robert Lewis, Mary Wiese, Charlene Luing, Dorothy Hand. Others providing entertainment were: The Twirlers – Daisy Mary Maxwell, Sandra Smith, Verlie Etnier, and the School Band.

Future Farmers of America (F. F. A.) – Elected new officers: Pres. – Robert Moses; Vice Pres. – Howard Hofer; Sec. – Dale Derby; Treas. – Jack Koehler; Reporter – Richard Thomas; Sentinel – Gene Fitzgerald. The retiring officers informed their successors of their particular duties and escorted them to their stations. Past year officers were: Pres. – Darrel Moses; Vice Pres. – Reno Milligan; Sec. – John Duesbury; Treas. – John Carver; Reporter – Jack Koehler; Sentinel – Jim Anderson.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins – First round – Collins 13, Cambridge 5;
Semi-finals – Elkhart 13, Collins 3. (Insert 2005: No additional information and box scores found)

Fall 1952 Baseball Season Summary: Collins **won** – Cambridge 14-2; Shipley 3-2. **Lost** – Slater 8-2; Huxley 14-4; Farrar 4-3; Elkhart 13-1. **Sectional Tourney:** Collins **won** – Cambridge 12-4; **Lost** – Elkhart 14-3. **Season Record: Won** – 3; **Lost** – 5. Collins had four to five freshmen in the starting lineup. John Vasey (56) and Don Johnson (53) were the pitchers and Jerry Nichol (56) was the catcher. **Refer** to Spring 53 Baseball Season Summary.

October 9, 1952 – Freshmen News: The freshmen and sophomore agricultural class went to Monroe to see the Pfister seed corn plant and cornfields. This is a week we have a radio in the study hall to listen to the World Series baseball games.

Hot Lunch Menu: Mon. – Steamed hamburger sandwich, scalloped corn, raw carrot sticks, canned apricots, milk; **Tues.** – Minced ham sandwich, mashed potatoes with butter, cheese slices, carrot and pineapple Jell-O salad, peanut butter cookies, milk; **Wed.** – Scalloped chicken, green beans, lettuce and tomato salad, bread and butter sandwiches, chocolate pudding, milk; **Thurs.** – Meat balls and spaghetti, buttered carrots, hot rolls, raisin cake, milk; **Fri.** – Peanut butter sandwiches, scalloped potatoes with cheese, boiled egg halves, cooked cabbage or peas and carrots, canned peaches, milk. There were 4,061 meals served during the month of September.

Parent Teachers Organization (P.T.O.) The homeroom mothers for grades third, fourth, and sixth entertained the pupils' mothers and teachers at teas in the school building. The homeroom hostess for the

third grade was Mrs. Orville Smith, for the fourth grade Mrs. John Crabb, for the sixth grade were Mrs. Wm. Duesbury and Mrs. Wayne Evans.

October 16, 1952 Junior Class Play – “Granddad Steps Out,” a three-act comedy will be presented October 24 in the school auditorium. **The Cast:** Dale Derby – Granddad; Reda Smith – Mrs. Morton, his daughter; Marilyn Carver – Tillie, the maid; D. G. Partridge – Kip, the grandson; Carla Smith – Betty, the granddaughter; Howard Hofer – Jim from Arizona; Mary Perin – Miss Abbey, a nosey neighbor; Zola Gilley, Beverly Neese, Geri Luing – the Norwood triplets, new neighbors, Trudie, Judy, and Ludie; Bill Buck – Detective; Sandra Long – Mrs. Feeney. Music between acts will be furnished by the mixed quartet – Carroll Smith, Maris Slauson, Sandra Long, Rex Morrison, and accordion numbers by Gary Luing.

Humor – Mr. Schrader, “Why are the Medieval Centuries called the Dark Ages?” Max Bach, “Because it was Knight Time.”

Basketball Schedule: Nov. 4 Farrar (H), 6 Elkhart (H), 11 Cambridge (T), 14 Colo (H), 18 Huxley (T), 21 Maxwell (H), 25 Baxter (H). Dec. 2 Shipley (T), 5 Slater (H), 9 Farrar (T), 12 Cambridge (H), 16 Colo (T), 23 Mingo (T). Jan. 2 Huxley (H), 6 Maxwell (T), 9 Eldora Training School (Boys first and second) (H). Feb. 3 Shipley (H), 6 Slater (T), 13 Clemons (T).

October 23, 1952 Honor Roll: Freshmen – Mary Hickie, John Vasey, Jim Dodd; **Sophomores** – Clara Maxwell, Tom Reese, Mary McGrane; **Juniors** – D. G. Partridge, Dale Derby, Reda Smith, Marilyn Carver; **Seniors** – Lee Ann Ridgeway, Dorothy Long, Jack Koehler.

Story County Career Day – The Juniors and Seniors attended the event at the Nevada High School. The purpose of Career Day is to acquaint the students with information they may need to help them choose their occupations. The student was allowed to attend three classes, which are chosen from a wide selection covering many fields. At the closing session, entertainment was furnished by the Y. M. C. A. quartet from Iowa State College.

November 6, 1952 A Halloween Party was given by the **F. F. A.** with the high school students and faculty as guests. The lunchroom (on the upper floor of the 1909 grade school building) was decorated with corn shocks and pumpkins. There was round dancing, music presentations, and a humorous Halloween skit. Lunch was pumpkin pie with whipped crème and punch.

Grade News: Ktg. – We were very happy to receive new books for our room. We have read “Caboose” and “All Falling Down;” **Third Grade** – In Arithmetic, we are working subtraction facts with numerals through 10. In Reading, we are working on the alphabet sequence of letters, preparing for dictionary work. In Language, we are learning the rules for making good reports. This will help us when we talk in front of the class.

November 13, 1952 Basketball – The **girls** opened the season by defeating Farrar 49-47. We have four new girls in the starting lineup: Dolores Milligan, Reda Smith, Janet Evans as guards, and Mary McGrane as post forward. Top scorers were Dorothy Long with 26 points and Mary McGrane with 22. The **boys** also opened their season at Farrar, losing 46-35. Carroll Smith was high point with 14 and Kilgore followed with 7. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

Basketball – The **girls** defeated Elkart in a close-scoring game 62-58. Collins' scoring was Mary McGrane 30 points, Dorothy Long 18, and Jeanie Carroll 14. The **boys** won an exciting hard-fought game over Elkhart 47-42. Halftime score was 21-21 and Collins trailed by one point at the third quarter mark. Collins' scoring was Jack Kilgore - 16, Carroll Smith – 13, John Vasey – 12. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

The **Adult Evening School** was held November 10. The Commercial Law class discussed the topic of bills and notes. The homemaking class discussed making use of the broiler. Demonstrations were given and the women contributed their ideas on the use of the broiler. The Agriculture class topic was Efficiency in Farming. There was a lively discussion on some of the shortcuts that could be employed to take some of the time, labor and expense out of everyday farming tasks.

November 20, 1952 Basketball – The **girls** suffered their first defeat of the season at Cambridge 45-43. The girls started slow and had a strong fourth quarter, falling short 2 points. Scoring was very balanced for Collins. Mary McGrane – 17, Dorothy Long – 14, Jeanie Carroll – 12. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

Basketball - The **girls** suffered their second defeat 51-21 to Colo. The Colo out forwards were excellent shooters. The **boys** defeated Colo in a thrilling 46-34. The score was within 2 to 3 points until the fourth quarter when Collins came on strong to win by a 12-point margin. Leading scorers for Collins were Jack Kilgore – 13, Carroll Smith – 10. (Insert: Box scores not found for above games).

Grade News: Second – In Numbers, we have been studying about money. We are also working on the reading and writing of large numbers. For Reading and Language, we are learning to write sentences to answer questions. Sometimes we forget capital letters and periods. **Third** – In Science, we are making charts showing the requirements of animals and plants for growth.

December 4, 1952 Sophomore News: In Geometry we are studying distance. It might sound a little easier than “congruent triangles and parallel lines,” but it makes us think just the same. In English, we are studying sentences, their construction, verbs, adverbs, and the rest of the parts of speech. In World History, we have studied the old English customs, the ruling families, and the progress of England. Also, we have studied the Renaissance, its effect, and influence on the world. In General Business, we are studying insurance.

Regular meeting of the **F. F. A. chapter** was held November 20. We initiated the “chapter farmers,” raising them from the “green hand” degree. **Those initiated are:** Jack Koehler, Dale Derby, Gene Fitzgerald, Max Bach, and Tom Reese.

December 11, 1952 Basketball – The **girls** lost a hard game with Shipley 57-56. The game was close all the way with Collins ahead at the half, 31-29. Collins scoring: Dorothy Long – 27, Mary McGrane – 14, Jeanie Carroll – 13. The **boys** defeated Shipley in another very close game 41-36. Collins gained their lead in the last quarter for the win. Collins' leading scorers: John Vasey – 16, Jack Kilgore – 13. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on above games)

Basketball – The **girls** were defeated by Slater 51-45. Collins trailed at the end of the third quarter 42-29, but closed the gap to 6 points by the end of the game. Leading scorers for Collins were Dorothy Long – 21, Mary McGrane – 10. The Collins **boys** lost to a fine quality Slater team 65-37. Jack Kilgore fouled out of the game in the second quarter. Leading scorers for Collins: John Vasey – 11, Jack Kilgore – 8, Carroll Smith – 6. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on above games)

December 18, 1952 Christmas at Collins High School. The study hall is decorated with lights, assorted ornaments, angel hair, and we have a big Christmas tree given to us by Gus Hay. We also have evergreen branches placed above the front door with lights on them.

Freshmen News: In General Science, we are studying a very interesting topic on electricity and atoms. We made reports about atomic energy and how it should be controlled. Many of the boys and girls in our class are in the mixed chorus.

Basketball – The **girls** won their first conference game by a 2-point margin over Cambridge 58-56. The **boys** dropped a rough game to Cambridge with a score of 56-36. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on above games)

January 8, 1953 Basketball – The Collins **girls** dropped a close game to Huxley 58-53. The entire team showed much improvement since the last few games. The changing of Janet Evans to forward and Jeanie Carroll to guard proved to be very profitable. In our last game with Huxley they beat us about 30 points. Leading scorers for Collins: Dorothy Long – 24, Mary McGrane – 18, Janet Evans – 11. The Collins **boys** dropped a tough game to Huxley. After leading for three and a half quarters, Huxley went ahead to win 51-45. Leading scorers for Collins: Jack Koehler – 15, Carroll Smith -11. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on above games)

January 15, 1953 Semester Honor Roll: Freshmen – Marjorie Hickle, Rex Morrison, John Vasey, Jim Dodd; **Sophomores** – Jack Kilgore, Mary McGrane, Tom Reese, Clara Maxwell; **Juniors** – Dale Derby, D. G. Partridge, Reda Smith, Marilyn Carver; **Seniors** – Jack Koehler, Dorothy Long, Lee Ann Ridgeway. Minimum 24 points are required. The scoring is A -8, B-6, C-4, D-2, F-0, perfect attendance – 2 points.

Story County Girls Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins lost to Zearing in a closely played game 64-59. This was the only meeting of these teams during the season. (Insert: Box score not found)

Basketball – The Collins **boys** lost a thrilling overtime game to Eldora Training School 56-54. Eldora took an 8-point first quarter lead. Collins came back strong for a very close game. Leading scorer: John Vasey – 23. The Collins **boys** also lost to Maxwell 44-41. Top scorers: Jack Kilgore – 15, John Vasey – 10. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on above games)

January 20, 1953 The **Iowa Tests of Basic Skills** were given pupils in grades 3 through 9. The basic skills tested in the Iowa Tests are: Reading and Vocabulary, Work Study Skills, Language Skills, and Arithmetic Skills. These tests are designed to show how well the pupil has mastered the basic skills. Finding the pupils' weak areas may help both the teacher and pupil to improve those skills.

January 29, 1953 Girls Sectional Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins lost to Cambridge 46-39. Collins won by 2 points on the earlier season game. Mary McGrane was high scorer for Collins with 20 points. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

Story County Boys Basketball Tournament at Roland: First round - Collins defeated Milford 61-50 after trailing by 10 points at the half. Collins tied the score midway in the third quarter and went on to win 61-50. Leading scorers: John Vasey – 19; Jack Kilgore – 16, Jack Koehler – 10.

Second round – The boys were defeated by Slater by a score of 67-32. Slater has a high quality team. Jack Kilgore was top scorer for Collins with 13 points. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on the above two games)

Who's Who in C. H. S. – Our active Miss Who's Who of this week is 5, 6", 15 year old sophomore with blue eyes and blond hair. She lives on a farm southeast of Collins. Her favorites are: Color – blue, Food – Cherry Pie, Past-time – eating; TV Program – Arthur Godfrey; Pet Peeve – Long assignments; Secret Ambition – Go to Florida. She sings alto in the glee club and mixed chorus, is part-time librarian, plays forward and guard on the basketball team, plays in the band and is secretary of the sophomore class. Our Miss Who's Who is Janet Evans, alias Priscilla.

February 5, 1953 Editorial – Although I should do a little “practicing of what I preach,” I would like to emphasize the need and usefulness of the school paper. I think it is almost necessary as an informer of school activities to people throughout the township. In a school of this size, there is sports news, grade news, a feature occasionally, and often individual interviews. The idea is that we must all support this important school project. It is up to all of us to keep this “informer” active, informing our community of the everyday events of our school. Dale Derby.

The Defense of Teenagers – What's wrong with the modern teenager? I say nothing is wrong with them. You say they slop around in the oddest clothing. Well, let's get out the family album. There is Grandma and Grandpa; they certainly don't look very comfortable; Grandma with a health ruining corset, her long sleeves and high collar, and her heavy-lined long skirt and Grandpa with his celluloid collars and cuffs.

Basketball – The **girls** lost to Maxwell 68-47.

The **boys** beat Maxwell 60-47 on the home court. The boys were never behind with the top scorers John Vasey – 24, Jack Kilgore – 18 and Jack Koehler – 9 points. Ronnie Long and Carroll Smith played fine defensive game. Maxwell had defeated Collins in the earlier season game by 3 points. (Insert 2005: Box scores for above games not found)

February 12, 1953 Basketball – The **girls** lost to Shipley on the home court 48-36. The girls had 9-8 first quarter lead, trailing 20-16 at halftime and Shipley stretching the lead to 48-36 final score. High scoring for Collins: Dorothy Long – 21, Marjorie Hickle – 8, Betty Spooner – 7. The **boys** defeated Shipley 60-43 with leading scorers Jack Kilgore – 19 and John Vasey – 15. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found on the above two games)

Girls Basketball Season Summary – Collins **Won:** Farrar 49-47; Elkhart 62-58; Baxter 57-42; Cambridge 58-56. **Lost:** Cambridge 45-43; Colo 51-21; Huxley 69-36; Shipley 57-56; Slater 51-45; Slater 46-43; Farrar 73-60; Colo 55-33; Mingo 55-51; Huxley 58-53; Maxwell 46-41; Maxwell 68-47; Shipley 48-36; Clemons 53-50; **County Tourney** Zearing 64-59; **Sectional Tourney** Cambridge 46-39. **Season Record:** Won – 4; Lost – 16 (8 losses by 5 points or less).

The Girls' Basketball Team Members – The starting six members: Dorothy Long (53) (f) (409 pts.); Mary McGrane (55) (pivot-f) (316 pts.); Phyllis Jeanie Carroll (53) (f/g) 103 points; Janet Evans (55) (g/f) 49 points; Reda Smith (54) (pivot-g); Dolores Milligan (53) (g). Other team members: Maris Slauson (55) (f); Betty Spooner (56) (f); Marjorie Hickle (56) (f) Lee Ann Ridgeway (53) (pivot-g); Clara Maxwell (g); Zola Gilley (g). Sandra Long (55) – Manager; **Coach** - Louis Schrader.

Boys Sectional Basketball Tournament: First round – Although Collins played a very good ball game, they lost to a smooth-playing Van Cleve team by 10 points 51-41. Collins led briefly in the first quarter, with Van Cleve taking the lead and going on to a 51-41 win. High scoring for Collins: Jack Kilgore – 17, John Vasey – 9. Van Cleve won the sectional tournament championship, defeating Rhodes. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

Boys Basketball Season Summary – Collins **Won:** Elkhart 47-42; Colo 46-34; Baxter 56-48; Shipley 37-36; Mingo 49-38; Maxwell 60-47; Shipley 60-43. **Lost** – Farrar 46-33; Cambridge 50-38; Huxley 53-37; Farrar 57-34; Cambridge 58-36; Colo 56-37; Huxley 51-45; Maxwell 44-41; Eldora Trng. Sch. 56-54; Slater 63-51; Clemons 61-24. **County Tourney: Won** – Milford 61-50; **Lost** – Slater 67-32. **Sectional Tourney: Lost** – Van Cleve 51-41. **Season Record:** Won – 8; Lost – 13.

The Boys' Basketball Team Members – The starting five members: John Vasey (56) (f) 260 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 259 pts.; Carroll Smith (53) (f) 157 pts.; Jack Koehler (53) (g) 115 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 81. Other team members: Gene Fitzgerald (55); Gary Coughenour (54); Dale Derby (54); Jerry Nichol (56); Jim Dodd (56); Jerry Coughenour; Rex Morrison (56); Bob Rice (56). **Coach** – Louis Schrader.

Now that basketball season is over, we are now going to play **volleyball**. Teams will be drawn and tournament will begin this coming Wednesday.

March 5, 1953 On February 26 the girls basketball team went to the Drake University field house in Des Moines to see the girls state tournament. We wish to thank Mr. Smith and Mr. Schrader for taking cars. We greatly enjoyed the games.

Sportsmanship in a general sense covers a lot of territory. If everyone practiced sportsmanship to the very letter, the world would undoubtedly be much better. In our school, for instance, sincere sportsmanship can start a sort of chain reaction. Several good examples of this were shown in a film presented recently at C. H. S. on the subject of "Contagious Courtesy," which is really a small part of sportsmanship. If one person shows they are really trying to be a good sport, some of the efforts usually rub off on friends and persons with whom they associate. Hence, a "chain reaction." Actually, one can apply the rules of good sportsmanship to life itself. If we all follow the rules, it is no telling what the turn of events might be. Let's try it sometime and find out. Asst. Editor - Dale Derby.

March 12, 1953 School Election – With only 48 votes cast Monday, Thayer Derby, unopposed, was elected for the three-year term as school director to succeed Ernest Hofer. G. L. Kimberley was re-elected treasurer for a two-year term.

The **second Annual Parent-Son banquet of the Collins Future Farmers of America (F. F. A)** was held March 7. The banquet was conducted in the form of a special meeting, using regular opening and closing ceremonies and having the dinner as the predominant item of business. Twenty members and 46 guests were present. Our speaker was Hampton T. Hall, State Supervisor of the F. F. A and Vocational Agriculture, who gave us an interesting talk on the origin and purposes of the F. F. A. The Welcome to Parents and Guests was given by Jack Koehler, with Norman Partridge and Mrs. Lee Morrison very ably handled the responses. D. G. Partridge sang two solos, accompanied by Janet Evans. Don Johnson and Jerry Nichol presented other special entertainment. Guy Elliott and Bradford Stevens were named **honorary members** because of the help and cooperation they have given us during the past year.

The **Freshmen** gave a party in honor of the sophomores with the whole high school invited last Friday night. Each girl had to put one of her shoes into a basket. The boys took a shoe from the basket and then had to find the girl it belonged to. When he found her, they danced the first dance. This got the party started in flying fashion. For lunch we had sandwiches, punch and potato chips. John Vasey.

March 19, 1953 A very lovely spring program is planned for the March meeting of the Collins **Parent-Teachers Association** on March 23. The third grade, under the direction of Mrs. Anna Meeker and Mrs. Florence Lewis, teachers, will present "Spring Glow," an operetta in three acts. Cheryl Partridge will sing a solo and Darwin Luig will play a trumpet solo between acts. The glee club, mixed chorus, and girls' sextet will sing some numbers. Maris Slauson and D. G. Partridge will present solos. Chairmen of the lunch committee are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lawson.

March 26, 1953 Friday and Saturday the **Music Contest** will take place at Boone. **Following are participating: Vocal Solos** – D. G. Partridge and Maris Slauson; **Girls Sextet** – Carla Smith, Reda Smith, Mary McGrane, Marilyn Carver, Janet Evans and Sandra Long; **Mixed Quartet** – Maris Slauson, Carroll Smith, Sandra Long, Rex Morrison; **Boys' Quartet** – Dale Derby, John Vasey, Carroll Smith, D. G. Partridge. Sandra Long will accompany the **Girls Glee Club**, and Mrs. Hart, teacher, will accompany the remaining groups.

Sophomore News – In Business Training, the girls have been learning different types of filing systems, how they are used, and how to arrange names and topics for filing. The boys in Agriculture took Farm Shop the past six weeks. World History has been interesting the past few weeks since we have been studying the World War and events leading up to the WW II. This included class discussions of the Big Four, Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin, and the World Depression. Some time ago, we finished our English books, so we now are studying Literature. The sophomore and freshmen spent a rather tiresome day taking I. Q. tests. We finished off by taking a preference test, which was designed to show our preferences as to life work or careers.

The boys' basketball team was in Iowa City Thursday to view the state tournament.

April 2, 1953 Music Contest – We are certainly proud of our ratings. **Mixed Quartet** – I Rating; **Vocal Solos** – Maris Slauson, I Rating, D. G. Partridge, II Rating; **Trumpet Trio** – II Rating; **Cornet Quartet** – III Rating; **Girls' Sextet** – unable to participate. **The I Rating of the Mixed Quartet and Maris Slauson will go to the State Contest finals.**

“Alibi Bill,” is the name of the three-act farce **senior class play** to be presented April 17 in the high school auditorium. **The cast:** Bob Moses – Benson, a dignified butler; Dorothy Long – Lucy, the prim maid; Jack Koehler – Bill Smith, the young husband; Donald Johnson – Jimmy Robinson, the young stranger; Dolores Milligan – Aimee Smith, Bill's wife; Lee Ann Ridgeway – Mrs. Kennedy, Bill's mother-in-law; Phyllis Jeanie Carroll – Daisy Montaine, the actress; D. G. Partridge – Ned Kennedy, Bill's brother-in-law; Carla Smith – Miss Jones, Ned's real fiancé; Carroll Smith – The Cop, always gets his man.

April 9, 1953 Grade News: Third – In Arithmetic, we are learning how to multiply with two-figure numbers. Also learning to multiply with 1 and 0, which is sometimes confusing. In our free time, we are cataloging and indexing our library books. **Fourth** – first signs of spring, Linda Horn and Gay Hudson brought us our first pussy willows.

Baseball – Collins avenged a defeat of last fall by collecting 11 hits to defeat Elkhart 13-5 on their diamond. Don Johnson pitched 7 innings. Runs – 5, hits – 2, strikeouts - ?, walks – 1. Jerry Nichol caught. Vasey led the hitting with a triple and a double. **Lineup:** Long – 1 hit; Vasey 2 hits; Johnson – 2 hits; Kilgore – 2 hits; Smith – 2 hits; Koehler – 0 hits; Nichol – 2 hits; Fitzgerald – 0 hits; Dodd – 0 hits; Coughenour – 0 hits; Derby 0 hits; Rice – 0 hits; Ballard – 0 hits; Morrison 0 hits; Laird – 0 hits.

April 16, 1953 The **Second Annual Basketball Athletic Banquet** was held April 7. The Junior High teams attended this year. Frank Casey, Athletic Director of Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, was guest speaker and we all enjoyed his address. Dorothy Long presented the high school girls' team and Jack Koehler presented the high school boys' team. The girls' quartet, consisting of Reda Smith, Maris Slauson, Janet Evans and Mary McGrane, sang "Side by Side." Maris and Sandra Long sang "My Happiness." We want to thank the various committees and Mr. Jackson for another successful banquet.

News Corner – A number of students, especially in the lower grades, are out of school this week with the measles.

Baseball – The boys won their second game, defeating Maxwell 8-2 on the home diamond.

John Vasey pitched allowing only 2 hits. Jerry Nichol caught and was leading hitter with 3 singles.

Lineup: Long – 1 hit; Dodd – 0 hits; Johnson – 2 hits; Kilgore – 0 hits; Smith – 2 hits; Nichol – 3 hits; Fitzgerald – 2 hits; Coughenour – 1 hit; Vasey – 1 hit; Koehler - 0 hits; Derby – 0 hits; Laird – 0 hits; Rice – 0 hits.

April 23, 1953 Baseball – Collins ran their string to three in a row by defeating Rhodes 14-6 at Collins. After leading 4-0, Rhodes team blew up and let 10 runs score for Collins in the 3rd inning. Don Johnson pitched 7 innings. Runs – 6, hits – 4, strikeouts ?, walks – 6. Jerry Nichol caught. Rhodes pitcher gave up only 3 hits, but walked 13 and hit 6 batters.

Collins avenged another defeat of last fall by winning over Farrar 6-2 for their fourth consecutive win. After leading 2-0 for five and a half innings, Evans of Farrar hit a home run with one on to tie the score. Collins came back and scored four runs on an error, stolen base, a triple by Carroll Smith, singles by Nichol and Fitzgerald and a double by Ronnie Long. John Vasey pitched 7 innings. Runs – 2, hits – 3, strikeouts ?, walks – 1. Jerry Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Ronnie Long (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (p) 1 hit; Don Johnson (lf) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore – (1b) 0 hits; Carroll Smith (cf) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (c) 1 hit; Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (ss) 0 hits; Jack Koehler (rf) 0 hits.

Collins lengthened their string of victories to five by defeating Shipley 12-1. John Vasey was the winning pitcher. The Collins team collected 9 hits.

April 30, 1953 The seniors were the guests of honor at the **Junior-Senior Banquet in the Club Room at the Municipal Airport in Des Moines**, Friday evening, April 24. The other guests included the high school faculty and their wives. The theme of the banquet was "The Covered Wagon." This was carried in the decorations and toast programs. The program followed with Dale Derby as toastmaster and Mr. Graves, D. G. Partridge, Jack Koehler, and Supt. Jackson responding. Music was provided by Dale Derby and Gary Luing. When the banquet was concluded, some of the students went to the show and others went to the Tromar Ballroom.

Baseball – Collins advanced to the **final round** of the **South Story Conference Tournament** by defeating Huxley 7-4. After trailing 2-0 in the 1st inning, Collins collected 3 runs in the bottom of the 1st, 2 in the 2nd, and 2 more in the 4th. Extra base hits were a triple by Kilgore and double by Johnson and

Dodd. Don Johnson pitched a fine game, 7 innings, runs – 4, hits – 6, strikeouts (?), walks – 4. Jerry Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Ronnie Long (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (1b) 0 hits; Don Johnson (p) 2 hits; Jack Kilgore (lf) 1 hit; Carroll Smith (cf) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (c) 0 hits; Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 0 hits; Gary Coughenour (rf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 1 hit.

Finals – Collins had a bad day in losing to Slater 11-1 at Maxwell. Collins collected 6 hits in scoring their 1 run. (Insert 2005: No box score found)

May 7, 1953 The student council chose Dorothy Long to represent Collins in the **Popularity Contest** during the **centennial** at Nevada. The high school students will be selling tickets and she will receive 1,000 votes for each child's ticket and 500 votes for each adult ticket. Prices are .75 for adults and .50 for children. Besides the queen, there will be five attendants and we would like to have Dorothy among the six.

Baseball – Collins won a tight game from Maxwell on **John Vasey's (56) first high school no-hit, no-run game 1-0**. Collins scored their lone run in the 5th when Nichol walked, stole second, went to 3rd on an error, and scored on another error. Carroll Smith got Collins only hit, a triple. (Insert 2005: Only one hit away from a double no-hitter.)

Baseball – Collins won over Nevada 4-1. Collins defeated a strong Slater team 8-7. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found).

May 14, 1953 The 61st annual **Commencement Exercises** of the Collins High School will take place in the school auditorium Thursday evening, May 21. Dean - Roy A. Cheville of Graceland College, Des Moines, will deliver the commencement address. **Members of the class of 1953** are: Phyllis Jean Carroll, Donald Johnson, John Koehler, Dorothy Long, Dolores Milligan, Robert Moses, Lee Ann Ridgeway, Carroll Smith.

School Calendar – Baccalaureate May 17; Semester Exams - May 18, 19, 20; Senior Class Day and Eighth Grade Graduation – May 20; Commencement Exercises – May 21; No School – May 21; Junior-Senior Prom – May 22; Last Day of School – May 22.

Baccalaureate Services for the class of 1953 will be held at the Church of Christ Sunday Evening, May 17, at 8:00 P.M. The Rev. Derrald Hoffman, pastor of the Church of Christ will deliver the sermon. He will be assisted by the Rev. Louis Joslin of the Methodist Church and Rev. G. M. Talbott of the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Music will be furnished by the high school.

On May 8th, the Seniors went to Pella for their **Skip Day**. The annual Tulip Festival was a big success although we didn't see many tulips in bloom because of the weather conditions.

The Judges' Impressions of Collins School Concert Band - Remarks: Tone – surprisingly good sonority (clearness of tone) for such a small group; Technique – adequate for music performed; Accuracy – generally good; Rhythm – good in general; Glockenspiel (bell lyre) – behind slightly in "Fairy Bells" at times; Interpretation and Musicianship – good; Stage Presentation – Second sax and

trombone played with legs crossed. This looks very bad from audience; Balance – good; Intonation – generally good. Woodwind pitch needs improving in “Fairy Bells,” first sax sharp at times. General Remarks: greatest criticism would be stage deportment, the crossed legs and the foot patting which is so very apparent to your audience and looks unprofessional. Keep time with your toe inside your shoe, but don’t move the whole foot. Very fine work on the whole, especially with so many young players in the group. Band shows excellent training. Fine potential.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Mingo: First round – Collins vs. Bye;

Semi-finals – Collins defeated Baxter 11-0.

Finals – Collins defeated Altoona 4-1 to win the **sectional championship**. (Insert 2005: Box scores not found)

District Baseball Tournament: First round - Collins lost to Slater. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

Spring 1953 Baseball Season Summary: Collins **Won** – Elkhart 13-5; Maxwell 8-2; Rhodes 14-6; Farrar 6-2; Shipley 12-4; Maxwell 1-0; Nevada 4-1; Slater 8-7. **Conference Tourney:** Collins won over Huxley 7-4; Collins lost in the finals to Slater 11-1. **Sectional Tourney:** Collins won over Baxter 11-0, Altoona 4-1 for the **championship**. **District Tourney:** Collins lost to Slater. **Season Record** – Won 11, lost 2.

Team members: Donald Johnson (53) (p/lf); John Vasey (56) (p/1b); Jerry Nichol (56) (c); Jack Kilgore (55) (1b/lf); Ronnie Long (55) (2b); Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) Jim Dodd (56) (ss); Carroll Smith (53) (cf); Jack Koehler (53) (rf); Gary Coughenour (54) (of); Bill Ballard (56) (of); Bob Rice (56) (of); Larry Laird (56) (of); Rex Morrison (56) (of); Jerry Coughenour (of). **Coach** – Louis Schrader.

Next Wednesday afternoon, May 20, at 1:30 P.M., the seniors will have their **Annual Class Day**. They are preparing a program that includes music, a short skit, and a quiz show, which will include several underclassmen as guests. This program is for fun and we hope our friends will consider themselves cordially invited to attend. The class awards and letters will be presented. **Also, there will be a brief program for presentation of diplomas to the eighth grade graduates.**

May 21, 1953 Collins Eighth Grade Graduation was held on May 20. **Graduates are:**

David Fitzgerald, Ben Clark, Donna Frerichs, Dale Garner, Janice Heintz, Jill Kilgore, Jimmy Lewis, Larry Kloppenborg, Myrtle Kloppenborg, David Maxwell, Glen Novinger, Daisy Maxwell, Elliott Partridge, Norlyn Smith.

May 28, 1953 High School Junior-Senior Prom was held Friday, May 22 without the alumni attending. The decorations, put up by the juniors, were of the Senior class colors, teal and silver. Behind the bandstand was a large horseshoe, denoting the theme “Diamond Horse Shoes.” Teal and silver streamers were centered above the grand stand.

Class Day Awards were presented on Wednesday, May 20: **Valedictorian** – Lee Ann Ridgeway; **Salutatorian** – Jack Koehler; **Citizenship** – Dorothy Long, Donald Johnson; **Girls’ Athlete** – Dorothy Long; **Boys’ Athlete** – Donald Johnson; **Activity Pins** –

Lee Ann Ridgeway, Dorothy Long, Jack Koehler, Phyllis Jeanie Carroll (Presented to the seniors who have accumulated 200 points or more throughout their high school career); **Danforth Foundation Award for Leadership:** Dorothy Long, Jack Koehler; **Girls' Basketball** – Reda Smith, Phyllis Jeanie Carroll, Dorothy Long, Dolores Milligan, Lee Ann Ridgeway, Marjorie Hickie, Mary McGrane, Janet Evans, Betty Spooner, Sandra Long – Manager; **Boys' Basketball** – Gene Fitzgerald, Jack Koehler, Carroll Smith, Jack Kilgore, Ronnie Long, John Vasey, George Keagle – Manager; **Boys' Baseball** – Gene Fitzgerald, Carroll Smith, Donald Johnson, Ronnie Long, John Vasey, Jim Dodd, Dale Derby, Jerry Nichol, Gary Coughenour, Jack Koehler.

There were 153 in attendance at the **61st Anniversary** dinner and dance of the **Collins Alumni Association** at the high school gym Saturday evening. The two-course dinner was served at 7:00 by the ladies of the Collins Christian Church. Program entertainment was: Tap Dance by a group of children; two songs by the High School Girls' Sextet; two solos by D. G. Partridge. All were accompanied by Janet Evans, piano. The business session was conducted by Charles Kimberley, President. **Officers elected** for 1954 were: Lowell Holmes – Pres.; Lloyd Holland – V. Pres.; Doris Duesbury – Sec.-Treas. Dancing to the music of the "Lucky Seven," of Rhodes concluded the evening.

August 20, 1953 The **Collins Consolidated School** will open August 31 with the following faculty: **Supt.** - E. E. Jackson; **H. S. Principal** – Robert Lawson; **Athletic Director** – Louis Schrader; **H. S. English** – Mrs. E. E. (Miriam) Jackson; **Home Economics** – Virginia Gordon; **Voc. Ag.** – Robert Graves; **Music** – Rex Steddom; **7th and 8th Home Room** – Ruth Cross; **6th Grade** – Uleta Struthers; **5th** – Bruce Lilly; **4th** – Grace Vincent; **3rd** – Anna Meeker; **2nd** – Florence Rienstra; **1st** – Clara Brown; **Kindergarten** – Marilyn McPherson. The **school buses** will run practically the same routes as last year with **drivers:** Marlin Long – Northwest Route; Joe Tiffany – Middle South; Dick Keagle – South; Fred Elliott – Southeast; Lloyd Campbell – Northeast. **Hot Lunch** will be served each school day for \$1.25 per week with payment to teachers each Monday. **Cooks** are: Mrs. Flora Morrison, Mrs. Hazel Johnston, and Mrs. Myra Vasey. **Textbooks** will be rented to the pupils for \$2.50 for the year. The school buildings have been thoroughly cleaned and much redecorating has been done during the summer.

September 17, 1953 **Optic Staff: Editor** – Dale Derby; **Assist. Editor** – Mary McGrane; **Feature Editors** – Reda Smith, John Vasey; **Girls' Athletics** – Janet Evans; **Boys' Athletics** – Jack Koehler; **F. F. A. Reporter** – Gene Fitzgerald; **Music Reporter** - Sandra Long; **Grade Reporter** – Jill Kilgore; **Typists** – Marilyn Carver, Carla Smith.

Baseball – Collins won a thriller from Slater Wednesday 8-7. After leading 4-1 in the 4th, Collins blew their lead and fell behind 7-4. Collins tied the score in the last inning and then with one out and the bases loaded, Derby cracked a single, scoring Vasey with the winning run in the 7th inning. Long and Derby each hit a double. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (2b) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (c) 0 hits; John Vasey (p) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (cf) 1 hit; Dale Derby (rf) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (lf) 0 hits.

Baseball - Collins defeated Shipley 14-4 at Collins Monday. **Lineup:** Jim Dodd (ss) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (2b) 2 hits; Jack Kilgore (1b-p) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (c-lf) 1 hit; John Vasey (p-1b) 2 hits; Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 0 hits; Gary Coughenour (lf) 0 hits; Dale Derby (rf) 0 hits; Bob Rice (cf) 0 hits; Larry Laird (cf) 0 hits; Norlyn Smith (c) 0 hits.

Class Officers – Freshmen: Pres. – Jill Kilgore, V. Pres. – Mary Shultz, Sec.-Treas. – David Fitzgerald, Student Counsel Rep. – Daisy Maxwell; **Sophomores:** Pres – Jerry Nichol, V. Pres. – Jim Dodd, Sec.-Treas. – Donna Hand, Student Counsel Rep. – John Vasey; **Juniors:** Pres. – Tom Reese, V. Pres. – Clara Maxwell, Sec.-Treas. – Mary McGrane, Student Counsel Rep. – Jack Kilgore; **Seniors:** Pres. - Reda Smith, V. Pres. – Howard Hofer, Sec-Treas. – Marilyn Carver, Student Counsel Rep. – Bill Buck.

(Complete listing of students is in the September, 17 1953 issue of the Collins Gazette.)

Music – Our new teacher, Mr. Steddom, is getting well organized. The **band** was organized during the summer with 23 members taking part. Seven new members have been added and are doing fine in beginning work. The band has accomplished several new marches and an overture, which all the members enjoy playing. The **band officers elected** for the school year: Pres. – D. G. Partridge; Vice Pres. – Sandra Long; Sec. – John Vasey; Treas. – Jill Kilgore. The girls and boys **glee clubs** have been started with 22 members in each. Boys' tryouts have been completed and election of officers and singing will begin soon. The junior high will be organizing this year. The grade children will be looking forward to a rhythm band and operetta later on.

September 24, 1953 Freshmen Initiation – In English class the sophomores and freshmen had to write themes on the freshmen initiation. As the sophomores have charge of the initiation and the freshmen are the victims, the viewpoint differs somewhat. **Freshmen** - by Daisy Mary Maxwell: September 18, 1953 is the day I think most of us freshmen will remember because it was "Freshmen Initiation." If it weren't for calendars, some people might have thought it to be Halloween or April Fools' Day because of our costumes. During the day, we were requested by the sophomores to wear some kind of ridiculous costume: A bathing suit beauty – David Maxwell; A clown – Elliott Partridge; A hobo – Jill Kilgore, and many other costumes. To begin the evening we were all blindfolded and led around the auditorium and then on to the stage. Continued by **Sophomore** George Keagle: While still blindfolded they were divided into couples and while one person held a balloon his partner had to blow it up and break it without using their hands. Janice Heintz gave a very flattering speech on the topic "Why the Sophomores are so Smart." There were many other humorous stunts and events. We then went to the lunchroom to dance and near 10:00 a lunch consisting of sandwiches, potato chips, pickles and pop were served. The freshmen came out in very fine shape with no fatalities reported and are now looking forward to initiating next year's freshmen.

Junior High News - We have an enrollment of 31 students. **Officers elected:** Pres. –

Pat Fitzgerald; V. Pres. – Shirley Altes; Sec.-Treas. – Georgiann Briles. Our library staff is: Jane Ballard, Sheryl Smith, David Derby. Seven band members: Dorothy Hand, Sandra Smith, Mary Wiese, Sheryl Smith, Darwin Luing, David Derby, Dean Ellingsen; News Staff – Jane Ballard, Sharon Stratton, Shirley Altes, Georgiann Briles.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins: First round - Collins – Bye.

Semi-finals – Collins 1 Farrar 0. Collins won another thriller in the last half of the 8th inning against Farrar 1-0 on Kilgore's home run. Vasey pitched 8 innings. Runs – 0; hits – 3; strikeouts – 13; walks – 3. Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (2b) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (c) 2 hits; John Vasey (p) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (cf) 1 hit; Dale Derby (rf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (lf) 1 hit.

Finals – Collins over Elkhart 8-0 for **Sectional Tournament championship.** John Vasey pitched a no-hitter. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (2b) 3 hits; Jack Kilgore (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (c) 0 hits; John Vasey (p) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (cf) 0 hits; Dale Derby (rf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (lf) 1 hit.

District Baseball Tournament at Slater: First round – Collins lost to Slater 1-0. John Vasey pitched excellent game, 7 innings. Runs – 1, hits – 3, strikeouts – (?), walks – 1. Nichol caught. Slater scored their run in the last of the 7th by an error, stolen base and a base hit. Jim Dodd had the only hit for Collins. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (2b) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (c) 0 hits; John Vasey (p) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (ss) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (cf) 0 hits; Dale Derby (rf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (lf) 0 hits.

Fall 1953 Baseball Season Summary: Collins had successful season, **winning 5 and losing 1**, the only loss was to Slater 1-0 in the district tournament. John Vasey was our only pitcher. In six games he allowed 18 hits, pitching a no-hitter against Elkhart and two 2-hit games. The team batting average was .231. Leading hitters were - Ronnie Long .444, John Vasey .355, Jim Dodd .285. Jack Kilgore and Jim Dodd each hit one home run, Dodd and Long hit a triple apiece. Collins scored 33 runs to opponents' 15. **Refer to Spring 1954 Baseball Summary.**

October 1, 1953 School Work - School work is what you make it. A pupil may get A's and B's through grade school and then may say, "What's the use in working so hard when I can get by with doing hardly any work." When he (sic) gets into high school, he will begin to realize that his habits are catching up with him and is having more difficulty in receiving passing grades. If each pupil, from the time he comes into junior high until he graduates from high school, would form the habit of using his spare time industriously, and work for the highest possible grades, practically everyone could get a B average and many pupils could get A's. ~ George Keagle.

October 8, 1953 Junior Class Play – "When a man marries his troubles begin," an old saying once stated. What then will happen when a perfectly normal young bachelor needs a wife in a hurry? This is Jimmy Took's problem in the junior class play, "Here Comes the Brides," which will be given Friday evening October 23 in the school auditorium. The brides really will surprise you. The **cast:** Jack Kilgore – Jimmy Took who needs a bride; Gene Fitzgerald – Jimmy Took's buddy; Ronnie Long – Mr. Oswald,

young bill collector; Sandra Long - Aunt Ellen, Bill's aunt; Maris Slauson – Madge Burns, Jimmy's sweetheart; Tom Reese – Dan Took, Jimmy's wealthy uncle; Mary McGrane – Mrs. Duvall Smith, interested in Uncle Dan; Janet Evans – Bubbles Duvall, Mrs. Smith's younger sister; Clara Maxwell – Peg Westfield, Uncle Dan's ward; Max Bach – McDaniel, attendant at the sanitarium; Darlene Kelderhouse – Lady McBeth.

October 15, 1953 Music – Mr. Steddom explained a little about **marching band** this week. We found it very interesting and can hardly wait to get started on our marching band. **Beginners' band** now has grown to 20 members: George Ballard, Larry Conner, Linda Barker, Jimmy Crabb, John Tiffany, Cheryl Partridge, Sonja Dassenko, Buland Hennick, Claretta Smith, Colleen Dassenko, Dick Rice, Sharon Campbell, Shirley Kern, Linda Laughlin, Sherry Luing, Judy Ellingsen, Judy Hale, Margo Mead, Robert Dodd, Katherine Campbell. The **pep band** for the coming basketball games is being picked. The **girls' glee club** is polishing "Come to the Fair," and "Winter Wonderland."

Junior High News – We chose Shirley Altes, Verlie Etnier, and Saundra Smith to be the October decorating committee. They decorated our room with fall leaves, cattails, buckeye branches and black cats, which gave it a touch of Halloween.

October 22, 1953 Honor Roll: Freshmen – Elliott Partridge, Mary Shultz, Daisy Maxwell; **Sophomores** – Larry Laird, Bill Ballard, Rex Morrison, John Vasey, Joann Conner, Marjorie Hickie; **Juniors** – Gene Fitzgerald, Jack Kilgore, Ronnie Long, Janet Evans, Sandra Long, Mary McGrane, Maris Slauson, Clara Maxwell; **Seniors** – Dale Derby. Our system calls for 24 points to be on the honor roll: A = 8 points, B = 6, C = 4, D = 2, perfect attendance = 2.

The regular meeting of the Collins **Parent-Teachers Organization** will be held Monday, October 26. **The program** will consist of music by the third grade, instrumental numbers by the high school, skit by the sixth grade. Speaker is from the Story County Mental Health Association. Chairmen: Avilda and Grainger Buck. Approximately 25 other families are serving on the committee.

October 29, 1953 Career Day – On October 22 we juniors and seniors, went to the Nevada high school to attend **Story County's third Annual Career Day**. We selected five classes we would like to attend and we were assigned to three that were available. The speakers told us about different occupations and there was a period for asking questions.

The first meeting of the Collins **Adult Evening School** will be held Monday, November 2 at 6:30 P.M. An oyster and chili supper will be served. **The council is:** Mr. and Mrs. Grainger Buck, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Keagle, Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilson, Mrs. Don Partridge, Mrs. E. E. Jackson, Mrs. Paul Smith, Everett McCord, Ernest Hofer, Amos Snyder. The tentative schedule of class subjects: Nov. 2 – organizing, Nov. 9 – orchards, Nov. 16 – New problems with oats, Nov. 30 – Rodent control, Dec. 7 – Fire prevention, Dec. 14 – What's new with legumes, Jan. 4 – Wildlife on the farm, Jan. 11 – Farm leases, Jan. 18 – Farm Safety, Feb. 1 – Fertilizers. Let's make this years' program a big success.

November 12, 1953 School News – The American History class now has the privilege of each member giving reports at the end of every week. It is nice to listen to them, but when it comes your turn? ? ?
The juniors ordered their class rings last week, expecting them to arrive in February.
The juniors are getting ready to set up popcorn, candy and pop selling at basketball games.

Basketball – The basketball season opened last week with one win and one loss for both the boys and girls. The Elkhart game proved to be great for the Collins **girls** as they won 57-41. Collins had a 20 point halftime lead. Scoring for Collins was McGrane – 13, Spooner – 13, Kilgore – 12, Evans – 6.
(Insert 2005: Box score not found)

The **boys** won a thriller from Elkhart after trailing by 6 points with only three minutes left, going on a scoring splurge to win 53-45. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 13 pts.; Vasey (f) 21 pts.; Kilgore (c) 15 pts.; Long (g) 4 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Fitzgerald (f) 0 pts.

Basketball – Collins **girls** lost to Farrar 61-41, trailing by 9 points at halftime and slipping further during the last half. Scoring for Collins: McGrane – 24; Spooner – 7; Kilgore – 6. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

The **boys** were defeated by Farrar in a rally that fell short by about a minute, 50-47. Collins had a shaky first quarter, then played good ball remainder of game, but couldn't catch up. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 6 pts.; Vasey (f) 9 pts.; Kilgore (c) 17 pts.; Long (g) 10 pts.; Morrison (g) 6 pts.; Nichol (f) 0 pts.

November 19, 1953 Parents Music Club – The parents of the music students, both band and vocal, met November 11 to organize a club to promote and encourage musical activities in the Collins school. Mr. Steddum spoke to the group about some of his objectives and the importance of parents and teachers working together. **Officers elected:** Pres. – Mrs. M. E. Struthers;
V. Pres. – Mrs. Thayer Derby; Sec.-Treas. – Mrs. Elmer Ellingsen; Advisor – Rex Steddum. The club decided to meet once a month and hopeful many other parents will join them for their second meeting.

Basketball – Collins **boys** defeated Rhodes in a rough game after trailing by seven points at the half, 50-45. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 14 pts.; Vasey (f) 8 pts.; Kilgore (c) 14 pts.; Long (g) 4 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 10 pts.; Morrison (f) 0 pts.

Basketball – Collins **girls** were defeated by Slater, which ended with only a five-point difference, 39-34. The game got off to a rather dull start, but during the second half Collins livened it up by scoring 23 points. The guards did a good job on defending and bringing the ball up court. Slater had a 24-11 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Evans (f) 7 pts.; Kilgore (f) 7 pts.; Spooner (f) 0 pts.; Briles (f) 0 pts.; McGrane (forward –pivot) 22 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Conner (g); Battles (g); Maxwell (g); Sandra Smith (g).
Slater defeated the Collins **boys** in a hard-fought game at Collins, 48-40. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 11 pts.; Vasey (f) 15 pts.; Kilgore (c) 9 pts.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 1 pt.

This is **American Education Week**. It was inaugurated in 1921 at a meeting of representatives of the American Legion and the National Education Association. At the present time, American Education

Week is sponsored by the American Legion, the U. S. Office of Education and National Congress of Parents and Teachers. The purpose of this special observance of education is to inform the public about their school, its accomplishments, its needs, and to secure the cooperation and support of every individual. The general theme this year is "The School is My Responsibility," and the task is living up to that belief. I will take an interest in the school and will work to promote every program that is for the good of the school.

December 3, 1953 Music – The high school band members have started to keep practice records which help toward grades and awards made at the end of the year. A satisfactory is 120 minutes of practice and anything less is unsatisfactory. Anything over that is superior. We want to thank Don Shultz for making a base drum stand in shop for us. This will help us in holding the base drum.

December 17, 1953 The Annual Christmas Program of the school will be given evening of December 21 in the school auditorium. The program is: A short concert of Christmas music by the **band**; **playlet** by the kindergarten and first grade; **sextet** of junior high girls; a **cantata** by the high school music groups; **solos** by D. G. Partridge and Maris Slauson; and, **selections** by several small groups.

Basketball – Maxwell girls defeated Collins **girls** 54-33. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 11 pts.; Briles (f) 10 pts.; Kilgore (f) 9 pts.; McGrane (f) 3 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g). Collins **boys** defeated Maxwell on their court 60-43. Collins led 19-9 at the first quarter and Maxwell tied the game at 24-24 at halftime. A total of 73 free throws were shot in the game and only 29 made. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 7 pts.; Vasey (f) 16 pts.; Kilgore (c) 14 pts.; Long (g) 5 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 5 pts.; Morrison (g) 6 pts.; Nichol (f) 5 pts.; Ballard (f) 2 pts.

Basketball – The Collins **boys** defeated Cambridge in a lopsided game 49-23. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 6 pts.; Vasey (f) 18 pts.; Kilgore (c) 12 pts.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 3 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Nichol (f) 2 pts.; Ballard (f) 1 pt.; Dodd (f) 1 pt.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** were defeated by Maxwell in a hard-fought game, score (42-33). Maxwell had 16-14 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 17 pts.; Evans (f) 9 pts.; McGrane (f) 5 pts.; Kilgore (f) 1 pts.; Hickie (f) 2 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g). The Collins **boys** defeated Maxwell 45-33. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 11 pts.; Vasey (f) 19 pts.; Kilgore (c) 2 pts.; Long (g) 11 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Nichol (f) 0 pts.; Ballard (f) 0 pts.; Dodd (f) 0 pts.

Grade News: Sixth – Class members have been giving a series of individual Science reports taken from the magazine, "The Iowa Conservationist." We are glad to know about wildlife in our state. Mrs. Vera Vasey gave us several copies of the magazine for our reading table. We are very sorry the television classroom course, "Landmarks of Iowa History," is finished. We are hoping to visit some of these places when we go on our vacations next year.

December 24, 1953 Basketball – The Collins **girls** defeated Baxter in a rip roaring game, 50-43. Our defense and offense both did a better job of handling the ball this game. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 13 pts; Spooner (f) 15 pts.; McGrane (f) 20 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Evans (g); Hickle (g).

Collins **boys** defeated Baxter for the eighth win with four losses. Collins jumped off to an early lead and the reserves played about half the game. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 10 pts.; Vasey (f) 14 pts.; Kilgore (c) 12 pts.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 3 pts.; Morrison (g) 5 pts.; Nichol (f) 7 pts.; Partridge (g) 2 pts.; Ballard (f) ? pts.; Dodd (f) ? pts.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** were defeated by Mingo, 54-49. Collins was in the lead during most of the game, but fell behind during the last quarter. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 36 pts.; Kilgore (f) 7 pts; Evans (f) 5 pts; McGrane (f) 1 pt.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Hickle (g); Maxwell (g). The Collins **boys** trounced Mingo in their last game of 1953, 71-39 for their tenth win. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 8 pts.; Vasey (f) 23 pts.; Kilgore (c) 22 pts.; Long (g) 8 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 9 pts.; Morrison (g) 1 pt.; Nichol (f) 0 pts.; Ballard (f) 0 pts.; Dodd (f) 0 pts.; Partridge (g) 0 pts.

January 14, 1954 Junior High News: December 23 we had our Christmas party. The high school, sixth grade, and junior high had a program together. Each contributed a number or two.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** got licked by McCallsburg 69-50. We put up a good fight and really made them work for the win. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 26 pts.; Kilgore (f) 5 pts; Evans (f-g) 5 pts; McGrane (f) 13 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g). The **boys** defeated McCallsburg 64-44, after getting off to a slow start. Collins scored 25 points in the second quarter to take a 42-19 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 21 pts.; Vasey (f) 14 pts.; Kilgore (c) 12 pts.; Long (g) 4 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (g) 5 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Nichol (f) 1 pt.; Ballard (f) 5 pts.; Dodd (f) 1 pt.; Partridge (g) 0 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 1 pt.; Maxwell (g) 0 pts.

January 21, 1954 Honor Roll: Freshmen – Elliott Partridge, Mary Shultz, Daisy Maxwell;
Sophomores – Bill Ballard, Larry Laird, Rex Morrison, Jerry Nichol, John Vasey, Marjorie Hickle; **Juniors** – Sandra Long, Mary McGrane, Clara Maxwell; **Seniors** – Dale Derby, Howard Hoffer, D. G. Partridge.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** were defeated by Colo on the home floor 57-40. The team had 23 fouls. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 12 pts.; Kilgore (f) 7 pts; Evans (f-g) 11 pts; Briles (f) 1 pt.; McGrane (f) 9 pts.; Reda Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Battles (g). The **boys** avenged their loss to Colo for their thirteenth win against four losses, 54-47. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 12 pts.; Vasey (f) 25 pts.; Kilgore (c) 3 pts.; Long (g) 8 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (g) 6 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.

Girls' Story County Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins lost a difficult game to Shipley, 40-34. (Insert 2005: Box score not found).

Basketball – The Collins **boys'** first team lost to the Eldora Training School, 57-41. The Collins reserves defeated the Eldora Training reserves in a tight game, 23-19. **Lineup:** Morrison - 8 pts.; Nichol - 2 pts.; Ballard - 6 pts.; Partridge - 0 pts.; Maxwell - 0 pts.; Fitzgerald - 0 pts.; Dodd - 4 pts.; Buck - 3 pts.; Derby - 0 pts.

Grade News: Second – We have started the change from manuscript to cursive writing. We have done some simple words and our names. In Numbers, we have finished the facts to 10 and now are starting to work on telling time and higher numbers. For Health, we are using “Three Friends.” We have discussed proper foods to eat, care of the teeth, and making health booklets. In Language, we are talking about the use of seen, saw, and not to say, “I ain’t.” We also discussed the use of Mrs., Mr., and Miss. **Third** – In Arithmetic, we are adding two figures without carrying. In Language, we are studying stories. We are learning we should select good titles and tell the first part of the story so the readers will wonder what is going to happen. We save our surprise until the end.

Junior High News: Those having an average of B and above were: Jane Ballard, David Derby, Sharon Stratton, Georgiann Briles.

The **Music Breakfast** sponsored by the **Parents Music Club** last Wednesday was a big success and we thank all for their generous donations. This money will be used for purchase of new music and useful purposes. Practice for the spring contest to be held in Colfax, April 2nd and 3rd has begun. There will be small groups and solos in both vocal and instrumental. A **Spring Recital** will be held for all students who take part in music sometime before the contest dates.

February 4, 1954 Optic Staff: Editor – Dale Derby; Assist. Editor – Mary McGrane; Feature Editors – Reda Smith, John Vasey; Girls' Athletics – Janet Evans; Boys' Athletics – Jack Kilgore; Music Reporter – Sandra Long; F. F. A. Reporter – Gene Fitzgerald; Reporters: High School – Reda Smith; Grades – Jill Kilgore; Typists – Marilyn Carver, Carla Smith.

The **Collins F. F. A. Chapter** will hold its **Annual Queen's Ball** on February 17. The queen candidates are: Reda Smith – Senior; Janet Evans – Junior; Betty Spooner – Sophomore. The queens are elected by popular vote at the rate of a penny per vote. **This year's Queen's Ball will have “Valentine's Day” as the theme instead of the usual Saint Patrick's Day.** The Queen's Ball seems to be becoming one of the main events of the year.

Basketball: Boys Story County Basketball Tournament at the Nevada School Field House – First round - Collins defeated McCallsburg 43-33. Collins took the lead in the second quarter, with a halftime lead of 25-17 and had control of the game during the second half for the 43-33 win. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 15 pts.; Vasey (f) 14 pts.; Kilgore (c) 10 pts.; Long (g) 2 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.

Second round – The boys won over Cambridge 48-27. The regulars played the first half with a lead of 28-8 and the reserves played a fine game in the second half for the 48-27 win. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 9 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 15 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 9 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 7 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 0 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 2 pts.;

Jerry Nichol (56) (f) 2 pts.; Bill Ballard (56) (f) 2 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 0 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (g) 0 pts.; David Fitzgerald (57) (g) 2 pts.; David Maxwell (57) (g) 0 pts.

Semi-finals – Slater defeated Collins 45-40. Collins had 11-5 first quarter lead and 17-16 halftime lead. Slater took 32-31 third quarter lead and went on to 45-40 victory. **Lineup:**

Larry Laird (56) (f) 8 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 15 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 8 pts.;

Ronnie Long (55) (g) 6 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 3 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 0 pts.

Consolation – Collins lost to Fernald 47-41. Collins trailed by 15 points at the end of the third quarter and narrowed the margin to four points near the end of the game. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 5 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 7 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 22 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 0 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 4 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 3 pts.

February 11 – Girls Sectional Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins suffered a disappointing four-point loss to Shipley, 53-49. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

February 18, 1954 Basketball – The Collins **boys** defeated Rhodes in a high-scoring spree in their last scheduled game of the season 76-66. The boys hit over 50% the first half, 18 field goals and 11 free throws, for a 45-37 halftime lead. Fitzgerald did a fine job on defense, stealing the ball several times.

Lineup: Larry Laird (56) (f) 4 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 21 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 21 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 17 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 7 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 0 pts.; Jerry Nichol (56) (f) 0 pts.; Bill Ballard (56) (f) 4 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 0 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (g) 2 pts.; David Fitzgerald (57) (g) 0 pts.; David Maxwell (57) (g) 0 pts.

The **girls** also defeated Rhodes, winning their final scheduled game of the season, 59-50. (Insert 2005: No box score found)

Boys Sectional Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins advanced to the second round by defeating Hubbard 45-36. Hubbard had halftime lead of 20-17 and Collins had third quarter lead of 30-27. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 10 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 11 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 7 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 4 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 8 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 0 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 5 pts.

Semi-finals – Collins **won** a thrilling game over Zearing, 44-40. Collins was never behind and was leading by 10 points until Zearing tied the score in the closing minutes. Collins won on a beautiful driving shot by Vasey and a jump shot by Kilgore. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 10 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 10 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 14 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 7 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 0 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 2 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 1 pt.

Finals – The **boys'** season was ended with a loss to Owasa, 58-28, runner-up placing. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 5 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 15 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 4 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 0 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 0 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 2 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 2 pts.

Grade News: Second – Money and its value has been the topic in Numbers. We have been learning the value of pennies, nickels, and dimes. We are now going on to the facts of 12. For writing, we have been working on some of the capital letters. **Third** – We have been reviewing our addition problems as some of us still have trouble carrying from the ones to the tens column. In Social Studies, we have been learning about clothing and how it is made. Some of the children brought balls of cotton.

February 25, 1954 The **F. F. A.** held their **Annual Queen's Ball** Wednesday evening with some 40 students attending the dance and **crowning of the queen Reda Smith** – senior in a very close contest. **Her attendants**, Janet Evans – Junior, and Betty Spooner – Sophomore. The program included dancing to records from 8:00 P. M. until the ceremony for the crowning of the queen at 9:00 P. M. The platform and seats for the queen were on the east side of the gym, backed by a large silver heart. During the ceremony, the queen and her attendants were kept in a spotlight from the balcony. The gym was decorated with red and white streamers of crepe paper, draped to form a canopy over the entire floor. Admission was free as the voting paid for the party.

Girls Basketball 1953-54 Season Summary – Scheduled games: Collins **Won** – Elkart 57-41; Rhodes 49-45; Baxter 50-43; Rhodes 59-50. **Story County Tourney:** Collins lost to Shipley 40-34. **Sectional Tourney:** Collins lost to Shipley 49-43. The Collins girls had a difficult season, won – 5 games and lost 16, 8 of the games by 6 points or less.

Team members – starting six: Mary McGrane (55) (pivot forward); Janet Evans (55) (f-g); Betty Spooner (56) (f); Reda Smith (54) (pivot guard); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (freshman) (g) and Jill Kilgore (57) (f) played regularly. Other members of the team were: Marjorie Hickle (56) (f); Sue Battles (sophomore) (g); Donna Frerichs (57) (f); Georgiann Briles (58) (f); Sandra Smith (58) (g); Daisy Maxwell (57) (g); JoAnn Conner (sophomore) (g); Manager – Sandra Long. **Coach** – Louis Schrader.

Boys Basketball 1953-54 Season Summary - Scheduled games: Collins **Won** - Elkhart 53-45; Cambridge 63-28; Rhodes 50-45; Baxter 47-25; Maxwell 45-33; Cambridge 49-23; Baxter 66-46; Shipley 59-36; Mingo 71-39; McCallsburg 64-44; Huxley 47-44; Colo 54-47; Zearing 53-44; Rhodes 76-60; Maxwell 60-43. Collins **lost** – Farrar 50-47; Slater 48-40; Colo 37-34; Farrar 60-49; Eldora Trng. Sch. – 57-41. Collins finished third in the **South Story Conference**. **Story County Tourney:** Collins **won** – McCallsburg 43-33; Cambridge 48-27. Collins **lost** – Slater 45-40; Fernald 47-40, for fourth place. **Sectional Tourney:** Collins **won** – Hubbard 45-36; Zearing 44-40. Collins lost in finals to Owasa 58-28, second place. Season Record: Won – 19, lost – 8.

Team members – starting five: Larry Laird (56) (f) 270 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 395 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 297 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g); Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g). Main substitutes: Jim Dodd (56) (f); Rex Morrison (56) (g). Other team members: Jerry Nichol (56) (g); Bill Ballard (56) (f); Elliott Partridge (57) (f); David Fitzgerald (57) (g); David Maxwell (57) (g). Manager – Dale Derby. **Coach** – Louis Schrader. John Vasey, Jack Kilgore, and Ronnie Long were returning regular players from prior season. Collins had a successful basketball season. The team scored 1357 points for offensive average of 50 points per game to their opponents' 1150 points for 43 points per game average. The entire starting five returns next year.

March 4, 1954 The **juniors** received their long-awaited class rings. The **seniors** had their measurements taken for caps and gowns Monday.

Sociology Class – We are learning, or at least trying to learn, why we are as we are. That is heredity and its relation to environment; one of our prime arguments is whether heredity or environment is the most important. Another big issue is the establishment of our position in society. There is a struggle for a place in society, then the fight to adjust to the new position. We have studied the methods society uses to control individuals. We have just completed the part entitled, “Social Institutions.” They are the family, religion, economic order or class, and the government. We find that as you live and grow, each of these has a definite effect upon you and favors the idea that perhaps environment has more to do with the individual than heredity. We are starting the chapter on “Social Problems.” People have their viewpoints and here in this casual class everyone speaks up. I think this is a very interesting class; what could be more interesting than people? The subject of sociology is not a pre-determined study, but is different each day as people change and their viewpoints differ. ~ Assistant Editor, Mary McGrane. Class teacher – Louis Schrader.

April 1, 1954 Grade News: Second – For Numbers, we have been working on addition and subtraction facts to 16. We have also been doing story problems. For an extra project, the boys and girls are writing to 500. We have been writing letters in Language and also are working on speaking clearly.

April 8, 1954 Music groups won honors in the music contest at Colfax. The judges listen to the groups from different towns, write out the good and bad points of the group, and then rate them **I, II, and III**. The groups are not in competition with each other, but are **rated by the standards of the judge**. The groups or solos with a I rating advance to the State contest. **Collins** was well represented with fourteen participants. **We are very much pleased with our ratings – six I’s, six II’s, and two III’s**. The ratings are, **Vocal solos:** Maris Slauson - I; D. G. Partridge - I; Mary McGrane - III; Elliott Partridge - III. **Instrumental solos:** Mary Jo Shultz - Piano solo – II; Coronet solos by Don Shultz - II, John Vasey - II, D. G. Partridge – II; Quentin Keagle – Trombone solo – II; Rex Morrison – Tuba solo – I; **Vocal groups:** Girls trio - Maris, Mary, and Sandra – I; **Instrumental groups:** Brass quartet – Quentin, Larry, D. G., and John – I; **Trumpet trio:** D. G., John, and Don – I; **Trumpet quartet:** John, Don, Darwin, and Bill – II.

Athletic Banquet: On Tuesday evening, the parents of some of the Collins high school students staged a banquet in the gym to honor our junior and high school boys and girls athletic teams. The banquet was potluck, which always means plenty of good food. After dinner, there were a few musical numbers by some of Mr. Steddom’s music students. Tables and chairs were removed for dancing. We want you folks to know we appreciate it very much.

South Story Conference Basketball Banquet held March 23 in the Colo gymnasium. Basketball teams of Huxley, Slater, Colo, Cambridge, Maxwell, Shipley, and **Collins**, and some faculty members of each school attended. The tables were decorated with white coverings, trimmed with black crepe paper and the emblems of the different teams as centerpieces. After the dining part of the banquet was completed, the entertainment was held. Each school prepared an act to present. **Collins’ barbershop quartet** sang three numbers. The placings of the conference teams and the selection of All-Conference teams were announced. **Collins Girls** - Betty Spooner (56) (f), **received honorable mention**. **Collins Boys** – John Vasey (56) (f) and Jack Kilgore (55) (c), were **selected on All-Conference team**, the only non-seniors

selected. Ronnie Long (55) (g) **received honorable mention**. No second teams were named. The Slater boys' team received extra congratulations as they represented the conference at the State tournament.

April 15, 1954 “**Deadly Ernest**,” the Collins **senior class play**, will be given in the high school auditorium the evening of April 29. You will enjoy this rapid-fire, fun-filled, three-act farce. The name, “Ernest,” sends poor Henry into shock, and everyone he meets seems to be named “Ernest,” so he is continually panic-stricken. The **cast**: Dale Derby – Henry; Marilyn Carver – Aunt Ethel who runs a boarding house; Carla Smith – Gladys, Henry’s fiancé; Reda Smith – Margie, Aunt Ethel’s daughter; Howard Hofer – Ernie, Margie’s boyfriend; Sandra Long and Beverly Neese – Clarissa and Ernestine, two old maids; Mary McGrane – Aunt Stella, Ethel’s sister; Gary Coughenour – C. E. Grimm, old friend of Aunt Ethel; Richard Thomas – Dr. Ernest; D. G. Partridge – Mr. Bumpus; Bill Buck – Sleepy; Janet Evans and Ronnie Long – Pumpkin and Jack. Music between the acts will include several small groups, some of them will be going to the State Music Contest the next day.

Baseball – Collins went on a hitting spree in the first game of the season, defeating Shipley 11-2 on the home diamond. Long, Dodd, and Thornton **blasted home runs**. (There is no outfield fence; the runner must circle the bases more rapidly than the outfielder can chase down the ball and return to home plate.) Derby hit a triple and Vasey had three hits. Kilgore, Laird, and Vasey did the pitching. Nichol was catcher. **Lineup**: Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 2 hits; John Vasey (56) (1b-p) 3 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (p-ss) 1 hit; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (54) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Norlyn Smith (57) (1b) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (p) 0 hits; Rex Morrison (56) (of) (0 hits); Bob Rice (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (2b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (3b) 0 hits; D. G. Partridge (54) (of) 0 hits.

Baseball - Collins changed their batting tactics in defeating Maxwell last Friday, 12-1. In the second inning with the bases loaded, Collins bunted six times in a row, scoring 8 runs. Vasey was the winning pitcher, innings – 4. Laird pitched the last 3 innings. **Lineup**: Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p-1b) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 1 hit; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 1 hit; Gary Coughenour (54) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Norlyn Smith (57) (1b) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (p) 0 hits; Rex Morrison (56) (of) (0 hits); Bob Rice (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 0 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (2b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (3b) 0 hits; Glen Novinger (57) (of) 0 hits; George Keagle (56) (of) 0 hits.

April 19, 1954 The following will take part in the **State Music Contest** at Perry Friday and Saturday: **Brass quartet** – D. G. Partridge, John Vasey, Quentin Keagle, Larry Laird; **Girls trio** – Sandra Long, Maris Slauson, Mary McGrane; **Soloists** – D. G. Partridge, Maris Slauson, Rex Morrison; **Trumpet trio** – John Vasey, Don Shultz, D. G. Partridge.

Baseball – Collins lost to Mingo 4-3 last Thursday. Jerry Nichol pitched an excellent game, allowing only three hits and no walks. Collins scored two runs in the first inning, and Mingo came back with

three runs, added one run in the fourth inning and Collins scored one more in the sixth inning. Collins had six hits. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (1b) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (p) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 1 hit; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 1 hit; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 0 hits.

South Story Conference Baseball Tournament: First round – Collins vs. Bye.

Second round – Collins dropped a game to Huxley, 7-3, collecting only three hits. Collins scored 3 runs in the second, Huxley scored all their runs in the fifth, sixth, and seventh innings. **Lineup:** Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (p) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 0 hits; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 0 hits.

The **freshman-sophomore Ag class** went to Waterloo April 19 to visit the Rath Packing plant and the John Deere Tractor works.

April 22, 1954 Honor Roll: Seniors – Dale Derby, Reda Smith; **Juniors** – Janet Evans, Sandra Long, Mary McGrane, Maris Slauson, Clara Maxwell; **Sophomores** – Bill Ballard, Larry Laird, Rex Morrison, John Vasey, Marjorie Hickle; **Freshmen** – Elliott Partridge, Janice Heintz, Mary Shultz, Sandra Carley, David Maxwell, Daisy Maxwell.

May 6, 1954 The **senior class** presented their play, “Deadly Ernest,” to an appreciative audience. All the cast played their parts in very credible manner and the audience had many good laughs at the expense of the characters in the situations in which they were involved.

There were **over 3,000 students participating in the State Music Contest** at Perry. Our six groups did very well. **Vocal solos:** , D. G. Partridge – II rating, Maris Slauson – III rating; **Girls trio** – III rating; **Brass quartet** and **Trumpet trio** both made very good performances, receiving II ratings; **Tuba solo** by Rex Morrison – II rating.

Baseball – Collins defeated Farrar on the home diamond, 9-4. John Vasey pitched 7 innings. Runs – 4, hits – 5, strikeouts (?), walks – 1. Nichol was catcher. Collins scored 5 runs in the first inning and never trailed Farrar. **Lineup:** Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b-c) 1 hit; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 1 hit; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (rf) 0 hits.

Baseball – Collins lost to Melbourne 4-1. Jerry Nichol did a fine job of pitching, but the Collins boys collected only 4 hits for one run, scored in the last inning.

May 13, 1954 Sixty-Second Annual Commencement – Collins High School – High School Auditorium, May 20, 1954. Program: Processional – “War March of the Priests” – Mary Jo Shultz; Invocation – Rev. Robert Robinson; Saxophone Solo – Dale Derby; Vocal Solo – “Blind Plow Man,” – Rex Morrison; Address – “What Means a High School Diploma?” – W. Russell

Hayes; “Tis Evening’s Holy Hour” – Mixed Quartet (Maris Slauson, Sandra Long, D. G. Partridge, Elliott Partridge); Presentation of the Class – Supt. E. E. Jackson; Presentation of Diplomas – Grainger Buck, Pres. Board of Education; **Class Roll:** William Buck, Marilyn Carver, Gary Coughenour, Dale Derby, Howard Hofer, Gary Luing, Beverly Neese, D. G. Partridge, Carla Smith, Reda Smith, Richard Thomas. Solo – “End of a Perfect Day” – D. G. Partridge; Benediction – Rev. G. M. Talbott; Recessional – Mary Jo Shultz.

The seniors will present a program for **Class Day** on Wednesday afternoon, May 19. The **theme will be “Last Day of School,”** and should provide great fun for everyone. Program includes music, class history, prophesy, senior gifts, letters and awards. The eighth grade exercises will follow to conclude the program.

Sectional Baseball Tournament: First round – Collins vs. Bye.

Semi-finals – Collins avenged an earlier 4-1 defeat by Melbourne by defeating them, 15-5. Collins scored four runs in the first inning; Melbourne came back with five runs; Collins tied the game with one run in the second and four more in the third to go on to a 15-5 win. The team collected 17 hits. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 3 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 3 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 4 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 2 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (lf) 2 hits; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 2 hits.

Finals – Collins overwhelmed Maxwell 21-3 **for Sectional Tournament Championship.** Everyone who played had at least one hit and scored no less than twice. Dodd had three singles and a double and Nichol, two singles and a double. Derby had three hits. **Lineup:**

Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 3 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 2 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 4 hits; Larry Laird (56) (lf) 1 hit; Dale Derby (54) (rf) 3 hits.

District Baseball Tournament: First round – Collins defeated Kellogg in a tight eight-inning game, 11-8. Collins led 2-0 in the fourth. Kellogg went ahead 3-2 and added two more in the fifth. Collins rallied for four runs in the sixth only to have Kellogg tie the score in the last of the seventh. In the top of the eighth, Collins scored five runs on five hits. Kellogg came back with two runs with Collins holding on for an 11-8 win. John Vasey was the winning pitcher, pitching excellent ball for the full eight innings.

Lineup: Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 3 hits; Larry Laird (56) (lf) 2 hits;

Dale Derby (54) (rf) 1 hit; Bill Ballard (56) (rf) 0 hits.

Semi-finals – New Sharon scored in the seventh inning Wednesday to eek out a 2-1 win over Collins. Vasey, who pitched the victory over Kellogg on Monday, was again on the mound for Collins with one day’s rest. He turned in a good performance in pitching seven innings. Runs – 1; hits – 6; strikeouts – 14; walks – 6. Nichol caught. Collins collected only two hits and eleven batters struck out.

Baseball 1954 Spring Season Summary: Collins **Won** – Shipley 11-2, Maxwell 12-1, Cambridge 23-17, McCallsburg 9-2. **Lost** – Huxley 7-3, Melbourne 4-1.

Sectional Tourney: Collins **won** – State Center 20-9, Melbourne 15-5, Maxwell 21-3 for **championship**.

District Tourney: Collins **won** – Kellogg 11-8. **Lost** – New Sharon 2-1, (semi-final).

Season Record: Won – 8; **Lost** – 3. John Vasey was the main pitcher, winning six and losing two. Jerry Nichol won -1, lost – 1. Jack Kilgore won – 1, lost 0.

Team members – Starting nine: John Vasey (56) (p); Jerry Nichol (56) (c); Jack Kilgore (55) (1b); Ronnie Long (55) (2b); Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b); Jim Dodd (56) (ss); Larry Laird (56) (lf); Jerry Thornton (55) (cf); Dale Derby (54) (rf). Other team members: Bill Ballard (56) (of); Gary Coughenour (54) (of); David Fitzgerald (57) (of); Bob Rice (56) (of); Ben Clark (57) (of); Elliott Partridge (57) (of); Norlyn Smith (57) (of); Larry Kloppenborg (57) (of). **Coach** – Louis Schrader.

May 20, 1954 Sunday evening, May 16, **baccalaureate** services were held in the Collins Church of Christ. Prayer was given by Rev. G. M. Talbott. The Rev. Robert Robinson presented a very good sermon. Music was provided by the mixed chorus and solos by Rex Morrison and Maris Slauson under the direction of Mr. Steddom. Mrs. Steddom was at the piano for the processional, recessional, and accompaniment. There are eleven graduates in the class of 1954 with all attending.

This year, for the first time in several years, our **Junior-Senior Prom was held at home in the school gym**. The week of May 14, our gym was transformed by the busy juniors into an elaborate ballroom. Streamers of royal blue and silver crepe paper were strung from a circle in the middle of the ceiling to the walls and then hung to the floor. The bandstand was canopied with crepe paper supported by silver and blue poles. The banquet tables were arranged in a double horseshoe facing each other covered with white paper and decorated with roses entwined about candles. Our theme was “Moonlight and Roses.” The menu: Moonshine - appetizer; Moonlight for Rose Special – ham or shrimp; Buds and Moonbeams – peas and carrots; Golden Dreams – stuffed baked potatoes; Fleecy Clouds – rolls; Rose Petal Salad – tossed salad; Lover’s Delight – angel food cake; Flower Nectar – ice cream. During the Toast program, “Remembrances in Roses” by Tom Reese – junior class president who acted as Toastmaster. Orchards to the Juniors by Reda Smith – senior class president. “By the Light of the Silvery Moon,” sung by Maris Slauson and Sandra Long. Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. Jackson gave speeches entitled, respectively, “Serenade in Smiles,” and “Shadows in the Moonlight.” Mrs. Gordon gave us some advice as to the value of a smile, and Mrs. Jackson proved once more that man is no longer superior to woman.

Comments From a Mid-1950 Graduate – I credit the greater Collins community with keeping me out of trouble. Whenever I strayed, an older community member would tell me to “straighten up.” The community cared about the success of its members/youth and was not afraid to become involved.

September 9, 1954 School Enrollment: Kindergarten – 20 pupils, Miss McPherson, Teacher; **First grade** – 26, Miss Brown, Teacher; **Second** – 24, Mrs. Reinders, Teacher; **Third** – 12, Mrs. Meeker, Teacher; **Fourth** – 25, Miss Vincent, Teacher; **Fifth** – 28, Mrs. Heintz, Teacher; **Sixth** – 30, Mrs. Struthers, Teacher; **Seventh** – 23 and **Eighth** – 20, Mr. Bell, home room teacher (Junior High). These grades are departmentalized with high school teachers having some of the classes. **High School Grades:**

Ninth (Freshmen) – 8; **Tenth** (Sophomores) – 16; **Eleventh** (Juniors) – 17; **Twelfth** (Seniors) – 13.
Summary: Grades 1-6 = 165, 7-8 = 43, high school (9-12) = 54. Total = 262.

Officers elected – Seniors: Pres. - Mary McGrane; Vice Pres. – Sandra Long; Sec.-Treas. – Janet Evans; Student Council Rep. – Gene Fitzgerald; Sponsor – Supt. Jackson. **Juniors:** Pres. – Betty Spooner; Vice Pres. – Larry Laird; Sec.-Treas. – Donna Hand; Student Council Rep. – Jim Dodd; Sponsors – Miss Burton and Mr. Lawson. **Sophomores:** Pres. – Mary Jo Shultz; Vice Pres. – Glen Novinger; Sec.-Treas. – Daisy Maxwell; Student Council Rep. – Sandra Carley; Sponsors – Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Graves. **Freshman:** Pres. – Gordon Smith; Vice Pres. – Dorothy Hand; Sec.-Treas. – Saundra Smith; Sponsor – Louis Schrader.

September 16, 1954 Optic Staff: Editor – Mary McGrane; Assist. Editor – John Vasey; **Feature Writers** – George Keagle, Janice Heintz; **Girls' Sports** – Mary Jo Shultz; **Boys' Sports** – Jack Kilgore; **F. F. A.** – Elliott Partridge; **Music Reporter** – Daisy Mary Maxwell; **Reporters: Junior High** – Jane Ballard, **Grades** – Georgiann Briles; **Typists** – Sandra Long, Janet Evans.

State Tests – “Iowa Every Pupil Tests” were given September 8-9. This is a large text booklet consisting of nine smaller exams on various subjects – English, History, Math, Quantitative Reading, etc. with a time allowance for the multiple-type questions. The purpose of the test is to find out how the individual knowledge ranks with other pupils in the state and how the school as a unit ranks with other schools of comparative size in Iowa. **In the previous two years, Collins High has been among the top schools in the state.** ~ George Keagle

Music News – Band Officers Pres. – Sandra Long; Vice President – Rex Morrison; Sec. – John Vasey; Treas. – Mary Shultz.

Baseball - Collins gained the first victory of the season by defeating Slater 6-3. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 3; hits – 6; strikeouts (?); walks – 7. Nichol caught. Vasey did a fine job of clutch pitching with men on base. Collins scored four runs in the first inning and two in the fourth. Slater's three runs were in the seventh. **Lineup:** Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (3b) 0 hits; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (lf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (lb) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (rf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (1b) 0 hits.

September 23, 1954 Sectional Baseball Tournament: First round – Collins vs. Bye;
Semi final – Collins went on a hitting spree in defeating Fernald 12-7. Vasey slammed a home run and two doubles, Nichol a triple, and Ballard four singles. Vasey 7 innings. Runs – 7; hits – 7; strikeouts – (?); walks – (?). Nichol caught. Collins scored three runs in the first, two in the third, and seven in the sixth inning. Fernald scored four of their seven runs in the seventh inning. **Lineup:** Ben Clark (57) (3b) 2 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 4 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 3 hits; Norlyn Smith (57) (1b) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (ss) 0 hits; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (lf) 0 hits; Darwin Luing (58) (rf) 0 hits.

Finals – Collins won the sectional tournament championship in a thrilling game against Farrar 12-11. Gordon Smith laid down a perfect squeeze bunt to score Jerry Nichol for the winning run in the last inning. After trailing 10-5 in the fifth, Collins scored four runs in the sixth and three in the seventh to win the game. John Vasey was the winning pitcher, as the last of three pitchers. **Lineup:** Ben Clark (57) (3b) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 2 hits; John Vasey (56) (ss-p) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (1b) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b-p) 0 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (p-ss) 0 hits; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (lf) 0 hits; Darwin Luig (58) (rf) 0 hits.

September 30, 1954 District Baseball Tournament: First round, Semi-finals – Collins defeated Pilot Mound 5-2. This was a tight pitching duel with Vasey coming out on top. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 2; hits – 4; strikeouts – 12; walks – 4. Nichol caught. Collins collected six hits scoring one run in the fourth, two in the sixth, and two in the seventh for the 5-2 win. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (rf) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 3 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (3b) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 0 hits.

Finals – Collins defeated Jamaica in the most thrilling game of the year to **win the district tournament championship**, 3-2. John Vasey pitched seven innings: Runs – 2; hits – 2; strikeouts – 15; walks – 6. Nichol caught. Collins collected only four hits in scoring their three runs, two in the first, and one in the second. Jamaica scored one run in the first and the second in the seventh inning. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (rf) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (3b) 1 hit; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits.

October 14, 1954 Ninth and Tenth Grade Agriculture – On this cold and windy Wednesday morning, instead of having a regular Ag. class we helped Tom Carver **pick the Pfister Hybrid corn test plot**. Ray Peterson, field man for Pfister, told us we would pick 1/70th of an acre, count the down stocks, count the dropped ears, weigh the corn, and have a moisture test. In the process, our shoes became so muddy that it was very difficult to walk. We would like to thank them for the offers of a pancake dinner and a watermelon feed, both turned down, much to our regret.

Baseball Sub-state Tournament: First round, Semi-finals - Collins trounced Whitten 11-1. The game went only five innings as Collins was ahead by ten runs. Vasey had two doubles and Laird two singles. Vasey pitched five innings. Runs – 1, hits – 2, strikeouts - ?, walks – 3. Nichol caught. Collins scored two runs in the first, three in the second and six in the third for the 11-1 win. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (rf) 2 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit.

Finals – Collins' rally was cut short as they scored all their five runs in the last inning losing to Van Horn 8-5. Van Horn scored one run in the second, three in the third, four in the fourth, for their eight runs. John Vasey pitched seven innings and Nichol caught. Collins collected only four hits, Nichol had two hits. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hitz; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p)

0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (lf) 1 hit; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (rf) 0 hits.

October 21, 1954 This and That – The seniors have ordered their class pictures and they are to arrive near the middle of November. The boys went to Kansas City for the F. F. A. Convention, returning Tuesday evening. Everyone seemed to be as fit as when they left.

Fall 1954 Baseball Season Summary – Collins' Scheduled Games: **Won** – Slater 6-3, Farrar 17-2, Huxley 5-4. **Lost** – Clemons 5-4.

Sectional Tournament: Collins **won** - Fernald 12-7, Farrar 12-11 for the **championship. District Tournament:** Collins **won** – Pilot Mount 5-2, Jamaica 3-2 for the **championship.**

Sub-state – Collins **won** – Whitten 11-1. **Lost** – Van Horn 8-5. (Insert 2005: One win from State Tournament. Van Horn had strong baseball reputation)

Collins had a successful baseball season, **reaching the finals of the sub-state.** They had 8 victories in 10 games. John Vasey was the regular starting pitcher, wining 8 games and losing 2. Jerry Nichol, the regular catcher, pitched one game for a win. The infield, which has worked together for two years, is composed of Jack Kilgore – first, Ronnie Long – second, Gene Fitzgerald – third, Jim Dodd – shortstop. The outfield was also above average with all having strong throwing arms and good batting eyes. They are: Jerry Thornton – left field, Bill Ballard – center field, and Larry Laird – right field. The utility players performed very well. **Coach** – Louis Schrader.

Hot Lunch: Wed. – Roast beef, mashed potatoes, buttered peas, bread and butter sandwiches, fruit cocktail, milk. **Thur.** – **Liver**, mashed potatoes, green beans, chocolate cake, bread and butter sandwiches, milk; **Fri.** – Macaroni with meat and potatoes, tossed vegetable salad, bread and butter sandwiches, cookies, milk.

October 28, 1954 Announcing Fall Carnival – One of the features of the program on October 29 will be two wrestling tag team matches and a boxing match. The men's wrestling will feature "Snortin' Thorton" and "Big Red Long" defending their title against "Woody Nichol" and "Killer Kilgore," two of the dirtiest wrestlers in the business. The boxing match is a return grudge match between two top-ranking middle weights, "Jarring Jimmy Dodd" and "Larry, the Brute, Laird." The final event of the evening is a women's tag team match featuring "Shoeless Sandra Carley" and "Slingin' Saundra Smith" vs. "Geronimo Kilgore" and "Gypsy Jo Shultz."

Career Day was held at the Nevada School on October 21. The **juniors and seniors** of the surrounding schools met in the auditorium. Sometime earlier, a list of available classes was provided for the students to select five classes. We were assigned to three classes from our five selections. A person qualified in each special field was the speaker for the class, explaining their vocation and the qualifications required.

1954-55 Basketball Season Schedule: **Nov.** 2 – Farrar (H); 3 – Elkhart (H); 9 – Cambridge (T); 12 – Slater (T); 16 – Rhodes (T); 19 – Colo (H); 23 – Baxter (H); 30 – Maxwell (T). **Dec.** 3 – Cambridge (H); 7 – Farrar (T); 10 – Maxwell (H); 14 – Baxter (T); 17 – Shipley (T); 21 – Mingo (T). **Jan.** 4 –

McCallsburg (T); 7- Huxley (H); 11 – Colo (T); 14 – Eldora Trng. (H); 21 – Zearing (H); 15 – Rhodes (H). Season tickets are available, adult prices are \$3.50 and children \$1.50 for the ten home games. There will be refreshments sold by the junior class.

November 1954 Basketball Games – both girls and boys:

Nov. 2: The **girls** opened the season on the home court, losing to Farrar 63-52. Farrar is a hard-driving and sharp shooting team. Collins trailed by only four points at halftime. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 25 (17 free-throws) pts.; Evans (f) 1 pt.; McGrane (f) 18 pts.; Briles (f) 4 pts.; Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; Hickle (f); Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g).

The **boys** defeated Farrar (Insert 2005: Box score not found).

Nov. 3: The **girls** had their first win of the season, defeating Elkhart 65-30 on the home court. Collins girls took an early lead. Late in the game variety was added with the guards and forwards exchanging courts. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 5 pts.; Evans (f) 12 pts.; McGrane (f) 17 pts.; Briles (f) 7 pts.; Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; Hickle (f) 10 pts.; Etnier (f); Carley (g) 4 pts.; Heintz (g) 2 pts.; Shultz (g) 2 pts.; Smith (g); Battles (g).

The **boys** defeated Elkart (Insert 2005: Box score not found).

Nov. 9: Cambridge **girls** defeated Collins 45-41 on their court. Cambridge led by 3 points at halftime and maintained a lead to the end of the game. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 9 pts.; Evans (f) 5 pts.; McGrane (f) 5 pts.; Briles (f) 16 pts.; Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; Hickle (f) 2 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** defeated Cambridge in the first conference game 59-41. John Vasey returned to the starting lineup for the first time since a shoulder injury. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 13 pts.; Vasey (f) 20 pts.; Kilgore (c) 10 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 6 pts.; Long (g) 8 pts.; Dodd (g) 2 pts.

Nov. 12: The Collins **girls** took a first quarter lead and held their lead throughout the game for a close 39-37 victory over Slater. Collins held a 26-18 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 10 pts.; Evans (f) 15 pts.; McGrane (f) 8 pts.; Briles (f) 2 pts.; Kilgore (f) 2 pts.; Hickle (f) 2 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Battles (g); Frerichs; Etnier.

The **boys** gained their second conference win by defeating Slater 55-34. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 18 pts.; Vasey (f) 15 pts.; Kilgore (c) 6 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 4 pts.; Long (g) 12 pts.; Thornton (f) 0 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Ballard (f) 0 pts.

Nov. 16: The Collins and Rhodes **girls** had a thrilling game on their court with Collins winning by the close score of 67-65 in overtime. Rhodes took a 23-16 first quarter lead and held a 37-29 halftime lead and 50-45 third quarter lead. As the last quarter was getting underway Collins managed to catch up and scoring was even for both sides at 61-61 when the buzzer rang. An exciting 3-minute overtime was played with Collins' Georgiann Briles scoring the final decisive basket for the 67-65 victory. Briles entered the game at the beginning of the fourth quarter and scored 25 points in 11 minutes of playing time. (Insert 2005: Very likely, this is an all-time Collins scoring record in scoring 25 points within a continuous 11-minute playing time.) **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 2 pts.; Evans (f) 24 pts.; McGrane (f) 14 pts.;

Briles (f) 25 pts.; Kilgore (f) 2 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Battles (g); Frerichs; Etnier.

The Collins **boys** downed Rhodes 57-46. Collins held a 35-14 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 14 pts.; Vasey (f) 13 pts.; Kilgore (c) 4 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 8 pts.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Thornton (f) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Ballard (f) 0 pts.; Dodd (g) 6 pts.; Partridge (c) 2 pts.

Nov. 19: Collins **girls** defeated Colo 65-42 on the Collins home court. Collins had 35-15 halftime margin. All girls on the Collins squad played. **Lineup:** Betty Spooner (56) (f) 20 pts.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 7 pts.; Mary McGrane (55) (f) 7 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 13 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 11 pts.; Marjorie Hickle (56) (f) 2 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 4 pts.; Verlie Etnier (58) (f) 1 pt.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Sandra Smith (58) (g); Susie Battles (g).

Collins **boys** defeated Colo in a conference game 56-32. The reserves played the last one and one-half quarters. Collins held a 34-15 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 7 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 19 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 17 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (f) 4 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 2 pts.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 0 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 0 pts.; Bill Ballard (56) (f) 3 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 4 pts.; Jerry Nichol (56) (g) 0 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (c) 0 pts.; Ben Clark (57) (g); Darwin Luing (57) (g) 0 pts.

Nov. 23: The **girls** won their 5th game of the season, defeating Baxter 71-64 on the home court. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 25 pts.; Evans (f) 20 pts.; McGrane (f) 10 pts.; Briles (f) 16 pts.; Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Battles (g).

The **boys** hit 46 % in the first half to take a commanding 41-21 lead and went on to win 75-35 over Baxter. The reserves played a bit part in the game. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 11 pts.; Vasey (f) 17 pts.; Kilgore (c) 6 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 5 pts.; Long (g) 7 pts.; Thornton (f) 4 pts.; Morrison (g) 3 pts.; Ballard (f) 8 pts.; Dodd (g) 3 pts.; Partridge (c) 6 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 5 pts.

Nov. 30: The **girls** won their 3rd conference game, defeating Maxwell 62-51 on their court. Collins led only 18-14 at the first quarter, and stretched the lead 35-20 at halftime and went on to win 62-51. The whole team played a hard game and congratulations are deserved. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 18 pts.; Evans (f) 10 pts.; McGrane (f) 0 pts.; Briles (f) 34 pts.; Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** won their 8th straight and 3rd conference game by defeating Maxwell 50-40. Collins held a 17-5 first quarter lead that shrank to 24-19 lead at halftime. The boys regained control of the game in the second half for the 50-40 victory. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 4 pts.; Vasey (f) 20 pts.; Kilgore (c) 18 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 1 pt.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Dodd (g) 3 pts.

Dec. 3: Collins **girls** achieved their 7th victory in overwhelming Cambridge 64-36 on their home court. In an early season game Collins lost to Cambridge by four points. Collins held a 29-21 halftime lead. Collins outscored Cambridge in the final quarter 20-4. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 15 pts.; Evans (f) 7 pts.;

McGrane (f) 4 pts.; Briles (f) 26 pts.; Kilgore (f) 10 pts.; Hickle (f) 2 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** overpowered Cambridge for their 4th conference victory with no defeats 62-28. John Vasey scored 23 points while playing only the first half. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 4 pts.; Vasey (f) 23 pts.; Kilgore (c) 9 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 0 pts.; Long (g) 6 pts.; Dodd (g) 9 pts.; Thornton (f) 0 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Ballard (f) 3 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Partridge (c) 5 pts.; Clark (g) 2 pts.; Luing (g) 1 pt.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.

Dec. 7: Collins **girls** lost for the 2nd time to Farrar 78-62 at Farrar. This was their 3rd loss of the season. Collins trailed 22-7 at the first quarter and 44-29 at halftime. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 22 pts.; Evans (f) 1 pt.; McGrane (f) 2 pts.; Briles (f) 25 pts.; Kilgore (f) 10 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** made it ten in a row, 53-43, in a hard-fought game on Farrar's small court. The game was close all the way with neither holding a margin of over 5 points until the last quarter when the Clippers outscored Farrar 17-5. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 12 pts.; Vasey (f) 10 pts.; Kilgore (c) 24 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 4 pts.; Long (g) 1 pt.; Dodd (g) 2 pts.

Dec. 10: Collins **girls** defeated Maxwell 49-33 on the home court. Halftime lead was 29-15.

Lineup: Spooner (f) 21 pts.; Evans (f) 14 pts.; McGrane (f) 0 pts.; Briles (f) 14 pts.; Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).
The **boys** defeated Maxwell. (Insert 2005: Box score not found.)

Dec. 14: Collins **girls** won their 9th game of the season and second victory over Baxter by the close score of 58-56. Baxter had 13-8 first quarter lead and Collins 29-28 halftime lead and 46-37 third quarter lead. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 22 pts. (16 free throws); Evans (f) 12 pt.; McGrane (f) 0 pts.; Briles (f) 24 pts.; Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** overwhelmed Baxter 71-34 with 13 boys scoring. Team made 19 of 28 free throws. Collins had 30-20 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 15 pts.; Vasey (f) 12 pts.; Kilgore (c) 7 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 4 pts.; Long (g) 7 pts.; Dodd (g) 6 pts.; Thornton (f) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 6 pts.; Ballard (f) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 5 pts.; Partridge (c) 2 pts.; Clark (g) 0 pts.; Luing (g) 0 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.

Dec. 17: Collins **girls** lost their 1st conference game to Shipley on their court, 52-46. Betty Spooner (f) was unable to play because of a leg injury. Shipley held a 27-20 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Evans (f) 15 pt.; McGrane (f) 5 pts.; Briles (f) 20 pts.; Kilgore (f) 3 pts.; Hickle (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Etnier (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g).

The **boys** suffered their coldest shooting night of the year in struggling to defeat Shipley 48-36. This is the boys' 5th conference win with no defeats. Collins held a 27-14 halftime lead. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 6 pts.; Vasey (f) 10 pts.; Kilgore (c) 8 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 6 pts.; Long (g) 4 pts.; Dodd (g) 4 pts.; Thornton (f) 0 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Ballard (f) 8 pts.

Dec. 21: Mingo defeated the Collins **girls** 49-45 on the Mingo court in the last game Christmas vacation. For Collins, Briles had 19 and Carley, regularly our post guard, scored 13 points. Spooner, who

usually plays as front forward, was unable to play, due to illness. Collins led during the whole game until the last 48 seconds. Collins' three starting guards fouled out. **Lineup:** Briles (f) 19 pts.; Evans (f) 9 pts.; Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; Carley (f) 13 pts.; McGrane (f) 0 pts.; Smith (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Frerichs (g); Etnier (g); Hickle (g).

The **boys** defeated Mingo. (Insert 2005: Box score not found.)

January 6, 1955 Argued in Government Class: "Should we have a speed limit in Iowa?" Most everyone said it was a good idea; but agreed that such a law would have to be favored by a majority and well-enforced.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** lost to McCallsburg on their court 50-44. Collins trailed throughout the game from 5 to 10 points. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 7 pts.; Briles (f) 24 pts.; Evans (f) 12 pts.; Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; McGrane (f) 1 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Frerichs (g); Etnier (g). The **boys** downed McCallsburg 50-42 in the 1st game after the holidays. After a sluggish 1st half pepped up a bit and widened the margin to nearly 20 points early in the last quarter for the final margin of 50-42. The Collins halftime margin was 24-12. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 12 pts.; Vasey (f) 10 pts.; Kilgore (c) 13 pts.; G. Fitzgerald (f) 2 pts.; Long (g) 2 pts.; Dodd (g) 0 pts.; Thornton (f) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 1 pt.; Ballard (f) 4 pts.; Nichol (g) 2 pts.; Partridge (c) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 2 pts.

The seniors have received an invitation to the **Seniors Ball** held annually at Marshalltown.

Grade News: Sixth – Ronnie Maxwell showed the class how electricity is made. He operated a generator with batteries attached and when the generator was turned, a light came on. The class give their first oral book reviews this week. **Fifth** – Larry Heintz (52) brought his tape recorder and recorded our voices. Most of us were surprised to hear how we really sound to others. We are also going to try to improve our oral reading. **Fourth** – During the month of December, 22 library books were checked out. We have added 11 new books to our library. **First** – For phonics we studied the sounds of S, T, M, F as related to words. We also studied rhyming words and words that had the same beginning sounds. The class is working on recognition of the A, B, C's preparatory to spelling. **Kindergarten** – All the class can write their first names. We have been taking turns telling the story of "The Three Bears."

January 13, 1955 Editorial – This is the first of a series of articles taken from theme papers written by juniors and seniors. These papers were written for Government class, **average approximately 3000 words**; therefore, they cannot be published in their entirety. This comes from "A Brief History of The Republican Party," by John Vasey. (Insert 2005: Please refer to January 13, 1955 for the published article. Wow! I am glad I graduated in 1952.)

Basketball – Collins **girls** have **new basketball suits**; blue with white lettering.

The **girls** lost their second conference game to Huxley, 48-43, leaving us third in the conference. Although Collins was ahead much of the game, in the last three minutes Huxley came through with baskets for the victory. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 17 pts.; Briles (f) 22 pts.; Evans (f) 2 pts.; Kilgore (f) 2 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Shultz (g).

Collins **boys clinched the South Story Conference Title** by trouncing Huxley 82-33. Huxley kept even with the Clippers until midway in the first quarter when Collins started pulling away. In the second period, Collins let loose with 39 point scoring spree, which gave them a 63-16 lead at the half. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 18 pts.; Vasey (f) 18 pts.; Kilgore (c) 18 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 7 pts.; Long (g) 2 pts.; Thornton (g) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 4 pts.; Ballard 2 pts.; Nichol 4 pts.; Clark 0 pts.; Partridge 7 pts.; Dodd 0 pts.

Basketball – Colo edged the Collins **girls** 48-44 in an exciting game at Colo. Neither team could hit during the first quarter and ended with Colo leading 5-4. Colo had a halftime lead of 21-16. **Lineup:** Spooner (f) 20 pts.; Briles (f) 10 pts.; Evans (f) 8 pts.; Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; McGrane (f) 2 pts.; Carley (g); Heintz (g); Smith (g); Hickle (g).

The **boys** defeated a much-improved Colo team, 53-47. The Blue Devils really made a game of it after trailing by 16 points in the third quarter. At one point, they closed the gap to three points, but the Clippers responded to lengthen the lead. **Lineup:** Laird (f) 6 pts.; Vasey (f) 26 pts.; Kilgore (c) 8 pts.; Fitzgerald (g) 6 pts.; Long (g) 7 pts.

Basketball – The **Story County Boys' Basketball Tournament** will be held the last week in January. The Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday sessions will be played at Maxwell, Colo, and Roland, with the **semi-finals and finals at Story City.**

Basketball – Collins **boys** overran the Eldora Training School 92-56. The Clippers jumped off to an early lead of 21-6 at the first quarter and were never in trouble. The boys have now won 18 consecutive games. The team rated congratulations from the Marshalltown *Times Republican* after defeating Colo to chalk up 17 wins in a row. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 15 pts.;

John Vasey (56) (f) 28 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 20 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 6 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 8 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 2 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 6 pts.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 2 pts.; Bill Ballard (56) (f) 0 pts.; Jerry Nichol (56) (g) 5 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (c) 0 pts.; Ben Clark (57) 0 pts.; Pat Fitzgerald (57) 0 pts.

The Collins boys reserve swamped Eldora Training School reserves. Ballard, Thornton, Dodd and Nichol led the scoring with 14, 12, 10, and 8 points. Partridge and P. Fitzgerald had 6 each.

Another board in the gym has broken through; hope no one gets hurt. It sure would be nice to have a shiny new floor. Is anyone with me?

Jack North's Boys' Basketball Honor Roll in Tuesday's *Des Moines Tribune* listed **two members of the Collins high school basketball team** – John Vasey in high scoring of 28 points against Eldora Training School, and 26 points against Colo; Jack Kilgore for his defensive play in the Eldora game.

January 27, 1955 Honor Roll: Freshmen – Dorothy Hand, Georgiann Briles, Sandra Smith.

Sophomores – Glen Novinger, Elliott Partridge, David Maxwell, Sandra Carley, Janice Heintz, Mary Jo Shultz, Daisy Maxwell. **Juniors** – George Keagle; Rex Morrison, John Vasey,

Jim Dodd, Marjorie Hickle. **Seniors** – Janet Evans, Sandra Long, Mary McGrane, Maris Slauson.

Story County Girls Basketball Tournament: First round – Gilbert edged Collins out of the county tournament at Colo by a five-point margin, 64-59. Collins did surprisingly well against the undefeated Gilbert team who have played in state tournament competition. **Lineup:**

Betty Spooner (56) (f) 17 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot-f) 21 pts.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 21 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 0 pts.; Mary McGrane (55) (f) 0 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Sandra Smith (58) (g); Donna Frerichs (57) (g/f); Verlie Etnier (58) (g). The girls drew a tough team for the first round as Gilbert defeated McCallsburg by seventeen points in the championship game of the county tournament.

Story County Boys Basketball Tournament: First round – Gilbert gave Collins a real scare as the Clippers failed to rebound or play good defensive ball the first half and trailed 41-34 at halftime. Collins came back to outscore Gilbert in both the third and fourth quarters for a 77-68 win. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 15 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 24 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 16 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 14 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 4 pts.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 4 pts.

Semi-finals – Roland won over Collins 52-43. The Clippers jumped off to an early 7-0 lead, but Roland tied the game at 27 at halftime. Roland outscored Collins 17-11 in the fourth quarter. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 7 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 20 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 9 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 4 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 1 pt.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 0 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 2 pts. Vasey and Kilgore fouled out.

Consolation – Collins won third place, defeating Nevada “B” 63-54. Collins trailed ten points early in the second quarter, but narrowed the margin to 30-27 at halftime. Collins outscored Nevada 19-8 in the fourth quarter to take a 63-54 win. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 10 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 32 pts.; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 5 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 8 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 4 pts.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 0 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 4 pts. Laird and Fitzgerald fouled out.

February 3, 1955 Optic Staff: Editor – Mary McGrane; **Assist. Editor** – John Vasey; **Feature Writers** – George Keagle, Janice Heintz; **Girls’ Sports** – Mary Jo Shultz; **Boys’ Sports** – Jack Kilgore; **F. F. A.** – Elliott Partridge; **Music Reporter** – Daisy Mary Maxwell; **Reporters: Junior High** – Jane Ballard, **Grades** – Georgiann Briles; **Typists** – Sandra Long, Janet Evans.

Grade News: Fourth Grade Subjects – Spelling, Arithmetic, English, Geography, Health, and History; **Fifth** – In History we are studying the countries and explorers who were interested in finding new trade routes. We have been learning the meaning of such words as molecules, chlorophyll and photosynthesis.

February 10, 1955 Girls Basketball Sectional Tournament at Maxwell: First round – Collins managed to squeeze Maxwell out of the tournament Wednesday night by 50-47 score. Halftime score was Collins 23, Maxwell 22 and Collins had third quarter lead of 37-32. **Lineup:**

Betty Spooner (56) (f) 19 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot-f) 4 pts.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 14 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 2 pts.; Mary McGrane (55) (f) 11 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g).

Semi-finals - Van Cleve beat Collins in an exciting overtime game 52-49. Collins trailed the first three quarters, but managed to tie the score 45-45 when the buzzer rang. With near one minute to go in

overtime Van Cleve led by one point, hit a lucky basket at the buzzer for the final score of 52-49.

Lineup: Betty Spooner (56) (f) 15 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot-f) 30 pts.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 4 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g).

Consolation – Collins girls won the Consolation trophy by defeating Colo 46-36. The score was fairly close the first half with Collins leading 29-19 at halftime. Collins took a 33-23 third quarter lead and held a ten point margin for a 46-36 win. **Lineup:** Betty Spooner (56) (f) 9 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot f) 16 pts.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 13 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 4 pts.; Mary McGrane (55) (f) 4 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g).

This and That – Congratulations to the girls for bringing home a trophy, the first one for some time. Thursday night, **they met with the sectional-champs-to-be, Van Cleve**, and really gave them a rough time. Considering this game was closer than anyone else came to beating Van Cleve, our girls looked pretty good. Monday, we were entertained by Al Bell and his Travel Tales. This feature was his trip to Ireland. The Home Ec. girls enjoyed their excursion to the Collins locker plant. They watched the cutting of beef and pork, very interesting experience.

Editorial – This is the third partial term paper to be published in our School Optic. The two previous papers were written by John Vasey, and Larry Laird, and this one is by Rex Morrison. Rex's is entitled "Soil Conservation Districts." These districts are organized for soil and water resources and development of our land to meet ever increasing demand and self-government by farmers of our state. (Insert 2005: Please refer to February 10, for the published article. Wow! I am glad I graduated in 1952.)

Boys Sectional Basketball Tournament at Melbourne: First round – The Clippers came out on top in the first game by defeating Van Cleve 63-60. The game was close all the way. Collins trailed three points at halftime, but hit better the second half for the three-point victory. The absence of Kilgore made a gap in the usually sharp teamwork. Thornton and Dodd proved to be real assets as they scored 19 and 12 points, respectively. **Lineup:** Larry Laird (56) (f) 6 pts.; John Vasey (56) (f) 24 pts.; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 2 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 0 pts.; Jerry Thornton (55) (f) 19 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (f) 12 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 0 pts.

Second round – Lost to Melbourne 55-45. Collins has an 8-point half-time lead. (Insert 2005: Box score not found.)

February 17, 1955 Homemaker's Search – The senior girls of Collins and about 8,000 other schools throughout the nation took a test given by the Betty Crocker Search for the American Homemaker of Tomorrow. A winner was picked from each school and her test was sent to be judged with others in each state. Last week Miss Burton, Home Ec teacher, received word Maris Slauson's paper was sent to the State judging. Maris was awarded a gold pin and Betty Crocker picture cookbook.

Music News – We have purchased another E-flat alto horn, which really helps out the band. Glen Novinger is now playing it. Our music which will be used in the All-County Band and Chorus has arrived and we have begun working on it. Ten more boys have joined the chorus.

Grade News: Sixth – We are finishing our Science books this week and will start our new Health class in a few days. **Ten of our girls are working with the Nutrition project from Iowa State (College) University.** They have fruit or vegetable juice twice each day as a supplement to their regular school lunch. Karolyn Carley, Helen Jacobsen, and Charlene Luing received prizes for turning in the best diet record books. **Third** – In Arithmetic we are reviewing carrying with two-figure numbers and borrowing with the same kind of figures before taking up multiplication of numbers. We keep a record of all books read from the public library and find we have read a total of 99 books. **Second** – In Science, we have completed our unit on water. We are now ready to start a unit on magnets. Writing letters has been our topic in Language. We wrote letters to people in our room who were absent. We know all of our small letters of the alphabet in cursive writing and are about ready to start on capitals.

February 24, 1955 The annual **F. F. A. Queen's Ball** was held February 18 in the high school gym. Dancing in the gym, decorated in red and white in **keeping with Valentine's Day**, was enjoyed by 60 high school students and members of the faculty. At 9:30 P.M. Gene Fitzgerald, F. F. A. President, announced that **Janet Evans, senior, had been elected queen.** She was presented with a crown and a dozen red roses. The **attendants** were Betty Spooner, junior, and Mary Jo Shultz, sophomore.

Editorial – This term paper review was taken from “Our Foreign Policy” by Janet Evans. Policies are an expression of the national interests. They reflect what we are and what we want. Foreign policy is the governmental conduct of the relations of one sovereign state to the other sovereign states. (Insert 2005: Please refer to February 24, for the published article. Wow! I am glad I graduated in 1952.)

Girls 1954-55 Season Summary: Scheduled Games - Collins girls **won:** Elkhart 65-30, Slater 39-37, Rhodes 67-65, Colo 65-42, Baxter 71-64, Maxwell 62-51, Cambridge 64-36, Maxwell 49-33, Baxter 58-56. **Lost:** Farrar 63-52, Cambridge 45-41, Farrar 78-62, Shipley 52-46, Mingo 49-45, McCallsburg 50-44, Huxley 48-43, Colo 48-44. **County Tourney: First round** – lost to Gilbert 64-59. **Sectional Tourney: First round** – **won** over Maxwell 50-41. **Semi-finals** – lost to Van Cleve 52-49. **Consolation** – **won** over Colo 46-36 for **Consolation trophy.**

(Insert 2005: The Conference schedule in 1951-52 season was 12 games, each team playing on a home and home basis with the other six teams. The Conference games' schedule is now reduced to six games. Some teams continue to play home and home games with Conference teams; how the Conference game is determined is unknown to this writer.)

Girls 1954-55 Team Members: The starting six – Mary McGrane (55) (pivot forward) 108 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 298 pts.- apg-16.; Janet Evans (55) (f) 226 pts.-apg. 11; Sandra Carley (sophomore) (pivot guard); Mary Jo Schultz (sophomore) (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g). **And also playing regularly** – Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot forward) 372-apg-18; Jill Kilgore (57) (f); Donna Frerichs (57) (f); Marjorie Hickle (56) (f); Sandra Smith (58) (g); Verlie Etnier (58) (g). **Manager** – Sandra Long. **Coach** – Louis Schrader. **Seniors:** Janet Evans and Mary McGrane.

The Clipperettes had a better than average season, winning 11 games and dropping 10. They won **second place trophy in the South Story Conference** winning over Colo, Maxwell, Cambridge, and Slater, while losing to Huxley and Slater for a 4-2 record. **Story County Tournament** - Collins played against the powerful Gilbert team, which later went to the State Tournament, losing in the first round 64-59. **Sectional Tourney** – Collins won third place, defeating Maxwell in the first round, 50-47, dropping a hard-fought overtime game to Van Cleve in the semi-finals, 52-49, and defeating Colo 46-36 for **Consolation honors**. **First team all conference recognition:** Betty Spooner (55) (forward), Sandra Carley (sophomore) (guard).

Boys 1954-55 Season Summary: Scheduled Games – Collins **won:** Farrar, Elkhart, Maxwell, Mingo (scores not found), Cambridge 59-42, Slater 55-34, Rhodes 57-46, Colo 56-32, Baxter 75-35, Maxwell 50-40, Cambridge 62-38, Farrar 53-43, Baxter 71-34, Shipley 48-36, McCallsburg 50-42, Huxley 82-33, Colo 53-47, Eldora Training School 92-56. **Lost – None.** **County Tourney: First round – won** over Gilbert 77-68. **Semi-finals - lost** to Roland 52-43. **Consolation round – won** over Nevada “B” 63-54. **Section Tourney – first round** lost to Melbourne 55-45.

Boys 1954-55 Team Members: Starting five – John Vasey (56) (f) 417 pts.-apg. 18; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) apg. 11; Larry Laird (56) (f) apg. 10; Ronnie Long (55) (g) 152 pts.; Gene Fitzgerald (55) (g) 109 pts. and other regular players – Jerry Thornton (55) (f); Rex Morrison (56) (g); Jim Dodd (56) (g), Jerry Nichol (56) (g); Bill Ballard (56) (f). Other team members –Elliott Partridge (57) (f); Dave Fitzgerald (57) (g); Ben Clark (57); Jerry Huffman (57); Darwin Luing (57); Gordon Smith (58); Pat Fitzgerald (58). Manager – Darwin Luing.

Coach – Louis Schrader. **Seniors** – Jack Kilgore, Gene Fitzgerald, Ronnie Long, Jerry Thornton.

Boys 1954-55 Season Narrative Summary: The Clippers had a very successful season in compiling a **23-2 won-lost record.** (**Insert 2005:** Very likely, no losses in scheduled season games is an all-time school record. Also only 2 losses in the entire season is very likely an all-time school record. Available information indicates the **1947-48 boys’ team lost 3 games in the season.**) The Clippers scored 1418 points for offensive average of 57 points per game and limited opponents to 944 points for 38-point average. The shooting percentage was 36%, making 571 baskets of 1580 attempts. The free throw shooting was 52%. Collins’ team went undefeated in the scheduled game season and **won the South Story Conference** with a 6-0 record, defeating Colo, Maxwell, Cambridge, Slater, Huxley, and Shipley. The 2 losses of the season came in tournament play. **Story County Tourney** – The first loss was a hard-fought game with Roland in the semi-final round, 52-43, which broke Collins’ 21 game winning streak. Collins came back to defeat Nevada B for **third place trophy.** **Sectional Tourney** – The other loss was to Melbourne in the second round, 55-45. **First team all conference recognition:** Jack Kilgore (55) (center), John Vasey (56) (forward). **Honorable mention conference recognition:** Larry Laird (56) (forward), Ronnie Long (55) (guard), Gene Fitzgerald (55) (guard).

March 3, 1955 The **Annual was completed this week** by the seniors under the able direction of Mary McGrane and sent to the publishers to be printed.

Home Ec class has taken several trips this year and all have been interesting and helpful. The most recent trip was Thursday to the Home and Flower Show. Model Home of 1955 was inspected by us and was very nice.

On Tuesday the **ninth and tenth Voc. Ag. boys took a field trip to Iowa State (College) University to see the Dairy Industry Building and the Dairy Farm.** Our first visit was the Dairy Industry Building with Professor Iverson as guide through the cheese-processing department. He also showed us the processing of milk from the time received until it was ready for sale. He gave us a special treat, two quarts of concentrated milk, which is a very new process. This is six quarts of whole milk with four quarts of water removed. Mr. Iverson mixed the concentrated milk with strawberry pop, which made it taste just like strawberry soda. Mothers, this is your answer to junior's milk-drinking problem. The next stop was the Dairy Farm where we saw the veal calves, which were on experimental rations.

Freshmen News – We finished our English books and have started reading our literature books. Not only are the stories interesting, but also, the authors, two of whom have lived in Iowa, and one of the stories takes place at Iowa State (College) University.

Louis Schrader, Athletic Coach of the Collins School, has taken over the local agency of the Standard Oil Company. Schrader will continue his schoolwork for the remainder of the school year.

March 10, 1955 Honor Roll: Freshmen – Georgiann Briles, Saundra Smith; **Sophomores** – Glen Novinger, Elliott Partridge, David Maxwell, Sandra Carley, Janice Heintz, Mary Jo Shultz; **Juniors** – Bill Ballard, George Keagle, Rex Morrison, Bob Rice, John Vasey, Marjorie Hickie, Betty Spooner; **Seniors** – Janet Evans, Mary McGrane.

This and That: On Thursday the **Girls' Basketball Team** attended the Girls State Basketball Tournament in Des Moines.

Grade News: Third – We read stories from our readers about silk, rayon, and linen. We wrote short reports about the most interesting thing from each. We have finished our unit on clothing.

March 17, 1955 This and That – The **Home Ec. Girls** served tea and pie to all the faculty members Thursday after school. The pies were lemon and chocolate chiffon and cherry.

Music News – Friday, the **members of our Mixed Chorus** participated in a **music festival** held in the new gymnasium at Shipley. We arrived about 2:00 P.M. and began rehearsing a selection of fourteen numbers. At 7:30 P.M., the concert under the direction of Mr. Smith from Iowa State (College) University was presented by a **200-voice chorus** consisting of students from **Collins, Colo, Huxley, Shipley, Maxwell and Slater.** On April 1, another music festival, this one for **bands,** will be held at Maxwell. The **Mixed Chorus** is going to sing for the **P. T. O. meeting** in March.

March 31, 1955 “Are You Mr. Butterworth?”, the three-act mystery comedy presented by the **Junior Class,** was well received by an appreciative audience Friday evening. The element of suspense

regarding the stolen jewels kept everyone busy trying to figure out who had stolen them. **The cast** all took their parts very credible manner; however, Jerry Nichol as the bellhop and George Keagle as the “one-horse” detective probably carried off the honors in getting many laughs by just acting natural. The musical numbers between acts were well performed.

There was dancing to the tunes of our juke box after the class play. This juke box has been getting a workout almost every noon recently.

Your Future – One of the freedoms of our land is choosing our jobs. By making the most of the many opportunities put before you, you will be able to play your part in building a better America. A vocation should not be chosen hastily for it will be with you for a long time. Take into consideration these measurements of vocations: contentment, income, opportunity, and location of the job. Inform yourself very well as the final decision is with yourself.

Basketball – John Vasey, forward on the Collins High School Basketball team, was one of five Story County cagers to receive honorable mention on the All-State selections announced last week by the Iowa Daily Press Association.

April 7, 1955 This and That: April Fools Day – meaning that “Hobo Day” for the high school girls has again been celebrated. This year the senior girls pulled a switch by dressing in their best instead of the usual hobo rags. A school party Friday evening, given by the freshmen, proved an enjoyable event.

The **Collins Future Farmers of America** chapter held their **annual parents-son banquet** on April 2, with 47 people attending. Our thanks to Betty Hanson for preparing the meal.

Music News – Friday afternoon **band students from Collins** along with those from Slater, Maxwell, Huxley, and Colo, had a **band festival in the Maxwell gym**. We began rehearsing at 2:00 o’clock on the numbers each band had been rehearsing individually. At 7:30, the concert was held under the direction of Mr. Day, band instructor from Ames High School. We enjoyed taking part in the concert and we hope the large crowd attending the concert enjoyed it, too.

Grade News: Sixth – We are studying in History class about the development of aviation. Friday, several model airplanes were brought to school for the pupils to see. We also had a gasoline-controlled plane and learned how it was constructed and controlled. **Fifth** – On Monday, Larry Heintz (52) brought a part of his rock collection to our room. We have been studying about the different types of rocks in Science, so we were glad to see some real specimens. He also told us how to start a collection, where to get specimens, and how to identify different rocks. On Thursday, Jievan Kamble visited our room. Mr. Kamble is a school superintendent in India who is taking his master degree at Iowa State (College) University. He told us about the people, religions, and customs of his country. **Second** – For Social Studies, we have started a unit on bread. We are following the entire process of making bread, starting with the farmer planting wheat until it is sold from the bakery. In Science we are reading about “How Plants Grow.” We have done various experiments showing what is necessary to keep a plant growing and alive.

April 14, 1955 School Annuals are now on sale. Deposit of **\$1.50** with one of the seniors so you will be sure to have an annual.

Baseball – Collins trounced Rhodes 15-0 in the opening game of the season. John Vasey, Gordie Smith, and Jerry Nichol held the Rhodes' club to one hit. Collins cut loose with 13 hits with 3 for extra bases for their 15 runs. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

April 21, 1955 The **Senior Class Play** will be held in the high school auditorium on April 28. Adults price is .50 and children .25. **The cast:** Jack Kilgore – Tom Arsdale who is girl shy; Gene Fitzgerald – Oke Stimson, who isn't; Mary McGrane – Caroline as Tom's aunt; Jerry Thornton – Anthony Arsdale, Tom's father; Mary Jo Shultz – Sylvia Webster, Tom's pet aversion; Tom Reese – Dean Marlow, dean of the college; Janet Evans – Peaches Carter, Oke's present weakness; Betty Spooner – Asma, wash lady; Sandra Long – Birdie Laverne, movie aspirant; Maris Slauson - Barbara Sanford, the other woman; Ronnie Long – Alfred Tennyson Murgatoyd, class poet; Max Bach – Chuck Mayo, Birdie's late affinity. It is graduation time at the college attended by Tom and Oke.

This and That – The **Home Ec. girls** are finishing work on the last garments to be sown this year. The six members in the class are: Darlene Kelderhouse, Maris Slauson, Sandra Long, Janet Evans, Mary McGrane, and Betty Taylor. Our able teacher is Miss Leota Burton; she deserves both congratulations and thanks for her guidance and patience. The P. T. O. has asked us to give a style show at their next meeting.

Baseball – Collins gained their second victory of the season, trouncing Huxley 16-0. Collins collected 12 hits in scoring their 16 runs, 9 runs in the second inning. **Lineup:** G. Fitzgerald (3b) 2 hits; Long (2b) 2 hits; Vasey (p) 2 hits; Nichol (c) 1 hit; Thornton (cf) 0 hits; Kilgore (1b) 1 hit; Clark (lf) 2 hits; Laird (rf) 1 hit; Dodd (ss) 1 hit; N. Smith (1b) 0 hits; D. Fitzgerald (ss) 0 hits; G. Smith (rf) 0 hits.

Collins lost their first game of the season to **East High of Des Moines**, 10-5. Erratic fielding was a major factor as East scored four runs due to errors. Collins scored their five runs on only five hits. John Vasey was the pitcher and Jerry Nichol caught. Lineup omitted.

Collins defeated Maxwell 12-9. Vasey hit a home run and a triple. Maxwell collected only four hits off three Collins pitchers, one a grand slam home run in the seventh inning. Collins scored their twelve runs in the first four innings. **Lineup:** G. Fitzgerald (3b) 1 hit; Long (2b) 0 hits; Vasey (1b) 2 hits; N. Smith (c) 1 hit; Laird (lf) 2 hits; Clark (rf) 2 hits; Thornton (cf) 1 hit; Dodd (ss) 2 hits; Kilgore (p) 0 hits.

April 28, 1955 Baseball – Collins had their second loss of the season, to Clemons 10-7. Clemons scored their ten runs in the first three innings. Collins scored five in the first inning and two in the last inning on their ten hits. **Lineup:** Fitzgerald (3b) 1 hit; Long (2b) 1 hit; Vasey (cf-p) 1 hit; Kilgore (c) 1 hit.; Thornton (lf) 1 hit; Dodd (ss) 1 hit; Clark (rf) 3 hits; Laird (lb) 2 hits; G. Smith (p-cf) 0 hits.

Collins defeated Mingo 10-1 behind the fine pitching of Gordon Smith who pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 5, strikeouts – (?), walks (?). N. Smith caught. Collins scored three runs in the second inning and seven runs in the fourth inning for their ten runs on eight hits. **Lineup:** Long (2b) 2 hits; Vasey (cf) 0 hit; Kilgore (3b) 0 hits; Clark (rf) 0 hits; Laird (lb) 2 hits; N. Smith (c) 1 hit; Thornton (lf) 1 hit; Dodd (ss) 1 hit; G. Smith (p) 1 hit; G. Fitzgerald (3b) 0 hits; D. Fitzgerald 0 hits; Rice (rf) 0 hits.

Sectional Baseball Tournament will be held at Collins City Park May 2, 4, and 6. Collins drew a bye in the first round.

Grade News: Sixth – Ronnie Maxwell has started lessons on a clarinet. Softball, baseball, and rope jumping have taken over the gym period. We tried square dancing and volleyball last week. We have been studying World War II in our History books. Last week we visited Winterset in our “Land Marks of Iowa” TV lesson. We are making a notebook of our television visits this winter and hope to visit some of these landmarks next summer.

May 5, 1955 The **Junior-Senior Banquet was held in the high school gym Friday evening.** The tables were beautifully set around the theme of April showers. The decorations were charcoal and pink with pink carnations, the seniors’ colors and flower. Each guest received a little pink memory book, including the names of the speakers who were Betty Spooner, Mary McGrane, Mr. Lawson, Tom Reese, and Supt. Jackson. Thanks to the juniors for their planning and work, to the mothers of the juniors who prepared the meal, to the sophomores who served, and to Mr. Lawson and Miss Burton for help and counsel.

Baseball – Collins stopped Slater in a tight pitchers’ dual, 3-2. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 2, hits – 4, strikeouts – 12, walks – 3. Kilgore caught. Collins scored their three runs on only two hits, one each by Vasey and Thornton. Lineup omitted.

May 12, 1955 Skip Day to Chicago – The seniors left Collins at 12:30 A.M. Friday night. The **cost of this tour was \$14.15 per person and included round trip train ticket, three meals and bus tours around Chicago.** As this was the first train trip for several of us, we were pretty excited. We met some seniors from Wayne, Nebraska who were taking the same excursion. Some seniors joined our group at Marion, Iowa. We crossed the Mississippi River at Sabula, Iowa and stopped at Savanna, Illinois. Our arrival in Chicago was at the Union Station. We went immediately to the site-seeing bus, which took us around the city of Chicago. Most of the morning was touring near Lake Michigan, the Gold Coast along Lake Shore Drive, with average rental rate of \$150 to \$350 a month. We stopped at the Lincoln Zoo for an hour tour. Lunch was at Henrich’s in the Merchandise Mart. The next stop was the Museum of Natural History and Shedd Aquarium. The Egyptian mummies were especially interesting. Next stop was the famous and fascinating Museum of Science and Industry. We drove by the University of Chicago, Jackson Park, Washington Park, and the Old Gold Coast, which now has many large apartment houses. We took a twenty-minute stop in China Town, drove by the Hull House and across Maxwell Street. Our bus tour came to an end and we returned to Union Station, ate supper, did some shopping and got on the train for our return trip. I feel the trip was highly successful, enjoyed by all, and I am

grateful that I was among the ones to go. We were accompanied by Supt. and Mrs. Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Reinderf.

This and That – The **Home Ec.** girls had a style show of their sewing of this year at the **P. T. O. Meeting.** We want to thank everyone for the many complements.

Music News – Thursday, May 12, there will be a music recital by the music students of the fifth, sixth, and seventh grades in the school auditorium. All parents and friends are invited.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins: First round – Collins vs. Bye.

Semi-finals – Collins down Shipley 13-2 in a five-inning game because of the ten-run rule. Collins scored two runs in the first, six in the second, four in the third, and one in the last inning on nine hits.

Lineup: G. Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 3 hits; John Vasey (56) (cf-p) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (c) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (p-c) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (1f) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (rf) 1 hit; Gordon Smith (58) (cf) 0 hits.

Finals – Collins dumped Melbourne 11-2 to **win the Sectional Tournament Championship.** John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 2, hits – 6, strikeouts – 13, walks – 6. Kilgore caught. Collins managed only six hits, but got most of their runs on errors and one squeeze play that scored two runs.

Lineup: Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (c) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (1f) 2 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (rf) 0 hits.

District Baseball Tournament at Kellogg: First Round/Semi-finals – Collins defeated Victor 9-2.

The Clippers let loose with a seven-run second inning and were never in serious trouble. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 2, hits – 3, strikeouts (?), walks (?). **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 0 hits; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 0 hits; Jack Kilgore (55) (c-1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (rf-c) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (1b-rf) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (1f) 1 hit; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 1 hit.

Finals – **Collins won the District Tournament Championship** trouncing Laurel 8-1. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 1, strikeouts – 17, walks – (?). (Insert 2005: Box score not found.)

May 19, 1955 Sixty-Third Annual Commencement, Collins High School Auditorium, May 19, 1955. Program: Processional – Mary Jo Shultz; Invocation – Rev. Robert Robinson; “Into the Night” – Girls’ Glee Club; Address – Dr. Pak Chue Chan, M. D., Ames, Iowa, “Look Upward and Win;” “Mayday Carol” – Maris Slauson; Presentation of Senior Class – Supt. E. E. Jackson; Presentation of Diplomas – Grainger Buck, Pres. Board of Education; “Eternal Life” – Girls’ Glee Club; Benediction – Rev. Robinson; Recessional – Mary Jo Shultz. **Class Members:** Max Bach, Janet Evans, Eugene Fitzgerald, Darlene Kelderhouse, Jack Kilgore, Sandra Long, Ronald Long, Mary McGrane, Thomas Reese, Maris Slauson, Jerry Thornton.

The **Annual Collins Alumni Association** dinner – dance will be Friday evening, May 20, at 6:30 P.M. in the high school building.

Sub-state Baseball Tournament at Roland: First round/Semi-finals – Collins had a tough time in edging Slater 11-10. Collins went on a slugging spree, five of their nine hits for extra bases. Long, Dodd, and Thornton **hit home runs** and Vasey and **Kilgore hit triples**. Slater had the tying run on third base with nobody out in the last inning, but Vasey retired the side on three strikeouts. Nichol caught. Collins' scoring – four in the first inning, three in the third, three in the fourth and one in the seventh. Slater had scored two runs in the seventh inning in their comeback effort. **Lineup:** Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (rf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 2 hits; Ben Clark (57) (lf) 1 hit.

Finals – Coach Louis Schrader's Clippers topped Geneva 4-3 to **win the Sub-State Championship**. Collins' four runs all came in the sixth inning on doubles by Jim Dodd and Jerry Thornton, both connected with two out and strike 2 count on the batters and 2 men on base. Ronnie Long's double and single by John Vasey accounted for Collins' other hits. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 3, hits – 4, strikeouts – 9, walks – 2. Nichol was the catcher. **Winning the Sub-state advances the local boys to play in the State Tournament to be held in Cedar Rapids**, beginning Saturday of this week.

Iowa High School Baseball State Tournament at Cedar Rapids: First round – The Collins high school baseball team was edged out by Loras Academy of Dubuque, 5-4. The Collins boys out hit their opponents and topped them in earned runs, their defeat in the thrilling contest coming as a result of five errors to one for Loras. John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 5, hits – (?), strikeouts – 12, walks (?). Nichol caught. **Loras, which had been favored to win the tournament**, used two pitchers. (Loras has the largest enrollment of any school entered in the state tournament – nearly 1200, while Collins high school has enrollment of 62 – the smallest.) Collins scored one run in the fourth, two in the fifth and one in the seventh. Collins collected seven hits. Loras scored their winning run in the seventh inning. Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b) 1 hit; Ronnie Long (55) (2b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jack Kilgore (55) (1b) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 0 hits; Jerry Thornton (55) (cf) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (rf) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (lf) 1 hit. Coach Schrader asked us to pass on his sincere thanks to the public for the loyal support given the team throughout the playing season and the tournaments. This support is appreciated by the boys as well as by their coach.

Congrats Baseball Team – About 43 autos journeyed to State Center to meet the baseball team as they returned from the State Tourney on Sunday Afternoon. The surprised, but happy boys, and Mr. Schrader rode the rest of the way home on the Legion Fire Truck. A police escort stopped traffic on Highway 30 at Colo so the caravan could safely stay together. The town park was the end of the trail. Mr. Schrader introduced the team, Chuck Kimberley paid complements on behalf of all, and **“Curley” Carver, a member of the high school team that was state champs more than 30 years ago (1924) paid his tributes**. Pop, pie, cake, and ice cream nicely finished the day.

Fine Season Record: The Collins team has a season record of 11 wins and 4 defeats, and

John Vasey has season record of 12 victories against 3 losses. The team loses Jack Kilgore, Ronnie Long, and Jerry Thornton by graduation. The team won the Sectional, District, and Sub-state Championships and for the first time in near thirty years **gave C. H. S. a State Tournament entry.** **(Insert 2005:** Collins was State Champions in 1924. The tournament system was much different in 1924 - please refer to Collins School Biography of April and May 1924 further information. Collins' team also played in 1928 State Tournament, losing in an early round.)

Baseball 1955 Spring Season Summary: Collins **won** – Rhodes 15-0, Huxley 12-0, Maxwell 12-9, Mingo 10-1, Slater 3-2. **Lost** – East Des Moines 10-5, Clemons 10-7, Lincoln of Des Moines 13-3.

Sectional Tourney: Collins **won** – Shipley 13-2, Melbourne 11-2 for **championship.**

District Tourney: Collins **won** – Victor 9-2, Laurel 8-1 for **championship.**

Sub-State Tourney: Collins **won** – Slater 11-10, Geneva 4-3 for **championship.**

State Tourney: First round - Collins **lost** – Loras Academy of Dubuque 5-4.

Team members – Starting nine: John Vasey (56) (p); Jerry Nichol (56) (c); Jack Kilgore (55) (1b); Ronnie Long (55) (2b); Gene Fitzgerald (55) (3b); Jim Dodd (56) (ss); Ben Clark (57) (1f); Jerry Thornton (55) (cf); Larry Laird (56) (rf). Other team members: Bill Ballard (56) (of); David Fitzgerald (57) (if); Bob Rice (56) (of); Elliott Partridge (57) (of); Norlyn Smith (57) (c); Rex Morrison (56) (of); Pat Fitzgerald (58) (if); Darwin Luing (58) (of); George Keagle (56) (of); Jerry Dodd (59) (of); Jerry Huffman (57) (of); Lawrence Horn (59) (of).

Coach – Louis Schrader.

May 26, 1955 Class Day – The Senior Program consisted of reading Class History (Jack); the Last Will and Testament (Gene); Prophecy (Jerry); Solo by Mauris; Song by the Trio (Sandra, Maris, and Mary). The girls acted a skit “Ladies of the Mop,” and the boys did an original skit of “The Bony Stranger and Pronto.” To conclude the program, Mary presented the teachers with certificates of award. The next event was Presentation of Awards to high school students. **Valedictorian Award** – Mary McGrane, **Salutatorian Award** – Maris Slauson, **Close Second to Salutatorian** – Janet Evans, Citizenship Award – Maris Slauson, Special Pins Awarded for Four Years Perfect Attendance – Max Bach and Ronnie Long, Danforth Foundation Award – Mary McGrane and Jack Kilgore, Agriculture Award – Gene Fitzgerald. Mr. Lawson presented Activity Medals – Maris Slauson, Sandra Long, Janet Evans, Jack Kilgore, Jerry Nichol, Gene Fitzgerald, Mary McGrane. Mr. Schrader presented letters to the athletic teams and awards to Janet Evans and Jack Kilgore as the outstanding senior athletes. Certificates of Award and Participation in Activities were awarded to everyone in high school.

This and That – The seniors very much enjoyed the Alumni Banquet and looked forward to the next one when they will be official members. We are proud of our baseball team, we think they are tops. “This is my last issue of the Optic. I say thanks to Army for his patience and to all my helpers on the paper staff. Also to Mrs. Jackson who checks the paper for errors.

~ Editor, Mary McGrane

Comments from a 1955 Graduate – Gene Fitzgerald said an early recalling is sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Ferris, had positive early impact on his interest in basketball. Mrs. Ferris made extra effort to organize informal sixth grade boys' basketball team that played after school games with nearby schools. Mrs. Ferris personally provided transportation for out-of-town games. (Insert 2005: Gene was a regular basketball and baseball team player for three years.)

September 8, 1955 Optic Staff: Editor – John Vasey; **Assist. Editor** – Janice Heintz; **Feature Editors** – George Keagle, Georgiann Briles; **Girls' Sports** – Mary Jo Shultz; **Boys' Sports** – Larry Laird; **Grade Reporter** – Jane Ballard; **Junior High** – Shirley Kern; **High School Reporter** – Mary Ann Kearns; **Music Reporter:** Daisy Mary Maxwell; **F. F. A. Reporter** – Pat Fitzgerald; **Typists** – Marjorie Hickle, Betty Spooner, Loretta Swaim, Rex Morrison.

Once again the time of the year comes when we hear the peal of distant bells; the pitter patter of tiny feet scurrying hither and thither across lawns, up sidewalks, and through the halls of Old Collins High. As I glided into study hall at 8:50 A. M. Monday morning, I found everything just as I had left it last May, except for a few alterations in the classes. ~ George Keagle

School Enrollment – Following is a comparison of the enrollment of last year of 1954-55 and this year of 1955-56. **The first number after each grade will be 1954-55 year and the second number will be 1955-56 year.** Kindergarten – 23-28; First – 26-23; Second – 23-28; Third – 12 – 25; Fourth – 26-13; Fifth – 28-22; Sixth – 30-30; Seventh – 23-28; Eighth – 19-22; Ninth – 8-22; Tenth – 16-9; Eleventh – 17-16; Twelfth – 12-16. **Total 263-281.**

Class Officers – Freshmen: Pres. – David Derby; V. Pres. – Mary Kearns; Sec.-Treas. – Jerry Dodd, Sharon Stratton; Student Council – Denny Sullivan. **Sophomores:** Pres. – Dorothy Hand; V. Pres. – Verlie Etnier; Sec.-Treas. – Darwin Luing; Student Council – Georgiann Briles. **Juniors:** Pres. – Sandra Carley; V. Pres. – Mary Jo Shultz; Sec.-Treas. – Janice Heintz; Student Council – Daisy Mary Maxwell. **Seniors:** Pres. – Betty Spooner; V. Pres. – Jim Dodd; Sec.-Treas. – George Keagle; Student Council – John Vasey.

Music News – Wednesday we **elected** Pres. – Mary Ann Kearns; V. Pres. – Dorothy Hand; Librarians – Verlie Etnier and Georgiann Briles. Tryouts were held for various small vocal groups on Thursday. To date we have girls sextet – Georgiann, Daisy, Betty S., Verlie, Loretta, and Peggy; freshmen trio – Elaine, Mary D., and Carol Ann. Later on we hope to have several more small groups organized.

Odds and Ends – A noticeable **change** can be seen in the **Study Hall**. Instead of the comfortable 59 that were here last year, there are **now 85**. New books have been purchased for Business Law and Economics. The new coach wasted no time in starting to get the baseball boys in shape. There is a distasteful rumor that State tests are to be given next week.

Grade News: Fifth – Linda Carson and her sister, Marilyn appeared on the Cartoon Club Program over KRNT on Friday.

Baseball – Collins started their fall season by defeating Milford at Collins 12-4. Collins collected seven hits while scoring their twelve runs. John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 4, hits – 3, strikeouts – (?), walks – (?). Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Laird (1b) 0 hits; Rice (lf) 1 hit; Clark (cf) 0 hits; Vasey (p) 1 hits; Dodd (ss) 2 hits; Nichol (c) 1 hit; Ballard (2b) 1 hit; G. Smith (3b) 1 hit; D. Fitzgerald (rf) 0 hits; N. Smith (rf) 0 hits; P. Fitzgerald (rf) 0 hits.

September 22, 1955 Odds and Ends – The seniors spent Wednesday collecting advertising for their annual. The juniors have ordered their class rings and the seniors have looked at senior pictures. What a price! Miss Burton has been teaching her Home Ec. Girls the art of canning. They have been working with grape juice and jelly, lots of purple hands. Humor – Mother to her naughty young son, “Bobby, how to you expect to get into heaven if you don’t mind me?” “When I get to the pearly gates, I’ll just run in and out and pretty soon Saint Peter will say, ‘For Heaven Sakes, Bobby, either stay in or stay out.’”

Baseball – Collins trounced Shipley 14-1. Collins’ 13-hit attack was led by John Vasey with four singles and a home run in five at bats. Nichol and Dodd each had two hits. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 1, strikeouts – 19 (Expect this is personal record and also all-time school record as a 7-inning game has 21 outs), walks – (?). Nichol caught. Box score omitted.

The Collins team lost their first game in three starts to Huxley, 7-5. Jerry Nichol pitched seven innings. Runs – 7, hits – 4, strikeouts – 7, walks – 6. Clark caught. Eleven Collins batters struck out. **Lineup:** Nichol (p) 1 hit; Rice (lf) 1 hit; N. Smith (rf) 1 hit; Vasey (cf) 0 hits; Dodd (ss) 1 hit; Laird (1b) 1 hit; Ballard (3b) 0 hits; Clark (cf) 1 hit; G. Smith (2b) 0 hits; Morrison (rf) 0 hits.

Grade News: Third – On Monday, we have the opportunity to take our second shots of the Salk Poliomyelitis vaccine as administered under the school program. We have been having story problems in Arithmetic and review of our addition and subtraction combinations. We have been sharing our summer experiences with the class in our Conversation Period in Language class. (Insert 2005: Polio has been a feared disease for many decades.)

September 29, 1955 Odds and Ends – Things are beginning to quiet down after last Friday’s freshmen initiation. Sure were some odd looking characters running around. After the initiation ceremonies, a dance was held by the sophomores in the lunch room.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins City Park: First round – Collins vs. Bye.

Semi-finals - Collins nipped Zearing 4-2. Collins collected seven hits in scoring their four runs. John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 2, hits – 1, strikeouts – 14, walks – 8. Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 2 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (lf) 0 hits.

Finals – Collins advanced to the District Tournament by trouncing Shipley 14-1 to **win the Sectional Tournament Championship.** Collins collected twelve hits in scoring their fourteen runs and only three

batters struck out. Norlyn Smith had three singles, Dodd had two triples, and Vasey had a single and a home run. Gordon Smith pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 2, strikeouts – 8, walks – 3. Nichol caught. Collins scored five runs in the first inning, three in the second, one in the third and five runs in the sixth inning. **Lineup:** Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 3 hits; John Vasey (56) (2b) 2 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (lf) 1 hit; Gordon Smith (58) (p) 1 hit; Bill Ballard (56) (lf) 0 hits.

October 6, 1955 District Baseball Tournament at Slater. First round/Semi-finals – Collins had a tough time beating Waukee in 2 extra innings game, 4-2. Collins scored one run in the first and Waukee scored two runs in the fifth. Collins scored one more in the six to tie the game. No one scored until the ninth when Collins scored two more in the top of the ninth and held Waukee scoreless in the bottom of the ninth for a 4-2 victory. Gordon Smith started pitching for Collins, and was relieved by Vasey in the sixth. Both Collins pitchers allowed only three hits with Vasey the winning pitcher. Nichol caught.

Collins had nine hits in scoring their four runs. **Lineup:**

Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 3 hits; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (2b-p) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (lf) 1 hit; Gordon Smith (58) (p-2b) 1 hit; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 1 hit. Bob Rice (56) (rf) 1 hit.

Finals – Collins took the **District Crown/Championship** by beating Jamaica, 6-1. Collins collected their six runs on seven hits with fifteen batters striking out. Collins scored three runs in the second, one in the third, one in the fifth, and one in the seventh. John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 3, strikeouts – 12, walks – 9. Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Bob Rice (56) (rf) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 2 hits; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits.

Sub-State Baseball Tournament at Collins City Park. First round – Collins played their final game of the fall season when they lost to Tracy, 1-0. Tracy scored their one run in the third inning. Here are some of the highlights of their pitcher, Norm Millage, among the top left-handed pitchers in the State, in our game: He faced 21 batters altogether, runs – 0, hits - 2, strikeouts - 12, walks – 0. John Vasey for Collins did a fine job. John pitched seven innings, facing 29 batters. Runs - 1, hits – 5, strikeouts – 13, walks – 2. Nichol caught. Nichol and Clark each got one hit for Collins and both were triples. (Insert 2005: Apparently both these batters were put out on bases, as Millage faced only 21 batters, minimum number for a seven inning game.) **Lineup:** Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (lf) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 0 hits.

Baseball 1955 Fall Season Summary: Collins **won** – Milford 12-3, Shipley 14-1, Clemons 14-1. **Lost** – Huxley 7-5.

Sectional Tourney: Collins **won** – Rhodes 18-3, Zearing 4-2, Shipley 14-1 for the **championship**.

District Tourney: Collins **won** – Waukee 4-2, Jamaica 6-1 for **championship**.

Sub-State Tourney: Collins **lost** – Tracy 1-0. (Insert 2005: Tracy went on to win the fall State Championship.) **Season Record:** Won – 8, Lost – 2.

Team members – Starting nine: John Vasey (56) (p) (.424); Jerry Nichol (56) (c) (.378); Larry Laird (56) (1b) (.313); Gordon Smith (58) (2b) (.133); Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) (.130); Jim Dodd (56) (ss) (.314); Ben Clark (57) (1f) (.333); Bill Ballard (56) (cf) (.222); Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) (.385); Bob Rice (56) (utility of) (.268). Other team members: David Fitzgerald (57) (if) (.250); Jerry Dodd (59) (of); Darwin Luing (58) (of); Jerry Huffman (57) (of); Lawrence Horn (59) (of); Elliott Partridge (57) (of); Rex Morrison (56) (of). **Coach** – Larry Thompson.

Junior High News – Most of the students in the eighth grade English class are having some trouble with verbs and parts of verbs. We have been working on our three newspapers - Charleston Star, Salty News, and Rocket Express, for three days. The final paper has now been published. During the first period in the afternoon, the junior high has gone to the auditorium to watch the World Series. **Grade News – Third** We have completed our unit on fruits and are now studying about milk and milk products in Social Studies. We studied measurements in Arithmetic and used our foot rulers to measure things in the classroom. **Second** - In Science we have concluded our unit on grasshoppers and have now started on thermometers.

October 13, 1955 Editorial – To Our Parents: This article is a tribute to the parents of all participants in athletics. The mothers who drive almost every night to pick up their son or daughter who has been practicing and made sacrifices to arrange their schedules to be at the school house around 6:00 o'clock. Many fathers have come from the field at night to find that supper would be late and the chores yet to be done, but they don't seem to mind for the enjoyment they receive watching their son or daughter participate in athletics. There seems to be no end to the number of sweat socks, towels, and uniforms to wash. Regardless whether we win or lose, Mom and Pop are there voicing their hearty support to make a successful athletic program. It also takes fans, and I think Collins High is as blessed with as loyal a group of fans as any school could ask. Thanks to each and every one of you. ~ John Vasey

Music News – Wednesday afternoon the **band mothers** met at the school house and **elected officers:** Mrs. Ord Smith - Pres.; Mrs. Forrest Granger - V. Pres.; Mrs. Walter Keagle – Sec. The band mothers are sponsoring a breakfast at the Methodist Church on October 18. Everyone is invited.

Cheerleaders were elected this week: Verlie Etnier, Dorothy Hand, Pat Hickle, and Mary Ann Kearns. Sharon Kelderhouse was elected manager for the girls' basketball team.

October 27, 1955 The **junior class** presented their class play, "Just Ducky" to a large and appreciative audience Friday evening. The cast portrayed their particular parts so well, the audience enjoyed every minute of the play. The play centered around the Maxwell family and what makes teenage girls and boys do the things they do, and what should be done about them.

The **cast**: David Maxwell – Mr. Maxwell, the father; Sandra Carley – Mrs. Maxwell, the mother; Daisy Maxwell – Betty Lou, a teenage daughter; Mary Jo Shultz – Bernadine, a pal to Betty Lou; Larry Kloppenborg – Wilbur, young son; Ben Clark – Hercules Nelson, bosom pal of Wilbur; Jill Kilgore – Connie, oldest daughter; Elliott Partridge – Craig Moore, boyfriend of Connie; Janice Heintz – Aunt Mary; Myrtle Klopenborg – Miss Mary, editor of the Lovelorn column; Glen Novinger – Mr. Moore, Craig’s father; David Fitzgerald – Del Marshall, newspaper reporter.

The music between the acts included Piano Solo – “Autumn Leaves,” by Mary Jo Shultz; Trumpet Duet – “Cracker Jacks” by Glen Novinger and Don Shultz; Sextet composed of Betty Spooner, Georgiann Briles, Peggy Kloppenborg, Loretta Swaim, Daisy Maxwell, Verlie Etnier – “Pale Moon” and “Over the Rainbow;” Boys Quartet of Quentin Keagle, Elliott Partridge, Glen Novinger, Rex Morrison, sang “Mother” and “My Evaline.”

School News – Monday evening a **carnival** is being given at the schoolhouse.

November 3, 1955 Junior High News: Seventh – In Science we are studying about the growth of trees and how to tell a tree’s age. **Eighth** – In English we have been studying how to find and use **transitive** and **intransitive verbs**. We have completed study of the Revolutionary War period.

High School News – As many may have seen, the **Cheerleaders are wearing new outfits** this year. They are blue jumpers over a white blouse and they also have white beanies. We hope they will do a good job of cheering our teams to victory.

November 10, 1955 School Carnival was a big success. The activity fund cleared about \$160. Some of the stands operated by high school students – basketball free-throw, baseball pitch, cake walk, darts, novelty stand, and penny-pitch. The band mothers ran a candy-stand and Mr. Bell planned a very entertaining musical program. They cleared \$71 for their department. The P.T.O. ran a thriving sandwich shop and cleared \$87.

Junior High News: Eighth – In English we are now studying predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives, indirect objects, and direct objects as well as transitive verbs, active and passive verbs, and intransitive verbs.

The first meeting of the **Adult Evening School** was held Monday evening in the school house. Interior decorating was the subject of the Homemaking Class. The Adult Farmers Class discussed social security and how it affects the farmer. The next meeting is November 11.

At a meeting of the **Board of Directors of the Collins Consolidated School District** on November 1, they were unable to award contracts for construction and remodeling of school buildings due to a technicality on annexing small areas in Story and Jasper Counties. (Insert 2005: See February 16, 1956 entry)

November 17, 1955 Basketball Schedule – Home Games: Nov. 29 – Maxwell; 6 – Farrar; 13 – Baxter; 16 – Shipley; 20 – Mingo; Jan. 10 – Colo. **Away Games:** Nov. 18 – Colo;

22 – Baxter; Dec. 2 – Cambridge; 9 – Maxwell; 23 – Eldora Training (boys only); Jan. 6 – Huxley; 20 – Zearing (boys only).

Basketball – Collins **girls** rolled to an easy victory over Cambridge, 61-26 on the home court. The Collins reserves also helped obtain the third victory of the season. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 12 pts.; Spooner (f) 17 pts.; Briles (pivot-f) 30 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g-f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Stratton (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); E. Kloppenborg (g); Ballard (g).

The **boys** came through for their second win of the season, defeating Cambridge 75-51. The first quarter Collins was ahead 14-12, and also led 34-27 at halftime. Collins took control of the game in the third quarter, leading 54-37. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 9 pts.; Laird (f) 11 pts.; Vasey (c) 33 pts.; Dodd (g) 14 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 0 pts.; Partridge (c) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 4 pts.

Basketball – The Clipperettes chalked up their fourth victory of the season, winning over Slater 85-50 on the home court. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 16 pts.; Spooner (f) 22 pts.; Briles (pivot-f) 32 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 3 pts.; Carley (g-f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Stratton (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); E. Kloppenborg (g); Ballard (g).

The **boys** rolled to another victory, winning over Slater 75-41. The first part of the game was a mass of fouls and three of Slater's starting five fouled out in the opening minutes of the second half. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 12 pts.; Laird (g) 6 pts.; Vasey (c) 28 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 19 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 1 pt.; Partridge (f) 7 pts.; Jerry Dodd (g) 0 pts.; Derby (f) 1 pt.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.; P. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.

Music News - Friday night there was another home game; that means the band will play again. We hope everyone enjoys our playing. We have practiced a lot of new songs, which are adopted especially for sports events. In another month the Christmas program will be presented.

On Monday, the juniors and seniors, accompanied by Mr. Thompson, went to Cedar Falls to a **Prospective Teachers Day**, sponsored by University of Northern Iowa (Iowa State Teachers College). All students with potential interest in teaching were invited to attend.

Junior High News: Eighth – In English we are studying about singular and plural nouns as well as singular, possessive, and plural possessive nouns.

November 24, 1955 High School News – Monday the photographer came to take the individual pictures and group pictures for the annual. On behalf of the **Cheerleaders**, we would like to thank our mothers who helped us with the Cheerleaders outfits. They spent several hours looking for material for the jumpers. They also helped us sew and foot the bills.

Question of the week – What is your favorite song? Bob Rice – “Teach Me Tonight”; Loretta – “Suddenly There is a Valley”; Jim Dodd – “Sixteen Tons”; Jerry Nichol – “Sixteen Tons”; Quentin Keagle – “High Noon”; Larry Laird – “Shifting, Whispering Sands”; Peggy – “Autumn Leaves”; Dorothy – “He”; Sandra – “The Bible Tells Me So”; George – “Aint it a Shame”; Verlie – “Moments to Remember.”

Music News – A few weeks ago, the band mothers ordered **band pants** and **they have arrived**. They are white; as yet we do not have jackets, so we will be wearing white shirts and black ties with the new pants.

Basketball – The **girls** won a decisive victory over Colo, 60-34 on the Colo floor. Collins had halftime lead 29-13. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 8 pts.; Spooner (f) 11 pts.; Briles (f) 35 pts.; Downing (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g-f) 7 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); E. Kloppenborg (g); Clark (g).

Collins **boys** came out on top at Colo, 47-43 in a rugged game by both teams. At the end of the first quarter, Collins led 13-3, but never led by more than eight points the remainder of the game. these two teams were rated as most likely to fight it out for the conference title. With slightly more than two minutes remaining, Collins had a slender 41-39 lead. Then a strange event happened. A Clipper became momentarily confused and dribbled the length of the court and scored a basket for Colo to knot the count at 41-41. Collins recovered quickly with fielders by Larry Laird and Jim Dodd moved the Clippers back in front, 45-41. Colo and Collins each scored a bucket in the last seconds of the game for the final 47-43 Collins win. Ballard (f) 12 pts.; Laird (g) 15 pts.; Vasey (c) 12 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 6 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.

Basketball – The **girls** overran Rhodes 54-24 at Rhodes, in their second meeting of the season. Collins had a 30-12 halftime lead. Kilgore (f) 29 pts.; Spooner (f) 4 pts.; Briles (f) 9 pts.; Christian (f) 2 pts.; Frerichs (f) 8 pts.; Carley (g-f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Ballard (g).

Junior High News: Seventh – In Geography, we had our six-weeks tests and have now started the chapter on Eurasia. We had our six-weeks spelling test of 100 words. In English, we are learning to outline.

December 1, 1955 Music News – Wednesday night there will be a **band concert** in the auditorium at 7:30 P.M. The program consists of selections by the band, and several small instrumental groups will play. Everyone is invited and there will be no charge, but there will be a free-will offering taken. The money will be used to buy new band jackets. Band mothers are serving lunch after the program, which will also be free.

Basketball – The **Clipperettes** stacked up their seventh victory of the season by defeating Baxter 70-61 on the Baxter court. The first quarter score was Collins leading 22-17 and halftime lead 35-19. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 9 pts.; Spooner (f) 21 pts.; Briles (f) 38 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 4 pts.; Carley (g-f) 0 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Stratton (g).

The **boys** continued on their winning streak of six straight, bouncing Baxter 82-36. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 22 pts.; Laird (g) 3 pts.; Vasey (c) 29 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 9 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 3 pts.; Partridge (f) 10 pts.; Jerry Dodd (g) 0 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 4 pts.; P. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.; Huffman (g) 0 pts.

December 8, 1955 A special meeting of the **Collins F. F. A. Chapter** was held Wednesday night. **The following members were initiated into the Green Hand degree:** David Derby, Jerry Dodd, Donald Evans, Paul Feige, Gary Hanson, Lawrence Horn, Teddy Hudson, Edward Smith, Denny Sullivan. Chapter Farmer Degrees were awarded to: Gordon Smith, Darwin Luing and Pat Fitzgerald.

Home Ec. – Miss Burton and the Home Ec. Class had a tour through the new Hale residence.

Music News – The **Christmas program** will be given Wednesday December 21. The primary, first and second grades will present an operetta, “A Christmas Fantasy.” The glee club, mixed chorus and small groups will sing selections of Christmas songs. Everyone is welcome.

Basketball – The Collins **girls** racked up their eighth victory by defeating Maxwell 56-44 on the home court. Maxwell played a tough game, but Collins held a lead the entire game. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 11 pts.; Spooner (f) 24 pts.; Briles (f) 21 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g-f) 0 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Stratton (g); Hand (g).

The Collins **boys** continued on their winning ways by defeating Maxwell 74-39. This ballgame is one of equal scoring as the four high scorers of the game were separated by only two points. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 14 pts.; Laird (g) 6 pts.; Vasey (c) 16 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 14 pts.; Morrison (g) 4 pts.; Nichol (g) 1 pt.; Clark (g) 2 pts.; Partridge (f) 14 pts.

The **Clipperettes** took their ninth consecutive win by overrunning Cambridge 63-25 on the Cambridge court. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 6 pts.; Spooner (f) 19 pts.; Briles (f) 18 pts.; Christian (f) 2 pts.; Frerichs (f) 4 pts.; Carley (g-f) 13 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Stratton (g-f) 1 pt.; Hand (g).

The **Clippers** easily beat Cambridge 85-34 to boast their Conference standing to 3-0. The team made 38 field goals and 9 free throws. Collins was ahead at the first quarter 22-8 and halftime 53-17. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 27 pts.; Laird (g) 14 pts.; Vasey (c) 17 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 2 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 6 pts.; Clark (g) 1 pt.; Partridge (f) 14 pts.; Jerry Dodd (g) 0 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.; Huffman (g) 0 pts.; G. Smith (g) 2 pts.

High School News – The juniors have finally completed their English essays on American writers. Many clever and attractive covers were made for the several different authors.

Hot Lunch Menu: Monday – beef burgers, buttered corn, onion rings, catsup, bread and butter sandwich, milk, cherry cobbler; Tuesday – potato soup, crackers, celery with peanut butter, cheese sandwiches, purple plums, milk; Wednesday – chicken and noodles, green beans, cheese wedge, Jell-O salad, bread and butter sandwich, milk; Thursday, mashed potatoes with cubed beef and gravy, cabbage slaw, bread and butter sandwich, stewed apricots, milk; Friday, boiled lima beans with ham, buttered spinach, corn bread, carrot strips, fruit cup, bread and butter sandwich, milk.

Wednesday afternoon ten members of the senior class attended an assembly called **College Day** at the Nevada high school, along with about 175 other seniors from Story County. **Twenty-eight colleges and**

business schools from all over Iowa and surrounding states were represented and available to provide information. Each student had two 45-minute periods to investigate two different schools.

Junior High News: Eighth – In History we are now studying the United States during the time Andrew Jackson was president. We had a test Thursday in Science over “The Automobile.” We are now studying “The Story of the Earth.”

Grade News: Third – In Science, we have completed our unit on how animals and plants get ready for winter. In Phonics, we are consonant blends – using them in sounding out words.

December 15, 1955 Music News – We wish to thank all those helping to make the band concert a success. Don’t forget the Christmas Program December 21, at 7:30 P.M.

Basketball - The **Clipperettes** nosed out Farrar, 71-65, on the Collins court. Farrar trailed by a few points throughout the game, except for a 48-48 tie in the third quarter. Collins led at first quarter 18-15, led at halftime 36-31, and led at third quarter 53-48. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 4 pts.; Spooner (f) 23 pts.; Briles (f) 21 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Carley (g-f) 21 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Stratton (g-f) 0 pts.; Hand (g).

The **Clippers** suffered their second defeat of the season at the hands of Farrar, 76-70. The score was close all the way until the last four minutes when Farrar had a 12-point lead. The lead changed hands many times during the first half and third quarter. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 2 pts.; Partridge (f) 5 pts; Vasey (c) 35 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 2 pts.; Laird (g) 22 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 2 pts.

Collins **girls** rolled up their **eleventh consecutive victory**, defeating Maxwell 52-45 at the Maxwell gym. Georgiann Briles, the regular post forward, suffered a broken wrist in the earlier game with Farrar and will be out of the lineup for approximately a month. Sandra Carley changed from Post Guard to Post Forward, Sandra Smith is replacement Post Guard. Kilgore (f) 5 pts.; Spooner (f) 25 pts.; Carley (f) 22 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); Stratton (g-f) 0 pts.; Hand (g); Clark (g).

The **boys** whipped Maxwell for the second time this season, 62-37. Collins had first quarter lead of 19-7 and halftime 32-14. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 5 pts.; Partridge (f) 7 pts; Vasey (c) 21 pts.; Laird (g) 10 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 2 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.; P. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.; G. Smith (g) 4 pts.

Grade News: Second – We have started working on telling clock time. We are just learning the hands. We also have been working on number stories and trying to decide if we should add or subtract to find the answer.

Junior High News: Seventh – In Geography, we are studying about living in Africa. In Science, we are studying weather. English, we are studying synonyms. In Math, we are studying percents of money.

Eighth – In History, we are learning some of the reasons that caused the Civil War. In Science, we are studying time and happenings before recorded history.

December 22, 1955 The **Home Ec** class gave a tea for their mothers, teachers, and the junior and senior girls Tuesday.

Basketball – The **Clipperettes** won their twelfth victory by tramping Baxter 67-48 on the home court. Collins had first quarter lead of 33-7 and halftime, 47-16. Kilgore (f) 19 pts.; Spooner (f) 19 pts.; Carley (f) 24 pts.; Christian (f) 2 pts.; Stratton (f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); M. Kloppenborg (g); E. Kloppenborg (g); Hand (g); Clark (g); Downing (g). The **boys** trounced Baxter for the second time this season, 71-38. Collins had first quarter lead of 28-2 and halftime 38-12. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 7 pts.; Partridge (f) 15 pts.; Vasey (c) 18 pts.; Laird (g) 4 pts.; Morrison (g) 4 pts.; Nichol (g) 13 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.; G. Smith (g) 4 pts.; Clark (g) 2 pts.; Huffman (g) 2 pts.

The **Clipperettes** continued their winning ways defeating Shipley 60-47 for their **thirteenth consecutive victory**. The game was very close until midway in the third quarter when Collins girls began to pull away. Kilgore (f) 15 pts.; Spooner (f) 31 pts.; Carley (f) 14 pts.; Christian (f) 0 pts.; Frerichs (f) 0 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Hand (g).

The Collins **boys** trimmed an inspired rival, Shipley, 69-38 for their **fifth consecutive conference win with no defeats**. Collins led at the first quarter 15-13 and at halftime 37-24. They held Shipley to four points in the third quarter to take a 48-28 lead. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 11 pts.; Partridge (f) 8 pts.; Vasey (c) 19 pts.; Laird (g) 16 pts.; Morrison (g) 2 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 11 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 2 pts.

Basketball: Free Throws – During our regular warm-up practice before each game we shoot free throws instead of a tiring practice warm up. Usually each player shoots 30 before each game to sharpen their eye. Here are the top five out of the second cycle of 200 shots – **Girls:** Briles – 145, Kilgore – 143, Frerichs – 134, Spooner – 131, Carley 121. **Boys:** Vasey – 151, Ballard – 142, Laird – 136, Morrison – 135, Jim Dodd – 127.

December 29, 1955 New Gazette Publisher takes charge Monday: This is to introduce Eugene Bulkeley who will take over the Collins Gazette after January 1, 1956, as editor and publisher. It will soon be twenty-nine years (April 1, 1927) since we came out from Des Moines to Collins and took over the Gazette. During those years we have been discouraged at times, and I seem to remember going through a slight depression. But, taken as a whole, they have been happy years spent in a community of the finest people on earth. ~**J. R. Armstrong.**

(Insert 2006)

January 1, 2006 J. R. (Army) Armstrong 50th Year Retirement Anniversary Recognition

April 7, 1927 Collins Gazette Changes Owners. With this issue, the Collins Gazette passes into the hands of the undersigned, **J. R. (Army) Armstrong**, who came here the last of the week from Des Moines, where he has been employed for the last year and a half on The Evening Tribune and Iowa Homestead. Previous to that time he conducted papers for himself for several years, and worked in various printing plants, having twenty-one years experience in the business.

Collins Community School Alumni: “Army” and Collins Community School had a mutual benefiting relationship that provided a greater benefit to the entire Collins community. Apparently Army realized early on the importance of the school to the community and a regular source of news that has wide community interest. School news under the heading “The Broadcaster” and name change to “School Optic” in 1940 had “front page ranking” in the Gazette. Little could anyone foresee Army and also the predecessors would provide an incredible valued reliable history source for the Collins community. This “school biography” would definitely be much less and likely near impossible without the Gazette resource. Army, it took fifty years after graduation for this individual to recognize you continue to be a valued member of Collins community with irreplaceable valuable information provided to us. Our belated honor to you on the 50th Year Retirement Anniversary of your career as owner/editor of Collins Gazette April 7, 1927 – January 1, 1956.

School Optic Staff Member: As for Army at the Gazette, he was editor when I started at the School Optic as a freshman. He was a gem and it was never the same after he left.

January 19, 1956 Basketball - Collins **girls** attained their sixteenth consecutive victory, defeating Colo 57-24 on the home court. Collins was leading at the first quarter 19-5 and at halftime 36-8 and third quarter 50-16. **Lineup:** Kilgore (f) 0 pts.; Spooner (f) 21 pts.; Carley (f) 11 pts.; Briles (f) 20 pts.; Christian (f) 3 pts.; Frerichs (f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Hand (g); Clark (g); Kloppenborg (g).

Collins **boys** won another season victory over Colo 50-38. Collins led at first quarter mark 15-11 and at halftime 28-16. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 11 pts.; Partridge (f) 2 pts.; Vasey (c) 15 pts.; Laird (g) 6 pts.; Morrison (g) 8 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 8 pts.

Collins **girls** won their **seventeenth game of the season**, defeating Gilbert 61-28 in the Collins gym. Collins started slow, but started clicking in the second quarter to control the balance of the game.

Lineup: Kilgore (f) 2 pts.; Spooner (f) 26 pts.; Carley (f) 11 pts.; Briles (f) 10 pts.; Christian (f) 5 pts.; Frerichs (f) 2 pts.; Heintz (g); Shultz (g); Smith (g); Hand (g); Clark (g); Kloppenborg (g).

The **boys** won their **sixteenth season game** by defeating Gilbert 63-54. The boys played a strong defensive game. Collins led at first quarter 23-11 and halftime 34-25. **Lineup:** Ballard (f) 16 pts.; Partridge (f) 14 pts.; Vasey (c) 28 pts.; Laird (g) 11 pts.; Morrison (g) 0 pts.; Nichol (g) 0 pts.; Jim Dodd (g) 2 pts.; D. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.; P. Fitzgerald (g) 0 pts.; G. Smith (g) 0 pts.; Clark (g) 1 pt.; Jerry Dodd (g) 1 pt.

January 26, 1956 Honor Rolls: Freshmen – Sharon Stratton, Mary Duesbury, Sharon Clark, Mary Ann Kearns, Beverly Christian, Jane Ballard, Gary Hanson, Edward Smith, David Derby; **Sophomores** – Sandra Smith, Dorothy Hand, Georgiann Briles, Pat Fitzgerald; **Juniors** – Daisy Maxwell, Mary Jo Shultz, Jill Kilgore, Janice Heintz, Sandra Carley, David Maxwell, Elliott Partridge, Glen Novinger; **Seniors** – Bill Ballard, Rex Morrison, John Vasey.

Girls Story Basketball County Tournament: First round – Collins won the first game over Story City 42-18 at Zearing. A look at the score by quarters indicates Collins controlled the entire game; 9-3,

27-8, 40-9, final score 42-18. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f) 6 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 15 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 19 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 2 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 0 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Dorothy Hand (58) (g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Second round – Collins defeated Zearing 44-40 on the Zearing court. This was a close game throughout with Collins leading at each quarter 9-6, 22-21, 34-32, and final 44-40. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f) 13 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 21 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 10 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 0 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Dorothy Hand (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Clark (59) (g).

Semi-finals – McCallsburg squeezed by Collins 50-49 at Story City. At the first quarter mark Collins led by ten points, but was unable to keep the lead with McCallsburg up 26-25 at halftime. McCallsburg had a eleven point lead in the second half, but Collins narrowed the margin in the last quarter, losing by one point margin, 50-49. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f) 8 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 18 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 28 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 0 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Dorothy Hand (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Clark (59) (g).

Consolation – Collins received fourth place trophy in the county tournament with a loss to Maxwell 48-40 at Story City. Collins had previously beaten Maxwell twice, but were not playing up to usual standards after their one-point loss in the semi-final game. Collins led first quarter 15-10, trailed at halftime 29-25 and 42-28 at third quarter. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f) 7 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 6 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 25 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 2 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Dorothy Hand (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Basketball – Collins boys trounced the Zearing five 60-39. **The game was highlighted by a 78-foot field goal in the last seconds of game by Ben Clark.** Collins' scoring was led by John Vasey's 22 points and Larry Laird's 12. (Lineup omitted) **(Insert 2005: Very likely Ben Clark's 78-foot field goal is an all-time school record.)**

The Collins reserves defeated Zearing reserves 40-33. Collins boys led throughout the game with halftime lead 24-14. Gordon Smith scored 15 and Jerry Nichol 9 as leading scorers.

Grade News: Fifth – In averaging all grades for the semester we find five leading the class: Jane, Sally, Charlene, Michael, Linda. This semester our new subjects are science and history. **Third** – We are on the unit "Telephoning" in Language. We are trying out our new dial telephones so this is an opportunity to observe the rules of courtesy in making telephone calls. **Second** – We have completed our combinations to twelve in numbers. We are starting on the study of quarts, pints, and dozens.

February 2, 1956 Music News – The **music contest** this year will be similar to last year. There will be no county competition. **All Class D schools (Collins – D) go to Prairie City for solos and small groups. The band and glee clubs will go to Hubbard.**

The **Collins F. F. A. Chapter** had an oyster and chili supper Friday night with fifty parents and members present. Jack Stone and Ralph (Rusty) Vasey were awarded honorary membership.

Boys Story County Tournament: First round – Collins defeated Nevada “B” 62-54. Collins started slowly with first quarter lead 18-15 and halftime 29-24. They gained control of the game in the second half for the 62-54 win. **Lineup:** Bill Ballard (56) (f) 5 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (f) 3 pts; John Vasey (56) (c) 22 pts.; Larry Laird (56) (g) 8 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 18 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 6 pts.; Jerry Nichol (56) (g) 0 pts.

Second round – The boys defeated Maxwell again 61-45. Although Collins didn’t seem to click as good as usual, they were able to get enough hot streaks to beat a tough Maxwell team. Collins had first quarter lead of 14-12; halftime 28-21, third quarter 40-30, and final 61-45. **Lineup:** Bill Ballard (56) (f) 10 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (f) 17 pts; John Vasey (56) (c) 20 pts.; Larry Laird (56) (f) 6 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 1 pt.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 4 pts.

Semi-final – The Collins Clippers lost to Roland, 60-49, only their third defeat of the season. Collins led by nine points at halftime, 33-24. Roland came out in the second half and immediately took the lead. During the last one and a half quarters Roland had the lead and as the fourth quarter was nearing the end, they stretched the lead to eleven points. **Lineup:** Bill Ballard (56) (f) 10 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (f) 8 pts; John Vasey (56) (c) 11 pts.; Larry Laird (56) (g) 8 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 12 pts.

Consolation – Collins boys **won the consolation game trophy** by defeating Shipley 41-40. This was one those games when it seemed nothing went right. Although Collins led by several points at different times, we just couldn’t hang onto the lead. Collins led at the quarters 9-6, 21-13, 32-30, with final 41-40 win. We would like to thank our cheering section for the wonderful support they gave us during the entire tournament. We feel this helped us come through in this last game. **Lineup:** Bill Ballard (56) (f) 7 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (f) 12 pts; John Vasey (56) (c) 13 pts.; Larry Laird (56) (g) 3 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 4 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 2 pts.

Story County All-Star Basketball Teams - For the first time, this year, the Story County coaches and the Nevada Journal staff have **picked an All-County Boys and Girls Basketball team**. Selections were made for these teams for performance shown during the entire season and the county tournament. **Both Collins teams were well represented. Collins girls** – Betty Spooner (f) and Sandra Carley (g) were chosen on the **first team**. Georgiann Briles (f) was **second team** and Janice Heintz (g) received **honorable mention**. **Collins boys** – John Vasey (c) on the **first team**, Bill Ballard (f) on the **second team**, and Larry Laird (g), Jim Dodd (g) and Elliott Partridge (f) received **honorable mention**. (Insert 2005: This is a record number of Collins’ players selected.)

February 9, 1956 Optic Staff: Editor – John Vasey; **Assist. Editor** – Janice Heintz; **Feature Editors** – George Keagle, Georgiann Briles; **Girls’ Sports** – Mary Jo Shultz; **Boys’ Sports** – Larry Laird; **Grade Reporter** – Jane Ballard; **Junior High** – Shirley Kern; **High School Reporter** – Mary Ann Kearns; **Music Reporter:** Daisy Mary Maxwell; **F. F. A. Reporter** – Pat Fitzgerald; **Typists** – Marjorie Hickie, Betty Spooner, Loretta Swaim, Rex Morrison.

Senior Ball - Each year the Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce holds a Senior Ball at the Coliseum for all the seniors of central Iowa and their guests. Ralph Zarnow and his orchestra provided fine quality music. At intermission, entertainment was furnished by a troupe of acrobats. About ten seniors and their guests from Collins attended.

February 16, 1956 Proposed Building Program – It is the proposal of the Collins Board of Education that **if the February 24 bond issue carries**, the following additions and alterations will be made to the present school plant. It has been apparent for some time that our present school plant is not adequately meeting present-day requirements. We have added kindergarten, enlarged the vocational Ag. program, adult school, band, commercial department, hot lunch program as well as changes in the method and conduct of classes. **Our grade enrollment is increasing rapidly** and they now need the room given over to the hot lunch program. The voc. ag. shop in the grade building, with the use of electric and acetylene welders, is considered a fire hazard. The present gym does not meet present-day needs. School buildings must meet state requirements in order to keep their approval rating. **The following additions, alterations, and repairs are proposed by the Collins School Board:** A new combined gymnasium and auditorium with stage, approximately 114 ft. by 84 ft. to be connected to both old buildings by a foyer. The stage will be near 39 ft. by 20 ft., with dressing rooms on either side. The gym will have a standard playing floor of 80 ft. by 40 ft. with bleachers and other seating capacity for about 500 people. Beneath the stage and a portion of the gym floor will be the voc. ag. shop and classroom, with floor space of near 70 ft. by 40 ft. Alterations will consist of flooring the present gym at balcony level, the bottom half made into a hot lunch room, the upper to be made into three classrooms. The present auditorium can be used for study hall or extra classrooms as the need arises. These additional classrooms will provide badly needed space. Classrooms could be made from the old hot lunch room (located on the upper level of the 1909 grade school building). There will be a new heating plant and heat control system. The lighting system will be overhauled to meet present requirements. Many more changes are planned such as removing partitions to have larger classrooms, repairing floors, bringing sanitation systems up to date, redecorating, sidewalk repair, driveways and parking facilities. Building plans are on file at the Board Room of the high school and you are urged to come and look at them carefully.

Interesting Facts – If the people vote for the bond issue on February 24, **the following is a fairly accurate estimate of the increased cost in taxes.** It is estimated the bonds will sell at about 2.75% interest, which equals \$3200 per year interest and would decrease as the principal is paid. If the bonds are to be paid in thirty years, this would be about \$5,333 per year principal payment (\$160,000 bond issue) for a total principal and interest payment of about \$10,000. The taxable value of property in the Collins district is about \$2,600,000. This means that one mill tax would bring into the treasury of the district \$2,600, which divided into \$10,000 would be about 3.9 mills extra tax to pay off the bond issue. The district is already paying about 1.3 mills on the old bond issue which will be fully paid in December 1956. Thus, if this is applied to the new issue, that would reduce any raise in millage by that amount and bring the 3.9 mill increase on the **new issue down to 2.6 mills net increase. The average farmland in Collins district has a tax valuation of about \$60 per acre. This \$60 multiplied by 2.6 mills would increase farm taxes about fifteen cents an acre.** The tax in the Collins district has been for a good many years several mills lower than any other consolidated school in the county. Collins currently has the poorest plant and facilities of any consolidated school in the county. It is hoped the people will see fit

on February 24 to give the children of Collins school district an equal break with other districts in educational facilities.

Music News – Wednesday morning, February 22, the **parents' music club is sponsoring another band breakfast and bake sale at the town hall.** This week we had another vocal group started, mixed sextet; Betty Taylor, Daisy Maxwell, Loretta Swaim, Peggy Kloppenborg, Elliott Partridge, and Rex Morrison.

Girls Basketball Sectional Tournament at Colo: First round – Collins overwhelmed Cambridge 77-18. Collins held an easy lead throughout the game and the reserves helped in the victory. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f) 17pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 22 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 10 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 4 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 21 pts.; Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g) 3 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57) (g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Semi-finals – Collins won a decisive victory over Colo, 59-31. Collins' reserves again helped complete the victory. Collins led 9-2 at first quarter 26-8, halftime, 45-14 at third quarter, with final 59-31 score.

Lineup: Sandra Carley (f) 16pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 14 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 10 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 3 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 16 pts.; Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g) 0 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Finals – Collins girls won the championship trophy in the sectional tournament, defeating Maxwell 54-36. After losing to Maxwell in the county tourney, the Clipperettes were determined to win this game. Collins took the lead in the first quarter 19-9, and held a lead throughout the game. The Collins reserves also helped in the victory. **Lineup:** Sandra Carley (f-g) 2 pts.;

Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 27 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 12 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 13 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g) 0 pts.; Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

The district tournament will be held at LeGrand, starting next Monday. Collins drew a first round bye and will play the winner of Van Cleve – New Sharon game.

Junior High News: Seventh – In Math, we have learned what sales slips, monthly statements, bills and receipts are. In Civics, we are studying about satisfying our needs as a community, a family, and individual. In English, we are building sentences and are having capitalization, punctuation, and sentences that are inverted with double subjects. **Eighth** – In English, we have been writing autobiographies. We are finding out the attempts to improve society in the 1870's in History.

Humor – Jim D.: “Aren't you the fellow who sold me this car a couple months ago?” Sam P.: Yes, sir.” Jim D.: “Well, tell me about it again. I am discouraged.”

Assembly – The grade school and high school attended the Al Bell program entitled “Sons of Chinook.” He and his family had spent part of their summer on a large cattle ranch. They filmed some of Canada's

wonderful scenery, Indian dances, Calgary stampede, wild life of the forest, and worked in a uranium prospecting mine.

February 23, 1955 Girls District Basketball Tournament: First round – Collins vs. Bye.

Semi-finals at LeGrand – Collins girls lost game to New Sharon 67-52. Collins took first quarter lead 12-8, and held it into halftime – 30-23. New Sharon took control of the game in the second half with third quarter lead 47-38 and holding off Collins' run in the fourth quarter to within five points, to regain control for a final 67-52 win. **Lineup:** Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 14 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 23 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 15 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g) 0 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Consolation at Prairie City - Collins girls soared past Colfax 73-57 to **win the consolation trophy.**

Collins took first quarter lead 22-13 and held the lead throughout the game with the reserves also helping win the game. **Lineup:** Jill Kilgore (57) (f) 7 pts.; Betty Spooner (56) (f) 28 pts.; Georgiann Briles (58) (f) 38 pts.; Beverly Christian (f) 0 pts.; Donna Frerichs (57) (f) 0 pts.; Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g) 0 pts.; Sandra Carley (g); Janice Heintz (57) (g); Mary Jo Shultz (g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57)(g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g).

Girls Basketball 54-55 Season Summary: Scheduled games - Collins Won – Farrar 68-64; Rhodes 79-44; Cambridge 61-26; Slater 75-50; Rhodes 54-24; Colo 60-34; Baxter 70-61; Cambridge 63-25; Maxwell 56-44; Farrar 71-65; Maxwell 52-45; Baxter 69-48; Shipley 60-47; Mingo 62-59; Huxley 59-44; Colo 57-24; Gilbert 61-38. **Lost** – None. **Story County Tourney: Won** – Story City 42-13; Zearing 44-40. **Lost** - McCallsburg 50-49; Maxwell 48-40, fourth place. **Sectional Tourney: Won** – Cambridge 77-18; Colo 59-31; Maxwell 54-36 for the **Sectional Championship. District Tourney:** Collins lost to New Sharon 67-52. **Collins won over Colfax 73-57 for Consolation Trophy. Season Record:** Won – 23. Lost – 3. The offensive season average per game - 60 and the defensive game average per game was 42. An 18 point per game margin is very impressive.

Girls' Basketball Team Members – The starting six members: Forwards – Betty Spooner (56) 537 pts., avg. 20.7; Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot-f) 465 pts.- avg. 23; Jill Kilgore (57) 268 pts.- avg. 12.2;. Guards – Janice Heintz (57); Mary Jo Shultz (Jr.); Sandra Carley (Jr.) (part-time forward 233 pts., avg. 10.6. Other team members: Beverly Christian (f); Donna Frerichs (57) (f); Dorothy Hand (58) (f-g); Saundra Smith (58) (g); Myrtle Kloppenborg (57) (g); Sharon Stratton (59) (g); Carol Downing (g); Elaine Kloppenborg (g). Manager – Sharon Kelderhouse. **Coach** – Larry Thompson. **Senior:** Betty Spooner. Saundra Carley (Jr.) and Mary Jo Shultz (Jr.) moved away from Collins at the end of the school year. The Collins Clipperettes had a very good season with 23 victories and only three losses. They won the South Story Conference championship with a 6-0 record and undefeated in scheduled games. They won fourth place trophy in the County Tournament and also won Sectional Tournament championship. They won third place trophy in the District Tournament. **(Insert 2005: Team set three Collins girls basketball school records: (1) Undefeated in the scheduled games, (2) Undefeated Conference Champions, and (3) Winning a District Tournament Trophy.**

Odds and Ends: Hurrah, Hurrah, our girls lowered the boom on Colfax in the District Consolation finals. **This is the first District Trophy earned by a Collins girls' team.** Congratulations, girls, you have had quite a season.

Notice – Annuals are now on **sale for \$1.50.** The annuals have to be ordered now. Please contact any one of the seniors.

Grade News: Sixth – We have received seven new library books. Both boys and girls teams played a basketball game with the seventh grade last Saturday morning with the seventh grade winning both games. **Fifth** – In Arithmetic, we are working with the addition of fractions and whole numbers. **Fourth** – We have finished “Health Trails” and are now beginning “The Wonder World of Science.” **Third** – In Language, we are learning the correct usage of the words, eat, ate, and eaten, and also give, gave, and given. In Arithmetic, we are adding three-figure numbers with double-figure carrying.

Music News – Saturday, February 25, Drake University will be host to the **Eighth Annual CIBA Clinic.** The clinic is divided into six groups. A student goes to a group according to the instrument they play. These clinics help rank beginners or well-advanced players according to their abilities. The head of each clinic is an accomplished musician on that particular instrument.

March 1, 1956 School Bond Issue Carries. The people voted decisively to pass the bond issue for the Collins Consolidated School District. There were 298 yes votes, 69 no votes, and 4 spoiled ballots. Upon completion of the proposed building program, Collins will certainly have one of the finest schools.

Editorial: A Seniors Delirium – What shall I do when I get out of school? Should I go to college or try to find a good job? Should I delay my stretch in the service or should I go now and get it out of the way? As the day nears, students begin to wonder whether they really do want to get out of school. They look back over those days of so-called toil and see not only work, but a never-ending series of good times.

High School News – There is a change in the class schedule due to the coming the baseball season. The two activity periods are now the eighth and ninth periods. Band and other music groups will also be held then. This will enable those boys out for baseball to also participate in music. **Music News** – We wish to thank all the band mothers for sponsoring another breakfast and bake sale and thanks to all who helped make it a success. **We cleared \$105, which will be used to pay for our band jackets.** Music during the morning consisted of several numbers by the band, trumpet solo by John Tiffany, clarinet duet by Mary Ann Kearns and Sharon Kelderhouse, trombone solo by Quentin Keagle and several numbers by the German band (Rex, Quentin, Don, Mary Ann, Sharon).

Boys Basketball Sectional Tournament: First round – Collins season came to an early conclusion as they were defeated by a strong Clemons team, 74-48. Collins was unable to hit their baskets and Clemons had high scorers with 23 and 18 points. **Lineup:** Bill Ballard (56) (f) 4 pts.; Elliott Partridge (57) (f-c) 17 pts; John Vasey (56) (c-f) 9 pts.; Larry Laird (56) (g) 6 pts.; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 4 pts.; Rex Morrison (56) (g) 1 pt.; Jerry Nichol (56) (g) 4 pts.; Ben Clark (57) 0 pts.; David Fitzgerald (57) 0 pts.; Pat Fitzgerald (58) 0 pts.; Gordon Smith (58) 4 pts.;

Jerry Huffman (57) 0 pts.

Boys Basketball Season Summary: Collins **Won** - Rhodes 78-30; Cambridge 73-51; Slater 75-41; Rhodes 59-42; Colo 47-43; Baxter 80-36; Maxwell 74-49; Cambridge 85-34; Maxwell 62-37; Baxter 71-38; Shipley 69-38; Eldora Tr. Sch. 51-25; Huxley 64-32; Colo 50-38; Gilbert 73-54; Zearing 60-39. **Lost** – Farrar 60-50 and 76-70. **Story County Tourney: Won** – Nevada “B” 62-54; Maxwell 61-45. **Lost** – Roland 60-49. **Won** – Consolation game, Shipley 41-40. **Sectional Tourney: Lost** – Clemons 74-48. **Season Record:** Won -19; Lost – 4. The offensive season average – 64 points per game and the defensive game average was 44 points per game, 20 point per game margin is very impressive. The Collins reserve team: Won – 2; Lost – 1.

Boys’ Basketball Team Members – The starting five members: John Vasey (56) (c) 457 pts.- apg 20.8; Larry Laird (56) (f-g) 222 pts.- apg 10.6; Bill Ballard (56) (f) 219 pts.- apg. 10.4; Jim Dodd (56) (g) 188 pts.- apg. 9.4; Elliott Partridge (57) (f) 166 pts.- apg. 7.5. Primary subs: Rex Morrison (56) (g) 87 pts.- apg. 4; Jerry Nichol (56) (g) 46 pts.- apg. 2.6. Other team members: Ben Clark (57), Gordon Smith (58), Jerry Huffman (57), David Fitzgerald (57), Pat Fitzgerald (58), Jerry Dodd (59). Manager – Don Shultz. **Coach** – Larry Thompson. The senior team members are: John Vasey, Larry Laird, Bill Ballard, Jim Dodd, Rex Morrison, and Jerry Nichol. (Insert 2005: John Vasey’s career scoring of 1529 points [Fr. – 260, Soph. – 395, Jr. – 417, Sr. – 457] is second high. Philip Holland’s (52) 1830 points is the school record.)

March 8, 1956 The **annual Future Farmers of America (F.F.A.) Queen’s Ball** was held Friday night. The gym was beautifully recorded in red, white, and blue crepe paper. The queen’s platform was located on the east side of the gym and above it were three large hearts made of tinfoil. **Verlie Etnier** (sophomore) was **crowned queen** and was presented a bouquet of roses and an F.F.A. Queen’s necklace by Jim Wilson, President. Betty Spooner (senior) and Sandra Carley (junior) were **attendants** and were presented beautiful roses. One of the largest attendances for a high school dance, 45, was present for this festive occasion. Lunch was served after the dance.

Junior High Honor Roll: Seventh – Karolyn Carley, Rosemary Cory, Celayne Elliott, Linda Horn, Kathie Jones, Pat Kimberley, Charlene Luing, Linda Mullihan. **Eighth** – Bob Dodd, Margaretha Fitzgerald, Lola Harre, Betty Jane Kearns, Beverly Kelderhouse, Shirley Kern, Gary Smith, Lois Struthers.

The **girls’ basketball team** journeyed to Des Moines last Thursday to see the quarter-final round of the girls’ state tournament. The unanimous opinion of the girls was several fine quality teams were in the state tournament.

Grade News: Fifth – In Science, we are studying the solar system. Sixteen in the class are able to name and spell the planets correctly. We have been learning how to write invitations, make introductions, and choose suitable topics for table conversation in English.

March 15, 1956 Grade News: Sixth – In our unit “Electricity and its Uses,” several experimental models have been made by members of the class. Don Struthers and Terry Huntrods showed us how electro-magnets work. In our unit on “Science of Sounds,” Dennis Downing brought a model to demonstrate the way sound pitch is regulated. **Second** – In Science, we learned how to make a nail into a magnet. We also tried to make magnets work through paper, wood, and glass. **Third** – Our Language lesson Monday was on “Notices.” We wrote notices of the P.T.O. program for our parents. We observed the five rules we had learned about writing notices. In Science, we are studying the story of the sky and are learning about the sun, moon, and stars.

Last Monday, the **South Story Conference** held their **Annual Basketball Banquet** at Colo. Large paper basketballs with the names of the conference schools on them were used as markers for schools. A steak dinner was served about 7:00 P.M. Following dinner, the trophies for first and second place in the conference were awarded. **Both Collins teams were presented with the first-place trophies as they compiled undefeated conference records. (Insert 2005: Very likely these are two all-time school records. Both teams Conference champions and also undefeated Conference champs.)** Every school had a skit or musical part of the program. **Collins** was ably represented by the German Band: Rex, Quentin, Don, Mary Ann, and Sharon K. The presentation of All-Conference teams were made. **Collins** faired very well on both teams.

Sandra Carley (jr.) (pivot guard) and Betty Spooner (56) (f) on the **girls’ first team** and four girls received **honorable mention**: Jill Kilgore (57) (f), Georgiann Briles (58) (pivot forward), Janice Heintz (57) (g), and Mary Jo Shultz (jr.) (g). The **boys** placed one member, John Vasey (56) (c), on the **first team** and four boys received **honorable mention**: Larry Laird (56) (f-g), Bill Ballard (56) (f), Jim Dodd (56) (g), and Elliott Partridge (57) (f).

(Insert 2005: All the starting team players of both girls and boys received special recognition; all-time school record.)

March 29, 1956 The Story County Schoolmasters were hosts to **Bus Drivers** of the county at a chicken dinner in McCallsburg. Those from Collins attending: Supt. Jackson and **Drivers** Robert Lawson (School Principal), Fred Elliott, Lloyd Campbell, and Joe Tiffany. After dinner, a talk on driving safely was presented.

Spring Sports – Baseball has started as usual. This year, not as usual, **boys track** has started. **This is the first year for all schools in the conference to have boys track.** Ten boys have been working out and plan on making a good showing at Colo April 24 at the conference meet.

April 5, 1956 “Father Be Calm,” is the three-act comedy to be presented by the **senior class** on April 20 in the high school auditorium. **The Cast:** Rex Morrison – Father, blustery, domineering; Peggy Kloppenborg - mother, typical “yes” mother; Jim Dodd – Dick, high school boy in love with cars, girls, etc.; Betty Spooner – Marilyn, Dick’s attractive sister; Bill Ballard – Bert Hemingway, Marilyn’s boyfriend; Bob Rice – Everett Parker, another persistent suitor; John Vasey – Red Sandberg, Dick’s friend; Betty Taylor – Gloria Grant, Dick’s date for the dance; Marjorie Hickie – Margy Coleman, Red’s date; Jim Wilson – first cop, very efficient; Quentin Keagle – second copy, kids have his mind in a muddle; Loretta Swaim – Miss Alder, one of Dick’s teachers; George Keagle – Grandpa, reminds

father some of the things he did when he was a boy; Larry Laird – Radio Announcer; Jerry Nichol – Junior, always getting a word in. This play will remind you of home, only it is so much more humorous when the problems are not yours.

Collins held its **Third Annual Athletic Banquet** Wednesday evening in honor of all those participating. Tables of honor were set for the participants of both high school and junior high athletics. The tables were decorated with candy Easter Eggs and the **seven trophies** that were won by the basketball teams were displayed. After supper entertainment was furnished by the high school music department. Principal Lawson gave a brief resume of the accomplishments of the athletic groups during the past season and then introduced Coach Mr. Thompson, who delivered the speech. Coach Thompson introduced the boys and girls. Betty Spooner, girls' co-captain, delivered the girls acceptance speech, as did John Vasey for the boys. A dance was held after the tables were cleared from the floor.

Baseball – The Collins baseball team opened their season at Collins Monday, losing to Slater in the last inning, 2-1. Collins scored their one run in the third and Slater scored both their runs in the top of the seventh to take the victory. John Vasey and Gordon Smith pitched for Collins. Jerry Nichol caught. Laird had three hits and P. Fitzgerald and Nichol had Collins' other two hits.

At **P.T.O.** last Monday night the students in junior high and grade school who are taking instrumental lessons, performed.

April 12, 1956 Music News – Collins students will go to Prairie City Friday and Saturday to compete in the **State Music Contest. Those participating are:** Betty Taylor – “I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked;” Sharon Kelderhouse – “Lament (Nocturne);” Daisy Maxwell – “The Holy Hour,” and “The Garden of Tomorrow;” Quentin Keagle – “Glen Eden (polka);” Elliott Partridge – “The Old Road,” “Peace Be To This House;” Mary Jo Shultz – “Sonata Eroica (first movement);” Mary Ann Kearns – “Theme and Variations;” Rex Morrison – “The Blind Plowman,” “One World;” Girls' Sextet – “The Prayer Perfect,” “Good-bye,” “Summer;” Trumpet Trio – “Trio Brilliante.”

Music News – Last Monday Drake University was host to the annual music contest sponsored by the **American Federation of Music** and is open to all piano students in the state. Mary Jo Shultz represented Collins and very well. She **won a first** in the Musically-Advanced II, which is the top class and best possible rating.

Baseball – Collins, in a poorly played game, lost to Mingo, 10-1, last Wednesday. Gordon Smith and Jerry Nichol pitched. Collins collected only two hits, and scored one run in the fourth inning. Mingo scored seven runs the first inning to control the ballgame. Lineup omitted.

Collins won its first baseball game in three starts on April 5 by blistering Maxwell on their diamond with seventeen hits for a 15-2 win. **Lineup:** David Fitzgerald (57) (2b) 1 hit;

Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 3 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 3 hits; John Vasey (p) 4 hits; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 2 hits; Ben Clark (57) (rf) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (of) (1 hit); Norlyn Smith (57) (of) 1 hit.

April 19, 1956 Honor Roll: Freshmen – David Derby, Edward Smith, Gary Hanson, Jane Ballard, Jane Chittenden, Beverly Christian, Mary Ann Kearns, Sharon Clark, Mary Duesbury, Sharon Stratton. **Sophomores** – Georgiann Briles, Dorothy Hand, Saundra Smith. **Juniors** – Glen Novinger, Elliott Partridge, Sandra Carley, Janice Heintz, Jill Kilgore, Mary Jo Shultz, Daisy Maxwell. **Seniors** – Rex Morrison, Larry Laird, George Keagle, Bill Ballard, John Vasey, Marjorie Hickie.

Monday evening at **P.T.O.**, the **Home Ec.** girls will model the clothes they have made in their sewing class. We will show our aprons, skirts and blouses, sports clothes, school dresses, summer dresses, good dresses, suits, and children's garments. As the girls are only freshmen and sophomores, there are many that had never used a sewing machine before

Baseball - Collins squeezed by Clemons by a 9-8 score. Collins held an early 9-3 lead, but Clemons rallied to score five runs in the last inning, with their rally falling one-run short. Collins scored nine runs on nine hits. **Lineup:** Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 0 hits; George Keagle (56) (rf) 0 hits; Jim Dodd (56) (ss) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 2 hits; John Vasey (p) 2 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (cf) 2 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (3b) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (1f) 1 hit; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits.

Music News – The contest for the small groups and soloists is completed and we know the results of our hours of practicing. **Results are: (Ratings in bold Roman Numerals)** Rex Morrison, Vocal solo – **I**; Mary Ann Kearns, Clarinet Solo – **I**; Don, John, Bill – Trumpet trio – **II**; Quentin Keagle, Trombone solo – **II**; Mary Jo Shultz, Piano solo – **II**; Elliott Partridge, Vocal solo – **III**; Daisy Maxwell, Vocal solo – **III**; Betty Taylor, Vocal solo – **III**.

April 26, 1956 Music News – There will be a band concert in the auditorium on Wednesday, May 3. The program will consist of music that the band and glee club will be taking to contest. This is the first opportunity for the band members to wear their **new uniforms**. This is probably **one of our greatest accomplishments** of this year and it has been through the hard work and cooperation of the **Band Mothers' Club**.

Baseball – Collins has been selected as site for the Sectional Baseball Tournament with the first game April 30. Collins vs. Baxter in the first round.

An Alumni meeting was held and arrangements started for the 1956 alumni dinner and dance. In order to cut expenses (due to shortage of funds), it was decided to eliminate the mailing of written invitations to the alumni members of Collins. It is hoped each member will accept the above as their personal invitation to attend. Committees are: **Menu** – Chr. Forrest Carson, Gola Carver, Mary Tomlinson, Ruth Huntrods. **Decorations** – Chr. Mildred Welty,

Naomi Pointer, Lola Dodd, Barbara Kingman, Yvonne Crabb, Doris Duesbury. **Invitations** – Chr. Betty Dodd, Gretchen Noring, Dorothy Atwood, Thelma Hale, Anoka Stratton. **Table and Chairs** – Chr. Charles Kimberley, James Kimberley, John Kingman, Jack Kilgore, Max Dodd, Chester Lilliard, Dick Holland, John Patterson, Don Pointer, Russell Oswald. **Program** – Chr. Walter Keagle, George Kimberley, Jack Stratton, Bob Titus, Dorothy Holland. **Reception** – Chr. Clara Serbein, Doris Holland, Flavius Pritchard. **Reservations** – Harold Hale, Floyd Kelderhouse.

Gazette News – J. R. Armstrong, Gazette owner/operator 1927-January 1956 seems to be steadily improving after his recent hospitalization with a heart ailment at 315 East Monument, Colorado Springs.

High School News – First of all we want to wish Beefy (Jim Dodd) a quick recovery after his accident. Everyone misses him around here.

Baseball – Collins defeated Lincoln High of Des Moines on their diamond, 14-4. The game started off with a bang as John Vasey, fifth batter in the lineup, almost knocked the cover off the ball with a wallop over the fence. Collins continued to blast the Lincoln pitcher all through the game, but didn't score the winning runs until the fifth inning. Nichol had four singles and Laird three singles to lead Collins' hitting. Nichol pitched seven innings. Clark caught. **Lineup:** Norlyn Smith (57) (1f) 1 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (p) 4 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 3 hits; John Vasey (ss) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (c) 0 hits; Bob Rice (56) (rf) 0 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (cf) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; George Keagle (56) (1f) 0 hits.

Baseball – Collins lost to East Des Moines on their diamond, 8-1. John Vasey pitched seven innings. (Insert 2005: No box score found)

Junior High News: Seventh and Eighth – Wednesday, the girls who have been in the Iowa State Nutrition tests went to Ames to spend the day. The girls took written tests, had X-rays taken and one of the main things, visited WOI-TV. **Seventh** graders going to Ames were: Barbara Hickle, Charlene Luing, Karen Carver, Linda Evans, Claretta Smith, Linda Mullihan, Gay Hudson, Helen Jacobsen. **Eighth** graders going to Ames were: Sonja and Colleen Dassenko, Elaine Kelderhouse, Shirley Kern, Margaretha Fitzgerald, Lois Struthers.

May 3, 1956 “An Evening in Paris” was the theme for the **Junior-Senior Banquet and Prom, which was held in the beautifully decorated gym** Friday evening, April 27. Small tables were set in the manner of a French sidewalk café, using streamers of turquoise and silver, the senior class colors to form the awning and trellis over the bandstand. Arrangements of red roses, which were later given to the seniors, added to the attractiveness of the tables. A very delicious dinner was prepared by the mothers of the juniors and served by five freshmen and the sophomore boys dressed in French waiter suits. After the program was completed, music was furnished by the Rhodes Lucky Seven for the prom. All the high school students and their guests were invited. Chaperones for the dance were Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, and Mr. and Mrs. Graves. (Insert 2005: Last junior-senior banquet and prom held in the high school building gym.)

Baseball – Collins lost to Maxwell on the Collins diamond, 10-6, April 23. Collins led through the first four innings, but completely folded in the fifth and Maxwell scored five runs. Collins collected five hits, all singles, with one hit each by N. Smith, Ballard, Nichol, Laird, and Vasey. Nichol pitched and Clark caught.

Baseball - Collins lost a loosely-played game to Huxley April 24 on the Collins diamond, 7-3. Smith pitched a good ballgame, allowing only five hits and two walks. Huxley hit only one ball out of the infield, but scored seven runs on numerous team fielding errors by Collins. Collins collected only four hits, all singles; two by Laird, and one each by N. Smith and Nichol.

Baseball – Collins warmed up for the tournament on April 26 by defeating Milford 15-6 on the Milford diamond. Collins took an early lead and expanded it throughout the game with the help of three Milford errors. N. Smith, Vasey, and G. Smith each hit triples. Winning pitcher was Vasey, who pitched 7 innings. Runs – 6, hits – (?), strikeouts (?), walks (?). Nichol caught. **Lineup:** Norlyn Smith (57) (rf-lf) 3 hits; Ben Clark (57) (rf) 2 hits; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (3b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 3 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Bob Rice (56) (cf) 0 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (lf-ss) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 1 hit; Jerry Dodd (59) (ss) 1 hit.

Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins: First round – Collins roared past Baxter 10-0. The decision was never in doubt. After retiring Baxter in the first, Collins battered the Baxter pitcher for four hits and three runs. Collins continued their assault in the second with four more runs with doubles by Laird and Ballard. Collins scored three more runs in the fourth for a 10-0 lead, all that is needed to end the game in tournament play. Vasey pitched three innings; runs – 0, hits – 0, strikeouts – 8, walks – 0. Gordon Smith pitched one inning; runs – 0, hits – 0, strikeouts – 3, walks – 0 **teamed to pitch a no-hitter for Collins, striking out 11 of the 12 batters they faced, with not a single batter reaching base. Perfect game.** Nichol caught. Collins collected nine hits in scoring ten runs. **Lineup:** Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 3 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 3 hits; John Vasey (56) (p-2b) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 2 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 0 hits; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (ss) 0 hits; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b-p) 0 hits.

May 10, 1956 Sectional Baseball Tournament at Collins: Semi-finals – Collins defeated Farrar 10-0 in a three-inning game. Collins scored two runs in the first on three hits and a squeeze bunt. They added one run in the second. In the third Collins broke loose with a seven-run assault, which ended the game. The rally was climaxed with a triple by Nichol, which drove across the tenth run, the one needed to end the game. Collins scored their ten runs on seven hits. Vasey was on the mound for Collins, **allowed no hits, and not a Farrar batsman reached base.** Nichol caught. **(Second consecutive perfect game by Collins' pitchers and team. Likely all-time school record)** **Lineup:** Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 2 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 0 hits; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (ss) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 1 hit.

Finals – Collins defeated Mingo 2-1 to **win the Sectional Tourney Championship** on May 4. The game was nip and tuck all the way with the game being decided in the first inning. Pat Fitzgerald opened the first inning with a walk and Ballard hit a sharp grounder to Mingo pitcher whose throw to second went into centerfield. Vasey laid down a bunt to score Fitzgerald from third. After a strikeout, Nichol laced a hard grounder to short, scoring Ballard from third. Although Collins threatened repeatedly, they couldn't manage another run. Mingo scored its loan run in the sixth on a hit, walk, an error, and a wild pitch. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 1, hits – 3, strikeouts – 14, walks – 3. Team fielding errors – 1. Nichol caught. Collins had only three hits, one each by P. Fitzgerald, Ballard, and Vasey.

High School News – Yes, school has just about had it for this year. It is really hard to believe that we have just completed another 180 hard-working days of school. **Events of the school year include:** A carnival, boys basketball received first place Conference trophy and third place County trophy. The girls basketball received first place Conference trophy, fourth place county, first in Sectional and third in the District Tournaments. Our music participants won several good ratings. Track team won fourth in the Conference, which isn't bad for the first year we have had track for several years. The baseball boys are winning their tournament games. This week the seniors will give their class play and leave for Chicago on their Skip Day. All in all we have had a very successful and full year. The teachers have been very cooperative in helping us with our activities.

We hope Jim (Beefy) Dodd is back in school by the time this is printed. I heard he is still full of the usual mischief, so must be feeling pretty good again.

Senior Class Day and Eighth Grade Graduation will be on Wednesday, May 15, at 1:15 P.M. The seniors will present a short program and awards and letters for all activities will be presented. Eighth Grade Graduation will follow. Everyone is welcome to Class Day exercises. (Insert 2005: Did not find news article on event)

Baccalaureate Service will be held at the Christian Church May 13 at 8:00 P.M. Processional and Recessional by Mary Jo Shultz. Invocation and Benediction by Rev. G. M. Talbott. Music by the school Mixed Chorus and Girls' Sextet and solo by Betty Taylor; Scripture by Rev. Robert Robinson; Sermon by Rev. Ellis Martin.

May 17, 1956 Seniors Last Stand. Friday night, after the senior class play, the Collins depot was the starting of what was to be a great activity for the seniors of "Old Collins High." They were **taking the train into Chicago** and this was to be our last get-together as a group. We all assembled at the depot at midnight and kept the town awake until 2:00 A.M. because the train was late. For many of us, it was our first train ride. After arriving in the windy city shortly after 10:00 A.M. Saturday, we got right on the bus for our cruise around the city. We toured many of the interesting areas and sites of Chicago. (Insert 2005: Refer to May 12, 1955 Skip Day to Chicago, for more information on the Chicago City Tour)

Contracts Awarded – The Collins Consolidated School Board at a meeting of the entire board Monday evening, May 14, **awarded the following contracts for building of the gym-auditorium, shop, and alterations to the present plant:** General Contract – Glen Thompson & Son, State Center, Iowa -

\$104,255. Plumbing and Heating – Steinmayer Plumbing and Heating, Marshalltown, Iowa - \$36,875. Electrical Work – Meisner Electric, Newton, Iowa - \$11,641. The **total bids amount to \$152,771** and were considerably lower than others received. Work is to start as soon as possible with completion date on or before January 15, 1957. **Bonds in the amount of \$160,000** were purchased on May 3, 1956 by the State Bank and Trust Company, Nevada, Iowa. Interest rate on the first \$60,000 of bonds is 2.75% and the remaining \$100,000 is 3%, making **an average interest rate of 2.95%**. The bonds were dated June 1, 1956 and maturing December 1, 1974. (Insert 2005: There are architect fees and legal and bond counsel fees associated with the project in addition to the construction bids of \$152, 771)

Collins Alumni Association Members are hereby cordially invited to attend the 64th Anniversary Dinner and Program to be held Saturday evening, May 19, at 6:30 P.M. in the Christian Church. **Per plate \$1.50 plus alumni dues of .25**; alumni dance following at the high school, \$1.00 per couple, .50 per person. Reservations with Harold Hale or Floyd Kelderhouse must be made by May 16.

The **Senior Class** presented their play, “Father Be Calm,” May 11 before nearly a full house. We all think Jerry Nichol should receive a little extra credit for his performance. He seemed to fit his part very well and only Jerry could act as he does. George also seemed to fit his part very well as did the rest of the cast.

Thanks. We wish to express to the **Band Parents’ Club** for the many ways it has helped the music department this year. Through their bake sales, band breakfasts, and other activities, it was **possible to get our new band coats.** ~Music Department, J. K. Bell, Instructor.

Music News – Wednesday night we had our **final band concert** and were very pleased to have such a large crowd attending. The band members were thrilled because it was the **first time they had worn their new uniforms.** The program consisted of music which the band and the glee club took to contest. This year’s **band contest** was at Hubbard. The band received a **II rating.** A list of **some of our accomplishments are:** New band uniforms, two band breakfasts, two concerts and other musical programs, good representation at State Music Contest, and good junior band.

District Baseball Tournament at Collins: First round/semi-finals – Collins defeated United Community (Kelley, Luther, Napier) 11-0, on May 8. Vasey was the winning pitcher, five innings. Runs – 0, hits – 1, strikeouts – 8, walks – 4. Gordon Smith pitched the last two innings. Runs – 0. Nichol caught. Collins scored their eleven runs on seven hits. **Lineup:** Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; Pat Fitzgerald (58) (cf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p-2b) 0 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 1 hit; David Fitzgerald (57) (ss) 2 hits; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 0 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b-p) 0 hits.

Finals – Collins **won the District Tournament Championship** with a 7-0 victory over Huxley. This game was sweet revenge as Huxley had previously defeated Collins. Collins opened the game as if they meant to win, scoring two runs on a walk to Ballard, single by Vasey, fielder’s choice by Laird, and a single by Norlyn Smith. Collins continued the assault with a run in the fourth and two each in the sixth and seventh. Leading hitter for Collins was Norlyn Smith with a perfect **four for four, including two doubles.** John Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 0, hits – **No Hitter**, strikeouts – 9, walks – 2. Nichol

caught. Collins played their finest defensive game of the year and hit the ball very well, eleven hits in scoring seven runs. **Lineup:** Pat Fitzgerald (58) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 1 hit; John Vasey (56) (p) 2 hits; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 1 hit; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 4 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (ss) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 1 hit; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; Bob Rice (56) (lf) 0 hits.

Sub-State Baseball Tournament at Slater: First round/Semi-finals – Collins won a hard-fought 2-0 victory over Stanhope. The contest was in doubt until the final out. Collins started out as if they meant to salt the game away early, putting two men on base, but due to several bad breaks, they failed to score. Nichol opened Collins' second inning with a double and advanced to third on D. Fitzgerald's hit. Nichol was picked off third when a squeeze bunt backfired. Fitzgerald later scored on Clark's double. Collins score again in the third on a triple by Vasey and a single by Laird. This ended the scoring for both teams. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 0, hits – **No Hitter – second consecutive no-hit game (fully expect this is another all-time Collins school record)**, strikeouts – 17, walks – 1. Team fielding errors – five that enabled three Stanhope runners to reach third base. In each case, Vasey struck out the following batters to stymie any rally. Nichol caught. Collins had seven hits. **Lineup:** Pat Fitzgerald (58) (lf) 0 hits; Bill Ballard (56) (3b) 0 hits; John Vasey (56) (p) 1 hit; Larry Laird (56) (1b) 1 hit; Jerry Nichol (56) (c) 2 hits; Norlyn Smith (57) (rf) 0 hits; David Fitzgerald (57) (ss) 1 hit; Ben Clark (57) (cf) 2 hits; Gordon Smith (58) (2b) 0 hits; Bob Rice (56) (rf) 0 hits.

Final – Collins scored a huge victory over East Des Moines, 1-0 to win the Sub-State Tourney Championship and move on to the State Tournament. Collins scored their one run in the first inning when John Vasey reached first on an error by the East DM shortstop. He advanced to second on a wild pitch and scored on a two-base error by the third baseman of East DM. Vasey pitched seven innings. Runs – 0, hits – 5, strikeouts – 14, walks – 7. Nichol caught. In the fifth inning, East DM's first batter hit a triple down the left field line. Vasey retired the next two batters on strikes and nailed East DM runner trying to steal home for the third out. The Collins catcher, Nichol, did a super job of holding the ball on the play after being hit hard by the East base runner at home plate. (See below January 2006 insert.) In the sixth inning, an even bigger test occurred as Vasey walked the first batter, the next batter singled, and the following bunted safely for a hit. The Des Moines team had the bases jammed with none out. Vasey again struck out the next two batters and had a force out at home on another attempted squeeze play. These are two of the frequent jams Vasey worked himself into, but each time he and the team successfully came out on top. In the seventh inning, Vasey struck out the batter who had hit the triple in the fifth inning. The following batter singled, and Vasey completed the game with two more strikeouts. Leading hitters for Collins were Clark and Nichol, each with a double. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

(Insert January 2006: Personal visit with Collins player regarding the above East Des Moines game. East DM team was highly rated with a Des Moines sports announcer picking them to win the State title. Narrative on the fifth inning attempt by the East DM runner to steal home with two outs: Collins pitcher, Vasey, turned his back toward third base to pick up a rosin bag that is customarily lying on the ground behind the pitcher's mound. The East DM third base runner [sprinter on track team] instantly began a dash toward home, attempting to score the tying run. Collins catcher, Nichol hollered at Vasey, who quickly fired the ball to Nichol, catching it a split second before the East DM runner's shoulder smashed into his chest, knocking him backward and the wind from his chest. Nichol did a super job of holding

onto the ball and the umpire made his “your out” call. A heated encounter followed with the umpire holding to his decision.)

State Tournament Baseball Held at the Pioneer Memorial Stadium in Des Moines:

Teams: Collins record - 11-5, high school enrollment – 62; Cedar Rapids Franklin record – 12-1, high school enrollment – 975; Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs record 22-5, high school enrollment - 858, Van Horn record – 12-2, high school enrollment – 79; Tracy record – 11-1, school enrollment – 40; Graettinger record 12-1, high school enrollment – 137; Lu Verne record 9-1, school enrollment – 76; Mason City record 13-0, school enrollment – 1262.

Collins defeated a much larger school, Franklin of Cedar Rapids, 5-1. Collins put across one run in the first inning, clustered three more runs on five hits in the fifth, and worked a squeeze bunt after two singles for the final run in the sixth inning. The only hit off Vasey was a dribbler down the third base line in the sixth inning. The Clippers had nine hits in scoring their five runs. Gordon Smith pitched the final inning for Collins. Vasey pitched six innings. Runs – 0, hits – 1, strikeouts – (?), walks – (?). G. Smith pitched one inning. Runs – 1, hits – (1), strikeouts – (?), walks – (?). In tournament play, John Vasey has pitched 43 innings, one unearned run, and hits – 10. (Insert 2005: Box score not found)

May 19, 1956 State Baseball Tournament - first round results: Van Horn 2 – Tracy 1; Mason City 6 - Lu Verne 2; Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs 4 – Graettinger 2; **Collins 5 - Franklin of Cedar Rapids 1.**

Commencement – (Insert 2005: Did not find any information concerning the commencement exercises.) Graduating seniors – Rex Morrison, Jerry Nichol, Betty Spooner, Loretta Swaim, Betty Taylor, John Vasey, James Wilson, William Ballard, James Dodd, Marjorie Hickle, George Keagle, Quentin Keagle, Peggy Kloppenborg, Larry Laird, Robert Rice.

Senior Class Day – (Insert 2005: Did not find any article on the programs and the several awards customarily made to students.) Personal contacts provided Valedictorian – John Vasey, Salutatorian – Rex Morrison.

May 21, 1956 State Baseball Tournament. Semi-finals – The Collins Clippers’ dramatic baseball journey came to an end in an extra-inning game with a loss to large school Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs, 10-4. Council Bluffs scored one run in the first inning and two in the top of the fifth. Collins came back strongly to move in front for the first time with four runs in the bottom of the fifth on timely hits by Ben Clark, Pat Fitzgerald, Larry Laird, and Bill Ballard, the later driving in the run that broke a 3-all tie for a 4-3 lead going into the seventh inning. Collins collected six hits in scoring their four runs with five team fielding errors. Gordon Smith took over pitching duties beginning the sixth inning and had one out in the seventh when he walked two batters. Coach Thompson switched Vasey back to the mound. With runners on second and third, one of John’s drop curves hit the dirt and took a crazy bounce away from Nichol to allow the tying run to score. In the eighth inning, with two outs, Vasey whizzed a third strike past the batsman. However, the sharp drop curve again hit the dirt and had a bad bounce

away from the Clipper catcher and the batter made it to first to start the six-run spree. Also, in the eighth inning, with two out, Thomas Jefferson continued the six-run parade when a roller directly toward the shortstop hit something as it left the infield grass and bounced far out of the shortstop's reach, allowing two runs to score. Collins was unable to score in the bottom of the eighth inning for the 10-4 loss. (Insert 2005: No box score found)

May 24, 1956 John Vasey's record before the State Tournament is: Pitched 70 innings this spring, hits – 26, strikeouts – 128, walks – (?), and a record of ten wins and one loss. Last fall of 1955 he had a record of eight wins and one loss. The only game he lost in fall season was to Tracy, 1-0, the team that won the fall 1955 baseball championship. The only other loss was in this spring of 1956 was to East Des Moines, 8-1. In this spring's tournaments, in seven games, he gave up only nine hits, no earned runs, and only one unearned run. In these 39 innings, he had four no-hitters and five shutouts. Mingo was defeated that had a 9-0 record. Jerry Nichol caught every game that John pitched and is the **unsung hero of many games**, and one of these was the East Des Moines game. Jerry has been our relief pitcher and did a good job against Lincoln of Des Moines in a scheduled season game.

Honored – Last Tuesday at 10:00 P. M. about 125 people in 50 cars, most of them decorated, went down to the highway junction 8-9 miles south of Collins to meet our baseball boys who **won the first round in the State Tournament**. When the boys arrived, they were transferred to the fire truck, which brought them into Collins. They were led by a highway patrol escort and followed by what might have been the whole town of Collins. During all this time, there was the usual excitement and noise (shooting of firecrackers, blowing horns, etc.). The boys were taken to the schoolhouse where there was a party for them and their parents. It began with a speech by our Superintendent Jackson. Then Coach Thompson introduced the team, bus driver, and bat boy. Each player gave a brief unprepared speech, which was enjoyed by the crowd. Next on the agenda was a cafeteria-style lunch with the players and their parents leading the line. The boys said the lunch of cake baked by several of the women, pop, and ice cream, furnished by the businessmen hit the spot.

Baseball 1956 Spring Season Summary: Collins **won** – Maxwell 15-2, Clemons 9-8, Lincoln of Des Moines 14-4, Milford 15-6. **Lost** – Slater 2-1, Mingo 10-1, East Des Moines 8-1, Maxwell 10-6, Huxley 7-3.

Sectional Tourney: Collins **won** – Baxter 10-0, Farrar 10-0, Mingo 2-1 for the **sectional tournament championship**.

District Tourney: Collins **won** – United Community 11-0, Huxley 7-0 for the **district tournament championship**.

Sub-state Tourney: Collins **won** – Stanhope 2-0, East Des Moines 1-0 for the **sub-state championship**.

State Tourney: Collins **won** – Franklin of Cedar Rapids 5-1. **Lost** – Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs – 10-4 for a final four placing. **Season Record:** Won – 12, Lost – 6. The team won eight consecutive tournament games with only two runs scored against them in these games.

Team members – After a slow early season beginning, Collins went on an eight-game winning streak that placed them in the final four of the state tournament. Many of these team members were also on the spring of 1955 team that was also in the state tournament. **Two consecutive years appearance in the state tournament is the school all-time record.** This is also very likely the last appearance of Collins in state baseball tournament. Starting nine: John Vasey (56) (p-2b); Jerry Nichol (56) (c); Larry Laird (56) (1b); Gordon Smith (58) (2b-p); Bill Ballard (56) (3b); Jim Dodd (56) (ss) (after Dodd's accident injury, David Fitzgerald (57) (ss); Pat Fitzgerald (58) (lf); Ben Clark (57) (cf); Norlyn Smith (57) (rf); Bob Rice (56) (utility of). Other team members: Jerry Dodd (59) (of); Darwin Luing (58) (of); Jerry Huffman (57) (of); Lawrence Horn (59) (of); Elliott Partridge (57) (of); Rex Morrison (56) (of); George Keagle (56) (of). **Coach** – Larry Thompson. Senior team members: John Vasey (p), Jerry Nichol (c), Larry Laird (1b), Bill Ballard (3b), Jim Dodd (ss), Bob Rice (of), all key members of this team.

(Insert 2005: Composite Baseball Seasons Summary - Fall 1952 through spring – 1956:

Fall – 52 Won 3, lost 5 (Sectional Tournament – lost 2nd game)
 Spring – 53 Won 11, lost 2 (Sectional Tournament champions, District – lost 1st game)

Fall – 53 Won 5, lost 1 (Sectional Tournament champions, District – lost 1st game)
 Spring – 54 Won 8, lost 3 (Sectional Tournament champions, District – lost 2nd game)

Fall – 54 Won 8, lost 2 (Sectional and District Tournament champions,
 Sub-state – Lost in finals)
 Spring – 55 Won 11, lost 4 (Sectional, District, and Sub-state Tournament champions,
State Tournament – lost 1st game in the last inning)

Fall – 55 Won 8, lost 2 (Sectional and District Tournament champions,
 Sub-state – Lost 1st game)
 Spring – 56 Won 12, lost 6 (Sectional, District, and Sub-state Tournament champions,
State Tournament - lost 2nd game)

Summary of 4 years (8 seasons): Played 91 games. Won 66, lost 25 = 73% games won. The first team to be in State Tournament since 1926 baseball team. Also the only team to be in state tournament two consecutive years (**1924 team was State Champions.** See Spring 1924 pages for further information on the State Championship team.)

Prep of the Week by Brad Wilson of the Des Moines Register newspaper: Collins' left-hander, John Vasey who pitched his team through last week's Sub-State series and the opening round of the State Meet is the Register's Prep of the Week. It is now history that Vasey and the Collins team was beaten Monday night by Council Bluffs' Thomas Jefferson, 10-4, in what was Vasey's 9th consecutive tournament pitching appearance since the start of the sectional competition. Three of his iron-man pitching feats were posted in a six-day span last week, starting with a no-hit, 2-0, triumph over Stanhope Monday, (Insert 2005: Previous game was a no-hitter, 7-0 win over Huxley.) his fourth no-hit game this

spring. He came back Wednesday after a single days' rest to beat Des Moines East, 1-0 on a five-hitter. Then, after two-days of rest, he sat down Cedar Rapids Franklin, 5-1, on a one-hitter in the first round of the State Championship meet. The 18-year old senior has been an outstanding hurler all through is prep career, and in American Legion Junior Baseball. A four-year letterman in baseball and basketball, John finished the spring season with an 11-2 record. He gave up 32 hits and struck out 150 in 83 innings. He is a good scorer and rebounder in basketball and also earned scholastic honors as valedictorian of his class.

Comments from a 1956 graduate on his construction work for the new gymnasium: The construction was started shortly before school was out in spring of 1956. The contractor brought a couple laborers as well as two or three masons from State Center. There were several people hired from Collins during the summer of 1956, including 1956 graduates: Ben Clark, Larry Laird, Jim Wilson, and Bob Rice with wages near \$1.00 per hour. The class of 1957 was the first class to use the gym for graduation; however, it wasn't in full use until the 57-58 Season.

We are continuing our Chronological Biography endeavor in coming years to the July 1983 merger of Collins and Maxwell schools. We are hopeful the 74 years completed are interesting, intriguing, refreshing, informative, enjoyable entertainment; entirely or special segments that have personal interest to you. John Duesbury

School Board Members – Collins School

Incomplete Listing of Board Members 1898-1907 (Information is lacking from 1882 – 1897)

School Board Members – Collins School Incomplete Listing of Board Members

1952-53 School Board Term

President – Lloyd Holland Board Member – Granger Buck Board Member – Ernest Hoefler Board Member – Raymond Long Board Member – Alva Elliott

1953-54 School Board Term

President – Lloyd Holland Board Member – Granger Buck Board Member – Alva Elliott Board Member – Raymond Long Board Member – Thayer Derby

1954-55 School Board Term

President – Granger Buck Board Member – Lloyd Holland Board Member – Raymond Long Board Member – Thayer Derby Board Member – John Crabb

1955-56 School Board Term

President – Granger Buck Board Member – John Crabb Board Member – Thayer Derby Board Member – Raymond Long Board Member – Lloyd Holland