

THE B. C. H. S. JOURNAL
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AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A TREE

I first remember being covered by falling leaves that fell from the tall trees above me. I was just a seed then. I was entirely covered by the leaves and it was dark but I didn't mind. I just went to sleep.

When I woke up I found that I had grown but I could not see because the leaves were still over me. I grew and grew and one day I stuck my head out from under the leaves. What do you think I felt? I felt the warm sunshine. My it felt good! After that I grew faster than ever. I was no longer a seed I was a tender sprout.

I grow more and more. Occasionally it rained. I liked that for it made me cool and wet. I grow faster, too, when it rained. The trees above me gave me shade when I was too hot. How I wished that I were big and could give shade too.

One day when I was about three feet tall some men came into the woods and cut down one of the big cedar trees above me. I wished then that I could be cut down and be made into a cedar chest like that tree probably would.

My life was beginning to be tiresome. I did not like to just stand all day and look about me. Then one day something happened. The sky got black. I could not see the sun at all. The trees bowed and swayed. Very soon it began to rain. I began to get frightened. The wind blew harder. Suddenly with a great crash a huge tree fell down very close to me! Before I had entirely recovered from my fright another tree fell. I shall never forget that day. Finally the storm stopped and I hoped that we would never have another one.

It began to get cold one year. I had grown a lot. I was about eight feet high. One day some men came into the forest and cut me down. I said goodbye to the others for I knew I was going to be used for something but I did not know what. I was much too small to be used for a cedar chest. I was taken to a house and braced so that I stood up as I had in the forest. One day, a few days later, people came in and put decorations on me. Now it is Christmas Day and I am a Christmas tree and I am very pretty and very happy.

Shirley Beebe- Jr. I
Science.

The publishers of B.C.H.S. Journal wish to apologize to Miss Rayo for omitting her second and third honor roll last month. It was an oversight. The roll was as follows: Second Honor Roll: Virgie Hodges, Sarah McGill, Rachel Vinos, Johnnie Welch. Third Honor Roll: Emma Lou Hudson, Annie Marielo, Ruth Thompson, Olivia White, Jack Page, Johnnie Stacey, Alma Vinos, Gerald Weekloy.

MRS HOOPER AND MISS NISKERN SPEEK AT PTA

At the regular March meeting of P.T.A. two very inspiring and enlightening talks were given. First Mrs. L.J. Hooper spoke on reading for the Grammar School age of children. Miss Niskern spoke on reading for High School pupils. These were worth while talks.

PATRONIZE

A. Kahalley for Shoes and ready to wear
Baldwin Times
Gom Barber Shop-Service with a smile
Alabama Power Co.-Charles Boddon.
Baldwin Furniture Store
Builders Hardware & Supply Co.
Pick and Pay
Loake's
Lambert Drug Store
Baldwin County Bank
Green Parrets Lunch Stand
Senior Lunch Room
Gronn's Cash Gro. The best for your money.
Greer's Grocery-"Greer's Got it"
Page's Service Station
Chancellor's Grocery
Nelson's Jewelry Shop
Booth's Cafe
Moore's Electric Shoe Shop
Peoples Market
Palace Barber and Beauty Shop
Popoye for Good ICE

DO YOU KNOW

1. Why Pierce Mason holds his trombone SKI HIGH when playing in the band?
2. That the passing in the halls at B.C.H.S. is improved? (Believe it or not)
3. Where the wind is when it doesn't blow?

CURRENT EVENTS

Miss Leonard confined to her home with cold last week. We are delighted to know she is now able to be out and back at work. The High School teachers went to Fairhope Saturday, March 8, to their third county Teachers' Meeting.

Miss Leonard's mother and sister visited her last week.

Mr. Harris was recently called away to see his father who has been quite ill. We are glad to know that Mr. Harris Senior is better and that our Mr. Harris is back with us. Miss Northcutt was greatly missed while she was out of school due to sickness. We are glad to have her well and back with us.

***** Gaines Burnett

Dick Owen: "Say, Charles, can you tell me how to make a slow horse fast?"

Charles Byrne: "Don't feed him."

Dougald: "Do you believe in free speech?"

Dowey K: "That depends on whether I'm bigger than the free speaker."

A TIP TO THE TEACHERS.

By Dick Owens

To Miss Leonard, who is the cause of all the unpleasant orders.
Which smells worse than vinegar and soda
We recommend for the students clothes pins on their noses.
And if Miss Leonard will stop those smelly experiments,
A bunch of roses.

For Mrs. West, we suggest some English for her to learn
Of course, it's none of our concern
If she wants to speak French
Like a Soldier in a trench.

For Miss Hinton we recommend an automatic pen, THAT WILL WRITE OK.
That will save her time, this now easy way,
Our books and papers to check,
After checking all the bookkeeping,
I'm afraid she'll be a wreck,

For "Coach Hudson" Base Ball team,
We suggest a dose of high life
This will cease all the strife
This will put the team on a winning streak
Maybe it will start this week.

For Miss Sowell we recommend a step ladder
She can watch the pupils better or bader
The pupils will also like this plan
We won't have to have a watchman.

For Mr. Finloy, the human post,
Who often reminds us of a host
We propose to erect a light that will turn red and green,
This can be more easily seen.

Miss Royors' History Class will be of the well educated sort,
For every other day they have an outside report,
Of course, the pupils do not mind
For to their grades she will be kind.

SIXTH MONTH HONOR ROLL

Jr. I. First, Shirley Boobe, Alicia Cano
Mazie Byrne, Ruth Mooror, Second, Carol Hall. Third, Mildred Broadus, Dorothy McKay.

Jr. II, Second, Sara Nell Finloy, Bootsie Noonan. Third, Agnes Little.

Jr. III. First, Anne McMillan, Second, Julia McMillan, Albert Stapleton. Lauda Loake, Third, Lillie Martin Franklin, Thelma Wood, Erwin Stuart.

Sr. I., Victoria Vaughn, Ruth West, Joanotto Anderson, Second, Louise Garrett Ruby Darby, Jeanne Finloy.

Sr. II, First, Florence Manci, Margaret Mooror, Tom Bryars, Ruby Francis Alexander, Doll Vaughn Holmes.

Second, John Hastie, Lora Netto Driskoll, Lucille Heard, Lorena Manci, Myrtle Louise McMillan, Rosalyn Mooror, Lario Woodward, Mary Laude Woolf. Third, Sara Holmes, Francis Raspberry.

Sr. III, First, Virgil Rhodes, Alice James, Wilbur Joyner, Loslie Smith, Grace Cauloy, Sybil Davidson, Elizabeth Loper, Sadie Nelson, Ruby Vaughn, Claudia Clark,

Second, J. K. Bush, Robert Leigh Harris, Sadie Boono, Annelle Cook, Luella Ferguson Jennie Jurjivich, Erlene Sirmon, Merle Stuart, Myrtle Driskell, Third, John McKinney, Ilene Raybon, Malona Mae Whitloy, Elizabeth Woodson, Lloyd Lee.

CAN YOU IMAGINE

1. Dewey King being quiet in home room?
2. Miss Sowell being tall?
3. Miss Smilie slinging things?
4. Winifred Robertson being on time for school
5. Miss Flournoy forgetting to teach manners, in her Jr. III Occupation Class?
6. Miss Davison talking slowly?
7. Charles Byrne getting hungry?
8. Miss Niskorn and Miss Flournoy flipping a coin to see who's to go with Mr. Ward?
9. Billie Rapp asking about Mazie Byrne?
10. Ramsey Stuart knowing how to use honeymoon in a sentence?
11. Mr. Ward taking cooking lessons from Miss Flournoy?
12. Pierce Mason not wanting to attract attention?
13. Miss Davison with bobbed hair?
14. Why Sexton Bedford has his pictures made so many times?
15. Dewey King skipping assembly?
16. Hazel Lee making a dress?
17. Clyde Long coming to art class once this semester?
18. Bootsie Noonan curling his hair?
19. Miss Smilie chewing gum in public?
20. Mr. Ward riding a bicycle?
21. Lera Nette asking Miss Sowell to let her go to Robertsdale with her?
22. Jack Kyser picking up a lady hitch hiker?
23. Helen Hill eating lunch with a Stateline Drummer? "Ain't love grand."

IMMIGRANTS YOU LIKE

"The Onion comes from Egypt.
The Chestnut came from Italy.
Oats originated in N. America.
Parsley was first known in Sardinia.
Spinach came from Arabia
Walnuts and peaches from the land of Persia.
Cucumbers from East Indies.
The Quince from Crete
The Pear and apple from central Europe
Rye from Siberia.
Celery originated in Germany.
Peas from Egypt."

B. C. H. S.

To our school we are honest loyal and true,
Some leave it happy, some leave it blue.
Do you try your best to cut class, all the rest?
Or do you lag behind,
And say it's none of mine?
We have all made out school, We try to learn every rule; but when it comes to say,
There are some who do not obey.
Some do their part, some try before they start, they sit high upon the stool,
For Baldwin County High School.

Annie Mae Scott-Jr. I.

Burton: "Virgil, what do you do on your spare nights."

Virgil: "Well, my time is divided. I don't know whether to go north to see L.H. or to go south to see M.B."

Burton: "Go South, of course!"

THE SNOOPER

Well, Well, Well, Here I am folks.
I've been kinda running around lately but
I've been wondering if a few C.C.C. boys
hadn't better come back to Bay Minette
because the girls can't pine their hearts
away forever you know.

I heard that Bob Moss is coming back. You
had better "make hay while the sun shines"
Jack Kyser because Coochie can't look at
you much longer.

Jessie's coming down every other week-end
is no sign that the other two week-ends
out of a month can go idle can they, Merle?
Let's ask a couple of school boys about
that.

I wonder why Myrtle D. liked the Grammar
School so well during the first part of
February. Could it be that a certain
Claude was practicing in Sky High.

Gee, it seems as if Willa Ree and John
have a real case. You had better watch
out Willa Ree. You know John is a good
looking lad.

I wonder who has been standing around
Winifred's locker lately. Wayland could
you tell us?

We like nice new filling stations, don't
we Annette?

I hear that Helen W. is so popular that
she had to stand two up to date the
sweetest one.

My goodness, Mabel, How is the Auburn boy
friend?

I wonder if you can recognize these ini-
tials with whom cupid has been playing a
part: J.B.-W.J.; J.B.S.-C.L.R.; S.D.-R.V.;
H.W.-W.M.R.; G.E.T.-E.T.; E.W.-E.B.;
G.E.T.-H.L.; B.N.-A.L.

Well folks, this will probably give you
enough to think about so I'll sign off.

SNOOPING SNOOPER.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bernard Buck, Grace Cauley, Ruby Darby,
Luella Ferguson, Jewell Guest, Rosa Lee
Hall, Ruby Howell, Willa Ree Joyner, Jack
Kyser, Lorena Mancini, Ted Peaden, Brooks
Scram, Eunice Thompson, Nellie Thompson,
Annie Thomley, Eloise Thompson, Joe Aaron,
Charles Byrne, John Crosley, Elrin Godwin,
Daisy Godwin, Agnes Little, Clyde Long,
Alice Loper, Mildred Mayo, Vivian McCreary,
Claude McLain, Jimmie Owen, Annie Mae Scott,
Julius Simmons.

AMONG OUR STUDENTS

You may find Fords, Hands, Stewarts,
Grosses, Waters, Vails, Vines (not the
clinging kind) Wood (not sap) Woolf (not
wild) Taylors (not suit makers) Smiths
(not got those of silver or gold) Reeds
(not swayed by the winds) Pages, Lopers
(not clopers) Joyners, Kings (not rulers)
Halls, Heads, Deans (not of colleges)
Guests (not uninvited) Days (not nights)
Bucks, Bushes, Riders, Raspberries (all the
year) Martins.

FOR YOUR CURRENT ISSUE OF THE B.C.H.S.
JOURNAL SEE THE OFFICIAL NEWS BOYS "MACK
AND JACK" OR ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLICA-
TION CLUB INCLUDING MISS CAUSEY.

Miss Causey to Virgil McMillan:
"Virgil, what is your greatest ambition?
Virgil-"To wash mama's cars."

Recently our P.T.A. gave our school
twenty azalea plants. We appreciate those.

Miss Royer: "Randal; in which of his
battles was King Gustavas
Adolphus of Sweden slain?

Randall A.: "I am pretty sure it was his
last one."

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (MAYBE)

Jimmie Owen-Bootsie Noonan.

Miss Northcutt wears her first pair of
glasses (?)

Miss Davison learns her first English
Lesson (?)

Miss Flournoy gets corrected for the first
time by her teacher (?)

Miss Smilie teaches her first Math lesson (?)

Mr. Finley celebrates his twenty-fifth
wedding anniversary (?)

Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Harris move to Bay
Minette (?)

Miss Sowell meets first Smith (?)

Miss Leonard bisects first frog (?)

Mr. Hudson plays his first foot ball
game (?)

Mrs. West immigrates to America (?)

Miss Niskorn keeps first library (?)

Mr. Ward landscaped his first campus (?)

MY BEST TEACHER

My best teacher is kinda tall
She looks very charming in the hall
She is very very sweet
There could not be one to beat

She really knows how to teach
There is no use to screech
When we first met
I know I would not regret

This one teacher is the defeater of all
other teachers and she needs no heater.
To keep warm during the winter
There is one good thing-she's no hunter.
Nellie Maricle.

RIDDLES BY L. L. THOMPSON

1. What person name denotes a plant?
2. What name denotes an occupation?
3. What name suits for a person who
builds houses?
4. What persons name makes your foot hurt
when you think of it?
5. What persons name denotes what you
might do at some one's door?
6. What persons name denotes what trucks
are used for?

ANSWERS

1. Bush - 2. Taylor - 3. Carpenter - 4.
Bryars - 5. Rapp - 6. Hall.

SPORTS

BASEBALL SCHEDULE--1936.

Baseball is now fully under way. There are a good many boys out, who have some experience, and expect to show you plenty of good playing.

March 18th-Summerdale at B.C.H.S.
 March 20th-Summerdale at Summerdale.
 March 25th-Brewton at B.C.H.S.
 April 2nd-Wright's at B.C.H.S.
 April 7th-Robertsdale at B.C. H.S.
 April 9th-Foley at Foley.
 April 14th-Foley At B.C. H. S.
 April 16th-Wrights at Wrights.
 April 21st-Robertsdale at Robertsdale.
 April 24th-Brewton at Brewton.

Thomas Hall Sport Reporter

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE-1936-37.

Sept. 24-Wrights on B.C.H.S. Field.
 Oct. 2-Citronelle at B.C.H.S.
 Oct. 9th-Thomasville at Thomasville.
 Oct. 16th-Brewton at Brewton.
 Oct. 23-Evergreen at B.C.H.S.
 Oct. 30-Robertsdale at Robertsdale
 Nov. 6-Fairhope at B. C. H. S.
 Nov 11-Foley at Foley.
 Nov. 26.-Atmore at Atmore.

BASKET BALL

Baldwin County High School had a fairly successful season in basketball and expect a much better season next year, as the boys will be more experienced in the game. All the team were new this year.

C. T. Waters was captain of the team and did some fine playing. Every member of the team got profitable experiences this year, because Coach Hudson scheduled games with nearby teams. The players all expect to do better next year.

JR. TEAM.

The B. C. H. S. Jr. team went to Robertsdale to the tournament and came out victorious.

The Jr. team also played Foley and won. They were an undefeatable team,
 Thomas Hall.

Sr. III's Entertain Faculty.

The Sr. III girls entertained the faculty members in the school dining room Wednesday, March 11th. We regretted that Mr. and Mrs. Harris couldn't be present.

The dinner was served in three courses. The first course was a plate lunch consisting of meat loaf, surrounded by potato strips and garnished with parsley; rice and gravey, English peas in dainty pea timblers, and crysthized apples. The second course was a dainty carrot salad. The third being cake and jello. Coffee was served as the beverage.

The dining room looked very attractive with a white linen cover on tables and pink japonicas as the center piece. The girls of the Sr. III class throughly enjoyed laboring together getting things prepared. Miss Flournoy was a splendid director whose assistance we all appreciate.

Marie Stuart.

BEETHOVEN MUSIC CLUB

The monthly meeting of the Beethoven Music Club was held at the home of Mrs. Gly Smith on March 4, 1936 with Ethel Taylor as hostess.

It was decided that the Junior Music Club would entertain the Senior Music Club at the home of Mrs. John Chason on March 18th, 1936. Mrs. Chason and Mrs. Fail are working now on a play on the life of Frank Schubert.

The subject for the afternoon was Religious Music. The following program was presented:
 Piano Solo-Prayer to a Rain God-
 Lorena Mancini.

Paper on Religious Music-Elizabeth Woodson.

Vocal Duet-Savor Lika A Shepard Lead

Us-Lorena Mancini and Anne McMillan
 Duet-King Cotton-Ruth West and
 Ethel Taylor.

After the program delicious refreshments were served.

THE BAND MARCHES ON.

Are we proud of B. C. H. S. Band? You should have seen and heard them in the Madi Gras Parades! They played, and they pranced and made a show of which even Baldwin High may be proud!

At 11:00 Tuesday morning the Baldwin Hi and State Line Bands gave a concert in Bienville Square. At 1:30 they marched in the afternoon parade and again at 8:00 that night they took part in the parade.

Albert Thompson and Jimmie Owen have recently promoted to the band.

Now is the time for you to enlist as a band member so that you may lead the Madi Gras parades next year. See Mr. Keller soon and join the band.

On March 8 the band played for the Lions Club and were duly complimented.

Listen for announcements about the band concert at Grammar School about March 19th. State Line band will be here with them at 8:00. Admission 10¢ and 20¢.

Noonan-Broadus-reporter.

"Eastertime is Grippled Children Seal time--Buy now!"

The Jr. III Civic Class had as its guest during the time that "money credit and Banking" was being studied by the class, Mr. Frank Holmes, president of the Baldwin County Banj.

The entire class period was given over to Mr. Holmes and he gave a very interesting and instructive talk on "Banks and Banking". Which took in the organization of a bank, the officers, how banking is carried on, and the relation of number banks to the Federal Reserve banks. When the talk was finished Mr. Holmes asked that the class ask questions about banking that he had not made clear, and offered to show any of the class who wishes to come down to the bank, how banking is actually carried on. *Frank Holmes*

SENIOR III CLASS REPORT

The Senior Lunch room shows a profit of \$96.00 through Friday, February 6. Reminder: We sell sandwiches and cold drinks at noon.

The magazine selling campaign of the Senior III Class is going over fine. The class is divided into two groups, the Golds, headed by Eugene Bryars, have made 15 sales and have turned in 18.50. The Greens, headed by Merle Stuart, have made 22 sales and have turned in \$23.50.

The Magazines being sold are The Country Gentlemen, Saturday Evening Post, and The Laddies Home Journal. There is a prize of \$5.00 offered to the student who gets the largest number of sales. At present Earline Sirmon is ahead, John McKinney second and J. K. Bush third.

If these sales people call upon you please give them due consideration and subscribe for a magazine if possible.

Durwood Taylor-reporter.

BUY Easter Seals--USE Easter Seals--HELP cripple children".

The Publication Club meets regularly each Tuesday at two o'clock in room 16. Favorable reports from members are heard at each meeting. The financial status of the club has been so good that we recently served ourselves refreshment which seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed. A new member, Ida Wainley was added to our list. We are so glad to know that more and more are making the grade. We now have 27 members.

Billy Bozone-Reporter.

"Open Wide the Door" for cripple Children, by buying, and using, Easter Seals-Now!

LIBRARY NOTES

Two new books added to the library this past month include, Pioneers, by Willa Cather and Two Years Before the Mast by Richard H. Dana.

"Tis said one of the first stepping stones to a happy life is good manners. The Library can help you with your etiquette problems as it is rapid building up its collection of material on the subject.

Did you know how we derived the word "Easter"? A library clipping on this festival tells us that Easter was deprived from the name of the Anglo-Saxon or Norse Goddess of Spring, Eostre. The early flowers of the spring are rightly Easter Flowers because they are considered by the Norse people to be the first offering of the goddess.

We miss you Miriam R. We hope the Flood doesn't get you.

Every youngster with crooked body deserves a chance to be straight and strong. Easter Seals help to give him that chance. These Seals are on sale now. Let's all buy and use them generously.

IMPROVING OUR SCHOOLS.

Frequently questions have come up about the disciplinary problem in our school. In my opinion I think that a demerit system would be practical for "B. C. H. S."

The rules of this demerit system would of course be made by the faculty. Under the system a more efficient method of "discipline" could be reached. Certain honors would be every person's goal. Demerits for misbehavior would keep a pupil from attaining these high goals. This would solve the problem for both teacher and pupil.

There are some disadvantages which are obvious. The advantages, however, would outweigh all disadvantages. If all the pupils would cooperate in a demerit system, we could make B. C. H. S. a very much better school.

Ruth West-Sr. I.

Let's "Open Wide the Door"--the door of Opportunity for BALDWIN County's Crippled Children.

FORMER FACULTY MEMBER HONORED BY GERMAN UNIVERSITY.

Friends of Mr. Charles W. Ray are much interested and highly delighted to know that he has not only been recently appointed official delegate to represent Birmingham-Southern College, of which he is an alumnus, at the 550th Jubilee Anniversary at the University of Heidelberg, but has also received a full scholarship at that university for the entire summer of 1936. There are three such scholarships offered in the United States. Mr. Ray is to be highly complimented for this appointment.

At present Mr. Ray fills a prominent place on the Faculty of Palmyra, New Jersey High School. With promotion he is to return to that post for work for another year.

Have you seen the Crippled Children Seal for 1936? A boy with his crutch is on the threshold of the Door of Opportunity. Your purchase and use of these Seals, at Easter time, will help him through that door to the care, and cure, and education that are just beyond.

Wanted: Some heart solder to mend Jacob Shivers broken heart. His heart collapsed when he heard Derrill Stuart was giving him competition with Myrtle L. McMillan.

BAY MINETTE SCHOOLS THROUGH THE YEARS

Bay Minette, which was moved to its present site on the railroad about 1860, was for many years important only as a trading post for lumbermen and a few farmers—an educational system was not even thought of for years. However, Miss Annie Byrne did teach a private school in her home on Railroad Street for a number of years. (The first public school, also taught at the old Thompson place, about a mile from town on the Brady Road, -- because more people were living in that area then than in Bay Minette proper.)

Some years later the first public school in Bay Minette itself was started, though some well-to-do families continued to maintain a private school. The first building was a one-room school on the old Daphne Road, just about opposite the present Forest Newton home. One of the earliest teachers here was Miss Hattie Trammell, the step-daughter of Mrs. Sue Trammell. (Here, too, Mr. J. S. Lambert began his long career in educational matters.)

This first building burned and the year following, school was taught in the old Masonic Temple, which stood on the corner where Clay Street joins the old Daphne Road. Mr. J. S. Lambert and his future wife, known as “Miss Lennie”, taught in opposite ends of the same large room. At the end of this session, a now building of two rooms, soon enlarged to three, was opened on the site of the burned building. Here Mr. J. S. Lambert, Miss Mary Byrne, and Miss Julia Stapleton (Now Mrs. J. D. Byrne) taught. Later another name of interest to us was that of Mr. Allen Page, the father of Mrs. Marguerite Hayes. He taught here for a few months shortly before 1900.

With the turn of the century Bay Minette made great forward strides, and the educational system kept in step. After the court house came to Bay Minette, the school was moved from the south side of the railroad to a new school, located where the town park is now. Both the lot and building were the gift of Mr. J. D. Hand. Everyone in Bay Minette prophesied that the building was much larger than would ever be needed—why, it actually contained six large class rooms, a belfry room (which later made a fine music room), and a large auditorium. The town's greatest pride, however, was the large bell situated in a cupola high above the building. The boast was that the bell was so large that it took twenty-five horses to lift it into position, and furthermore, it could be heard for more than three miles on a clear day.

With great rejoicing, the school planned to move into these commodious quarters in the fall of 1902, but a delay in the erection of the building necessitated the teaching of the first half of the year over Mixon's store (where Greer's is now). Here the principal, Mr. Blalock, finished the work of grading the school, and when the new building was first used the town had a school with seven elementary grades, and three years of high school. Mr. Blalock died shortly after the move, and the names of Ruffian, Greer, Holmes, and Yeasey as principals followed in quick succession during the next few years. (In the fall of 1909 Mr. Tharp came to Bay Minette as principal of a school which now had six teachers instead of the three of 1902.)

The first class, who named themselves the "Pioneers of 1904", graduated with a membership of three. For several years the classes were small, often no more than three of four; and once or twice there were no graduates—because without compulsory education it was so easy to drop out of school.

As time went on the school outgrew the building and an annex of five rooms was built in the yard. By this time Mr. Tharp, who had been principal continuously since 1909 except for one year, entered the Y.M.C.A service of World War I. The town should also thank Mr. Tharp for the lovely trees which surround the town park, for he planted all of these, as well as much fine shrubbery.

In 1921 the present Baldwin County High School was built at Blackburn Avenue and Fifth Street. It contained eight classrooms and an auditorium. Mr. Rowe Watson, who had been principal of the combined high school and elementary school, became the first principal of the Baldwin County High School, which had an enrollment of 132 pupils and a graduating class of sixteen.

In 1926, Mr. Watson resigned and Mr. I F. Simmons became principal of the rapidly growing high school. It was during his stay that our foot-ball field became a reality—it was later named Simmons Field. In 1929 the high school building was doubled in class room area, and at last all the Junior High grades could be moved into the high school. (Before this, seventh and eighth grades had been left in the over-crowded elementary school.)

Also in 1929 the new Bay Minette Grammar School was opened at its present location, under the direction of Mr. R.L. Harris. The elementary grades which had been left at the old building had now completely outgrown their quarters, so the new building with fourteen modern class rooms, an auditorium and a cafeteria, was a great boon. It was not long until this building was also overflowing and so many additions have been made that it also has been nearly doubled in size.

In 1933 when Mr. Simmons left, Mr. Harris assumed the principalship of both schools, and one principal has had charge of both schools most of the time since. Mr. Collins Cameron followed Mr. Harris as principal of the high school in 1938, and Mr. P.M. Mason became principal of the Grammar School. Two years later Uncle Sam called Mr. Cameron into the service, and once more the two schools were joined under one principal—Mr. P. X. Mason, who served in this capacity until the end of the second World War. Next, Mr. Julian Newman served as principal for the year 1944-45; then Mr. C.V. Daniels took over and is still with us.

During the last few years more additions have been made to both schools, until now the Grammar School contains twenty class rooms and a fine new cafeteria adjoins the building. The High School has twenty-four class rooms (though three of these are still sub-standard), and a modern home economics and agriculture building. The old High School auditorium has long been too small for either school or town affairs, so it is now used as a high school study hall. At present the High School has high hopes of five new class rooms that are being constructed just across Sixth Street from the High School and will help relieve the present over-crowded conditions. The Baldwin County High School, both faculty and pupils, are also happy to know that these rooms are just the beginning of a new badly needed senior high school unit.

School transportation in Bay Minette began in a very small way,-- in about 1924—with a private model-T Ford which was driven down from Red Hill each day by an eighth grade girl who brought a load with her. The next year a small home-made bus operated by the county drove down to the elementary school from the same community,-- and thus began consolidation in Bay Minette. It was not until after the elementary grades

were moved into the new Grammar School that consolidation began in earnest. The number of busses has increased steadily until there are now thirteen busses bringing 772 pupils to both high school and grammar school, from all over the northern half of the county.

Since early days such features as band, glee club, vocational agriculture for boys, home economics for girls, and commercial subjects have been added to the three R's and other classical subjects that were taught in Bay Minette's first school. Many special clubs, such as Camera, Science, Library, and Beta, now increase the special interests of various pupils, as does a well organized athletic program which includes foot-ball, basket-ball, and base-ball for boys.

The poets say "Comparisons are odious" but there seems no better way of illustrating the growth of the Bay Minette schools, which started in the last quarter of the nineteenth century with a one-room school and have grown to two schools containing forty-four class rooms, besides many other features already mentioned. The school term was only three months per year when Mr. D. C. Byrne (Miss Mary Byrne's father) became the first Superintendent of Education, and through his strenuous efforts it was of six months duration when he retired in 1900. Mr. J. S. Lambert, Baldwin County's very superintendent from 1900 to 1918, increased the term to eight months, and under Mr. Tharp's regime it has been increased to nine months. The enrollment has more than kept pace with the growth of the town, and has increased from a scattered handful who could be taught in a private home, to a present enrollment of 1430. Also, the use of books has increased from a few individually owned Blue Back Spellers, McGuffey's Readers, and similar text books to two fine libraries containing approximately 4500 volumes.

Thus in 1953, Bay Minette can look back with pride over the years at the great progress our schools have made, and with this tradition behind us as an example, the future should indeed be rosy.



PRESS-REGISTER

Former BCHS football coach submits resignation

School system continues to probe deficit spending at Baldwin County High

Sunday, May 20, 2007

By JOSH BEAN
Staff Reporter

LOXLEY -- The Baldwin County Board of Education unanimously accepted the resignation of former Baldwin County High School football coach and Athletic Director Robert Leslie at Thursday's special meeting.

Leslie was placed on paid administrative leave last month after a state audit revealed that academic funds were used for athletic purposes, according to school system spokesman Terry Wilhite. The board likely would have fired Leslie, but the agenda was amended to reflect that he had submitted his resignation.

Leslie's resignation topped a lengthy agenda devoted to personnel matters, including hiring workers for summer jobs and the nonrenewal of almost 200 nontenured workers, including Spanish Fort football coach and Athletic Director Barry Gibson.

Educators whose contracts were not renewed will end their employment at the end of the current school year, but Gibson's contract ends June 30, according to the board agenda. Classes end this week in Baldwin public schools.

Most school systems in Alabama conduct a similar personnel-themed meeting near the end of each school year.

Wilhite said Leslie's resignation letter gave no reason for his decision. Efforts to reach Leslie failed, and countywide Athletic Director Chuck Anderson directed inquiries about why Leslie stepped down to the coach.

Leslie resigned from Baldwin County High in January, after finishing 1-9 in 2006 and compiling a two-year record of 3-16. He accepted an assistant coaching job at Foley High, and David Wofford was hired as the Tigers' new football coach and athletic director in February.

A key player in a financial scandal involving Baldwin County High School's athletic department, Leslie was placed on paid administrative leave last month after release of a state Department of Examiners of Public Accounts report revealed that the school's activity accounts have a \$235,000 deficit.

Principal Eddie Mitchell was also placed on leave, and John Cabaniss was named the school's interim principal. No action was taken regarding Mitchell on Thursday.

Last month, the school board asked finance chief Jean McCutchen to provide an itemized account of the deficit, essentially asking for a line-by-line listing of what was bought with the \$235,000. School officials have said most of the deficit was incurred by the school's athletic department from 2004-06.

McCutchen's probe into the matter could be presented to the board as early as Monday's work session, set for 5 p.m. at Gulf Shores High School. Wilhite said McCutchen's presentation could be included in a closed-door, executive session set for Tuesday.

/name/p4.9Leslie

%%head%%Leslie resigns%%ehead%% %%bodybegin%%

8Leslie

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