

WALDRON HIGH SCHOOL
201 SPEECH ODYSSEY



IN REMINISCENCE:
THE CLASS PLAYS, SPEECHES,
MEMORIES OF SPEECH AND ENGLISH CLASSES
1977-1938

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WALDRON, INDIANA
1985

Class of 1965-66

Pages 209-221

Kenneth W. Sever

201 SPEECH ODYSSEY

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FOREWORD

As the years passed it became more imperative that we should preserve the astonishing antics of Waldron High School Speech 201. We could not stand "idly by" and allow those "immortal words" of the Joes and Johns, the Marys and Marthas, or the Davids and Dianas to fade into the shadows of oblivion. So the time-worn teacher decided to select as many quotations as possible from the speeches, class plays, and "adventures" of the approximately 900 remarkable young adults who "took" speech between the years 1947-1977. (He also included some reminiscences from his other language classes because they had their share of oral communication starting in 1938.)

Consequently it should be apparent that no other oral similar organization can quite match Speech 201 in colorful dialogue, vigorous variety, emotional excitement, or just pure enjoyment. So this volume is meant to be a tribute to the best speakers in the "entire system."

Therefore, to these endeavors we invoke the assistance of the Spirit of Oral Communication that he may inspire us to remember with pleasure and nostalgia the maturing times that we shared in Room 201.

INTRODUCTION

"You may say anything you wish as long as it is the truth as you see it and as long as it is socially acceptable, but remember - everyone else has the same right so he, too, will be heard, and we must listen respectfully; moreover, each one of us must assume responsibility for our words and actions; whatever we say, if we so desire, will not be repeated beyond these classroom doors." With this philosophy each speech class session began. Our classes stressed work and punctuality - open and free participation as well as open and free listening (excepting the times of hilarious and friendly pandemonium) - and even that seemed to be constructive. We tried to have no social levels - we endeavored to treat each person as one of God's equal creatures in order to develop him or her into the best possible individual - and to a noticeable extent we succeeded. Even the teacher received his share of sincere criticism, growth, and hard work.

At times the following statement appeared on our class play programs: "Speech Class policy for years has insisted that all Seniors who choose may be and should be included in at least one stage play in contrast to the very prevalent high school practice of choosing only the few and only the "best" after try-outs. At Waldron, for the past years, there have been no try-outs and no "best" prospects. Here we write our own play trying to create parts for each class member. So, if a cast of 47 seems unwieldy and the story appears to be

"wayout" and the comedy somewhat "hammy", just remember that our PRIMARY purpose then is to create a training experience for ALL - not just the elite. Our secondary purpose then is to entertain. Past years have proved our policy; likewise, we hope this year's performance will be rewarding and entertaining. Although our acoustics, seating, lighting, stage equipment, amplification, dressing rooms, rehearsal opportunities, and general conditions are unsatisfactory, we do appreciate working with the "best" teenagers and playing before the "best" audiences. So thanks for your interest and encouragement."

During and following public performances, parents and friends frequently commented - "I didn't know she (or he) could act or perform like that!" The answer - "Until now perhaps they never had the opportunity to develop their skills and abilities."

We remember with a full spectrum of emotion the smiles - laughter - pathos - ecstasy - anger - sympathy - pride - sportsmanship - love - tears - astonishment that emitted from the podium. We would estimate that in this time space Room 201 echoed with approximately 21,650 speeches in the "you-name-it" categories. The speech class membership included some 900 individuals averaging about 26 per year; the largest class was 52 in 1969 and the smallest 12 in 1974 after the administration and school board instituted policies that weakened the school curriculum, but improvements overcame the handicap and again the enrollment reached 29 in 1976 and 38 in 1977.

In this book we are relating primarily the story of the Waldron High School class plays including casts of characters, excerpts from some of the plays and related references; also we have included quotations from some of the actual speeches. We regret that we could not include all the interesting words that we have kept through the years, but that would have meant copying a file of typed pages over three feet thick - a real, live encyclopedia!

The Speech Appraisal, used in each assignment, rated the speaker on a scale of 0 - 9 in each of the following categories: introduction, clarity of purpose, choice of words, bodily action and gestures and posture, eye contact and facial expression, vocal expression, desire to be understood, poise and self control, adapting material to audience, organization of material, and conclusion.

Each speech required an outline which included the following: Construct a neat, complete sentence outline on this sheet and hand it to your instructor when you rise to speak. He may wish to write criticism. Type of speech - Number of words in outline - Name - Date - Purpose of this speech - TITLE - INTRODUCTION - BODY - CONCLUSION - Write sources of information on the back of sheet.

Some of the speeches were Personal Experience, Pet Peeve, Reading Aloud, Bodily Action, Pantomime, Speech to Inform, Stimulate or Arouse, Entertainment, Speech to Gain Woodwill, Drama, Eulogy, Heckling, Sales Talk, Emotional, Anniversary, Speech to Convince, Charades, Original Skits, Final Exam.

1965 - 1966

SPEECH Class of 1966 Period VII

Barlow, Pam	Hall, Chanca
Benson, David	Hoban Jane
Boger, Todd	Hurst, John
Brandt, Max	Laws, Gerald
Bullard, Paul	Leffler, Alice
Claytor, Charlotte	Long, Jay
Clinkenbeard, Glen	Lux, Nancy
Compton, Diane	McDaniel, Mike
Cox, Ronnie	Miller, Diana
Crafton, Marilyn	Reed, Christine
Dale, Joyce	Rick, Shirley
DeVault, Lana	Rosenfeld, Kathy
Douglas, Ellen	Sever, Karen
Fox, Ron	Spear, Jerry
Gahimer, Tony	Spurling, Larry
Garrett, Sherry	Tucker, Deena
Geise, Sandy	VanArsdall, David
Gilles, Joe	Yeend, Jack
Gregory, Karen	

This class was a challenge because of its variety of abilities and personalities - "never a dull moment." It required much ingenuity and innovation on the teacher's part to keep it "humming" - but the class play brought out the best, and that was rewarding. They produced 25 traditional speeches and some not so "traditional." Average final grade 87.

ENGLISH 12 Period V

Brandt, Max	Gregory, Karen
Crafton, Marilyn	Reed, Christine
Curran, Jane	Rick, Shirley
Douglas, Ellen	Rosenfeld, Kathy
Fischer, Alice	Sever, Karen
Gilles, Joe	

The small enrollment reflects the academic class "climate." It was a good class emphasizing English literature the first semester and advanced composition and grammar the second; the second semester they produced 36 themes - almost a record. Average final grade 88.

This school year also saw 36 enrolled in English 11, 8 in French I and 1 in French II - both classes were very good. Average grade in French I was 91; French II was 96.

The Rock and Mineral Club also met in Room 201; The members were as follows: Doyt Moore, Robert A. Hatton, Tony Newton, Miles Mitchell, Mike Pike, Bob Jones, Mike Sparks, Danny Weaver, Brad Tomlin, Kim Kinight, Fred Shelton, Bill Claytor, Terry Rick, Gerald Bettner, Max McVey, David Sorrell, Steve Garrett, Dwain Wright.

"Constant sunshine causes deserts." - Arab

GRIN AND BEAR IT
 A Comedy - Farce in Six Scenes
 Class of 1966 Waldron School
 March 31, April 1 8 p. m.
 Written and Directed by Kenneth Sever

SYNOPSIS

The Schmelling, Schmaltz, and Schmitz Perfume and Cosmetics Company in Metropolis, Indiana, under the direction of Otto Rudolph Schmelling, is an exciting nerve center "full of sound and fury signifying" Big, Big Business. When Otto grows weary of the hectic pace, he "takes off" for parts unknown, is lost in a plane crash, and leaves his last will and testament which disrupts the tranquillity of his disreputable family. When Otto's Indian hunting guide arrives with his "pet," events take a turn for the turbulent. Finally after falling from a ten-story window, fighting "wild" animals, roller skating to destruction, squirting perfume, and testing the quality of lipstick, the characters learn to "GRIN AND BEAR IT."

Scene I - Weather - Warm and Windy
 Place - Company Office
 Time - Morning

Scene II - Weather - Warmer and Windier
 Place - Schmelling Home Parlor
 Time - Late Afternoon

Scene III - Weather - Overcast and Threatening
 Place - Schmelling Home Parlor
 Time - Afternoon, Two Weeks Later

Scene IV - Weather - Stormy
 Place - Company Office
 Time - Much later - Morning

Scene V - Weather - Very Balmy! Or Balmier!
 Place - Company Office
 Time - Several days later - Morning

Scene VI - Weather - Not much change in temperature
 Place - Schmelling Home Parlor
 Time - Same Evening

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Otto Schmelling - Company President and Dad	Ronnie Cox
Emily Schmelling - Overbearing Wife	Karen Gregory
Fifi Schmelling - Spoiled Daughter #1	Diana Miller
Mimi Schmelling - Spoiled Daughter #2	Sherry Garrett
Gigi Schmelling - Spoiled Daughter #3	Lana DeVault
Tobie Schmelling - Spoiled Son #1	Jack Yeend
Dobie Schmelling - Spoiled Son #2	Max Brandt
Robie Schmelling - Spoiled Son #3	Mike McDaniel
Augusta Belle Ringer - A Family Reformer	Shirley Rick
H. Bates Legate - The Family Lawyer	Larry Spurling
Betty McCall - First Secretary	Nancy Lux
Esmerelda Rings - Second Secretary	Kathy Rosenfeld
Georgette Scribble - Third Secretary	Sandy Geise
Zerna Askens - First Receptionist	Karen Sever
Maribelle Anwers - Second Receptionist	Charlotte Claytor
Tony Mascara - First Salesman	David Benson

GRIN AND BEAR IT characters continued 1966

Fillmore Powder - Second Salesman	Paul Bullard
Penny Pores - Saleslady	Deena Tucker
Kempis Bumpas - Janitor	David VanArsdall
Nellie Kelley - House Maid	Chanca Hall
James VanChesney - The Butler	Ronnie Fuchs
Parker Penn - First Admin. Asst.	Tony Gahimer
I. Leake Shaeffers - Second Admin. Asst.	Jay Long
Brigidit Harts - First Bridge Sister	Marilyn Crafton
Trudie Queens - Second Bridge Sister	Pam Barlow
Esther Slamm - Third Bridge Sister	Joyce Dale
Marty Tells - The Advertising Agent	Jane Ann Hoban
Irene Paints - Second Advertising Agent	Ellen Douglas
Harvey Peoples - Personnel Director	Gerald Laws
Yukiyuki Sukarachi - Japanese Director	Todd Boger
Harakari Sukarachi - Japanese Director	Joe Ed Gilles
Sakilaki Ryukayaki - Japanese Director	John Hurst
Ludwig VonSchmaltz - German Director	Jerry Spear
"General Jackson" - THE BEAR	Glen Clinkenbeard

Ushers - Sue Wainscott, Christine Reed, Karen Shelton
Organ Music - Jane Curran

SCENE I Page 1

(Curtains open to show office of the Schmelling, Schmaltz, and Schmitz Perfume and Cosmetics Co., Inc. in Metropolis, Indiana, U. S. A. Desk center contains numerous telephones and mikes. Seated behind desk is Otto Schmelling who is hectically answering phones and calls and sales persons clustered around him. Huge world map in rear reflects sales campaign by flashing lights - which ring bell in office. Secretaries and assistants' desks are ranged at LC and RC. Janitor is sweeping floor.)

OTTO: (On phones, #1 left hand.) And Louis, don't forget to contact the Poppy growers in Lower Outergonia - we need their new crop - and (Phone #3 rings) in just a minute - (On phone #2 right hand.) No. No. No. Harry, how many times must I tell you - push the sales of "Woo, "Woo" this week and - just a minute. (On Phone #3) Oh yes, Cosmo, Yes, I know, but "Mist-in-the-Face" is our best spray, yes, no, no, . . .

. . .LUDWIG: (Bursting through door DL and charging in.) I haf come all der vay from der Hamburg plandt- und vot I get - nuddings butd vaiting, vaiting und zum more vaiting yedt. Why? Why? I haf der problem und I -

AUGUSTA: Silence, Dutchman! We are having a private consultation -

LUDWIG: Vooman! I come tree tousand mile to haf der talk mit Mein Herr - und no hausfrau iss goin doo schdopt me ydet.

AUGUSTA: Vell! Vell! Vell! Here iss und housfrau vot iss going to! Out, Rhineland! Out! I'm not finished. (Cane.)

LUDWIG: Otto Schmelling, do someding about dis vooman!

OTTO: Aunty, please allow my business to continue.

AUGUSTA: (Lifting cane and whacking him.) I'll give you just ten seconds to get. Now go!

Excerpts from GRIN AND BEAR IT continued 1966

SCENE II page 15a . . .

. . . SAKI: Ancient art of judo train flabby muscles.
ROBIE: If you don't mind, brother, I think I'll find greener pastures. (Starts to leave.)
TOBY: Here too, Please to pardon me. (Starts out.)
HARA: (Flipping Robie) We teach manhood.
SAKI: (Flipping Dobie) We change way of living.
YUKI: (Flipping Toby) We make you or break you. . . .
. . . SAKI: We sho you first action - Hizagsire-ate.
YUKI: Judo teach how to break fingers on both hands.
ROBIE: Oh no - I don't want my fingers broken!
HARA: Grab fingers like so and bend aback - (Demonstrates and then knee strikes jaw as he squats.)
TOBY: Yeooow! Help.. You're killing me - yeooooowwww!
AUGUSTA: And to think people pay good money for box seats to see a rodeo!
ROBIE: Gee-minnie! Ouch! On ho! OOOOoffffff! (Yuki and Hara pick them up and start second method.)
. . . HARA: We now show how to break grip from front that pins the arms. (They demonstrate.)
ROBIE: Someone call a doctor. I feel faint.
DOBIE: My sensations are nausea. . . .
. . . SAKI: Observe! The Tsurikomiashi.
HARA: We grab right ankle with both hands.
YUKI: And pull pupil on rump.
DOBIE: But I don't want to be pulled on my rump.
TOBY: Sounds too much like Humpty-Dumpty.
ROBIE: I've got a bump on my rump now! I give up!
SAKI: (Demonstrates) Observe like so.
HARA: We train Monte! the Tsurikomiashi!
YUKI: Maushiro-NoKuzushi.
DOBIE: You and me both.
SAKI: Hidarimae-Somi-No-Ku,ushi!
TOBY: Meshee gottie goie pretty soonie!
DOBIE: Meie Tooee. Meie plenty loosie!
ROBIE: Meie crawlie home to Dieie! . . .

SCENE V Page 25a

. . . ZERNA: (At DR.) Heads up, everyone! The three Schmelling brothers are on the way! (Enter boys.)
. . . GEORGETTE: We are about to show you the way we test our products.
TOBIE: Testing? But we came to inspect. . . .
. . . TOBIE: (Girls pull them.) Quit pulling, I'll come peaceably. (Girls and boys exit.) (Soon, sound - Hey! What goes on here - muffled words - WOW! WHEE! Oh what a test! Hey, that's enough! Gee! Boy! Oh Babie! - cut the comedy! - Boys with lipstick return - all shades - plastered over faces.)
CHIEF: Testing program progressing. Pale face boys makum good test. (Boys leave in daze.) (NOISE IN STOCK ROOM)
TONY: What's that noise in the stockroom?
FILLMORE: Sounds like the perfume is fermenting.

MARTY: Oh, that's just Ludwig learning to skate. He liked Nellie's transistorized skates so well that he wants to learn. And since he can't walk too well because of his injuries - he thinks transistor skating will help him get around faster.

GEORGETTE: Well, he certainly needs something. He looked more like a porcupine than a human being.

IRENE: The chief certainly hit the bull's eye every time.

CHIEF: Him chief big britches. Him got big back side. Him need reducing treatment.

(More and louder noises of falling boxes and crashes - stock.)

ZERNA: Sounds as if his back side is not the only thing that is being reduced. He's probably reducing the stockroom.

(More noise and yells for help from Schmaltz.)

LUDWIG: (Sails in on skates and races across stage to window - breaks through and falls - with sound effects.) Help! Save me! Ah, hellllllllppppp.....! (Sound effects of falling body and crash in street far below.)

CHIEF: (Unperturbed, calm.) Him big backside never be the same. Me recommendum this reducing treatment. (All staff rush to window except chief.)

BETTY: How horrible.

ESMERELDA: Just look at all that juice.

GEORGETTE: Red just splattered everywhere!

PARKER: Look's like catsup to me.

LEAKE: Shouldn't happen to a dog.

HARVEY: (HOWLS!)

KEMPIS: Down boy! This is no time to howl. Can't you see? He's squished!

ZERNA: It'll take days to clean the street.

MARTY: Splattered all over the buildings.

MARIBELLE: Just look at all those people.

CHIEF: Tellum chief what happened.

TONY: Ludwig fell 7 stories down to the street.

FILLMORE: Right into a truckload of red-ripe tomatoes!

PENNY: They look like the ones I saw in the hot house last week - hot house tomatoes.

MARTY: I'll bet Ludwig is in the dog house with the driver.

HARVEY: (HOWLS!)

KEMPIS: Down boy! Listen, Hammer-Head, one more crack like that and I'll call the you-know-what catcher with his little net.

IRENE: Poor old Ludwig. I wonder if he will ever skate again? He's lucky he's alive. That was some fall!

MARTY: Well, I guess every dog has his day.

HARVEY: (HOWLS!)

KEMPIS: Down boy. No! No! No! (Stomps foot) No! No! Harvey! Can't you understand? Howling just won't help. Now Relax!

(Telephones ring - lights flash - and every one goes back to work as Ludwig reels in DR - helped to chair by Parker & Leake.)

LUDWIG: Der Amerikan zivilization iss killing me. I'll neffer be able to look a tomato in der faze again!

LEAKE: Grin and bear it, Ludwig, we're just happy you weren't badly injured.