

Rex Thoman - In the Thursday night production in Act II when Mr. Morlock was supposed to cover himself with the blanket, Rex forgot to take his blanket on stage with him. When I discovered it backstage, I got the blanket and tossed it onstage to Rex who grabbed it and covered himself on the sofa and peacefully "went to sleep." Apparently the audience did not see the action. Also, during his speech to convince, Rex was expertly droning away without much expression; I interrupted him and suggested that he speak in a conversational tone using a little more vocal expression. He stopped and said, "Mr. Sever, this is the way I want to give it - I prefer it this way." And, I replied, "O. K. - do it your way - if that's the way you feel." And he did!

Norman Rouse - "Mousie" had difficulty in pronouncing "new" words because his elementary teachers failed to use the phonetic method in reading. So, one day as he was reading in English class, he came to the word "bough" which he could not "hear." He looked up to me, and, trying to help him, I suggested, "How does a dog go - thinking he would say "bow"; he thought for a second and said, "Ruff!" Nuff said.

I think it was Doris Mitchell who was demonstrating how to saddle a horse and ride it or how to dress for it when she said, "You take off your riding boots and everything!" Lady Godiva?

When one of the male members of the Class of 1951 was a sophomore, I "caught" him reading a real live-wire how-to-do-it Sex book in study hall; I took it from him and told him that this was not the time (in his young life) nor the place to be reading "inspiring" sex literature. He was most disappointed. So I told him when he got to be a senior near graduation time to come to me, and then I would return it - for then he would be "ready" for it. (Best sex book I ever read) So a couple of weeks before graduation he came to me and asked, "Mr. Sever, may I have my book now?" I gave it to him. Later it was a pleasure to have all his children in my speech and English classes. Apparently it was a "real good" book.

The inevitable comment from the cast after the last curtain in almost every play was - "Gee, I wish we could give it again!" In one play - I've forgotten which one - the character in Act I began giving his lines for the latter scene in Act III! (They were similar.) Horrors! What does a coach do when he sees his play ending almost before it gets started. I called out his cue for Act I - no good - so, I yelled it and he caught it and back to Act I we go. That was one of the coach's "darker" moments.

Appraisals by committee to select a play 1951 (REST ASSURED) - Rex Thoman - O. K.; Gene Goodwin - very good; Delbert Isley - you wouldn't find one that is any better; Elizabeth Keeling - a very cute plot, however I agree with a number of the girls that there aren't enough girls' parts for our class; Jerry Carpenter - Quite typical and realistic. I like it!; Kathryn McNeely - It's hilarious (I hope I get a part.) I like it because my boss's name is Mr. Morlock.