



Unseen Stage Crews Spark 'Our Miss Brooks' Production

"Where is that paint?" "Where do I go next?" "Give me that line again." "Do I have on enough make-up?" "Where is that bicycle?"

Such were a few of the many excited remarks that were overheard backstage Friday as the performance of "Our Miss Brooks" got underway.

Behind The Scenes

All too often behind-the-scene work goes unnoticed while the actors receive most of the glory for the success of the play. On the night of the production such jobs as prompting, student directing, lighting, sound, make-up, costuming, setting the stage between acts, and pulling the curtain have to be done on time.

Before the play ever goes on, there are the many jobs to be completed such as collecting the properties, directing the movements and developing the characters, compiling the playbill, painting sets, publicity, making and distributing posters, and collecting costumes and make-up.

Miss Winkie Harris, dramatics teacher, directed the senior class production with the help of student directors, Barbara Ann Moore and Phil Wheelless. Peggy Sexton and Carolyn Stancil,

prompters, were ready to furnish forgotten lines.

The make-up was done by Elizabeth Thompson and Gordon Wilkinson. Janice Gray and Sallie Ann Bartholomew assembled the properties.

Curtain Going Up

Eddie Pennington headed the backstage work. Assisting him were Nicky Shine and E. L. Daughtridge, lights; Garland Chick, curtain; Bart Ritner, Bobby Chesson, and Henry Thompson, sound.

Publicity in the local paper was handled by Kay Sanders. Bobby Fleming took the pictures of the play. The posters were made and distributed by a committee headed by Mollie Spruill.

Marvin Ward, as house manager, was in charge of the ticket sales. The business manager was Wiley Fisher. Barbara Ann Moore was in charge of collecting and wrapping the gifts.

Pictured Above

Some of the behind-the-scene workers are pictured above. They, are left to right, E. L. Daughtridge, Janice Gray, Barbara Ann Moore, Peggy Sexton, Sallie Ann Bartholomew, Carolyn Stancil and Phil Wheelless. Each of these students worked long and hard to make this play a success.

Future Revelations Show 1954 Class Doing Many Jobs

George Knight wrote to me inviting me to our class reunion next month. As I am conducting an important research, I feel that I can not leave Venus to travel back to the Earth. I wrote George this and asked him to please request all my classmates to let me know what they were doing.

Now four weeks later I am swamped with letters! Here is the information I gleaned from some of them.

Married Couple

George Strickland and his wife, Anne Proctor, wrote that they are doing fine in Canada. George is an engineer, building a highway between Alaska and Canada. They sent me the sweetest picture of their two children. I think I'll

send them a picture of my three.

I am so happy to hear that Wellford Price has finally settled down to his piano and now performs all over the universe. He plans to come to see me when he

gives his concert here next year.

Patsy (Ethel Barrymore) McAuley gave an audition for Cecil B. DeMille three years ago and was awarded a contract. I hope she'll soon be on television so that I can see her.

Senator And Coaches

Dan Capps is doing well as a senator back in the United States. He has done much to further educational facilities here on Venus.

The former Wilma Campbell wrote me that she and her husband are being sent here next month to aid my husband, the general.

After spending 6 years here on Venus and without seeing my classmates for eleven years, I shall welcome them all. Soon there might even be enough of them here to have another class reunion.

Kiwanians Choose Ten 'Boys'

As the end of another school year draws near and a review of the year's activities is made, it is well to consider ten boys who were Kiwanis-Boys-of-the-Month at sometime during the session.

Everyone in high school knows Baxter Savage. He is president of the Student Organization and as a junior he was vice-president. Baxter was active during the football season, playing tackle on the team.

Eddie Booth is one of those versatile students who is always willing to serve in any capacity. He is vice-president of the Student Organization, a member of the Edsonians, and has been on the golf team.

George Knight is president of the National Honor Society, treasurer of the state NHS and business manager for The Blackbird. George has been an outstanding student throughout his high school career.

Jimmy Davis is a member of the National Honor Society, and he has done a grand job in the Radio Broadcasters Club for several years.

Bobby Deans is this year's editor of the Hi-Noc-Ar. He was on the football team and has done well in baseball.

John Marriott is a member of the National Honor Society and the Service Club. He was a nominee for the Morehead Scholarship at UNC. John has been president of his class two semesters. He is also treasurer of the National Honor Society.

"Smokey" Joe Lancaster has been one of the most versatile athletes in high school. He played on the football team, was captain of the basketball team, and recently won the doubles championship in tennis.

Jimmy Selby is the Student Organization Parliamentarian, a member of the NHS, and has been outstanding in dramatics.

Freddie Turnage was president of the Senior Class this last semester. He has also been active in the Radio Broadcasters Club.

Theo Pitt is treasurer of the Student Organization, a member of the NHS, the BAFOS, and the Hi-Noc-Ar staff.

CLASS OF '54



SENIOR

Grads Peculiar In Numerous Ways

Well, seniors, your time has come! This is what you've been waiting for. In just a few days you will walk into another world. But that's another story.

For the moment you're dignified (?) seniors. Dignified or not, however, you, like everyone else, have peculiarities. What are peculiarities? Hard to define, isn't it. Some peculiarities are physical and some are mental; others are merely assumed to give one that distinctive—unique—individual touch; still others grow out of a person's genuine interest. Let's take a look at some of the oddities found in this high school. Who knows? One of yours might be in this inadequate but interesting review.

War Is War

Stan Leggett is in the latter of the three groups. His peculiarity grows out of his love for the Civil War period. However, Stan, like any true Southerner, resents the term "Civil" when referring to the war. No such was ever waged—it was the War Between the States. This reporter was severely reprimanded for his use of the former term.

Have you ever seen Nancy Hol-

Local Businesses

Give Chests, Keys

Two business firms, Heilig-Meyers and the Jewel Box, are among the groups that are honoring seniors.

Girls from Rocky Mount Senior, Benvenue, West Edgecombe, Red Oak, and Booker T. Washington high schools were entertained at a floating party, May 6, by Heilig-Meyers. Each girl was given a miniature Lane cedar chest.

All seniors received gifts from the Jewel Box through their parents. These gifts were gold keys with the insignia of the high school. These are being worn on necklaces, bracelets and key chains.

lingsworth eat? She'll eat most any old thing, but her favorite dish is soup and toasted relish sandwiches. Wonder if that has the same effect as pickles and ice cream? Sweet dreams, Nancy.

Everyone has experienced the thrill of being vaccinated, and most everyone managed to survive with no ill effects. Not so with Margaret Daughtridge. Her vaccination is a source of intense irritation. She can't stand for anyone to touch it. Pay up your insurance, reserve a hospital bed, and try it sometimes.

Shaking, Isn't It?

Jimmy Selby gets quite a thrill from shaking—just shaking! His reason for doing this in indefinite, but it is believed that he's either practicing for a Hokey Pokey marathon or affected by a severe case of St. Vitus Dance (or maybe it's itch).

Hair is usually a sore spot with girls. They've either got to roll it up, wash it, get it fixed or just comb it, and "Gosh, I just ain't in the mood." But just listen to this. Betty Sue Cash, in her spare time, rolls up her hair. Yep, she rolls it up;—takes it down;—rolls it—Oh well, you take it from there.

C'est la Vie

Most people like stormy weather but only in song style. When it comes to thunder and lightning there's another tale. Patsy Pearce and Peggy Searcy, however, claim to enjoy storms "thoroughly." Ruth Farmer's delight comes from walking on the beach in a storm. C'est la vie.

"C'est la vie" is right, too. It's life all right, but is it natural?

These few are not the only peculiar people in RMSHS. No, there are hundreds more. It is reasonable to assume that everyone has one (more sometimes) peculiarity and few have the same. This reporter has but one thing to say to all mankind. Beware the little men who aren't there—especially if they're in white coats!

'Varsity Vanities' Gives Account Of Class History

Shhhh! Everybody, quiet! The lights are dimming—and now the curtain rises on the Varsity Vanities of '54!

Act I "Freshman Frolic." What's this — two hundred and fifty-two children doing a tap routine. They look lost and are all out of step, but they certainly are trying hard. Now we have a dance quartet Elise Williams, Marvin Ward, Janet Spain, and Elizabeth Vann. Aren't they doing a good job of leading the group?

235 In The Hop

Act II—"Sophomore Hop" is a play with 235 actors taking part. The characters in this act are much more self-assured than those in Act I. The stars for the first scene are John Marriott, Margaret Daughtridge, Kay Congleton, and Elizabeth Vann; while starring in the next scene are John Marriott, Lloyd Hedgepeth, Anna K. MacDonald, and Billy Colston. Supporting stars are Edith Ann Johnson, Newsome Maples, and Richard Byrd as cheerleaders; Christine Huffman as State Y-Teen president; and Barbara Ann Moore as a young ballerina making her TV debut.

Act III is a four-scene play which was planned by Baxter Savage, SO vice-president; and Elise Williams, secretary who secured the guest artists.

Scene I, "School Days," a skit with 217 industrious participants, stars Margaret Daughtridge, Lloyd Hedgepeth, Ruth Sides, and Nancy Hollingsworth. When these actors go off the stage, they are replaced by Sue Gregory, Jimmy Daughtridge, Gordon Wilkinson, and James Chandler.

'Smokey' In Your Eyes

In scene II, "Smokey" Lancaster comes down the aisle singing "Any Magazines Today?" Judging from all the money spilling out of his pockets, "Smokey" must have sold quite a few.

Scene III features a chorus line. The girls are wearing rings with black, red, or blue stones and singing "Class Rings Are A Girl's Best Friend."

"Cinderella Ball," the name of Scene IV, shows sixteen beautiful girls, among them Elizabeth Vann and Sallie Bartholomew, singing "Come To The Ball."

Act IV "Hi Hi-Lights" is composed of the 198 members of the 1954 senior class.

"Here's To Dear Old Rocky Mount High," the first number, is done by Student Organization officers Baxter Savage, Eddie Booth, Margaret Daughtridge, Theo Pitt, and Jimmy Selby. Class officers Jimmy Daughtridge, Yvonne Churchill, Janet Spain, Freddy Turnage, Bobby Patterson; Betty Ivey, and Billy Colston are also in the scene.

"My Best To You," is dedicated to 16 superlatives Janet Spain, Elizabeth Vann, Kay Congleton, Ruth Sides, Margaret Daughtridge, Gordon Wilkinson, Sue Gregory, Elise Williams, George Knight, Jimmy Daughtridge, Baxter Savage, Theo Pitt, Jimmy Selby, Eddie Booth, John Marriott, and Bobby Deans.

"Hail, Hail, The Gang's All Here" depicts the Senior Party at the Country Club and the senior play, "Our Miss Brooks."

The next scene throws the spot on Queen Edith Ann Johnson, singing "Stardust"