Continuity Skits I-V 1964

Western Michigan University

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CONTINUITY

Stage organized as a TV studio
Bring in 4 boxes each with name of retiree on it

Skit I - to bring Dunbar to TV stage (Centerex)

Dark - One spot dimly searches for players - Track runner comes in with olympic type torch to light candelabra by piano. Stooges take places.

Stouge I - Let's get started here with the show.

2. II - Where's Dunbar?

3. III - Better call him

4. I - glockenspiel or chimes played - wait - no Dunbar

5. II - I'll phone him (take yellow phone book)

Opps! wrong one! (take pink phone book)

(looks up number and starts dialing)

Nuts - no more eight (dials again - long number)

Hello, I'm trying to locate Dr. Dunbar (pause) I'm sorry to have disturbed you, Dr. Miller, I have the wrong number (starts to hang up)

What was that sir, (pause) yes, sir, I think that the campus is looking beautiful (pause) oh yes, the tulips too. Yes, sir, a fine job. (pause)

Oh! (pause) Yes! I agree with you. Parking is getting to be a problem. (pause) You are thinking of building a parking structure. (pause)

I agree, Dr. Miller, a structure must be properly named (pause)

Yes, Wood Hall, was an excellent name for a natural science building. (pause) Oh yes, sir, Sangren Hall was the only possible choice (pause)

What was that, sir? You have a name for the parking structure? (pause) Faunce Ramp. Yes, sir that does have a ring to it. (pause)
I really feel honored that you are interested in my opinion, sir. (pause)
Yes sir, bicycles for students would solve the problem. (pause) Oh! you are interested in the opinions of all of the students.

That is very well, sir, but you see I am a faculty member, not a student. (pause)

Dr. Miller, Dr. Miller (pause)

He hung up.

Stouge I - Never mind, here is Dunbar.

Dunbar - (enters riding bicycle)
(spot picks him up coming from hall)
CONTINUITY

Skit II  Paul Rood

Dunbar checks his group, his watch etc, a la TV or whatever usual procedure.
Peacock fans out - Floor man gives exaggerated signal
TW3 program lights flash -

Dunbar - (Announcing program) That Was the Western That Was-brought to
you by the Western Michigan University Self Liquidating Center
on the north side of scenic Michigan Avenue, specializing in tasty
swiss steak dinners, smorgasbords, tall slender parfaits, and
german chocolate cake. Where else could your money do more good?
Dive with those who know.

Stooge 1 Paul Rood takes Tennis Championship
   ... 2 Edythe Clark granted permit for pistol
   ... 3 Honor Carter granted permit for pistol sets Oldsmobile record.
   ... 1 Abe Goldsmith re-retires
   ... 2 Carl Lindeman harvests Paw Paw Patch

Theme Song - That was the western that was
When the campus was all on Davis street
Two buildings made the Normal complete
And Paul Rood, without any feud,
Became a Western dude.

Dunbar - Paul has been here longer than any other faculty presently on the
staff. He is highly respected as a scholar, teacher, friend, and
athlete. In this respect he is the only faculty member to ever
receive an athletic award for being the most regular swimmer during
the Monday night faculty plunge.

Following are a few scenes which depict events that occurred
during his many years in Kalamazoo.

Now we see Paul as he first arrived on campus - fresh from
Albion -

Scene A - Paul walks across stage in clothes of that era, carrying a tennis
racket-
Announcer 1-
Say Paul, I understand you had a rather major interest as a student at Albion. What was it?

Paul - Tennis

Announcer 1 - Did you win?

Paul - State Champion

(Paul and another player pretend to play a game of tennis in background - Paul LOBS ball)

Announcer 2 - Look, there is one of those famous LOB shots.
(all eyes follow assumed pattern of lob)

Paul's opponent - Well! That will give me time to get a drink before I can return the shot. (exit both)

Dunbar - After coming to Western Paul continued playing tennis with many well known personalities such as Cornelius MacDonald, Floyd Moore, William Cain, and others.

Scene B (At this moment the spots turn to the audience where above mentioned and/or others jump up with tennis rackets and challenge Paul to a game)

How about a game, Paul?

Dunbar - Anyone else ever play tennis with Paul? Stand up.

(all faculty stand)

Scene C (back on stage the lob shot finally ends with a tennis ball dropping on stage while the announcer says)

Announcer 3 - Wow, Finally that lob shot came down - you can finish the game.

Dunbar - Paul not only enjoyed his tennis game but also his Model T Ford, his status as the only bachelor in the boarding house, picnics at Coopers Glen, the old Indian Trail, walks in the Botanical Gardens, and all the other fun of the Western That Was. We all know too that he has always been a serious scholar, hard worker, and an excellent runner, oh teacher.
Dear - Many times over the years one could see Paul returning late at night to check on some experiment. These experiments (same girl runs across stage, bare feet, blanket in arm - Paul with flashlight follows) have paid off too in helping Paul retain his youthful appearance.

Girl - And now a word from our sponsor:

Stage 1: Whormans (Romanso) Hair Spray by Helen Curtis needs no advertising. Its actions speak louder than words. It is the privilege of "Whormans Hair Spray Limited" to sponsor the next 2 minutes of "That was the Western that was".

Noodle in messy shop coat - pouring grease and water from jar to jar - some sort of electric charger.
Now faculty member - (introducing self to Paul) I'm new here. I've just been here 47 years.

Paul - I'm Paul Hood. I was new here 47 years ago.

Betty - But where are your gray hairs and how come? (patting bald area on own head)

Paul - I do a lot of research and experimentation. I came up with a secret called "Greasly Kid Stuff." (Dunbar play Grease theme song)
Later, because of some chemical research I tried H2O and a lot of VO5.
Then in working with electronics I switched to RADAR and now I am sure that I know the SCORE.

Betty - There are many things one can and should say to praise all the fine contributions Paul has made to this university. We are still in a dilemma --- should we say "That was the Paul that was" or should it be "That was the Paul that is".

In any case, let's give him the victory cheer of "That Was the Western That Was," and now to lead the cheers (enter cheer leaders) give the following cheer - audience

Hi - Hi Lo Zoo,
Western Ho...
Dunbar - All experimentation is not confined to physics.
Paul's scientific influence is felt in other departments. We now
turn our cameras on the East Campus.

Scene 1
(Huge pot center stage - dry ice on water making smoke - two
costumed in gowns and mortar boards -
Griggs and Weaver)
Characters - Decisions, decisions.

Stooge I - What's that?
... II - They're doing some experimenting at the campus school.
... I - What's in the pot?
... III - Parents, students, faculty, dollar bills (with each a
sign is dropped in the pot by one of the characters and
the stirring continues until finally BRAINS sign is
dropped in)
... II - Why those brains? We never had them before!

(Characters pull out a sign reading "ticky-tacky.)

Scene 2 - Four stand on stage in Ph.D attire carrying small boxes,
singing masks.
Elmer plays Boxes - sings and gets audience to sing - Ph.D's
Mimic singing - walk off ceremonially.

PROPS
pot
water
dry ice
4 boxes smoke
4 Ph.D robes

CAST
Griggs
Weaver
Schonhals

4 walk across

recording or Elmer
Dunbar - And now a word from the sponsor of the next portion of our program.

Stouge 2 For the filter that filters all that remains after the filter, we urge you to try our sophisticated king size holder for the cigarette smoker that was. Available in lead and brass only.

Skit IV Edythe Clark

Theme song - That was the Western that Was,
No smoking was in force
Bobbed hair labelled one coarse
Edythe Clark
Set a different mark

Dunbar - The smoking era at Western really began with Edythe Clark. She was a pioneer woman and her influence was such that today an estimated 90% of Western students and faculty smoke cigarettes. However, this is not to continue - today, cigarette dispensing machines have been removed from all dormitories and public buildings.

Stouge I - Is that why Edythe is retiring?

Dunbar - In the Western that was when Edythe returned to campus as a faculty member to begin the periodical room, funds for department supplies were even more limited than today. In fact, the natural science department, in order to obtain specimens roamed the campus and county "bagging" innocent, furry, stray, pussey cats-

As a result of these sorties by the science faculty, many cats venturing onto our campus ended their lives in the anatomy lab-

All 3 stouges - (Holding noses - turning heads away) Embalmed.

Dunbar - But the cats had one champion - Edythe -. It is reported that whenever possible she rescued these feline vagrants prior to their capture.

A. E. Housecat, named after A. E. Houseman by Frank Householder, was the most famous of these normal cats

Stouge II - Please, let's call a spayed a spayed. (Pause - if they are dumb like I am they won't catch on - then ...)
Mr. Houseman, Householder, excuse me, Mr. Housecat lived periodically in the first periodical room of the library. There were many other cats rescued by Edythe until one by one they totalled 25.

Scene 1

Cat Chant - 3 or four enter and move across stage with cat masks on face - white work gloves -

Chant following - move with a step pattern

- Hundreds of cats: lean bk, pt rt ft fwd
- Thousands of cats: lean fwd, pt rt ft bkwd
- Millions and billions and trillions: four steps forward - rt, lt, rt, lt of cats

It soon became apparent that the cats were not safe even at the home of Edythe. To provide greater protection for her charges Edythe procured a pistol and it is a well known fact that she slept with this pistol under her pillow.

Scene 2

Elmer - Strum and sing parody of Pistol Packin' Mama

(Project a replica of a pistol license on wall)

Chorus:
- Lay that pistol down Clark
- Lay that pistol down
- That's our Doc Kenoyer
- Hiding on the ground.

Verse:
- He was bagging cats late
- For Biology 209
- He heard that famous pistol ring
- And shouted out this line

Chorus

Verse
- Reading science fiction
- Lying safe in bed
- With her pistol ready loaded
- Right beneath her head

Chorus
Skit V

Dunbar - The next 7 minutes will be sponsored by:

Stooge I  Excedron - the candy tranquilizer used exclusively by Deans and Field Service personnel. (all 3 stooges toss hand fulls of small white mints into mouth - pass bottle from one to other)

Stooge III - In these days of conflicting claims, Western Michigan University wants to set the record straight - no scientific evidence or other endorsement has shown any organization to make a greater profit than Field Services. Let me repeat this message. Yes, the executive staff of Field Services each winter goes to no end to improve the quality of their product, to Florida, to Arizona, to California, to the quality bakery.

Stooge II - Now that Mrs. Boss is retiring I wonder who will stay and do the work?

Stooge I - Excedron will solve your problems.