

WILLIAM J. BOWE
1120 LAKE SHORE DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

December 22, 1980

Mr. Basil Talbott
1818 N. Orleans Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Re: First Lady

Dear Basil:

Here's the curious 1939 Nancy Davis Reagan
high school class book profile I mentioned to
you.

Regards,



WJB/ml
Enc.



Alumni Bulletin

The Latin School of Chicago

59 West North Boulevard • Chicago, Illinois 60610



Fall - Winter 1980

MEMBER OF THE CLASS OF.....



To Nancy Davis Reagan, class of 1939, go the enthusiasm and the best wishes of the Latin School of Chicago. In addition to the thousands of words alumni may be now reading about her, may we add a special remembrance of Mrs. Ronald Reagan, her senior profile in *Vita Scholae*.

Nancy's social perfection is a constant source of amazement. She is invariably becomingly and suitably dressed. She can talk, and even better listen intelligently, to anyone from her little kindergarten partner of the Halloween party, to the grandmother of one of her friends. Even in the seventh grade, when we first began to mingle with the male of the species, Nancy was completely poised. While the rest of us huddled self-consciously on one side of the room, casting surreptitious glances at the men, aged thirteen, opposite us, Nancy actually crossed the yawning emptiness separating the two groups and serenely began a conversation—with a boy.

The cast of "First Lady" has straggled in for rehearsal. In one corner of the gym two or three girls are desperately trying to learn their lines, but in the other corner, Nancy, with by far the longest role, is perched gayly on top of the radiator, apparently telling a grand story to judge by the vigorous gestures and the

hilarity of her appreciative class-mates. The group has broken up, Miss Magowan having pleaded at length with her uproarious cast. For the moment Nancy is not "on". She sits on the gym floor, her books spread around her, doing her homework with the amazing concentration that is hers. Nothing seems to bother her, neither the chatter of her friends, the frantic coaching of Miss Magowan, nor even Jimmy Stewart's handsome face grinning up at her from her notebook cover.

When the fatal night comes, Nancy knows not only her own lines but everybody else's. She picks up the cue her terrified classmates forget to give, improvises speeches for all and sundry. Just a part of the game for Nancy.

Nancy is having one of her days of confusion. It all starts calmly enough with one simple little question posed by Nancy. Somehow Miss Turner can't quite understand. The class, in attempting to interpret Nancy's subtle inquiry, gets itself confused; and, inevitably, Miss Turner herself becomes puzzled. Ten pupils, though themselves a bit hazy on the point, explain simultaneously. Nancy, now wholly disorganized, turns to a baffled teacher. At this juncture the bell rings, and Nancy marches out, convinced of the futility of physics anyway. At lunch time, however, the matter is finally

cleared up, for, meeting Miss Turner on the stairs, Nancy, minus an enthusiastic class to help her, understands the point in the few minutes required to descend from the top to the bottom floor.

We are fortunate that, in her Latin School days, Nancy Davis Reagan shared with us the poise, intelligence, and supportive qualities mentioned not only in her senior profile but in current profiles across the country as well. The Latin School is very proud to have its first First Lady.

SENIOR CLASS PLAY FIRST LADY

by

KATHARINE DAYTON and GEORGE KAUFMAN

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In order of their appearance)

Sophy Prescott	Helen Robinson
Emmy Paige	Rosalie Boyden
Lucy Chase Wayne	Nancy Davis
Stephen Wayne	Lilyan Neiman
Belle Hardwick	Marcella Sheridan
Mrs. Ives	Betty Gillespie
Ann Forrester	Catherine Handley
Mrs. Creevey	Jean Wescott
Senator Keane	Jacqueline Aagaard
Irene Hibbard	Sidney Meeker
Carter Hibbard	Jane Dubiske
George Mason	Ruth Clark
Jason Fleming	Becky Joe Hutchinson

Stage Manager	Lucile Coolidge
Scenery Committee	Lela Ellis
Business Manager	Jane Beckwith



Left to Right: Betty Gillespie, Lilyan Neiman, Helen Robinson, Nancy Davis, Marcella Sheridan, Catherine Handley, Sidney Meeker, Jacqueline Aagaard