



AUDITIONS

HSV Coronado Community Center
Saturday, April 27 @ 10 am
Sunday, April 28 @ 1 pm

First Rehearsal - Tuesday, May 7

Characters and Script Cuts are below.

No Need to memorize anything at this time.

Vocal Auditions - you may sing something from the show or just sing "My Country, Tis of Thee"

Dancing Auditions - (not everyone needs to dance)
If you have something prepared you may perform it.
Otherwise our choreographer will request that you perform some simple moves.

Damn Yankees

CHARACTERS

JOE BOYD – Avid Senators Fan

MEG BOYD – Joe’s spouse

MR. APPLGATE – Devil

SISTER – Meg’s sister

DORIS – Meg’s friend

DARLENE – Meg’s friend

JOE HARDY – Star Baseball Player

LOLA – Applegate’s associate

GLORIA – Newspaper reporter

VAN BUREN Senator’s Manager

COMMISSIONER (of MLB)

WELCH – Senators’ owner

MISS WESTON – Welch’s asst.

POSTMASTER

GUARD

LYNCH - Reporter

NATALIE DETROIT - Reporter

RADIO ANNOUNCER

EDDIE – Lola’s dance partner

BASEBALL FANS/YOUNG FANS

SINGERS AND DANCERS

Ball Players/Managers

HENRY

SOHOVIK

SMOKEY

LINVILLE

ROCKY

BOULEY

LOWE

BRYAN

MICKEY

VERNON

Joe Boyd, Applegate, Sister, Doris, Darlene

#4 - Devil Music '

(JOE lifts his head as though conscious of some new element and steps off porch Xing L and looking off L. Then he turns. APPLEGATE is standing in front of the chair R.

MUSIC OUT. JOE X RC)

JOE Hey, where did you come from?

APPLEGATE Good evening.

JOE (X up to porch) Who are you?

APPLEGATE A man who agrees with you.

JOE Agrees?

APPLEGATE (One step DS) One long ball hitter-that's what the team needs.

JOE You are right about that. You live around here?

APPLEGATE My name is Applegate, and I think we have something in common, a love of the national game.

JOE You bet. Care to sit down?

(THEY BOTH sit, JOE on chair L, APPLEGATE on R)

APPLEGATE Thank. You don't like to see the Senators in 7th place.

JOE Well they may pull together yet.

APPLEGATE I'm here to make you a proposition. Not only would you like to see Washington win a pennant, but your secret yearning all your life has been to be a baseball player yourself.

JOE (Crossing legs) I wasn't so bad in high school.

APPLEGATE Not so bad! They were scouting you for Kansas City. You've still got your spike shoes and your glove-they're up in your bedroom. (He nods in direction of the room above the porch)

JOE Who told you?

APPLEGATE (Leans forward) Would you like to be the greatest baseball player in all history?

JOE (Rises) Big joke. (XL step)

APPLEGATE No joke. You can be a great ball player.

JOE I can't even bend over and touch my toes.

APPLEGATE Try it. Just for laughs. (JOE shrugs and tries to bend over. APPLEGATE motions with his hand. Suddenly JOE can go down to his toes easily. He looks up surprised)

JOE What do you know.

APPLEGATE With my help a lot of things come easy. (Rise. He makes a sudden move there is a flash of fire and he is smoking a lighted cigarette) Do you smoke?

JOE Hey, how'd you pull that off?

APPLEGATE I'm handy with fire.

JOE Who are you?

APPLEGATE I am quite a famous character, Mr. Boyd, I have historical significance too. In fact, I'm responsible for most of the history you can name.

JOE (SISTER, DORIS, & DARLENE enter) Listen, I don't know what the gag is.

SISTER Talking to yourself, Joe. So you finally flipped your lid.

DARENE What are you doing out here talking yourself?

DORIS In the dark?

JOE (Looking at APPLEGATE) Talking to who?

SISTER It's a sign of old age, you know, Joe, talking to yourself.

JOE It is?

DARENE Is anything the matter?

JOE Uh. .. I was just thinking about the game.

DORIS WE went to the game yesterday - it was ladies day.

SISTER And I must say the hot dogs out at the park aren't what they used to be. I had the poorest hot dog yesterday I ever had.

DARENE Me too, it was awful.

DORIS Is Meg still up?

JOE No - she went to bed a while ago.

DARENE We'll see her at bridge club tomorrow. (They exit)

SISTER We just came from our ballet lesson.

JOE They couldn't see you.

APPLEGATE No they couldn't - an amusing little stunt - it was all the rage in the Middle Ages.

JOE (Sits) I think the heat's got me. You mean you really are?

APPLEGATE Can't believe it, eh?

JOE But that's crazy. It can't be.

APPLEGATE The world is full of crazy things. Crazy every day.

JOE Gosh. What are you doing here?

APPLEGATE Great events bring forth great men, Joe. They arise from nowhere - they take command. That's history.

JOE What are you talking about?

APPLEGATE I have chosen you, the most dedicated - (X to him) -partisan of the noble Washington Senators, to be the hero who leads them out of the wilderness to the championship.

JOE (Front) The Senators are in seventh place.

APPLEGATE Your powerful bludgeon and sparkling play will inspire the team to greatness. We'll call you Hardy- Joe Hardy. You will be 22 years old. They'll put a new wing on that baseball museum at Cooperstown, dedicated to you-the Hardy shrine.

JOE (Rise) Well-well-what do you want me to do?

APPLEGATE (Front) - Just leave everything to me.

JOE (Rise) My job-my wife.

APPLEGATE This is a big operation. Can't let things like that stand in the way.

JOE I just disappear, is that it?

APPLEGATE Very simple.

JOE And what happens after I stop being a baseball player? Then where would I be?

APPLEGATE (Laugh XL) Well now, of course, that's fairly well known.

JOE Yes, but-

APPLEGATE (Turns) After all, there's nothing unusual about it. How do you suppose some of these politicians around town got started - and parking lot owners.

JOE Still- If what they say

APPLEGATE Look, I've got something to trade here. I'm offering you a chance to be what you wanted to be all your life.

JOE In my business we have what you call an escape clause.

APPLEGATE (X L) This is not a real estate deal

JOE If I don't like it I ought to be able to get out.

APPLEGATE (Turns back) Get out?

JOE I've got my wife to consider.

APPLEGATE (Turns) All right, all right. I don't want to hear any more about your wife. Wives. They cause men more trouble than the Methodist Church. (XR) I'm trying to be understanding, but all this haggling. All right, I'll give you a chance to get out.

JOE Well sure in that case-

APPLEGATE On the 24th of September at midnight. I wouldn't do it, but I don't want to have those damn Yankees win.

JOE You can say that again.

APPLEGATE (THEY clasp hands) It's a deal.

JOE (Surprised) It is.

APPLEGATE And now the other hand.

JOE (Shaking hands left-handedly) That's all?

APPLEGATE Sure. What do you expect to do, sign your name in blood, or some phony stunt like that? (XR.

JOE follows one step) Come on. The team needs you, let's not waste any more time.

JOE I want to leave a note for my wife. (Into living room) And get my shoes and my glove.

(JOE exits upstairs)

APPLEGATE (Follows into living room, calls upstairs) O.K., tell her you're going to Little America, to interest Eskimos in split level houses. (Xs back onto porch

JOE (Comes downstairs with glove and spike shoes, puts them on the floor L. of table)

I'm nearly ready.

APPLEGATE (Rises) I'll call a taxi. (Applegate exits R)

Henry, Sohovik, Smokey, Linville, Mickey, VanBuren

Corridor under the stands of the Washington Baseball Park. HENRY and SOHOVIK

both in uniform are standing stage R talking

HENRY (Left of Sohovik) Do you have to sell insurance in the summer too?

SOHOVIK I don't have to but when I see a guy like you that's not covered, I get worried.

HENRY (Center) I've been uncovered a long time. I don't worry.

SOHOVIK Everybody should have an insurance program.

(SMOKEY enters R)

HENRY Next year, maybe. (X SOHOVIK to R) How's the crossword coming Smokey?

SMOKEY Very difficult.

(HENRY looks over Smokey's shoulder)

LINVILLE (Enter L. followed by LOWE, X R) So Ferguson give me the signal to steal, it was a pitch out and when I got to second, everybody was waiting for me except Ford Frick.

SMOKEY Hey, Sohovik, what's a three-letter word for a sticky substance?

(SOHOVIK points in his mouth, where he is chewing gum) Spit? No, that's four.

SOHOVIK Gum.

(LOWE, SOHOVIK and HENRY exit R. as VAN BUREN and ROCKY enter 1. VAN BUREN Xs IC with ROCKY)

SMOKEY Gum.

VANBUREN Look - Rocky - What sign is this?

ROCKY Hit and run, sure.

VANBUREN Right. Now you're still at bat.

(ROCKY takes stance. VAN BUREN signals again.)

ROCKY I take.

VANBUREN O.K. Now the Count's two and one. (He signals)

ROCKY I don't do nothing.

VANBUREN How can you not do anything. If I wipe the take signal watch what follows.

(He signals. ROCKY looks dumbfounded) You go for it.

ROCKY Oh, sure.

MICKEY Why couldn't you remember that last night, you could have cost us a big inning.

ROCKY (X center) It's not that dumb, Mickey.

MICKEY Nobody said anything about your being dumb, exactly.

ROCKY It's just that when we play the Yankees I kind of tense up. I kind of lose my head. I figure what the hell is the use.

VAN BUREN Will you listen to the guy?

SMOKEY Benny, there is something different about 'em.

VAN BUREN What do you mean?

LINVILLE Well, we don't make them same gofers when we're playing Kansas City.

SOHOVIK But they're something else, those Yanks!

VAN BUREN And so are you. I've seen it. Now, listen, all of you, that's what I'm talking about. Boys, I know you're not yellow. But your mental state is all off in left field. There's a new dawn out there, guys and you are right at the beginning of it. It takes skills, sure, but it takes something else too. Something that this country is just about to discover. Something bigger...

Joe Hardy, Welch, Gloria, Van Buren, Natalie Detroit, Lynch

JOE: Yes, Mr. Welch?

WELCH: Joe, Miss Thorpe hadn't quite finished talking to you. You don't mind, do you lad?

JOE: I'll do whatever you say, Mr. Welch.

VANBUREN (calling offL): Come in.

(REPORTERS enter, plus LYNCH, NATALIE DETROIT, GLORIA and APPELEGATE)

WELCH (X behind desk): Joe's feeling better now if you've got any other questions- (He sits)

GLORIA: It isn't that I've got more questions, Mr. Welch - but I don't think I caught the answer to the one I asked.

JOE: Which one?

GLORIA: Your family.

JOE: They've all passed away. I haven't any family. Nobody

LYNCH: What about friends?

WELCH: Well, he's got one friend I know of. Put me down,

NATALIE DETROIT: What about your friends back in Hannibal? Heard from any of them?

APPELEGATE (has been UC behind reports, now X down into group): If you will permit me to say a word. I happen to represent the Hannibal Bugle and I'm telling you right now that everybody in our little old town is just as proud as pumpkins of little old Joe.

GLORIA: Well, then – its just little old you and little old Joe.

WELCH: Quit picking on the boy, will you? He hasn't got anything more to tell you. If you want to ask questions, ask me.

LYNCH: OK. Do you think Washington is going to win the pennant?

GLORIA: When I swim the channel.

NATALIE DETROIT

And that cool air from Canada actually hits Hannibal!

LYNCH

Don't be so funny.

JOE

What's so funny? What's so damn funny about Washington winning the pennant?

NATALIE DETROIT

Well to start with...

VANBUREN: (Cutting NATALIE off and giving her a frustrated glance) Now Joe.

JOE: Who's winning more Games than we are?

LYNCH: Well, Joe, my point was...

JOE: I don't know why it's such a funny idea that we should cop the pennant. All we have to do is WIN games.

WELCH: Hear. Hear.

JOE (XU): I guess I talked too much.

WELCH (XRC): No you didn't. These newspaper people don't know what it is to have your heart in a ball club. O.K. we're not even in the first division. But strange things happen in Baseball.. We're playing like a new team. We're climbing-we're moving up. So you think what you please and I'll think what I please. (X to Joe) But don't blame me for hoping and don't blame me for loving this boy who's made it possible for me to hope. Now you can go out and put it in your papers that I say that we'll have the pennant sewed up by the 25th of September.

(Puts hand on Joe's shoulder) That's what we think, isn't it, Joe?

JOE: The 25th. The season ends on the 25th?

WELCH: That's right, young man.

JOE: We'll have it sewed up by the 24th.

WELCH: Now there's a statement for you. (He X to Reporters L)

APPLEGATE (X to Joe): How sneaky can a fellow get!

Applegate, Lola

ACT IT Scene vi: Billboard scene; LOLA discovered sitting on bench. APPLGATE enters R.

APPLGATE: Lola.

LOLA: Hi ya, Chief.

APPLGATE: Welcome to the nation's capitol.

LOLA: Thank you, Chief.

APPLGATE (X and sit L of her): Have a good trip?

LOLA: Perfect. The plane crashed in Cleveland.

APPLGATE: Good, good. Now how about that job in Chicago?

LOLA: Cleared the whole thing up before I left. I got the old boy to embezzle \$100,000.00 and lost it for him at the race track. Then his wife left him and he took to drink. I told him I was though and he jumped out of the window. Twenty-second story.

APPLGATE: That's high enough That's fine.

LOLA: Want me to try the Empire State on the next one?

APPLGATE: No Lola. This is a straight seduction job. New boy I just got hold of. I've done a terrible foolish thing - I'm really ashamed to confess it. I let this real estate genius talk me into an escape clause. I've got too much on my mind. It slipped by me.

LOLA: Dear, election's coming up.

APPLGATE: This Joe Hardy deal: 1 ...

LOLA: Joe Hardy?

APPLGATE: That's his name.

LOLA: Gee! They say he's great. Clarence just raved about him.

APPLGATE: Who's Clarence?

LOLA: You know- (Sire makes diving gesture)

APPLGATE: Look. Lola, here/s the tie-up. This is a mass torture deal like the thirty-years war. I've got thousands of Washington fans drooling under the illusion that the Senators are going to win the Pennant.

LOLA: Oh Chiefi that's awfully good. There'll be suicides, heart attacks and apoplexy. (Looks up) Just like the good old days.

APPLGATE (X Lola to L): But the key to the whole thing is ths fellow. (Points to sign)

He wants to go back to his wife. For all I know he's sneaking out there right this minute. (X L)

LOLA: Well don't worry, Chief, you know I'm pretty good at making men forget their wives. This is a routine case. I'll give him the standard vampire treatment. (Rolls shoulder)

APPLGATE: There isn't a home-wrecker on my staff better than you, Lola. But this fellow's stubborn. (X L)

Joe Hardy and Meg

(SISTER exits center. MEG straightens the papers and goes to television. JOE knocks on door)

MEG: Come in.

(JOE enters R, stands just inside door looking at her. MEG continues checking list then turns and sees that it is a stranger) Oh. Oh, I'm sorry-I thought you were the deliveries.

JOE: No, I came about-that is-someone told me you had a room you might be willing to rent. (Smiles at her)

MEG: Me. Rent a room.

JOE (Steps in): That's what they said-some fellow down at the corner. I'm looking for a nice quiet place.

MEG: My goodness. I never even thought of renting a room.

JOE: I wouldn't be any trouble - I can promise you that.

MEG (X R 2 steps): Well, I'm sure you wouldn't. But you see Mister-Mister-

JOE: Joe Hardy.

MEG (Steps in): My husband's name is Joe.

JOE: is that so? That's quite a coincidence.

MEG: He's away.

JOE (Looking down): Oh that's too bad.

MEG: Not too long - I hope. He had to go on a trip.

JOE: I guess that's why this fellow thought you might have an extra room.

MEG: I wonder who that could be.

SISTER / DORIS (offstage): Meg

MEG: Oh dear - excuse me. We're cooking for the Bridge Club, my friend and her sisters, from my home town. Just make yourself at home. (MEG picks up bundle of groceries from chair and exits. JOE looks over the room, crosses to his chair and sits)

JOE sings ...BUT HE'LL COME BACK TO YOU AGAIN.

MEG: (re-entering) I'm sorry to have taken so long.

(JOE jumps out of chair): My friends think it will be good for me to take in a boarder.

JOE I'd certainly appreciate it.

MEG: They are coming right in to meet you as soon as they fix their hair. I have a room that was my husband's den that we use as a guest room. It has a nice studio couch. Would you like to see it?

JOE (X step in to Meg): Oh, I know it's all right.

MEG: Better take a look at it. Oh, I'd have to ask you not to use the downstairs when I have bridge dub. That's every three days.

JOE: Oh, that wouldn't bother me. I'd be away quite a bit, anyhow. I go away for like two or three weeks at a time.

MEG: Oh, I see.

JOE (X to other side of chair): You have to live in hotels when you're out on the road and you get kind of lonesome just to be in somebody's house. That's why I thought... you see I was just walking around the neighborhood wishing I could live out this way.

MEG: I guess I see though you. You just miss somebody that you've left behind. Is that it?

JOE: Yes, I do. (Turns away) I miss somebody something awful.

MEG (X R a few steps): Well I know how that is.

Van Buren, Smokey, Henry, Vernon, Sohovik, Mickey

Act II, Scene I, The Locker Room

VAN BUREN: The whole town is behind Joe – parades, speeches. They know an OK guy when they see one. And so do I.

SMOKEY: Joe ain't done nothing wrong.

HENRY: Mexican league, phoohey.

VERNON: That wise Thorpe dame... she otta be run outta town.

SOHOVIK: You're damn right!

MICKEY: Joe's up there with the Commissioner right now, trying to clear himself. I bet the Yankees are behind this whole thing.

HENRY: Yeah, you tell 'em, They're scared of us.

VAN BUREN: Now listen. Whether Joe's with us today or not, you boys are going out there and play red-hot baseball.

PLAYERS: (ad libs) Sure-right- (etc.)

VAN BUREN: We're the best club in the League and you know it. Now when we take the field I want you to forget about Joe and go out there and fil the park with so many base hits those Cleveland Indians will thin it's the Third World War!

(VAN BUREN exits U L, SMOKEY sits L)

SOHOVIK: Benny's right.

HENRY: We got to forget about Joe and just think about the game. You can't play good if you're worryin' - I found that out.

SMOKEY: That's why I got this outside hobby-somebody give me a four-letter word for- can do it to an egg.

SOHOVIK: What did the Cleveland Indians do to us yesterday?

SMOKEY: They murdered us.

VERNON: Nix on that stuff. (X from R to L)

SOHOVIK: Beat!

MICKEY: Talk about something cheerful, will you.

HENRY: Yeah! Women

ROCKY: No Women. You forgettn' the rules?

HENRY: No. But I ain't forgettn' women either.

ROCKY: Benny says if we're going to succeed in the big league, we got to pay attention to all strict rules.

MICKEY: Well, he's right. (all assent)

ROCKY: No drinking, no women - no late hours, no women. You got to keep your mind on the game.

Welch, Commissioner, Meg, Sister, Doris, Welch, Joe Hardy, Postmaster, Gloria, Applegate

ACT II, Scene iv: The hearing

The COMMISSIONER sits behind Welch's desk. On chairs R to L sit WELCH, JOE, POSTMASTER. On couch is APPLGATE. GLORIA has the floor at rise.

GLORIA (LC): Well, I'll tell you. Because I value the good name of baseball more than I do a victory for my own team.

WELCH (Jumping up): Well, just because a picture in the paper taken four years ago happens to look something like him-

COMMISSIONER (Tapping desk): Mr. Welch-

WELCH: I know, I know. (Sits)

COMMISSIONER: Miss Thorpe has the floor.

GLORIA: It's not because of the picture. The picture only fortified my suspicion that he had a phony background.

POSTMASTER (Rises): Well, he never lived in Hannibal-that much I'll promise you.

COMMISSIONER: Not just now.

POSTMASTER: That paper paid my expenses to come on down here and testify.

COMMISSIONER (Severely): Not just now. sit down, please. Mr. Hardy,

JOE: Yes sir.

COMMISSIONER: Tell me- young man -if you were born in Hannibal MO, How do you account for the fact that nobody seems to remember you? Just give your explanation of that fact.

APPLEGATE (Rises and X DC): If I may interject a word. Out in Hannibal Missouri, comes this young woman, Subtle, sophisticated - she approaches this simple man here -

POSTMASTER: Simple? Wait a minute now-

GLORIA: Mr. Commissioner. I would like to have one question answered by this Mr. Hardy. If Joe Hardy was bon in Hannibal, Missouri - why is there no record of his birth?

APPLEGATE: You have asked a question.

GLORIA: I have.

APPLEGATE: And I will answer it.

GLORIA: Thanks ever so.

APPLEGATE: It will bring the blush of shame to your fair brow and a tear to many an eye - It was not registered because his parents were not married. (Bows head) I hope you're satisfied.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, yes, we will drop that line of inquiry.

(MISS WESTON enters D L with note)

APPLEGATE (X L): I hope this remorseless inquisition has now reached its climax and- (Reads note)

Oh, Good news. My witness from Mexico City will be here in 30 minutes.

JOE (Looks at watch): Thirty minutes! I can't wait. It's a quarter of twelve now.

GLORIA (X to desk): Mr. Commissioner, I've got to say one thing - I've got to make one thing clear-I've been jeered and abused because I wrote that story - but I didn't originate the rumor about Shifty McCoy - I heard it from someone else.

WELCH (Rises): Well, who?

GLORIA: That platitudinous manager of our young phenom - from Mr. Applegate.

(Ad Libs)

WELCH: Applegate, that's impossible.

JOE: He told you that?

POSTMASTER: What are they talking about?

COMMISSIONER: Quiet please. Mr. Applegate? Do. I understand?

APPLEGATE: That is one of the most dastardly misrepresentations . . .

COMMISSIONER: Just answer the question.

APPLEGATE: I was called here to answer questions, instead, let me ask a question. When my time to fight graft and corruption in organized baseball - why am I called upon with these fellow travelers?

MEG, SISTER AND DORIS (push through crowd)

MEG: We came here to witness.

COMMISSIONER: If you please -

GUARD: Just a second, lady.

DORIS: We're here with Mrs. Boyd.

SISTER: (loose from Guard): Hands off me, you Republican.

COMMISSIONER: If you please.

MEG: We decided that we should speak up.

SISTER: We're material witnesses.

MEG: Why, hello there, Mr. Hawkins.

POSTMASTER: Hello there girls, how are you all?

COMMISSIONER: You seem to be old acquaintances.

MEG (X to desk): We'd like to take the stand and testify

SISTER: We'll take the oath or anything.

MEG: You see, at first we didn't remember Joe, and then when I remembered him and I reminded the girls, then pretty soon they remembered him too. Hello there, Joe. My, I just hardly know you now you've grown up so.

WELCH: You knew him?

DORIS: We picked huckleberries together.

MEG: You must remember him, Mr. Hawkins. Don't you mind he used to come in and collect the mail for old Mrs. Peeper?

JOE: It's five minutes before midnight.

COMMISSIONER: What is it, Mr. Hardy?

JOE: I d like to go in the other room and speak to Mr. Applegate. (JOE start L. MEG stops him)

MEG: Wait Joe, he remembers.

POSTMASTER: Sure, now I remember him.

WELCH: I knew it. I knew that Joe wouldn't lie.

(The whole hearing room bursts into an uproar)

COMMISSIONER: Silence - silence! Quiet, please!

WELCH: That boy sat right there and let them call him a liar to his face and now by God, he's vindicated.

(REPORTERS start out U L)

COMMISSIONER: I don't want anyone to leave the room.

WELCH: I said to Benny Van Buren this morning, I said, "I know the boy-he's true blue,"-I know a loyal player when I see one. Why, I says, "That boy would go to hell for his team"

(The clock starts to strike twelve. JOE turns quickly to Applegate, MEG stops him)

APPLEGATE: You bet he would, Mr. Welch. That's exactly what Meg said, didn't you?

MEG: Yes sir, Mr. Welch - cause we didn't care what the papers said, we never lost faith in Joe. He may have come from-a poor family, but that's no sign of disgrace in this day and age. Certainly some of the greatest men in our country came from poor families. And the way it's turned out, some of the greatest baseball players did too. We three all knew each other when we were young back in Hannibal and Mr. Hawkins knew us, so when we heard about this thing, we couldn't bear to see injustice done and that's why we pushed through - although the corridors are so crowded, I just thought we'd never make it- but we did. (During Meg's speech the clock strikes twelve, the curtain closes, and lights dim)