

Remembrances of All Class Night by Dan Sell

When I am asked about the Juniata event that was the most memorable to me, my response is All Class Night. If I think back to those All Class Nights, the first thing that comes to mind is our Junior year. Usually when they do a flashback on a tv show, the screen starts to go dark, or it changes to lines or some sort of pattern to let you know that it's flashback time. Fortunately nothing like that happened in my home office just now (everything is clear and focused).

I remember that there was limited space in Oller Hall so we had to do costumes and makeup someplace else. We also had to store some of our props, which would then be taken to Oller when the time was right. Since I had a car, I was charged with getting myself, my girlfriend (now wife) Peg Bell, and Dan Deal from South Hall to Oller along with some props (I think one of the props was a large gong). Did I mention that we were all in costume and makeup? Peg was a harem girl, I was a palace guard, and Dan had a key role as the sultan. As I remember his costume had a dark cape with a big "S" made from rhinestones (for sultan).



Did I also mention it was snowing when we had to make our little journey from South to Oller? Now I can't remember if it was a light snow or the storm of the century, so we'll go with something in between. Anyway I remember that the streets were coated and slick. I should also mention that my car at the time was a 1960 Oldsmobile Super 88, which was made from about the same amount of steel that was in a World War II light cruiser. The weight of the car was a great advantage when going in a straight line through snow, but became a liability when you were driving on ice. I seem to remember the physics equation that big car / on ice = collision.

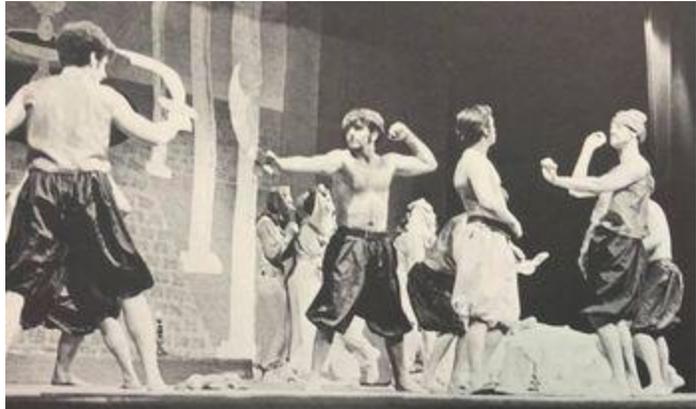
Anyway I had to park on the street next to South to do the pickup. After the pickup I ended up having to make a right on 17th Street and the make another right on Moore Street and come in behind Oller. Please remember at this stage I am dressed as a palace guard, Peg is dressed like a harem girl, and Dan is dressed as a sultan with a big "S" on his cape.



Did I also mention that I am a "townie"? I have spent my adolescent life in an attempt to avoid getting to know the Huntingdon Police on a first name basis. So I figured this was where all that was going out the window. I had visions that somewhere on Moore Street they were waiting for me, and I would get pulled over for some reason and be told we all had to get out of the car. I had this image in my mind of the police officer, the three of us in costume, and the gong in the middle of Moore Street. I could also visualize the police officer then calling every other police officer in Huntingdon (whether on duty or off) as well as

police officers from neighboring communities and inviting them to our ad hoc party with the phrase "let's see if you can top this" or something similar. I was scared stiff that I would not be able to complete my assigned mission and as a result our All Class Night efforts would go down the drain.

Fortunately none of my fears became reality, and I was able to deliver everyone and everything to its proper place. Unfortunately there were no parking places so I basically had to drive back from where we started, park, and then walk to Oller. Even if something did happen, I knew my fellow palace guards (Tom Mears, Lance Radbill, and Harvey Wason) would do fine as a trio without me.



My other memory of that night is - WE WON! Of course the after party in the downstairs room at Motel 22 wasn't bad either.