

Dress code kept '72 class out of trouble

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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"We're the class of '72; there isn't anything we can't do," was the motto of the 69 graduating seniors. Some liked to change the motto to "There ain't nothing we won't do." At least, when they thought they could get away with it.

Bob Jones of Jennings said, "We weren't a wild class. We were good kids."

The class was the first at Decatur Community High School to have Herschel Betts as the principal all four years.

If you wanted to buy a yearbook it would cost \$4.50 in advance. However, if you needed to make payments, a \$1 deposit would get it ordered and a balance of \$4 would be due on delivery.

Sports have always been a big part of school life in Oberlin – but not for girls. Title IX hadn't been thought of yet and physical education was as close as girls got to organized sports.

The annual All-Sports Banquet, sponsored by the Decatur Area Chamber of Commerce, brought in professional football player, Ray May, linebacker for the Baltimore Colts as the featured speaker.

Homecoming queen was Patty Harris. Her court included Jill Fre-

drickson, Ceanne Helm, Luan Witt and Karen Zimmerman. Their escorts were Doug Williby, Jerry Manning, Kevin Brown, Kary Anderson and Tracy Taylor. Steve Anderson escorted Barbara (Jeffus) Young, the homecoming queen of 20-years ago.

During the class's junior year, Oberlin won the state wrestling tournament. Of the six wrestlers who placed, four were from the Class of '72. Shane Boultinghouse and Kevin Brown took first; Kary Anderson, second; and Greg Lohofener, third. During their senior year, Boultinghouse and Brown repeated their first place finishes and the team took second at state.

Marilyn Gamblin and Janice Cundiff remember the strict dress code at high school. For boys – their hair could not be longer than the collar on their shirt. For girls – their skirt had to touch the floor when kneeling, and no jeans were allowed. The only pants allowed were pant suits.

Popular music in 1972 was, "Nights in White Satin," "Long, Cool Woman in a Black Dress," "A Horse With No Name," "Rocket Man," "Lean on Me," and anything by the group Three Dog Night.

Camelot was the theme selected by the junior class as they hosted the seniors for prom. Jerry Manning led the

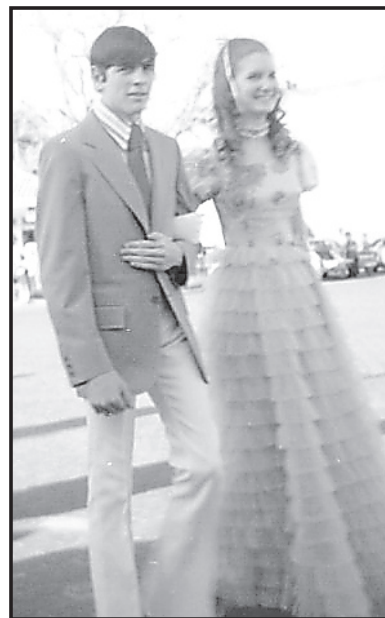


promenade and he was later crowned Prom Queen Jill Fredrickson. After the dinner and dance, prom goers watched "Kelly's Heroes" at the Chief Theatre.

The Civil Air Patrol was led by Ralph Shaw.

Kevin Brown was not only a star athlete, but an excellent scholar. He graduated at the top of his class with a 3.90 grade point average, earning him valedictorian honors. He was followed closely by salutatorian Mary Crawford with a 3.84 average.

The class of 1972 has lost seven members: Dennis Anderson, Bob DeKnight, Roy Faris, Dave Koerperich, Marlina Lawn, Steve Townsend and Leslie Walker.



THE CLASS OF 1972 posed for a group photo (above) when they were in the third grade. Classmates Greg Lohofener and Kay Harold, (left) promenaded down Penn Avenue at the Decatur Community High School Junior-Senior Promenade.

Foreign student graduated with '82 class

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When classes began on Aug. 20, 1981, enrollment was up by 12 students with a total of 238. In the spring of the following year, 52 would graduate as the class of 1982. That number included, Hans Von Oldenskiold, a Youth for Understanding student from Sweden. That year he made his home with the Elmo Lund family.

The Decatur Dictator listed fads at the time to include mini skirts, rugby shirts, bell bottoms, painter's pants, baggie jeans, pastel bib overalls, French braids in the hair and barrettes with dangling ribbons.

Pat Pomeroy said his years in high school were marked by sports. Football in the fall, basketball in the winter, track in the spring and American Legion baseball in the summer.

His favorite class was vo-ag. He said they had a lot of fun in FFA and especially on the senior

trip to Denver. The group went to a shopping mall and found a tobacco shop. He said they bought some snuff, but the clerk had to explain how to use it. He said he had never sneezed so much in his life.

During homecoming festivities that year, Carol Sullivan was crowned queen. Her attendants were Lori Cozad, Michelle Bader, Tamara Vaughn and Laura Williby. Kevin Wurm was king. His attendants were Schuyler Goering, Tim Bailey, Wayne Dellere, Todd Vaughn and Kris Ploussard. Patti (Harris) Pollnow was the 10-year queen and Sam Francis was the athlete of the past.

Evidently, one had to be flexible if he was a musician and an athlete. Mr. Pomeroy remembers when he and Schuyler Goering were freshmen they were both in the band. They had to be with the band during the first half of the varsity football games and then play in the half-time

show. Following half-time they would run back to the band room, get their football uniforms on and spend the second half of the game with the team. The crowd would applaud when they ran to the sideline.

Another memory of Mr. Pomeroy's high school sports career involves a two-mile track meet in Oberlin and his mother. He said J.T. Guy won the race easily, followed by Kenny Black for second place. But third place was between him and a runner from St. Francis.

He said, "We were neck and neck coming around the last turn on the last lap. It was then I heard a familiar voice coming from the stands. It was my mother yelling, 'Give it all you got Precious!' Everyone was laughing, even the guy I was racing. But I came in third, so I guess it worked."

Halloween general that year was "Sky" Goering. His captains were: Tim Bailey, Clifton

Hartzog, Charles Russ and Kevin Wurm.

The school musical was "Music Man," and senior cheerleaders were Jill Garver, Melanie Fidele and Tammie Vaughn.

Oberlin took second place at the state wrestling tournament with 91 1/2 points. Seniors wrestling at state were Wayne Dellere, 145 pounds; Todd Vaughn, 155; and Dan Schultz, unlimited. Other seniors on the team were Dennis Rhodes, Kevin Wurm, Keith Ketterl and Kris Ploussard.

The promenade was led by Prom Marshal Todd Vaughn. Schuyler Goering was crowned prom king and Carol Sullivan, queen. The movie "Psycho" was shown at midnight in the school auditorium.

Mr. Pomeroy said, "My high school days were some of the busiest days of my life."