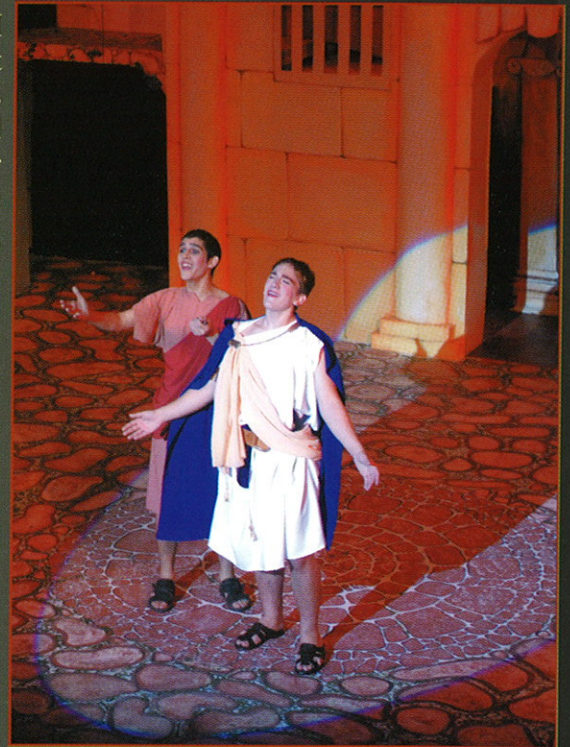


A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

BY GEORGE BULL '07

The moment that I found out we were doing a musical, I wasn't sure what to think. They are constantly made fun of, but the fact that they achieve a certain level of success has always intrigued me. I found the thought of myself singing, acting, and dancing highly amusing. Except not really the singing part, for you see, I had never sung before. Neither had more than half of the cast. Despite this, I believe that we did a great job. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let's start at the beginning.

Auditions were so much fun. The characters in this play, for those of you who missed out on the opportunity to watch it, are over the top. (So over the top, in fact, that we all wrote "over the top" on our hands for many rehearsals.) You can imagine this being every drama geek's dream, having the chance to get up and cold read for four or five parts that are just crazy. What was not fun at all was the singing part. We were required to sing a bit of "Comedy Tonight" as the chorus audition. In other words, the easy one, yet I somehow managed to butcher it with squeaks and gasping. I felt no embarrassment, no shame, for I had gotten up and done, and that made me happy.



After the cast list came out, I realized that we had all been more or less type-cast. For those of you not in on theater terminology, this means to be cast in a role natural to someone's personality. Anyway, when I found out I had gotten one of the leads, I was ecstatic. If only I had known how much work it would take, I would not have been so excited.

As we started, all of us had a false sense of security in how much work and effort we would have to put in. We thought that it was going to be all fun and games... it wasn't! I for one, never thought I could really sing. I mean, yeah, my shower head makes a pretty good audience, but to sing in front of a crowd? It made me dizzy! If it were not for the persistence of the directors, Mr. Webber, Mr. Granzow, Ms. Palko, Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Mullen pushing us harder than most of us had ever been pushed, we would never have reached our potential.

Being a senior, I am glad that my last large production was as amazing an experience as "Funny Thing" was. The talent simply oozed in all directions. I am extremely grateful for this experience, and I'm sure every single person involved feels the same way.

