

Robert C. Hellebush '70 aka "Monk" aka "Johnny Valentine"

Unfortunately, the years all blend together... but I'm guessing it was the summer of 1967 a friend of mine suggested I'd be pretty funny on the radio and that I should check it out.

The Parson's campus station, KCLS, operated from the third floor of one of the classroom buildings. After being accepted as a "provisional" DJ and given a quick course in the operation of "the board" - I was to commence my short but illustrious career in the 12 midnight to 3 am slot on Sunday morning.

The "studio" was a smallish room with the housing for garret windows protruding into the room. In fact, to gain access to the board, one had to duck under one of these protrusions and circle behind it.

The DJ preceding me finished the news at about 2 min after midnight... and I was standing in front of the board ready for him to duck out and me to duck in.

Unfortunately, after introducing me as "Johnny Valentine" and the "Valentine's Day Massacre Show" he left the microphone on air. Well, he ducked out and I ducked in.....

...but not quite as smoothly as I would have liked. I raised up too soon and hit my head hard on the protruding window box.... letting out a string of obscenities that would have made a sailor blush..... and, courtesy of the open mike, was broadcast out to the campus and all of Fairfield!!!

My only saving grace was that my time-slot audience was undoubted comprised of only my friends and drinking companions that I might have strong-armed into listening to me....