

Yesterday

It really does seem like yesterday that I was on stage in what is now my third favorite role ever. A few fantastic parts over the last 6 years or so have pushed it back a few places.

I'm not one to play favorites but let's be honest... some roles just hold more meaning behind them. It was either May 29-30, 1992 or May 22-23, 1992 (I'm sitting here looking at my mobile calendar) I'll have to look at my old Log of E to find out the correct weekend but right now I have a bat roaming the premises and an Aunt visiting from California who just arrived and decided to run and hide while she could ☐

Annie will always hold a large piece of my heart. It was the last time I performed on the stage of the old high school auditorium. It was the final time (and only time) Ma 2 directed a musical I was cast in. It was the best cast of the three theatrical productions I was involved in at EHS. It was this cast and crew that first gave me the impression that a group of performers could be so much more than a group who performed two shows (I still could have done so many more) and went their separate ways. It created that sense of family that only the best experiences can create and the first which I was actually sad to see end. Several of my friends were cast as well as my sister and two of my cousins and the experience only tightened that bond. And Daniel Francis Hannigan/Rooster Hannigan/Danny the Dip was the first character that made me realize that I am a serious character actor (seems like a contradiction in terms "a serious character actor"?)

I know that I have related the audition process previously. How I "nailed" the role of Daddy Warbucks but "could do so much more as Rooster." I just knew that I had to recreate that role somewhere down the line somehow. Even when I was not cast in the role in FCF's production a few years ago, I was not THAT upset because it would not have had the same

meaning as it did the first time. Although I did hear several audience members (many complete strangers) comment that the part was horribly miscast.

The wrap party was hilarious for many reasons. Remember "Coke II"... previously marketed as NEW Coke? Yes, this was my first and last experience with the beverage. I don't remember being as emotional after the wrap party as I was following opening night. Maybe it was sitting through the sluggish *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* that caused the tears to flow. "Ah, YES, I remember it well."

ANNNND coming this Fall... the 35th Anniversary Broadway Production. All of the orphans and Miss Hannigan have been cast. Alas... I am not a dancer which was something that came up this evening at work. There was a "Vault" photo in the Earth tonight of Aggie, Warbucks, Grace Ferrell, Annie, President Roosevelt, Lily, and myself which I attempted to scan but to no avail.

What a fun trip down memory lane!