

We arrived on campus in the fall of 1976 to a new Hartman Green, a brand new Steinman College Center (quickly christened the KC) and a concert by the Band Orleans and their number one hit "You're Still The One".

It was a world without cell phones, the internet, ATM cards and PCs. We could of course ask for time at the computer center if we had our punch cards ready and watched for "infinite loops" so as not to keep the computer occupied for an entire night. *The College Reporter* in its first issue of the new school year exalted that the new Centex Phone system would eliminate the need for the switchboard, make it possible to dial direct to any extension on campus and allow "three way calling".

We arrived armed with our electric typewriters and correction tape. "Spell check" was what your roommate did for you if you were considerate and got them a beer. Connecting to home generally meant a once a week call from the hall payphone that started with a rejected collect call to "Mr. John Marshall". *The College Reporter* also contained a solicitation for subscriptions that said "If you Can't Write Home Once A Week, The College Reporter Can". There was also the seemingly bizarre fact that the North Museum was located on the South end of Campus.

The Ben Franklin Dining Hall (SAGA) was also unveiling a new invention called the "salad bar". In the evenings there was The House of Pizza to satisfy our need for pizza, grinders and Stromboli ("You know where to go for the best pizza in the USA—it's the House of Pizza—535 West James Street" –Sorry, old suppressed muscle memory!). There were P.J. Matthews, Haydn Zugs, The Loft, The Stockyard Inn and The Lemon Tree for special occasions and all the fast food joints on Route 30 if you were lucky enough to know someone with a car. We also had Park City ("Nice enough to be a Park, big enough to be a City") to satisfy our shopping needs.

Across from Campus was the Armstrong manufacturing complex, a failed iron works and an abandoned ball bearing factory, as well as a Pantry Pride supermarket for those adventurous students willing to venture further than the adjacent Turkey Hill Minute Market. The latter was a great source for late night snacks and milk cartons for storing your LPs (what are those?) and taking your stuff home in the summer.

Life for most students generally revolved around campus and "A Year Abroad" is what happened to one of our classmates when he had to leave school to satisfy a draft requirement in the Israeli Army.

Nightlife generally revolved around Greek life, going to basketball games, the Green Room Theatre, the Hensel Hall weekend F&M film series and Greek life (yes, I know that I said it twice). During our time on campus, women were now able to join a sorority with the

establishment of the F&M chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma.

Music over the four years we were on campus included the Charlie Daniels Band and Southside Johnny and The Asbury Jukes. F&M was also the site of the World Premier of alum Franklin Schaffner's movie "The Boys from Brazil". Likewise, the campus also hosted former President Gerald Ford who gave three lectures to Government students and conducted a faculty seminar.

Sports were an integral part of campus. Intramurals were well subscribed and the Football, Baseball and Basketball teams were generally at or near the top of the MAC conference. 1979 was significant, as the Basketball team ended their season with a 27 and 5 record and, for the first time, made it all the way to Rock Island Illinois for the Division III Final Four where they placed third. (Quick, name the Five Quad Cities—answer below). 1980 saw a national second place finish by the Women's Field Hockey Team, the Wrestling Team have its best season in history and three swimmers, Kittie Callaghan, Trink Prinz and Scott Barry, and Cross Country stand-out Eric Holmboe, all receive All America Honors.

Of course, no history of our time at F&M would be complete without reference to "Three Mile Island Fever—Catch It". The near meltdown in March 1979 of Reactor #2 outside of Harrisburg resulted in the evacuation of campus and a second unplanned week of spring break. During our time away, many of us took the opportunity to catch the opening of the Jane Fonda/Jack Lemon movie "The China Syndrome" which looked at just such a situation and eerily contained the line "If this thing blows it could contaminate an area the size of Pennsylvania". Thankfully, tragedy was averted, and the nice glow on campus in the evenings made getting around for the next few months particularly easy.

Graduation in May 1980 was headlined by Academy Award nominees alum Roy Scheider and his film editor spouse Cynthia. The Real World was beckoning, but the blow was somewhat softened by the knowledge that tuition for the 1980-81 school year was going to rise by \$460 to \$4,950 and the residence fee by \$110 to \$1,800 for a total cost of \$6,750.

The Five Quad Cities are Rock Island, Moline and East Moline, Illinois and Davenport and Bettendorf, Iowa.