

While attending Notre Dame High School - I didn't only compete on the Track team – but I was also on the Forensics team and in the Theater department – which I absolutely loved. Our coach/teacher was Mrs. Eleanor Wise who always pushed us to do and be better. I actually still have some of the notes she would write to me!

Little did I know that the experience I had as a student in the Theater department and on the Forensics team at ND would serve me professionally 30 years later as a multimedia journalist and actor. I currently spend my professional time writing and producing television segments & shows, recording voice overs, hosting TV shows and/or acting in TV commercials; and, I truly believe that participating in Forensics and Theater while at ND and later in College gave me a professional advantage.

When I look back and think about it, Forensics and Theater both helped me to develop good communication skills, gave me the ability to learn quickly and correctly AND forced me to learn to be flexible and willing to try new ideas or accept new challenges.

Plus, the most important skill I developed, is being able to accept disappointment or a loss and have the ability to bounce back from it better, stronger and more focused and even more determined to get to where I need to be. Whether I came in 2nd or didn't place at all in a debate -- or if I didn't land the role I auditioned for and really wanted in the school musical - it instilled in me a drive to achieve and let me know that it's ok to not always win or get what you want -- because you'll appreciate it even more when you do.

I know I have a self confidence or "craziness" that I was definitely born with, but I strongly believe that the Forensics Team and Theater department helped me to nurture it in a positive way which has allowed me to advance professionally.

Those two departments are excellent training grounds or bases for virtually any job out there since the skills you develop are ones that any employer would treasure and truly appreciate.

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