HEN WE LAST LEFT THE CLASS OF 2015, THE STUDENTS HAD JUST A FEW WEEKS TO GET EVERYTHING IN ORDER BEFORE SCOPE AND SCALPEL’S OPENING NIGHT. DURING THE FINAL COUNTDOWN, TENSIONS RAN HIGH. THE ORCHESTRA Couldn’T MAKE THE LAST FEW REHEARSALS BECAUSE OF A MAJOR EXAM. SOME OF THE BLOCKING ON STAGE STILL NEEDED TO BE FINESSED ... AND NOW, IN LESS THAN AN HOUR, THE CURTAIN WILL RISE ON THE 60TH SCOPE AND SCALPEL PERFORMANCE.

THIS YEAR’S STORY PARODIES MODERN FAMILY, A TV COMEDY THAT USES A DOCUMENTARY STYLE (THE CHARACTERS OFTEN SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THE CAMERA). THE HEART OF THE STUDENT SHOW EXPLORES LOVE, SCHOOL, AND PRESSURES FROM PARTNERS AND PARENTS. ONE CHARACTER IS GAY, WITH A NEW BABY; ANOTHER IS A HIGH-ACHIEVER WHO MAY HAVE FOUND TWO PASSIONS AMID HER Meticulously ORGANIZED LIFE. BOTH ARE MED STUDENTS AND CHILDREN OF DOCTORS; THEY ARE STRUGGLING TO FIND THEIR OWN PATHS.

OUR STORY BEGINS BENEATH THE STAGE. ABOVE US ARE THE SOUNDS OF FEET SCUFFLING AS THE ORCHESTRA TWEAKS ITS CUES. HERE IN THE PREP ROOM, IT’S A FRENZY OF ACTIVITY AS PROPS ARE POSITIONED FOR DEPLOYMENT, WIGS ARE DONNED, MAKEUP IS APPLIED ...
AND WITH THAT, THE 60TH PRODUCTION OF SCOPE AND SCALPEL IS UNDER WAY.

THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CUTBACKS AROUND HERE. NOW WE DO COLONOSCOPY RIGHT HERE IN THE E.D.

I TOOK MY ONLINE TRAINING MODULE LAST WEEK, SO I'M GOOD TO GO!

BEFORE INTERMISSION, ONE OF THE "COMMERCIALS" ON THE SCREEN OVERHEAD IS A JOKE ABOUT HOW THE DATA COLLECTED BY THE MEDICAL CENTER FOR PERSONALIZED MEDICINE INSTEAD ARE USED TO CREATE AN ONLINE DATING AND MATCHMAKER SERVICE CALLED OUR UPMC.

I HAVE CHRONIC DIARRHEA.

NO ONE BUT OUR UPMC COULD HAVE THOUGHT TO SET US UP!

AND I HAVE CHRONIC CONSTIPATION!

WEAR, DEAR READERS, WE WEAR SOME BUTT AND POOP JOKES. THERE WERE OF COURSE OTHER JOKES BUT FEW WERE SUITABLE TO SHARE IN PRINT.

WOW, WE'RE HAPPLY MARRIED!

BEST OF ALL, WE USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF TOILET PAPER AS A REGULAR COUPLE!

THEN A "REAL, LIVE" OUR UPMC USER TAKES THE STAGE, REGALING THE AUDIENCE WITH HOW HE FOUND LOVE USING THIS MATCHMAKING SERVICE.

BUT AFTER A FEW POOP JOKES...

... MICHELLE IS UNEARTHED ON STAGE, LOOKING VERY CONFUSED.

MICHELLE, WILL YOU MARRY ME?

YES, DEAR READERS, WE READ SOME BUTT AND POOP JOKES. THERE WERE OF COURSE OTHER JOKES BUT FEW WERE SUITABLE TO SHARE IN PRINT.

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THE SECOND ACT IS PEPPERED WITH CROWD FAVORITES — AN ELABORATE **BOLLYWOOD DANCE**, A TODDLER IN **SCRUBS** (A GOOD-NATURED JAB AT ONE OF THE INSTRUCTORS), AND A **SCALPEL TRADITION**...

... **UTERUS COSTUMES!**

The song, “I-U-D,” parodies “I Will Wait” by Mumford & Sons, and features costumed students wearing **IUD**, **SPERM**, and **uterus outfits**.

**THE END!**

**EARLIER, A ’55 ALUM SAID,**

> “We had no idea there was going to be a 1956 [production], let alone a 60th anniversary.”

**SUNDAY’S PERFORMANCE GOES JUST AS WELL AS THE FIRST NIGHT’S.**

**IT’S SOMETHING THAT I’VE LOOKED FORWARD TO SINCE MY FIRST YEAR ... HOPEFULLY, AT THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY I CAN COME BACK AND WATCH.**

**THE WHIRLWIND WEEKEND OF WIGS, MAKEUP, AND ADRENALINE ENDS. TOMORROW THE STUDENTS GRADUATE — STEPPING ONTO A STAGE TOGETHER FOR ONE LAST TIME, TO GET THEIR MDs.**

**KATHLENE BABALOLA, cast. (ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER, EMERGENCY MEDICINE)**

**EARLIER, A ’55 ALUM SAID,**

> “My mind is set, and this I vow that no one in this town of steel can tell me what to do or feel and no one’s gonna bring MEEEEEE DOWWWWN!”

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**THE END!**