



The nerds win out over the jocks in "Revenge of the Nerds." Ted McGinty is a Big Man on Campus, Julie Montgomery his girlfriend and Robert Carradine, a nerd with charisma.

Frat man plays a jock vs. nerds

By Ethel Gimmona
staff writer

Being president of the Inter-Fraternity Council at the University of Arizona circuitously led to a movie role this spring for Andy Sallan of Bloomfield Hills.

When "Revenge of the Nerds" opens at Detroit-area theaters Friday, the college senior will be appearing as one of the jocks, traditional campus heroes who eventually get their comeuppance from the nerds, who until now have been all-time campus losers.

Ever since computers took over American learning and lifestyle, the nerds, with their untidy clothes, haircuts, interests and manners have gained ground. When a film company decided to make a movie about the nerds becoming B.M.O.C. (Big Man on Campus), using the U of Arizona as background, frat man Sallan was the student they consulted to make sure they would present a non-offensive interpretation of fraternity life.

Sallan, who will be a senior in the fall, is studying computers or accounting — which might make him sound like somewhat of a nerd — but he ended up being asked to portray a jock. "They needed a big tall fellow," Sallan said over the phone from his Bloomfield Hills home. "I'm six foot four. I went in for an audition and got the job."

JOCKS WORKED four out of the six weeks the film was shot at the university. It didn't rain once during the filming — good weather conditions being one of the reasons for choosing the setting.

"I just saw the film this weekend, visiting my sister in New York. I think it turned out really, really funny. The crowd was going crazy. They really got behind the nerds."

Sallan said three professional actors played the three primary jocks. He and four or five other guys were in all the jock scenes. Although Sallan doesn't have a speaking part, he does get noticed in one scene where the jocks

throw "a crazy-type 'Animal House' party and Donald Gibb (who plays Ogre) drinks beer from a big trophy cup and hands it to me."

In another scene, when an actor jumps from stairs into a pool of beer, "I'm watching and cheering."

Besides his hard work and fun as an extra, Sallan also received three units of drama credit, as independent study, for the film. In addition, he was paid \$1,500 for his stint.

THREE-THOUSAND people worked as extras during the filming. Twenty were jocks, nerds and some of the sorority people, he said.

Proving he's no nerd, early on Sallan learned that while he and some others were being paid minimum wage of \$3.35 an hour, Hollywood extras made \$25 a day.

"I got the rest of the jocks, some girls and nerds together other and told them we're being treated unfairly. I told the producers, who said they weren't going to do anything about it. I said, 'If you don't do anything, we don't do anything.'"

The threat of walking off the set resulted in their wages being renegotiated, and these extras were paid \$250 a week.

Sallan said there were no repercussions from their complaint. "I was like a technical adviser to some degree. One of the guys who wrote the script was an alumnus of my fraternity (Zeta Beta Tau) at another school," Sallan had established a rapport with the scriptwriter, which helped smooth the way for his salary talks.

The cast of "Revenge of the Nerds" is headed by Robert Carradine and Anthony Edwards. Actor Curtis Armstrong, who plays a nerd named Booger, has performed in professional theatrical productions throughout metropolitan Detroit. He attended the Academy of Dramatic Art at Oakland University near Rochester.

First-time actor Sallan is a 1982 graduate of Southfield-Lathrup High School.

upcoming things to do

● TV MOVIE

"Word of Honor," the CBS-TV movie filmed four years ago, will be seen again on the network at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. The film was shot on location in Plymouth and other parts of metro Detroit including the Birmingham-Bloomfield area. Karl Malden stars in the production, which also features many local actors. A cast reunion party, open to the public, is being held Wednesday, Aug. 15, at the Mayflower Meeting House in Plymouth. Admission is \$5. Cocktails at 7:30 p.m. precede the movie. Proceeds go toward the Centennial Educational Park Journalism Scholarship. Tickets are available at the Mayflower Hotel or office of the Plymouth Observer.

● GARDEN PARTY

The Sheila Landis Duo, jazz guitars and vocals, will be presented at Diamond Jim Brady's Garden Party 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, at the Prudential Town Center indoor garden in Southfield. Cocktails, beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres are served at the weekly parties. Other attractions this month will be Suzi Woodman and Bruce Hambricht on keyboard, guitar and vocals, Aug. 22, and Wind Chill Factor, Aug. 29. There is no admission charge.

● MUSICAL 'ANNIE'

West Bloomfield resident Rob Leider, who teach-

es at West Bloomfield High School, is directing the Huron Valley Community Theater production of the musical "Annie" at 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Aug. 10-11, 17-18 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, at Lakeland High School on Bogie Lake Road in Milford. The cast includes Lita Porter, who lives and works in West Bloomfield, as Miss Hannigan. For ticket information, call 887-1522.

● ZONJIC PLAYS

Jazz flutist plays nightly through Friday, Aug. 10, at Mountain Jack's, 2182 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. His album "Elegant Evening" is distributed nationally by Inner City Records of New York. Zonjic and his Quintet also will perform at noon Friday, Aug. 10, at Northland Mall in Southfield.

● OLDIES CLUB

Roberts, a five-piece band that includes Johnny Rivers and Beatles tunes among its specialties, continues from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. nightly through Saturday, Aug. 11, at Yesterday's Classic Oldies Club at the Sheraton-Southfield Hotel in Southfield. Other groups coming to the club are Northern Lights, a band from Kansas City with a female lead singer, appearing Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 14-18, and Wall Street, a four-piece, male, classic oldies band, Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25.

Attic reopens show

The Attic Theatre's current production of "Strider," a musical fable adapted from a story by Tolstoy, will reopen at 8 p.m. Friday at the Fox Theatre in downtown Detroit.

The theater has moved out of its Greektown location, temporarily, after a recent fire at the building. Tickets for "Strider" are available by calling the box office at 963-7789.

"Strider" is scheduled to close Sunday, Aug. 26, but the run may be extended.

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Soupy stars in concert

Comedian Soupy Sales, whose "Lunch With Soupy" show was a metro-Detroit hit before he became a network star, will present his own comedy concert at 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Royal Oak Theatre.

The show opens with 50 minutes of footage from Soupy's lunchtime kids' show, including outrageous outtakes (one with a nude woman), as well as many routines that aired with White Fang and Black Toads. Soupy will be seen doing his famous Soupy Shuffles and trading pies in the face with such stars as Sammy Davis Jr. and Frank Sinatra.

The live portion of "An Evening with Soupy Sales" will feature Soupy himself, in a 40-minute routine. At a press conference Tuesday in Southfield, Soupy said he has been hit with more than 50,000 cream pies during his career. In his previous days, "I used to look like Cary Grant," he claimed.

Soupy said he has just sold his first screenplay to the movies and has written a part for himself in the script. The comic, who has been playing clubs in Britain to his profit, will perform a special concert, which he will perform a couple of weeks ago at the Royal Oak Theatre in New York.

At the press conference, Soupy, who is 54, was wearing a white jacket.



Soupy Sales will give two shows Saturday at the Royal Oak Theatre.

"I look like a tabernacle," he said. "If I bond over, I expect a waiter to set a table for four and put a bottle of champagne on me."

Concert tickets at \$10.50 in advance, \$12 the day of the show, are available at Ticket World outlets and the Royal Oak Theatre box office.

— Ethel Gimmona