

## Queens of Slippery Rock Interview

Anna - Interviewer

Jennifer - Interviewee

Anna: Alright, this is Anna Swartwout here with—

Jennifer: Jennifer Frick (SP Check)

A: For the queens of Slippery Rock Oral History project. So before we start, can we get a little biography of what you did at school, what your majors/minors were, hometown.

J: Yeah, I'm from Johnstown, PA and during my time here, I was an English major and I had minors in Writing and Business Administration. I was a member of the Delta Zeta sorority and that is actually who nominated me to be on the Homecoming court.

A: Oh, that's awesome. So what did homecoming queen mean to you then and what does it mean to you now?

J: I would say then it was something that was a little bit of stretch for me and it pushed me out of my comfort zone a little bit just to be in front of so many people and have the responsibility to represent the school in a really positive way. I think looking back now some of my fondest memories are from Slippery Rock, and it was really a place where I came into my own a little bit and I think it was just a really nice experience that makes me just think about the school and just feel comfortable and I like coming back to be able to be part of the experience again.

A: That's awesome, yeah. Can you tell us a little bit about your campaign or did you not- was there much campaigning?

J: I actually don't remember campaigning. I remember getting nominated by my sorority and then I had to interview. I remember I interviewed with some members of the university, faculty, staff, and students. And then I remember maybe just doing a couple little things around campus, but I don't remember there being much of something that we had to do or push for.

A: What was the hardest part about running?

J: You know, honestly, it wasn't really all that hard. Again, I think that it just pushed me out of my comfort zone a little bit to be a representative of the school and to think about how all the things I was doing would impact the university. Just those kinds of things.

A: Yeah. Before the election, what did you think your chances of winning were?

J: I didn't think I was going to win at all. I was really surprised when they called my name. So, I don't know. I know that I had-because I was Greek that I knew a lot of people in the Greek system and I thought "They'll probably vote for me in some capacity if they know me," because I knew a lot of people through that, and I was also an Orientation group leader so that was something where I got to meet a

lot of new students that were coming in. But I honestly didn't think I was going to win, so I was really really surprised when they called me name.

A: Did you encounter any stigma around the title of Homecoming Queen or any of the process?

J: I really didn't. I was really, guess, lucky on that capacity, but it was all really positive for me.

A: Why do you think that you won?

J: I don't know if I have an answer to that. I mean, part of me would say that maybe I just knew a lot of people and I think that was helpful. I think that my sorority sisters lobbied a lot on my behalf. I think that I had a lot good and supportive friends from some of the networks I had, but I'm not really sure.

A: What did you family about your victory?

J: I don't know. I don't honestly remember their reaction! Yeah, I don't know if I could say much to that one since it's been twenty years!

A: What was your experience with college after you won? Had it changed at all?

J: I don't know that it really did, honestly. I think that maybe I got to meet some more people because more people knew who I was, but I don't really remember having a different experience.

A: Have you come back for any later Homecomings until now? Do you come back often?

J: I try to come back every few years. I came back last year when the weather so terrible, but it was nice to see some old friends. I think some of it just depends on a lot of the people that I graduated with and what they've been up to and if we're able to get a good group of people put together. I think that makes a difference, just having people that you're a bit more comfortable with but also are people that you want to have those shared experiences with again.

A: Would it be an incentive for you to come back more if there was a ceremony or if there was just something honoring the homecoming queens?

J: I think so. I think it's always nice to just come back and enjoy the experience again.

A: Alright. Thank you so much.