# Loaded Questions

Last night, after doing a nine hour shift in the salt mines, I went to a WAY long overdue game night. We even had a new very fun couple participate. For some reason, they decided to play one of my favorite games without yours truly. Why was that? I a no understand. I did arrive in time to join in another game in which you show your knowledge of the people participating around you. One of the questions asked of everyone was "What is the most embarrassing thing that you own?" I won't go into detail on some of the other answers, but I received a pair of Spongebob Squarepants pajama pants from my nephew a few years ago. Not necessarily my most embarrassing thing, but that is all I could come up with at the time. I even wore them in my performance as a rather disturbed patient in The Clinic a couple of seasons ago. Ironically, some of the other players had recently watched a recording of the show so my response was easily guessed. I was pleasantly impressed with the guesses I made on my question "What one thing would you take to a party?" I matched 4 responses to the correct people… not tooo bad… I know half of them well. So… anyone own any mentionable items they may wish not to own… unlike one of the responses at the game table?

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# Numb What?!

Today while preparing to watch the latest in what seems like daily thunderstorms, I was watching a taped broadcast of the National Spelling Bee. One of the funniest moments of any bee I have ever seen was in the 9th round. Sameer Mishra from West Lafayette, Indiana was given the word *numnah*. The 13 year-old

eight grader mispronounced the word and said “numnut.” Not only did I start to laugh, the entire television audience cracked up and stopped the whole thing for 30 seconds. Upon reflection, the young man quickly recovered and a light bulb seemed to come on. *OH…. Numnah!!!* And he proceeded to correctly spell the word and eventually become crowned National Spelling Bee Champion with the word *guerdon. (and if you would like the definition, language of origin, etc. I am not giving them to you> I would hate to spoil a good game of Balderdash)*.

My own association with the Bee began in the 5th grade. I was runner-up to a 6th grade girl. We battled each other through (I believe 8 rounds) before I unfortunately misspelled *illegible*. I do remember my class giving me a surprise party a few days after the bee.

My six grade year, I did not fare as well. I incorrectly spelled *pajamas*. I knew as soon as I said “g” and not “j.” In hindsight, if I had just slid that last sound to an “a” instead of “e”.

I do not remember my seventh grade experience. However, I was finally victorious my 8th grade year and progressed to our county bee. I do not remember where I finished there, either.

In last year’s competition, an eighth grader from my local junior high school made it to the National Bee where he made it just beyond the first written round. Pretty impressive considering our small community had previously never sent a speller to Washington, DC to compete.

watch?v=VjzrNWPul9E