

# Nebraska has history of restless students, demonstrations, closures

Columbia University was closed last year. Students are restless at San Francisco State. Throughout the nation, many colleges are reverberating with the impact of student dissent and disturbances.

University of Nebraska students are not to be left out — historically. They've had their riots, too. The University was even closed once due to a student demonstration.

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT DISSENT** and disregard for the rules of "the establishment" have, at times, intimidated police and left administrators bewildered.

A student-police confrontation happened "one nice spring day in 1949," according to Charles Anson, a University alumnus.

At the time, the University offered no off-street parking, and students found it difficult to find a parking space within one-half block of classes. A vacation was approaching, and

there were more cars than usual on campus.

A NUMBER of students, feeling victimized by "the system," jeopardized law and order by double parking, according to Anson. The police were called in to break up the park-in.

As a police wrecker prepared to haul one car away, a student protester ripped out its ignition wires, Anson continued.

Police detectives on the scene released tear gas, he said, but the wind carried it away. An angry mob of students attacked. The detectives "high-tailed it out of there," he observed.

The complaint basically was that there was "lots of nice, green grass on campus but no place to park a car," Anson commented.

By the next fall the parking system was improved, he said.

Another campus disruption in 1952

involved no apparent goal of reform, but the cause was popular with campus men.

ON THE EVENING of April 30, according to the Daily Nebraskan, a "howling mob" of 200 men swarmed the women's residences. They broke windows, screens and mirrors, injured a sorority house mother and stole the women's lingerie.

The event — University officials couldn't decide whether to call it a riot or an incident — apparently began when the members of a fraternity began dumping buckets of water on passing convertibles, the Nebraskan said. Dormitory men retaliated with fire hoses.

Having settled their dispute, both sides combined to stage the raid. The Nebraskan described it this way:

"Approximately 11 houses, including the women's dormitory, were entered in a wild frenzied search for women's lingerie."

"Campus police, with the aid of two or three carloads of Lincoln police, were unable to gain control of the rioters."

A COUPLE OF days later, the following ad appeared in the Nebraskan: "Gigantic Rummage Sale. Fine lingerie, good bargains. Auction starts promptly at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 2 — Men's Dorm Quadrangle — 'Come dressed as you are' Note: Any men who have goods are welcome to join this sale."

The next day's paper announced: "Rummage Sale Fails; Coeds Shy." The sale was "staged as a gag to see how many of the coeds had the nerve to openly retrieve their lost undies," the Nebraskan said. Few did. Unclaimed items were awarded to Dean Marjorie Johnson.

The panty raid received national notice. There was even a suggestion that the Selective Service System ought to draft students who were involved, according to documents in the University archives.

THE NEBRASKA basketball team had been beaten by Kansas, 102-46. On Feb. 22, 1958 the Nebraska cagers won the rematch, 43-41. That was cause enough for another demonstration.

It was a major national upset and the students declared a holiday to celebrate. The only problem was to get the chancellor to agree. A mass of students surged toward the chancellor's home and demanded an interview, the Nebraskan reported.


The chancellor agreed to call off classes on the condition that the students would request no more victory holidays "until we beat Oklahoma at football," the report continued.

Two years later, classes were cancelled again.

On Friday, Oct. 30, 1959, the Nebraskan headline read, "Sooners go after 75th victory without a defeat." The paper carried a full page of ads advocating a Sooner upset.

When Nebraska won, 25-21, the fans tore down the goal posts. The chancellor averted further "demonstrations" by calling off classes before the students could get to his house. The goal posts were cut up, made into paper weights and sold as souvenirs, according to the sports department information office.

1869



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

CENTENNIAL

1869-1969

## Coeds strike out against smoking University men

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is a press clipping from a local newspaper 60 years ago.

Pipe or cigaret paper in hand and tobacco pouch in readiness, students of the University of Nebraska leave the campus daily at 11 o'clock, the chapel hour, stopping and blocking the sidewalk just outside of the gates for a quiet, peaceful smoke. This has been the custom for several years past, but the co-eds of the big school have so persistently kicked against the practice that it is possible that it may be blocked.

"It is a downright shame," hotly declared one of the girls of the big school today, "and the practice should be eliminated. This matter should be taken up by the authorities if necessary, but I am of the opinion that should all the girls agree to assist in a campaign against it, before long the crowd that congregates on the sidewalk daily would diminish and finally the practice would be stopped."

"We girls object to it for many reasons. The first is that it is almost impossible for us to pass through the crowd that congregates there daily, and secondly that the smoke is so dense it is sickening."

Smoking on the campus is prohibited and it is not unnatural that those students addicted to the habit should take their puffing some place. The fact that they daily gather at the entrance to the campus, and remain as long as an hour smoking, has caused considerable comment among the girls, and the instructors of the big school are of the opinion that it should be stopped.

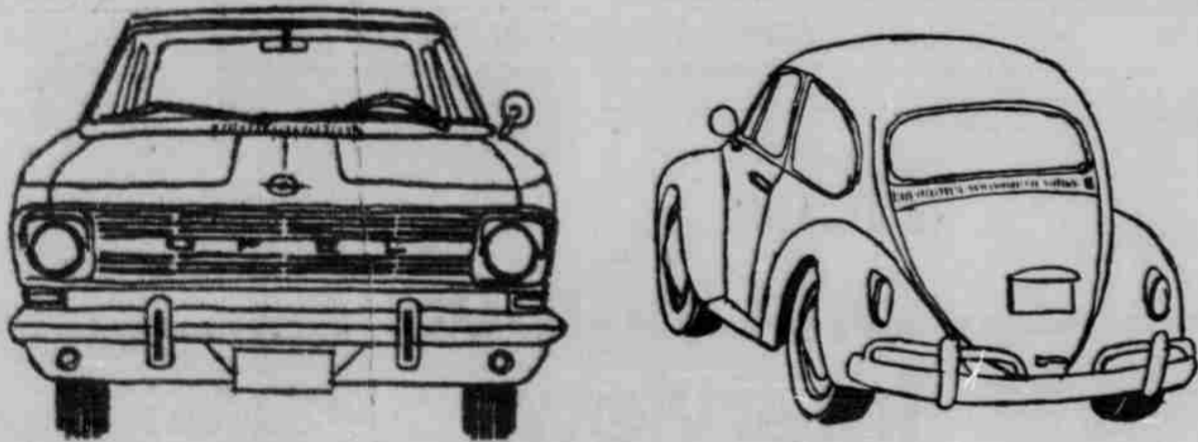
The girls declare that students who have nothing more to do than remain at this one place for an hour each day smoking should not be afforded the opportunity that the state gives them to receive an education.

These men, the girls say, are not real students, but are merely idlers, and most of them stand very poorly in their classes.



A group of Nebraska professors strike a common pose for the cameras in a snow covered setting characteristic of this campus for the past hundred years.

## Opel Kadett vs. Volkswagen



### The Car vs. The Bug

**SELL THESE Opel Kadett ADVANTAGES OVER Volkswagen**

- Opel Kadett has modern styling to appeal to the American market. Volkswagen's basic styling has not changed since 1933.
- Opel Kadett surpasses the Volkswagen in interior roominess. This gives Opel drivers far greater comfort. Even the side glass is curved, a feature no other import in Opel's class can offer.
- Opel Kadett's 13 inch wheels and 6 x 13 tires give Opel owners a better looking car with more front seat leg room. Volkswagen must have a large front wheel well, which protrudes into the front passenger compartment, to accommodate their 15 inch wheels.
- Opel Kadett's glove box has a lock on it... the Volkswagen doesn't. You can leave your papers, car information and other items in the Opel's large compartment without worry of theft.
- Opel Kadett has a locking steering column to discourage theft. Even if the ignition wires are crossed, the car cannot be driven because the steering column is locked in place. Volkswagen doesn't have this feature.
- Opel Kadett's dual padded instrument panel is complete with speedometer, gas gauge, temperature gauge, illuminated electric clock and illustrated windshield wiper, parking lights, head lights, and heater switches. Volkswagen has a speedometer and a gas gauge—on an unpadded instrument panel.
- Opel Kadett has all the standard safety features that are on all GM cars... including the GM developed energy absorbing steering column. This outstanding safety feature is not offered on Volkswagen.
- Carpets front and back; seat belts; back up lights; rubber bumper guards... are all standard on Opel Kadett. With Volkswagen you pay for these extras.
- Opel Kadett has a guaranteed chassis lubrication that's built in for life. Volkswagen recommends a lube job every 2,000 miles. This advantage is a great savings for Opel owners.
- Opel Kadett's heater is far superior to Volkswagen's heater. On Opel the heat comes from the engine coolant and can be mixed with outside air for just the right temperature. It can be directed all on the windshield for defrost... all through the heater outlet for heat... or in between for a little of both. On Volkswagen, heat comes from the exhaust manifold... the temperature cannot be regulated... and the defrost is always on when the heater is in use.
- Opel Kadett has 5 models to choose from to satisfy a wide range of prospect needs. How many does Volkswagen have?
- Opel Kadett: Fully automatic 3-speed transmission now available.

**BILL MOWBRAY BUICK-OPEL**

421 No. 48th

434-5976



NEBRASKA UNION ADDITION-UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

**The Nebraska Union Board, Program Council and Staff, dedicate themselves and the enlarged facilities of the Nebraska Union, to imaginative and responsive service to the community.**