

Homecoming . . .

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The announcement of queen was not made until the traditional homecoming dance, she said.

She said she remembers being awakened at 4 a.m. Saturday morning by the president of Tassels and told to meet photographers. "At that time absolutely no one was supposed to know who was elected," she said, "so my big problem was trying to keep my date for the annual breakfast dance which was at 7 a.m. also."

The queen's reign was over when the chancellor presented roses to her at the next year's homecoming.

Alumni returning for homecoming this year will find a few things have remained the same but most traditions have been altered, Anderson said.

The homecoming tradition itself apparently is strictly American, being synonymous with football in most Americans' minds.

College presidents of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were struggling either for expansion or the existence of their colleges, according to information from UNL archives.

When intercollegiate athletics began to spread, intense rivalries between colleges arose. These intense rivalries made alumni more loyal to their Alma Mater.

College officials, in their effort to secure alumni money, saw advantages in this new interest. Reunions were scheduled on football game days because of the football crowd.

These special days quickly came to be known as "homecoming."

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