

Card throwing prompts reviewing: is card section integral to games?

The jokers went wild in the card section of the UNL-Colorado University football game, but angry officials may be passing out a bad deal.

Those who went to the game probably remember the scene: the Huskers had just scored to take the lead 26-15. A card from the card section went spinning into the air. That's not too unusual.

But suddenly, the air was filled with flying color. Some people since have commented that it was the best show the card section put on all semester.

In a display of color that Walt Disney might have envied, cards traveled north from the card section and were tossed further for about 10 or 15 minutes.

Sure, it was somewhat childish. Cards were lost and torn. Flying chunks of cardboard could have hurt someone. There is no excuse for the behavior, except . . .

It seems to be traditional that the card section sparks grumbling.

In the past few years, fines have been levied for misbehavior—and complained about. In the card section misbehavior means not holding up cards or throwing them.

Before that, pranksters stirred complaints by switching designs in the card section at a University of Missouri-Husker game.

This year complaints have come from the section about the cards themselves—they were torn and chewed up. The colors on some of the newer cards ran in the rain making it tough to

tell light blue from white from green. It was sometimes hard to figure out which color was displayed.

Now the fines—according to band director Jack Snider, every group in the section will lose its \$100 deposit. The band's honorary, Gamma Lambda, runs the card section.

Maybe the groups in the card section should have to bear the fines as the price of providing a great display. But they seem to be paying a high price for something that has been stirring for years.

It might be time to review the card section and determine a better way of running it—or drop it altogether. Is it an integral part of football games? Is it worth upsetting band members?

We can somewhat sympathize with those in the section who threw cards—football games are supposed to be fun. We find it harder to sympathize with those who belittle students for what happened.

The card-flying escapade may have been a mistake, but it should not prompt undue fines and ugly recriminations. It is not important enough to cause that many problems.



editorials

Now is the time for all good men to cook or get out of the kitchen

What time of year is it—really? The leaves on the ground and the footballs in the air are not good clues. Graduate school admission forms are. And so are the relaxed dispositions of new students who were having troubles.

This is the time of year for adjustments—some finished, some in progress and some too demanding to cope with. Think about the newly arrived foreign student, who initially had a rugged time in America. Ms. Overseas couldn't understand the American language, and thought expletives were greetings. It's no wonder she had few friends for those first weeks.

Then she faced that inevitable case of severe homesickness. Her remedy? To recreate the living conditions of

home. But you just can't make a bed look like a sampan. Her shock has abated, and our lawns no longer seem bigger than the fields of her homeland. Our streets aren't actually wider than the rivers she knew.

Firebird

Ms. Overseas now squirts around town in a Firebird, and her bicycle has withered into a heap of rusty pipes locked to a rack. Now, when she needs to call a taxi for a friend, she no longer looks in the Yellow Pages under Rickshaws.

ron ahrens

enjoying the scenery



Freddy Freshman has become established on campus too. He has learned when to attend class, and when to skip. He has found, by now, a girlfriend, parking place, hang-out, and someone to buy beer for him not necessarily in that order.

He and his contemporaries have humbly accepted positions as busboys, maids, and dishwashers. These jobs are similar to the grimy tasks they had abandoned forever upon leaving home . . . they thought.

Freddy is by now in debt to the top of his Biology book. But he consoles himself by thinking about how he doesn't have to be alone: those bills will be with him until long after graduation.

Campus clubs

He has joined campus clubs and organizations, and now can't decide how to drop out of them. To him, those responsibilities seem good for only one thing—shirking.

And he has learned that Mom and Dad no longer lurk over him. So this dissolute freshman has a faster car, longer hair, more dates, and an increased intake of various liquid and gaseous substances.

Sally Senior is another case. She is now adjusting to a new reality: soon she will leave the womb of college. She will have to get a job and pay for those four blissful years. Or she may decide to avoid the dreaded real world and gestate for a few more semesters in graduate school.

A friend of Sally's, who heard of her plans for such advanced study, asked the senior, "So, you can't survive without that master's degree?"

Ah, college

Sally replied, "That's right. I love the college life! To me it represents deprivation and starvation. I am forced to win hamburgers from radio quiz shows in order to eat on Sunday evenings when the campus food service is closed. College keeps me sharp."

Sally's friend understood, and said with admiration, "Well, even if you wanted to sacrifice the privileges of indigence after graduation, and get rich, you wouldn't find a job."

Sally pondered aloud, "Unemployment wouldn't be all bad: I could continue to live in squalor, and I'd have time to catch up on my reading. But I think I'd rather get that masters—and then not be able to find a job."

Yes, new students and seniors are adapting to their changing circumstances, and most even are enjoying their experiences. But some folks are not very flexible. For those people . . . there is always the army.



letters to the editor

I was disappointed in the article "Homecoming spirit dampened" to say the least (*Daily Nebraskan* Oct. 24).

Since there were only three Homecoming display winners I felt all three should have been mentioned, not just two.

Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity won first place in the sorority division. It was displayed in the front of the Kappa House.

Lisa Leonard

Homecoming chairman Kappa Kappa Gamma

Oh, my!

To depart for a moment from the lofty orientation regarding this institution's goodness, let us outline a phenomenon that tarnishes education's idealistic atmosphere. A recent issue of *Newsweek* includes an article, "The Unhappy Profs," a disheartening and perhaps accurate expression of their malaise with the

apparent declining quality of the student body, the fruit of lowered standards. Paralleling this is the increasing dependence on profanity in the classroom to enhance communication—obvious to any participant—with the more focal attention in this case naturally upon the instructor.

Let us first be tolerant in our appraisal of wearing. Unlike the impulsive reaction of a frustrated individual, "blue" words in the classroom often reflect a sincere intention to enliven a lecture.

When we consider the ultimate form of this problem, profaning divinity, and the long-term consequences of it, do the following alternatives appear worthwhile and relevant?

—For a professor to refrain from this ill habit will be desirable since he is benefiting many students by maintaining the nobler example.

—A re-imposition of relevant sanctions currently ignored or nonexistent would give faculty the security of a limit.

—We can all begin to thank God for providing us a choice few names that can also be used to bless people and things. Actually, vain exclamations debate the being we identify, and lend credence to his pervading influence.

A healthy perspective is acknowledgement of his presence no matter with what inflection we speak the name.

The New Testament is direct: "Everyone who takes the Lord's name upon his lips must forsake wickedness." We students and faculty alike are exhorted to live up to his truth.

Duane

