

# finds past 'horrors' are tomorrow's golden memories

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well as one for themselves.) Single students began to revolt because of this obvious discrimination. Much pressure was placed on the administration. It was feared that if married people were not allowed two tickets, there would be no reason for getting married. The whole family structure would die out.

## Divine's Province

"So, Governor Divine proclaimed Memorial Stadium as a separate province so the athletic department could have complete control over the controversy. The local people affectionately called the little nation, "Divine's Province".

The captain of the football team was vested with the power to perform group wedding services. The fee was \$10 per couple. Certificates were issued permitting the couples to purchase football tickets.

"Would it not have been wiser to permit each student the option of buying two tickets?" Jenny asked.

"It may have been a simpler solution, but the benefits outweighed the slight inconvenience to the students".

"What exactly were the benefits?"

"The revenue, child, the revenue. Not only the additional amount that came from the marriage licenses, but also the amount that came from the divorce degrees issued at the south end of the stadium."

"The students must have loved the 'Big Red' to go through all this trouble in order to see the games," said Jenny reverently.

## Students desert games

"The students never attended the games. The tickets were sold to avid fans

who were unable to buy tickets because they were not bankers. The university learned back in the 70's that sometimes it can be beneficial to overlook a slight wrong and capitalize on the financial benefits. A \$5 fee was imposed on a student who 'lost' his or her student I.D. and needed a duplicate card. Most I.D.'s were lost in the first week of September.

The system worked out fairly well. Some of the unexpected problems were ironed out before the 'Proclamation Date' which, as you know, caused the university to close its doors forever."

"What kind of problems?" inquired Jenny.

"Mostly revenue problems. The administration misjudged the student's ability to cut through red tape. Originally it was estimated that \$20 per year per student would be gained from the marriage and divorce certificates. The students were able to trim these costs down to \$2.50 per year."

"How did they do that?" inquired Jenny.

## Students intermarry

"Students married each other. A freshman couple would spend jointly \$10 for a marriage certificate and \$10 for a divorce certificate. The joint cost being \$20 per couple or \$10 per certificate. The joint cost being \$20 per couple or \$10 per individual, or \$2.50 per year providing that the couple stayed in school four years. The administration originally estimated that some students would marry fellow students, but had estimated that 90 percent of UNL students would marry non-students.

"After purchasing the joint football

tickets, the couple would file for a duplicate marriage certificate, on file at the Lincoln State House. Each person now had a Marriage certificate, and each person was entitled to a pair of tickets. Once a student possessed a marriage certificate, there was no need to buy another—something the administration had overlooked. A divorce decree voided the marriage agreement, but did not destroy the certificate of marriage. Obviously, if no new marriage certificates were needed, there would be no need for new divorce decrees.

The Memorial Stadium Province was in the process of correcting this error, but did not complete the project before the demise of the school."

"How were they going to solve the problem?"

## UNL State House

"By building a state house of their own so that the additional revenue could be collecting for processing duplicate marriage certificates."

"That sounds like an expensive project in order to catch a handful of dishonest students?" replied Jenny.

"Not really," Grandmother continued, "The Legislature passed a 10 cent a pack cigarette tax, and the proposed building was completely paid for within three months. Of course, only non-smokers would be considered for employment at the new facilities."

"Well, Jenny, are you ready to join the rest of the group?"

"Yes, I think they are heading towards the College of New Administration."

"I am anxious to see for myself if the

rumor is true," said Grandmother. "I have heard that some of my old professors are still around still on tenure."

Dr. Pendleton maintains the office near the exit of the building. . ." came the recorded voice.

## Department of Futurology

"Jenny, I remember Pendleton—he resembled both a bull-dog and Hitler. He reached tenure and senility in the early 60's. He was moved into the office in the 70's; the move was a subtle hint from the department of futurology.

"Preparing his 21st edition of *From the Pen of Pendleton on 'Importance of Automobiles in the future'*" continued the recorded voice. "His interest in the automobile industry, along with his teaching abilities, earned him the nickname 'Putt-Putt Pendleton.'"

"Please step outside, and walk over to the building marked 'Administration', for a view of the 'Proclamation Date Memorial'. Please return your earphones as you leave the building. . . ." the voice concluded.

Jenny and Grandmother stepped into the building, and walked into a room called the 'Proclamation Room'. A huge glass enclosed tank held the tools that destroyed the university. Jenny looked at these odd instruments. It was the first time she had ever seen a pencil, let alone a whole tank-full. She shrank back in fear. About the tank was a framed newspaper article with the headlines:

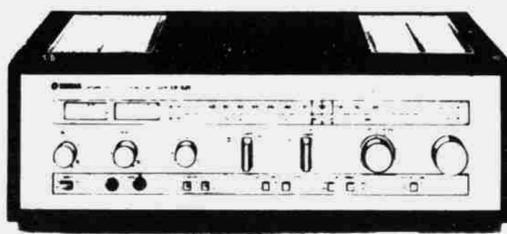
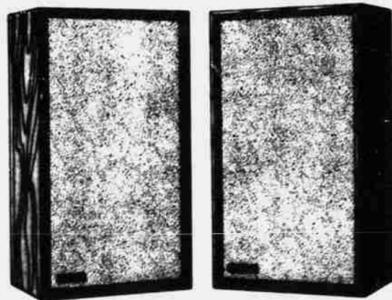
"Surgeon General proclaims that number two pencils cause cancer."

The author is a 1978 business administration graduate from Lincoln.

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