

1990 ELICITS THE UNAVOIDABLE

By Henry Battistoni
Staff Reporter

The end of the decade.
It sounds ominous somehow.
Why?

We deny ourselves the base-10 system when building a house but not when we rack up the years. How arbitrary. Why don't we raise

heck on a hexadecimal year plan? What is all the teary-eyed reminiscing and hopeful excitement about? Do we go nuts on a subliminal level knowing the census is coming?

It seems unlikely given our decade's fascination that I could convince anyone that 1989 is just another year ending. Which is just

another 365 day period ending. Which is . . . etc.

December 31 as the party date is probably as good as any of our other pagan holidays.

Faced with this inevitability, let us look at the unavoidable, the likely and the less likely.

The unavoidable:

● Casey Kasem is bound to do a

top 100 hits of the '80s show. Many of the dogs we'll hear should have been shelved with the "Solid Gold" dancers who gyrated to them.

● Siskel and Ebert will do an '80s retrospective. Several French films will be given accolades. Both critics will tut-tut the tastes of American viewers. The big movies at the box office will be considered thin pap.

● All major networks will do retrospectives of news and televi-



sion of the past decade.

● The Daily Nebraskan will do a retrospective. (Whoops. Too late.)

● Kooky astrologers come out of their energy transference pyramids and appear on every talkshow giving each bozo more than the guaranteed 15 minutes in the limelight.

● In ten more years the cycle will be compounded by century retrospectives and more intensified idiocy.

The likely:

● Manson and Sirhan Sirhan will be denied parole this decade. Manson will appear on "Geraldo" again, gaining a greater share of the TV market than J.F.K.'s funeral.

● The Cornhuskers will win the Fiesta Bowl in '90, '91, '92 . . .

● Elvis sightings will diminish. Instead, John Holmes sightings will occur. Commemorative Holmes decanters and plates will be sold, which guarantees a higher resale value than last year's Mercedes.

● Jim Bakker will be paroled for good behavior. Bakker will write a "Re-reborn Behind Bars" book.

● Old sports figures will supplant defunct bands as the comeback entertainment miracles of the decade. The trend will be popularized by the Ali-Frazier IV Match of the Century.

The least likely:

● Someone I know will win the lottery.

● The Board of Regents will be disbanded, removing several high-paying bureaucratic positions.

● Parking problems at UNL will be alleviated.

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