



The Tattler

Lincoln, Nebraska

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Elizabeth and Stephen

Couple Announces Engagement

Elizabeth Dietrich of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Stephen Crimmins of Seattle, Washington, have announced their engagement. Reactions to the bombshell announcement included the raising of an eyebrow, a cough or two, a yawn, and multiple expressions of joyful congratulations. The wedding date is as yet undetermined. Elizabeth is currently employed as a biological researcher for the Veterans Administration, and plans to pursue graduate studies in microbiology at the University of Washington. Stephen is currently a graduate student in Medieval Studies at the University of Washington. The couple met while attending Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.



An Even Tardier Tattler

"The dog ate it." "No one told me about the assignment." "I've been too busy." "Nothing happened this year." It's been one excuse after another, as the always tardy Tattler slips even further behind its normal schedule. "It's a New Year's missive," glibly proclaimed the intrepid editors of the annual gossip rag.



Dietrich, Tia, and Other Hoodlums

Lincoln High School Rids Itself of Riffraff

Presents Dietrich with "walking papers"

Sallie Dietrich of Lincoln Nebraska, was forcibly ejected from Lincoln High School before thousands of onlookers. She had been under scrutiny of the administration ever since an embarrassing encounter with the governor of Nebraska regarding an essay she had written. After the banishment ceremony, Dietrich, far from being properly abashed, threw a big party. Many of her delinquent acquaintances from Lincoln Fencing Club attended the party, and even her Tia abandoned all pretense of responsibility and respectability and was seen to be dancing the Macarena with an attractive young redhead.



Woman Fancies Herself Seafarer

Wanda Dietrich, having long dreamt of living near "big scary water," but in reality finding herself in the landlocked state of Nebraska, has stood little chance of experiencing the nautical life. Such details do not deter a woman such as Wanda.

Choosing the next best thing, a riverboat cruise on the Missouri, Dietrich boarded the *River City Star*, stood on the prow, and began to bark orders to the crew. "All hands up anchor! Heave round! Clear for running!" Mercifully, her cries were ignored by the real captain, who indeed knew a helm from a rudder.



Cult Makes Pilgrimage to Carhenge

Members of a Lincoln cult believed to call themselves the Great Plains Celtic Warriors recently made a pilgrimage to the Nebraska landmark and 114th Wonder of the World, Carhenge, located near Alliance, Nebraska. The group took "musical" instruments and spent hours engaged in their odd, instrumental chanting as hundreds of local residents gawked. "I'd say 900 miles without leaving the State of Nebraska qualifies as a pilgrimage," remarked cult member Larry Dietrich.

Tattler Available Online

Haven't had your fill of the *Tattler*? There's more! You can view current and past editions of the *Tattler* along with many family photos on the Web at <http://lincolndietrichs.org>.

"Empty Nesters" Go Wild

No longer under the watchful supervision of their children, Wanda and Larry Dietrich have taken on a life of wild abandon, coming and going whenever they please, ignoring societal norms, and being generally irresponsible. Children Elizabeth and Sallie, when contacted about the embarrassing behavior, threw up their hands. "We can't do anything with them!"

Cornell Education Prepares Student for Life

Cornell University Freshman Sallie Dietrich shares with *Tattler* readers the following survival vocabulary:

- **Ithacating:** what the weather does for weeks at a time; a misty drizzle
- **Prelims:** Ivy League version of midterms. See *Chinese water torture*.
- **JAM:** 1. a sticky, preserved fruit 2. the music dormitory, Just About Music
- **Car:** Instant Friend Machine
- **Labor Day:** Holiday *not* observed by Cornell University, host of the College of Industrial and Labor Relations
- **"SIEVE SIEVE SIEVE SIEVE SIEVE":** The opposing hockey team's goalie.



"Cowboy" Larry

Man Sent to Texas for Remedial Training

Computer Geek Larry Dietrich was sent by his employer, LI-COR Biosciences, to the Dell factory in Austin, Texas, when his pace of work at LI-COR was judged to be too sluggish. It was thought that he might learn something by observing a place that builds 14,000 computers every day. Improvements in Dietrich's job performance are yet to be demonstrated, but he has taken to continually drawing, "Don't mess with Texas!"



Sorry, Harley

Couple fancy themselves cycle gang

Lincoln resident Larry Dietrich has fallen under the spell of a long-wheelbase recumbent bicycle, or "chopper." He recently purchased his own bike, identical to that of his wife, and the two of them have been riding the trails about Lincoln in their attempts to spread envy and fear among the city's residents. Bemusement may better describe the general reaction. Friends and neighbors have kindly refrained from pointing out that real "Hawgs" have engines.

Man Attends Three Performances of *Nutcracker*

Misses show entirely

Dilettante and French hornist Larry Dietrich recently attended three performances of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* ballet at Lincoln's Lied Center for the Performing Arts. Dietrich apparently entered a back door of the theater every time, which led to a seat under the stage facing the audience. Dietrich reports he was unable to see a single dancer: "There was a lot of music and a man waving his arms. Too bad a bunch of people were stomping their feet on the ceiling over my head." Wife Wanda and daughter Sallie later informed the confused man that there had been dancers and scenery in the performances.



A Message from the Editors

Greetings once again, Gentle and Gullible Readers! This is the sixth (!) annual edition of *The Tattler*. Can it be true?

Year after year we have managed to stay under the radar of the Postal Inspector, Homeland Security, and the Federal Grammar Police – and the *Tattler* keeps coming!

We have received numerous citations, but our legal staff has so far kept the authorities at bay.

Thank you for your continuing support of cheap tabloid journalism by refraining turning us in. As you know, canceling your subscription is not an option. Faithful subscribers like yourselves are all the motivators we need to keep churning it out .

Once again, we greatly appreciate your cards and letters. Your comments are much appreciated, although we generally find it prudent to not publish them! Nonetheless, you are in our thoughts throughout the year, and we are always glad to hear from you.

We send all our best wishes for a joyous holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous new year!

