



# The Tattler

Lincoln, Nebraska

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## Student Enrolled in Anger Management

Ithaca, New York

The stress of returning to normal life after being enrolled in Honors Chemistry at Cornell University apparently is too much for some students. Due to her erratic behavior, sophomore Sallie Dietrich was required to report to the post-chemistry symposium, and was startled when she was handed cleats, heavy-duty canvas shorts, and a padded helmet. It was not long, however, before she had joined in the group's rallying cry, "Let's go hit some b\*\*\*\*\*s!!" and found she quickly had forgotten all about chemistry.

Dietrich was so impressed with the efficacy of the program that she took on the role of Resident Advisor, and is now assigning overstressed freshmen to the program, also known as "rugby."



## Tattler, Travel Edition

In your hands once again, you hold the piece of mail that you have been anticipating, if not dreading, for nearly a year. Yes, you failed to block the mail; you failed to destroy it before you opened it, and alas, your morbid curiosity has overcome your better judgment and you are again reading the annual rag.

The staff of *The Tattler*, always in pursuit of all possible scandal, muck, and embarrassment pertaining to the ever-accommodating Dietrich family, have this year been required to chase the shameless subjects around the country; either they have been fleeing their legacy in Lincoln, or are moved to push their antics out in an ever-widening swath. We are therefore pleased to present the **2007 Tattler, Travel Edition!**

## Department of Arcane Studies

Seattle, Washington

Elizabeth Dietrich is now pursuing an advanced degree at the University of Washington in the study of Very Small Things. Her perennial fiancé, Stephen Crimmins, is studying Very Old Things at the same school. *The Tattler* has located the two of them and their intensely shy cat, Small, living at a moderately sized modern apartment in Seattle.

## Woman Engages in Double-Study

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Wanda Dietrich, indexer of an endless stream of educational books and connoisseur of public transportation, journeyed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to assess the City of Brotherly Love's train transport and commiserate with other indexers about the arcane minutiae found in the concluding pages of scholarly tomes that most people never look at.

Dietrich reports that the SEPTA leaves directly from the airport to a stop downtown a few blocks away from a wonderful tea shop and incidentally, her hotel. Dietrich declared the trip a success, noting that she learned some new methods of alphabetization and that Philadelphia has some viable options for getting around.



## Man Learns Geek Language & Customs

Orlando, Florida

Geek Larry Dietrich was sent by his employer, LI-COR Biosciences, to a huge convention center in Orlando, Florida, to spend a week being further geekified under the auspices of a large software firm that we shall refer to as M\$. Friends and loved ones have since noted his considerably improved conversational skills, as he frequently interjects amusing pithy phrases about the use of IVR APIs for SMBs and the influence of MIPs and the FSB on OOP. Wife Wanda gushed, "He's been the life of the party ever since he came back from that convention!"

## Chance Precipitation

Omaha, Nebraska

Sports fans Larry and Wanda Dietrich experienced in their unique way an Omaha Royals baseball game. They did not see a single pitch, but did have the opportunity to watch the grounds crew roll the tarp out over the infield during a driving rainstorm.

## Chance Precipitation

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

History buff Wanda Dietrich experienced in her unique way a walking history tour of Philadelphia. After walking for a matter of seconds, a driving rainstorm made the inside of one of Philadelphia's not-so-historic pubs suddenly much more interesting.

## Chance Precipitation

Seattle, Washington

Desert-raised Elizabeth Dietrich decided to make up for the lack of water in her early childhood by moving to Seattle, Washington just in time for historic flooding in the city.

## Is It Study?

Montreal, New York City, New England

Jetsetter Sallie Dietrich and companions have been spotted in numerous North American cities during the past several months. It is suspected by the *Tattler* that their peregrination has less to do with their interest in geography, history, and architecture than it does with meeting certain people, including an Academy-Award-winning actress, multiple Ivy-League athletes, and some young French gentlemen. A spokesperson for Dietrich insisted that the trips were "purely scholastic."



*The "Cruise"*

## Couple Victims of Cruise Scam

**Iowa, USA**

Lincoln couple Wanda and Larry Dietrich, in celebration of their umpteenth anniversary, signed up for a week-long "luxury cruise," sponsored by a company in Des Moines, Iowa. Lured by promises of "plenty of sunshine, fresh air, companionship, food and drink, and recreation," and probably victims of their own cheapness, Dietrichs "got on board" one of the most remarkable scams of the year. Perhaps their suspicions should have been aroused when they were informed that the "cruise" was to depart from Rock Rapids, Iowa rather than from Miami, but they gamely complied with the instructions until they were too deeply involved to back out.

The shocking realization that this was no ordinary cruise came when they were told that they would be assembling their own two-wheeled vehicles and providing the motive power to travel 480 miles across the entire state of Iowa. The "week at sea" turned out to be in a sea of corn.

The hapless Dietrichs, in an effort to make the best of the situation, or perhaps to reduce their embarrassment, claimed that the "vacation" was better than any real cruise line could have provided. "It was a spiritual journey, a pilgrimage, following in the tire tracks of our great leader Lance Armstrong," rationalized Larry. "Yeah, and that beer sure filled my spiritual void at the end of the day," added Wanda.



When asked to comment on her parents' absence, daughter Sallie responded, "It wasn't really a big deal. I didn't think it was worth filing a missing persons report. They go out searching for the 'meaning of life' a lot. They showed up a week later in our living room all dressed in skimpy tie-dye bandannas or something. Maybe t-shirts, I couldn't tell. But they sure had a new glow about them.

There are unconfirmed rumors that Wanda Dietrich returned with two tattoos: on her right leg, a very large black bicycle, and in an undisclosed location, Lance Armstrong's signature.



*How many miles did you say it is?*

## Byway Burnout

**Billings, Bozeman, or Butte, Montana**

Wanda Dietrich, after having driven a jillion miles westward on Interstate 90, experienced a peculiar disorder on arrival in some town in Montana that begins with a B. "This is far enough, this looks like a nice town, there's a house for sale, I'm going to buy it and live here." Daughter Elizabeth had to remind her that she had promised to help her and Stephen with the move to Seattle, and it just wouldn't do to stop here after having come so far. The woman remained unmoved until Elizabeth pointed out that she had only one week's worth of laundry and tea with her. Wanda then reluctantly consented to resume the journey.

## How to Plan a Party

**Hermosa, South Dakota**

Wanda Dietrich, ever the gracious hostess, invited herself and more than a dozen relatives to spend Thanksgiving at her sister-in-law's new home in Hermosa, South Dakota. She then informed the sister-in-law, Toni Ruzanski, about the gathering.



The resultant crowd, numbering seventeen, devoured two turkeys as well as mountains of other treats. The mob also made time for sightseeing, taking in Mount Rushmore, Keystone, South Dakota, and spectacular wildlife sightings. "How did all this happen?" gasped exhausted Toni, as she filled the dishwasher yet again.

## The Debauchery Continues

**La Junta and Westcliffe, Colorado**

Christmas 2007 finds the unbridled Dietrich clan in the towns of La Junta and Westcliffe, Colorado, presumably for yet another week of riotous behavior with hoards of kin. If you are in the neighborhood and have a strong constitution, please stop in and join the festivities!

Keep those cards and letters coming! They are much appreciated, and are displayed in a place of honor, to prove that this publication has readers outside its own doors.

We hope all is well with you, and you remain in our hearts and thoughts throughout the year.

**The Dietrichs wish to send all their best wishes for a joyous holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous new year!**

### **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 more photos and supplementary material on the Web at <http://lincolndietrichs.org>.