

Something is glaringly missing from Bob Fecht's campaign brochure

The Chief's not touting his mail order master's

Just when the diploma mill industry starting using Cheyenne's police chief as its poster child, he abandoned them.

"There's no doubt in my mind the taxpayers got their money's worth," he said. "I worked harder on this than I ever did for my bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University," he was quoted as saying by other local print media.

City of Cheyenne voters paid \$2,504.00 for the bogus "degree" purchased by Fecht with taxpayer (voter) money.

As though buying a mail order degree wasn't embarrassing enough, Fecht bought his from one of the worst scoundrel's in the industry - a peddler called Lacrosse University. According to a story run in another media, Fecht claimed to have paid "a similar amount" out of his own pocket. But, the price list to buy a master's degree in criminal justice from this Mississippi clip joint is just the \$2,504.00 paid by City voters.

Interestingly, voters in Senate District 5, where Fecht is attempting to replace attorney John Hanes, are now receiving Fecht's campaign brochure at their homes. He is careful to picture himself in his police uniform, as though he is running for sergeant-at-arms, not Senator, and urges voters to "Support Public Safety," on the cover.

When interviewed by the Cheyenne Herald before we broke the story of his ill-advised purchase of a degree, Chief Fecht told us that Cheyenne had no gang problems nor meth problems. A year or so later, it seems we do.

For one who disavowed his SIU Cougar education only a year ago, he now writes: "After graduating from Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration, I married ..." (Punctuation as in the brochure.) Nowhere in this political campaign material did he mention the master's degree he worked so hard for.

Mary Throne to Run in House District 11

Local attorney Mary Throne is a candidate for the legislative seat now held by Wayne Reese, who is retiring. Ms. Throne is a Democrat and was born in Gillette. She has lived in Cheyenne for 14 years with her husband Kevin Boyce and three sons. In 1999, she joined the law firm of Hickey and Evans and practices in the areas of environmental law and natural resources. She worked in the office of the Wyoming Attorney General from 1992-1999.

From Folks for Freudenthal '06 Campaign

Dave Freudenthal, Democratic candidate for governor, Cheyenne. Born in Thermopolis, raised on family farm. B.A. in economics, Amherst College - law degree, University of Wyoming. State planning coordinator under Gov. Ed Herschler, private law practice, U.S. Attorney for Wyoming, 1994-2001. Married. Wife Nancy, daughters Hillary, Katie, sons Bret, Don. www.govdave.com

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Press release from the Wyoming State Board of Education

Rutherford University to cease business in Wyoming

Cheyenne - During the most recent Wyoming State Board of Education meeting, it was announced that the Rutherford University has chosen to cease doing business in Wyoming as of June 15, 2006.

The joint agreement between the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) and Rutherford is founded on accommodations by both parties. The WDE agreed to withdraw its complaint and in return Rutherford agreed to voluntarily terminate its license.

Rutherford guaranteed that on June 16, 2006, all reference to a Wyoming license and address would be removed from its website and publications, as well as its Wyoming office would be closed effective midnight of June 15, 2006.

"The new law has already begun to make a difference," Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Jim McBride said. "We again applaud our law makers and we will continue to monitor each schools progress toward full accreditation."

Editor's note: Rutherford is the successor to the infamous Hamilton University, which was disclosed as the source of advanced degrees held by a top official at Homeland Security.

Trent Blankenship has credited the Cheyenne Herald with initiating the action that is leading to the eviction of unaccredited degree sellers (diploma mills) from Wyoming.

This is a good second step toward divesting Wyoming of unaccredited degree peddlers. In the recent past, an "institution of higher learning" called American Capital University, operating from a tiny office in the basement of the former Mossholder's Building in downtown Cheyenne, ceased operations. They were using a student catalog which featured a picture of a Wyoming Department of Education official, as though to validate the existence of the Minnesota-owned operation.

By the way, Jim McBride only began using his "Doctor" title after Trent resigned. He was just "Jim." McBride's degree, the Herald has been told, is not a PhD.

Remaining in Cheyenne, and hopefully, packing their Ryder trucks after July 1, are Preston University, Kennedy-Western University, American Global University, American City University (which hasn't been at the DOE-listed address for several months), and Paramount University of Technology.

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