

Featherly: "I want a Ph.D."

"It cannot be less credible than Chief Fecht's master's, and it cannot cost more than \$49.00."

by **Dave Featherly**

I never thought much about being called "Doctor" or having the initials "Ph.D." after my name. Where I come from, it's more who you are and what you've done than titles or initials.

But, after seeing the accolades heaped on Cheyenne Police Chief Bob Fecht for acquiring a less-than-meaningful master's degree from an unaccredited mail order degree selling Lacrosse University (not to be confused with the legitimate University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse - in Wisconsin), I have rethought my position.

Obviously, if the person most responsible for upholding the law and things legal in a city of 53,011 thinks such a degree not only has merit but that it somehow took more effort than his bachelor's degree from a heretofore respectable University of Southern Illinois, these "degrees" must have credibility. Right?

When I spotted the ad to the right, it seemed to have all of the elements a disreputable degree like Chief Fecht's has. And it could be a Ph.D. even.

The search I used to find this provider of instant degrees was "affordable degrees." Price IS an object to me.

When I saw that the degrees were **ACCREDITED DEGREES!**, I could not believe my good fortune.

An accredited degree for "as little as \$199, the ad said. And in as little as "just 5 days." Why, it took the Chief much longer than that to pay for his degree-for-sale from Lacrosse University (not to be confused with the legitimate University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse - in Wisconsin),

I had made up my mind that I would limit the purchase to an out-of-pocket cost to me of \$49.00 and I thought perhaps the \$199.00 included books or something like that - which I wouldn't need. After all, like the Chief, I have life experiences coming out the wazoo.

I mean, I fell trees when I was a teenager up in Montana. You talk about your life experience. If you get out of that job alive, your whole life will be quite an experience. I have a high school diploma from a small school in northern Wisconsin. The 24 of us that graduated together that year had lots of experiences. Most I can't share. That should count for a lot.

And, military service? Four experience-packed years in the Navy. Ours. Reading? I am probably the first one to ever read the Cheyenne city budget and explain it to several city council members.

And I don't read fiction. If it couldn't or didn't happen, I don't read about it. Except the WT-E - I do read it. I've watched more sporting events - in person and on television - than the average college class. Not individual ... the whole class!

So, I figured my life's experiences would take care of everything and in five days, I could make people call me "Doctor" and put "Ph.D." behind my name.

Then I read on and found out this rapscallion scammer, Rochville University, charges \$599.00 for a doctorate. \$599.00!! To hell with them. Unlike the Chief, I have to pay for this priceless degree myself and \$49.00 is it. No more.

So, I'm asking for your help.

Readers of the Cheyenne Herald are voracious consumers of the printed word. Help me find a Ph.D. for \$49.00. I really, really, really want to keep up with the Chief. And I want a legitimate name on my degree - not University of James or something like that. Rochville University has a nice ring to it. But not for \$599!

Ah, for the good old days

There are adult bedwetters and thumbsuckers in town who think the Herald is too hard on elected officials and their minions. But, our words are gentle compared to what has been said about presidents of the United States:

"One of the most improper and incompetent that could be selected [for president]. Naturally dull and stupid; extremely illiterate; indecisive to a degree that would be incredible to one who did not know him ... he has no opinion on any subject and will always be under the government of the worst men."

Aaron Burr, about James Monroe

"I cannot believe that the killing of two thousand Englishmen at New Orleans qualifies a person for the various difficult and complicated duties of the presidency."

Henry Clay, about Andrew Jackson

"The Constitution provides for every accidental contingency in the executive -- except a vacancy in the mind of the president."

John Sherman, about James Buchanan

"Filthy storyteller, despot, liar, thief, braggart, buffoon, usurper, monster, Ignoramus Abe, old scoundrel, perjurer, swindler, tyrant, field-butcher, land-pirate."

Harpers magazine, about Abraham Lincoln

"Early in 1869 the cry was for 'no politicians,' but the country did not mean 'no brains.'"

Gov. of Mass., about Ulysses S. Grant

"What's the use of wasting good serviceable indignation on him?"

Woodrow Wilson, about Theodore Roosevelt

"Thousands of pictures were taken, and none for the glory of the troops; all for the glory of FDR."

Gen. George S. Patton about Franklin Roosevelt

"His skin is a millionth of an inch thick."

Barry Goldwater, about Lyndon Johnson

"Richard Nixon is a no-good lying b-----. He can lie out of both sides of his mouth at the same time, and if he ever caught himself telling the truth, he'd lie just to keep his hand in."

Harry S. Truman, about Richard Nixon

"Bill Clinton's foreign policy experience is pretty much confined to having had breakfast once at the International House of Pancakes."

Patrick Buchanan, about Bill Clinton

"I have been disappointed in almost everything he has done."

Jimmy Carter, about George W. Bush

Source: **DISTORY**, A Treasury of Historical Insults