Bullets for Hardin Hall rededication

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Bullets for Hardin Hall rededication (6/13/06):

*When the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education opened in 1961, it was the third of its kind to be completed in the U.S. The other two were at Michigan State and the University of Georgia. Two more were under construction at the universities of Chicago and Oklahoma. The Nebraska Center was distinctive because it had special facilities for youth programs, in addition to adult programs.

*The Nebraska Center for Continuing Education was financed by a $1.5 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and by more than $1 million in contributions from Nebraska citizens. When it was dedicated Friday, Sept. 29, 1961, Dr. Emory Morris, President and General Director of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, was the speaker.

*The program for the Nebraska Center dedication in 1961 noted: “The Conference Center provides study facilities, housing and food service for adult groups that come to the University of Nebraska campus for conferences and workshops. ... The Hall of Youth serves young men and women from high school age through the mid-twenties. Programs normally are residential in character, varying in length from a few days to two months. The upper two floors of the building are dormitories, while the main and lower floor provide classroom, cafeteria, office and recreational facilities.”

*Clifford Hardin was Chancellor from 1954 to 1968, the second longest serving Chancellor in university history. Only Samuel Avery, whose tenure as Chancellor was from 1908-1927, exceeded that of Hardin.

*Chancellor Hardin’s philosophy of higher education focused on high-quality teaching based on solid research. He convinced Nebraskans their state university held the key to a better standard of living and quality of life in Nebraska.
*Chancellor Hardin’s administration was an era of expansion at the university. Besides being a driving force in acquiring funding from the Kellogg Foundation and private donors for the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, Dr. Hardin was a driving force in attaining funding and overseeing construction of numerous other buildings, such as Hamilton Hall, Kimball Recital Hall, Oldfather Hall, NC Woods, and Mabel Lee Hall on city campus.

*Enrollment nearly tripled, from 7,000 to 19,000 students during Clifford Hardin’s time as Chancellor.

*A story written at the time of the Nebraska Center’s 10th anniversary noted the Center had hosted 250,000 people in “about every conceivable educational conference and program” in its first decade. Conferences ranged from postdoctoral dental work to airplane pilot training and soil conservation. The Center was geared for two types of conferences: those involving youths and those involving adults. The youth wing, called the Hall of Youth, could house 400 people in a dormitory arrangement; the adult wing included several meeting rooms and hotel-style accommodations for 196 people in 98 rooms.

*In 1978 Dr. Hardin received an honorary Ph.D. of humane letters from UNL.

*Dr. Hardin was born near Knightstown, Indiana, October 9, 1915. He earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University.

*Dr. Hardin served as Secretary of Agriculture (under President Richard Nixon) from 1969-1971. He was Vice Chairman of the board of Ralston Purina from 1971-1980, retiring from that position in 1980. He served as Director of the Center for the Study of American Business at Washington University in St. Louis from 1980-1985.
*In 1980 Dr. Hardin received the Flame of Truth Award from the Fund for Higher Education. In 1985 Dr. Hardin was named to Selection Research Inc.'s Hall of Fame.

*The Hardin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship has been awarded on our campus since 1984. It is made possible through an endowment to the University of Nebraska Foundation for agricultural research by Clifford Hardin, former Chancellor. Income earned by the fund supports research in plant physiology with emphasis on genetic mechanisms influencing plant responses to stress conditions.
1) Program begins. John Owens serves as master of ceremonies and makes brief opening comments.

2) John Owens introduces Chair of the Board of Regents, Jim McClurg, representing District #5.

3) Regent McClurg will introduce any Regents in attendance, and will make some brief comments.

4) John Owens introduces President Milliken.

5) President Milliken introduces Senators and any other officials in attendance.

6) President Milliken makes brief comments.

7) John Owens introduces Chancellor Perlman.

8) Chancellor Perlman makes brief comments.

9) John Owens introduces Dr. Clifford Hardin and Mrs. Martha Hardin.

10) John Owens makes brief summary comments and announces the ribbon cutting ceremony. Annette Wetzel provides ribbon and large shears. Dr. Hardin, President Milliken, Chancellor Perlman, and Regents in attendance, will assemble at the ribbon, cut the ribbon, and photographs will be taken.

11) John Owens invites interested persons to take tours of Hardin Hall and identifies tour guides who are: Jennifer Aerni, David Gosselin, Mike Jess, Jacki Loomis, Mark Svoboda, and Don Whilite.

12) Photographers are Tom Slocum and Brett Hampton.