

CBA auditorium christened

By Cami Walker
Staff Reporter

People don't have weaknesses, but non-strengths that turn into weaknesses when they become over-concerned, a speaker said Wednesday.

Donald Clifton delivered this message during the first public event held in the renovated auditorium of the College of Business Administration.

Clifton, author of "Soar with your Strengths," spoke to students, faculty and local business leaders at a christening of the auditorium. Except for some electronic equipment, which will be installed soon, the auditorium is complete.

Clifton told those in attendance to try to develop talents and manage their weaknesses. Leaders can bring out the best in people, he said, by keeping positive attitudes and recognizing success.

Wednesday night's events were sponsored by the CBA student development center. Before Clifton spoke, students had an opportunity to mix

with Lincoln business leaders at an open house and a reception afterwards.

CBA Dean Gary Schwendiman deemed the building's renovation the best bargain ever received by the taxpayers of Nebraska because \$500,000 was saved on construction costs.

Originally, \$5.2 million was allocated for construction costs, but the winning bid was \$4.7 million, a savings of \$500,000.

There will be a year-long celebration after the finished building is dedicated this fall. Many guest speakers will be brought to the college throughout the year, Schwendiman said.

He said classroom design was the top priority when the project was in its planning stages.

According to Mindy Schmitz, this consideration paid off. Schmitz, a junior actuarial science major, said the auditorium offered a much better learning environment for students.

Better lighting and acoustics, more comfortable chairs and large-screen monitors all provide a more comfortable atmosphere, she said.

Tribal issues to be studied

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

American Indian sovereignty, heritage and multicultural education will be the topics of the Winter Council conference next week at UNL.

Eric Jolly, director of affirmative action and diversity at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, discussed the importance of upholding cultural values at a preview of the council Wednesday.

"We all have a culture that goes back many generations, and it impacts us," he said. "The ways that our great-grandparents did things are ways that we all can recognize."

Jolly said the council would begin with a panel discussion on recent issues of American Indian sovereignty Jan. 28 at 1:30 p.m. at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. Leaders of several American Indian tribes will attend the council.

"Under international law, for a state to be a sovereign nation, it must have

a permanent population, defined territory, a government that functions and the ability to conduct relations with other states," Jolly said.

"According to these criteria, American Indians have been sovereign states for centuries but continue to be under military law," he said.

Jolly said the benefits and consequences of sovereignty would be debated during the discussion.

The following day will open with a greeting by Elmer Blackbird, vocational director for the Omaha Tribe. A multiculturalism workshop led by professional educators will follow.

In an effort to transmit cultural values and traditions to younger American Indians, a series of teaching circles will be led by elder tribal leaders, Jolly said.

Jolly said the council was not exclusively for Americans Indians. Everyone is encouraged to attend. For registration information contact the Center for Great Plains Studies.



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