

# New fountain makes a splash at union

■ While some pine for the old Broyhill fountain, many students enjoy the geometric shapes and layout of the new structure.

BY SARAH BAKER  
Senior editor

Broyhill Fountain has always stood as a landmark for students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

But since the demise of the original fountain more than two years ago, some students have said they felt the campus has lacked a gathering place for students to meet, to study or just to hang out on a sunny afternoon.

Students needn't fret, though: With the new face of the Nebraska Union came a new face for Broyhill Fountain.

The original fountain, which was destroyed in October 1996, was one of the last things to go before union construction began.

Its replacement, the new, teardrop-shaped fountain that was filled with water for the first time last Thursday, consists of a cluster of asymmetrical rocks and a total of nine jets that will spout frothy columns of water.

At night, the fountain will be lit with white lights, said Daryl Swanson, Nebraska Unions director.

The fountain, which was originally dedicated in 1970, is named after the late Lynn Diann Broyhill, a UNL senior home economics major, who died in a car accident on Sept. 8, 1966, on the way to pick up her gown for the AkSarBen ball.

Swanson said the Broyhill family has been involved in the process concerning the new fountain, and would be involved with the rededication April 15 when it will be officially re-named Broyhill Fountain.

Craig Broyhill, who is the brother of the fountain's namesake, said his family has been involved in the new fountain's construction and planning.

"It's different, but pretty," Broyhill said about the fountain. "But the people that remember the old fountain are always going to be wary of the new one."

"It was always a real place for students to meet, so I hope that continues."

Swanson said the majority of the feedback he has heard from students on the new fountain has been positive, and he believes both new and old students will embrace the fountain in the same way they did the original one.

Students who were checking out the fountain with water for the first time last Thursday afternoon had mixed reactions.

Christian Elowsky, a biology graduate student, said he wasn't sure about the new fountain just yet.

"I was really fond of the way Broyhill used to be," he said. "You didn't get as wet with it. But you know this is going to be a good place for Brother Jed to end up."

Freshman fashion design major Mary Lasker, who had waded into the



SCOTT MOORE, a junior international business major, threatens to throw undeclared freshman Heather Bruce into the fountain last week during a test run.

MATT MILLER/DN

water last Thursday, liked the new fountain.

"It's like a jungle gym in water!" Lasker said. "It's fun."

Scott Moore, a junior international business major, was less enthusiastic.

"I liked the old one better," he said. "I don't know if it is going to be as big of a gathering place for students - it's not circular, and there are no benches around it."

Water will fill the fountain from mid-April until mid-October.

The fog function - the one students have seen the majority of the spring semester - is only for off-season use and is not the main function of

the fountain, Swanson said.

Neil Dean, the architect and designer of the new fountain, said the mist turns the fountain into a year-round attraction.

"The steam provides a different expression that a lot of people like," he said.

The new plaza also has a permanent stage for concerts, which was another feature the university asked the architects to include.

The plaza was designed by Sinclair Hille & Associates, a Lincoln architectural firm, and Sasaki Associates out of Watertown, Mass.

Dean said the point behind the

design of the fountain was to have something different and new.

"The old fountain was very traditional, and there was discussion of different kinds of fountains," Dean said. "We decided on the rocks because they are unusual, and there is nothing else like them in Lincoln."

For Broyhill, the most significant thing - more significant that appearance or function - is the history that surrounds both the old and new fountains.

"The most important thing is that it carries on the name and the tradition," he said. "That's what it's all about."

## Former 'Corn Crib' holds bands, events

BY JOSH KNAUB  
Staff writer

For more than 60 years, the Nebraska Union's Crib has served University of Nebraska-Lincoln students as a study area, food court, meeting room and concert hall.

Located inside the south entrance of the Nebraska Union, the Crib has stayed much the same in form and function since earlier than 1940, said Bill Behmer, Nebraska Union operations manager.

"The Crib has always been available for use by student groups and has always had food of some kind," Behmer said.

According to a plaque that faces the south entrance of the Union, the area was dubbed "The Corn Crib" by 1940 UNL graduate Bob Kubicek. Kubicek won a contest to name the original snack bar located in the space.

Remodeling has changed the Crib slightly, but Behmer said building planners have always tried to retain the "best parts" of the room.

The original Corn Crib snack bar is gone, but the area still serves as a place for students to eat and study.

Behmer said the last remodeling project, about 12 years ago, moved the Crib's stage from the north wall to its present location on the east side.

A small dance floor was also installed in front of the stage, and remodeling added better lighting.

Behmer said that the most distinct element retained from the original Crib was the fireplace on the west end.

UNL student groups can reserve the Crib at no cost for most events. The student group that has used the Crib the most in recent years is the University Program Council.

Robyn Seals, a UPC graduate assistant, said UPC played host to a series of Thursday night events in the Crib. Thursday Crib activities have included concerts, karaoke and a bingo night.

One of the newest UPC programs is a series of Tuesday afternoon concerts.

UPC sponsors the lunch-hour concert series on a semiweekly basis.

"So far, student response has been good," Seals said. "We've only had a couple of people say that the music is a little too loud."

Liz Zuehlke, a sophomore elementary education major, said she enjoyed the noon concert series.

"People were really responsive," she said, adding that the Crib audience applauded performers and seemed to really appreciate the music.

"The people who wanted to study went somewhere else," Zuehlke said.

One of the more interesting events held in the Crib, Behmer said, was last year's textiles and design fashion show.

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