

# That (other) 70's show

Despite  
fame,  
Cavett true  
to roots

BY DIANE BRODERICK  
Senior editor

With a psychedelic introduction featuring crazy daisies in trademark 1970s colors, "The Dick Cavett Show" combined a fairly straight-laced interviewer with notables of the time.

John Lennon and Yoko Ono, Alfred Hitchcock, Janis Joplin, Katherine Hepburn, Marlon Brando and Orson Welles all rubbed elbows with the native Nebraskan from Gibbon during his late-night talk show that emphasized high-brow humor.

His technique allowed the interviewees a certain amount of free reign. In Welles' interview, the genius of cinema gave a monologue of more than 100 minutes in length, something not too common in today's talk-show realm.

Hitchcock's appearance began with a take on his trademark silhouette, with Cavett joining in on the joke. Hitchcock then insinuated, taking a knife out of his pocket and wiping it clean, that Cavett's life had come to its end. "We'll be back

with some cutting jokes," Hitchcock said.

Cavett even sang "Don't Fence Me In" with Swedish pop group ABBA.

But Cavett first made his mark on broadcasting as a writer, said Larry Walklin, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln professor of broadcasting. Cavett started out writing for Jack Paar, Merv Griffin, Jerry Lewis and fellow Nebraskan Johnny Carson.

"What he attracts is a sort of intellectual humor crowd," Walklin said. "The better-educated people probably appreciate his humor very much."

Cavett began his own series of talk shows in 1969, with "The Dick Cavett Show" on ABC. Different forms of this program have aired on CBS, USA and CNBC.

Though Cavett attended Yale University for his college education, he received an honorary degree from UNL in the early 1980s. Walklin said he sat on the platform with Cavett before he received his award.

The higher-ups told Cavett not to make remarks when he received his degree, Walklin said. "He said, 'I'm supposed to not say anything. What do you think?'" Walklin said.

Walklin said he thought the audience would appreciate a few words.

"Right there where he was sitting, he made up some things to say," Walklin said, which offered the audience some excitement.

"He's very loyal to Nebraska, very willing to participate," Walklin said.

Cavett is a member of the Nebraska Broadcasters Association Foundation President's Club, said Dick Palmquist, the executive director of the association. Financial contributions of at least \$1,000 constitute entry to the group.

In addition, Cavett is a member of the association's 62-member hall of fame, along with such notable Nebraskans as Tom Brokaw and Carson. Cavett was inducted in 1991, and the award was presented to him over the phone, Palmquist said.

No stranger to cameos, Cavett has appeared in several films, including "Beetlejuice," "Forrest Gump" and

"Annie Hall," as well as episodes of "Cheers" and "The Simpsons." He made his Broadway debut in 1977 in a leading role in "Otherwise Engaged," a British comedy.

He has been nominated for 11 Emmy Awards and has won three.

Throughout his successes, though, Cavett has fought a few battles.

In 1992, Cavett gave an interview at a Depression and Related Affective Disorders Association/Johns Hopkins University symposium where he recounted bouts with depressive illness, the first of which he experienced his freshman year at Yale.

Years later, more serious depression descended, and Cavett said he felt total numbness, had no confidence, felt like he had no talent and "couldn't pass a couch without falling in love with it."

In 1997, Cavett launched a radio show that aired only two weeks before Cavett suffered what his attorney called a depressive episode, according to a New York Daily News story.

The producer pressed a civil breach of contract lawsuit that was later dismissed. Cavett's attorney at the time said Cavett was recovering quickly from the episode, the Daily News said.

Despite periods of depression, Cavett has continued his work in broadcasting and owns a production company in New York, Walklin said.

And Cavett's voice is now associated with the University of Nebraska, thanks to a series of spots that run during Nebraska football games and other televised university sporting events.

These 30-second spots have information about the university's academic program, said UNL spokeswoman Phyllis Larsen, and they were started about two years ago.

Despite the fact that the '70s glitz and glamour aren't evident in Cavett's new endeavor, his characteristic intelligence and charm retain his classic high-brow appeal.



MATT HANEY/DN

## Spanish artists honor films with 'street art'

MADRID, Spain (AP) - There is something unnerving about the huge hand-painted posters of movie stars mounted outside the cinemas on Madrid's Gran Via boulevard.

Julia Roberts' nose looks a little too squashed, Robert DeNiro's brow too furrowed and Catherine Zeta-Jones' cleavage just a shade too deep.

While Raul Rivera admits that his paintings of some of film's most famous faces might fall short of perfect likenesses, he insists they have a human touch that is lacking in large promotional photographs.

"What we do is not just publicity, it is art, it is street art," Rivera said of the giant paintings that can reach up to 968 square feet. "The other stuff is not special, it is so programmed."

Rivera, 30, belongs to one of the only two remaining workshops dedicated to a tradition that dates back to when the first ornate motion picture palaces sprang up along the Gran Via some 60 years ago.

Rivera started as an apprentice at 16. His favorite subject is Clint Eastwood's craggy face.

During a typical week, Rivera said, the Gran Via cinemas send out the printed publicity of their films on Tuesday, giving the workshop just three days to paint the posters and get them installed

“*What we do is not just publicity, it is art, it is street art.*”

RAUL RIVERA  
artist

on Thursday night for Friday openings. When the film finishes its run, the paintings are returned to the workshop, and the canvas is washed clean for the next assignment.

The City Council is considering banning the posters because they block the view of some of the city's most interesting facades.

One idea floated in the council is to leave the buildings free for public contemplation during the day by allowing the cinemas to project publicity onto them at night.

Rivera is confident the poster art will triumph over architectural purity in the battle to define the identity of the Gran Via - literally translated as Great Way - that sweeps east to west through central Madrid.

"Everyone says that the paintings in Madrid are unique," he said.

## CONGRATULATIONS SCOTT JOBMAN

Scott Jobman is a graduating student in chemical engineering. Leaving the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in December, Scott will begin his new career for Archer Daniels Midland Company. Scott will be working in soybean processing in North Kansas City, Missouri.

ADM is the world's largest agri-processing company and is based in Decatur, Illinois. ADM is continuing to expand throughout North America as well as in China, Europe and South America.

ADM processes corn, soybeans and other oil seeds and produces high fructose corn syrup, citric acid, Vitamin C, Vitamin E, TVPC, vegetable oil, lecithin, ethanol, as well as many other products.

Scott found out about ADM's career opportunities from career services and scheduled an interview with ADM. He interviewed in Decatur, toured production facilities, and was then hired as a production assistant.

Scott will begin training for a period of six to twelve months. During this time he will work with different technicians and engineers as well as learn about the entire process of production at the plant. He wanted the chance to have hands-on experience. Scott is eagerly awaiting his new career at ADM.

We look forward to Scott joining us.

**WELCOME TO ADM**



## Congratulations Jason Stahr

Jason Stahr is a graduating senior in Mechanized Systems Management and has chosen a career at Archer Daniels Midland Company in grain terminal operations management.

ADM is one of the largest grain and food processing companies in the world. Based in Decatur, Illinois, ADM is continually expanding throughout the United States as well as in China, Europe, Mexico, and South America.

Jason found out about ADM's career opportunities from career services on campus and scheduled an interview with ADM. After completing a two-stage interview process, Jason was offered a position as a grain terminal operations management trainee. In January, he will begin a 12-month hands-on training program that will expose him to all aspects of ADM and grain terminal operations management.

ADM is looking forward to having Jason join our team.

