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October 2005

OPC celebrated its 50th anniversary by unveiling two separate “Faces,” both television legends and former Nebraskans: Johnny Carson and Dick Cavett. Among special guests at the anniversary celebration were “Faces” from the past and former OPC presidents. Carson began his career at WOW-TV (now WOWT) in 1949. He dominated late-night TV for 30 years as “Tonight Show” host. Roaster University of Nebraska President James Milliken noted that Carson became what the *New York Times* called, upon his death in January 2005, “the biggest, most popular star American television has ever known.” Milliken also noted Carson’s generosity in donating to the university. In the drawing are Carson’s hometown of Norfolk, Neb., and Ed McMahon and Doc Severinsen from “The Tonight Show.” Also shown are characters he made famous: Art Fern, Aunt Blabby, Floyd R. Turbo and Carnac the Magnificent. A video about Carson was produced and narrated by John Knicely of WOWT, where Carson launched his career in 1949.