

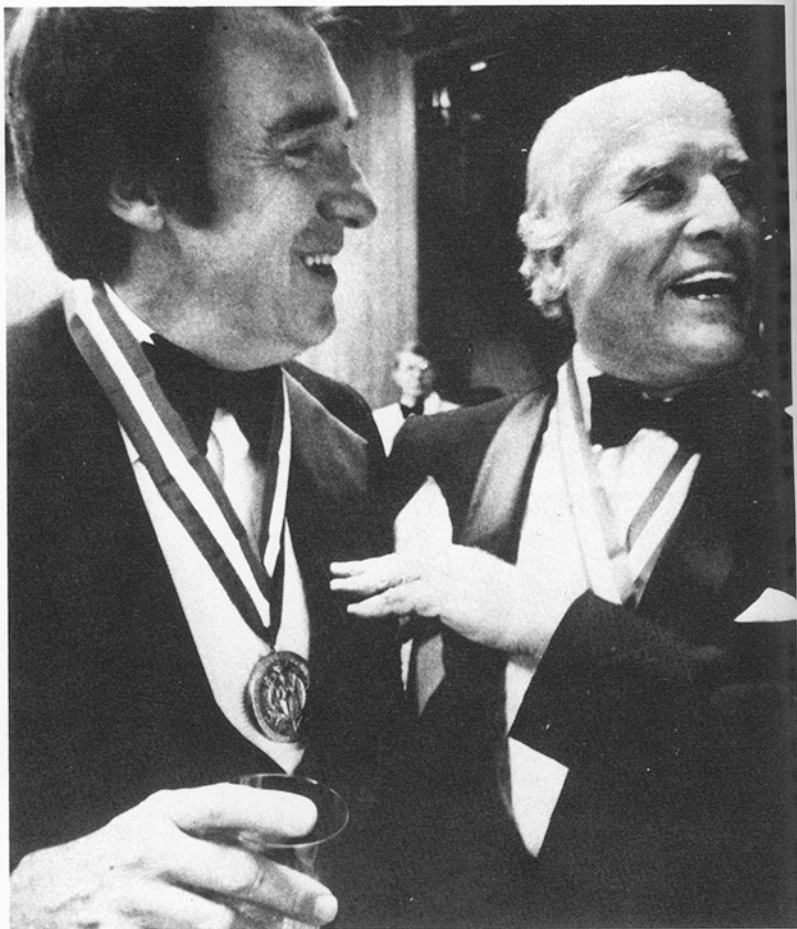
News in brief

ACADEMY—Evansville was all a-glitter Saturday night as 800 of the nation's great and near-great watched as 58 captains of business, science, sports, medicine, the arts and social fields were honored by the American Academy of Achievement. **Page 1-A.**

Sunday Courier

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800 feted at



Meet again

Two unlikely acquaintances—entertainer Jim Nabors and rocket expert Wernher von Braun—met again at the American Academy of Achievement's Banquet of the Golden Plate at the Executive Inn Saturday night. (Sunday staff picture)

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Evansville weather

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| | | | |
|--------|----|---------|----|
| Noon | 88 | 8 p.m. | 86 |
| 2 p.m. | 89 | 10 p.m. | 79 |
| 4 p.m. | 92 | 12 p.m. | 76 |
| 6 p.m. | 91 | 1 a.m. | 75 |

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glittering banquet

By **BILL GREER**
City Editor

American Academy of Achievement hosted 800 of the nation's great—and potentially great—at its glittering Evansville banquet Saturday night. And when it was all over after midnight, the Cinderella mystique lingered on in an unforgettable glow that will never quite dispell.

The Academy's 14th annual Banquet of the Golden Plate was highlighted by presentation of awards for excellence to 58 captains of business, science, sports, medicine, the arts, government and social fields.

Recipients ranged from retiring Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Caspar Weinberger to renowned rocket pioneer Wernher von Braun.

Entertainers Jim Nabors, Lowell Thomas and Art Linkletter rubbed elbows with board chairmen of some of the country's largest corporations.

Nobel Laureates shared honors with a quarterback, a pilot with a teacher of the handicapped, and an astronomer with the Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

As Academy of Achievement founder Brian Reynolds had predicted, it was the most dazzling assemblage of VIP's ever present in Evansville.

The Executive Inn Florida Room, resplendent in walls of flowers and floating candles in its swimming pool, featured a head table around three of its long sides.

Each of Saturday night's honorees responded with remarks that in total said perhaps more than they knew about the kind of people they are and how they interpreted their role of inspiring the next generation of great Americans.

And the reception given them told a great deal about the five tiers of young

Americans brought together for the pageant, too.

They gave their most prolonged applause—and two standing ovations—to a blind man who is the first sightless person admitted to a medical school in this century.

Close behind their reception of 25-year-old David Hartman was that given Dr. Anne Carlsen, who overcame being born with no arms or legs to lead a productive life as a teacher of the handicapped.

In response, some of the honorees said: "If that bunch of kids was going to form a conglomerate, I'd buy stock in it." (Ceramicist Helen Boehm.)

"It's a long way from 305 Mary St. to the Executive Inn, by way of Purdue and Miami.

"I am grateful for the people of Evansville who made available to me the facilities and the coaches when I was young...Don't turn away from a challenge—you learn more when you achieve and go on to something else." (Quarterback Bob Griese.)

"It is dubious that the tough John Wayne idol will be replaced by the tender Peter Fonda idol for young Americans." (Former teenager gang leader Joseph N. Sorrentino.)

"One ounce of love is more weighty than one pound of law." (Former Attorney General and Supreme Court Jurist Tom C. Clark.)

"One of my dreams in life as a boy was just to be healthy.

"Being healthy has made it possible for me to go around helping people...telling the kids in the hospitals to think for themselves." (Baseball great Willie Mays.)

"Don't strive for money, fame or power. Doing what you love to do, and do best:

That's success—being happy in what you do." (Entertainer Art Linkletter.)

"I am not embarrassed at all to wave the flag for God, country, motherhood or free enterprise." (Former PepsiCo chairman Herman Lay.)

Earlier at the Golden Plate banquet, famed attorney Louis Nizer gave the young people a view at life in the world of 2050, 75 years hence.

He painted a picture of transistor telephones built into finger rings, thought transference by laser belt worn about the waist, clothes that change temperature with the wearer's surroundings, and the position of the U.S. as a state in a world federation of governments.

Guests at the \$125 a plate banquet dined on strip sirloin and hearts of palm.

Executive Inn owner Robert Green was one of several persons to receive an Academy medal for meritorious service.

But always, as Reynolds stressed, it was the young people present who were the real focus of the event.

Throughout the past three days, Golden Plate winners present and past have met with 163 top youth achievers from across the country to tell them the inspiring stories of their success.

For one such as Mark McDonagh, Idaho state American Legion champion orator, the inspiration of meeting with the honorees was the most beneficial thing gained from the gathering.

"It's been interesting to note the different philosophies they have: With one man making money was the only important thing...With Jack LaLanne (see interview in today's Sports Section), healthful living was the goal.

"Only Colonel Sanders mentioned God."