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Price Fifty Cents



The "Banquet of the Golden Plate" in the Salt Palace Saturday night was as

lavish as a Hollywood extravaganza — and overflowing with "stars" from all

walks of life. As some of the national greats of today and yesteryear were

honored or presented awards, young folks — tomorrow's leaders — joined.

Awards Banquet Draws 'Giants of

It was billed as "The Gathering of the Greats." And that it was.

Some of the top names in just about every field of endeavor imaginable gathered Saturday night at the Salt Palace as the 18th annual "Banquet of the Golden Plate" was presented in spectacular fashion.

Spotlights played on the gleaming silver plates, mounted against red or black velvet. A 300-foot dais held famous people of entertainment, medicine, business, science, sports — all areas of achievement.

And as Ed "Lou Grant" Asner narrated, the notables paraded to the acceptance stand, either to receive a plate or as a past recipient to present one.

Hollywood Well Represented

Hollywood was well represented by Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda, Olivia de Havilland, Mr. Asner and others. And other notables dotted the long rows — Lt. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, now 82, the Congressional Medal of Honor winner who led an air raid on Tokyo relatively early in World War II; Dr. Michael E.

DeBakey, renowned heart surgeon, 1979 awards co-chairman and recipient of a gold medal "for extraordinary service", Indiana State coach, Bill Hodges, James L. Dutt, president and chief operating officer as well as chairman-elect of Beatrice Foods Co., Chicago and Dr. Patrick C. Steptoe, England, mastermind of the world's first test-tube baby...

The list went on and on.

A Salt Laker honored Saturday night with a Golden Plate was Dee Glenn Smith, president, Smith Management Corp. (Smith's Food King markets).

'Giants' of Achievement Gather at S.L. Banquet

Continued from Page B-1

But it was the banquet which drew the "oohs" and "aahs." It is doubtful if any of the students had seen anything on such a grand scale and equally doubtful that many of them had been treated before to such a multi-course meal.

Exhibit Hall Jammed

The Palace's Exhibit Hall was jammed with guests at tables grouped below the mammoth dais. And excitement ran high as first one and then another of the people they had seen only in the movies or on television appeared before them in real life.

Brian Blaine Reynolds, founder and executive director of the American Academy of Achievement, termed the "Salute to Excellence" the most successful in the academy's history."

He particularly noted the impact such gatherings have on the high school students participating. "We want these kids to mingle with the greats, to hear their stories, to be able to say 'They made it despite adversities. Why can't we?' That is our principle goal," Mr. Reynolds said.

Endeavor'

Another Utahian, Dr. Russel M. Nelson, surgeon, was cited Thursday night for his humanitarianism and church and civic contributions.

Also prominent among the guest of honor were hundreds of the nation's high school students, including 23 Utahans, who for the last two days have heard the what the academy calls "Giants of Endeavor" tell their success stories and warn of obstacles along the way.

The final symposium for the array of top scholars was held Saturday morning at Hotel Utah.

Those receiving Golden Plates included Mr. Hodges; Paul William "Bear" Bryant, Alabama University football coach; Mr. Dutts; Joni Eareckson, author; Chester H. Ferguson, business executive and financier; actor Henry Fonda; Richard "Racehorse" Haynes, "perhaps the most successful defense attorney in America;" Christopher B. Hemmeyer, "Hawaii's Businessman of the Year."

Other Notables

Also, Ruth Beebe Hill, author; Gerald D. Hines, "America's master builder Ray Hunt, oil company executive; Gen. David C. Jones, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff; Dr. Henry S. Kaplan, cancer researcher; Donald M. Kendall, board chairman and chief executive officer of Pepsi Co.; Guy Lafleur, professional hockey superstar; Louis L'Amour, author.

Also, Navy Capt. Eugene "Red" McDaniel, commanding officer, USS Lexington; Dr. Linus Pauling, chairman Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine; Dr. Arno A. Penzias, Bell Laboratories research director; Jay A. Pritzker, lawyer-entrepreneur; Gov. Dixy Lee Ray of Washington; Billy Sims, all-American college halfback; Mr. Smith; Dr. Steptoe; C.Y. Tung, Hong Kong navigation corporation executive, and Naomi Uemura, first man to reach the North Pole alone.

Tribune Staff Photo by Paul Fraughton