

Fort Hays State University

FHSU Scholars Repository

Tomanek Hall

Buildings & Facilities

August 1995

Tomanek Hall: Newspaper, Tomanek Hall dedicated at ceremony Saturday, August 29, 1995

Crickett Reese

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholars.fhsu.edu/tomanek>

Recommended Citation

Reese, Crickett, "Tomanek Hall: Newspaper, Tomanek Hall dedicated at ceremony Saturday, August 29, 1995" (1995). *Tomanek Hall*. 30.

<https://scholars.fhsu.edu/tomanek/30>

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the Buildings & Facilities at FHSU Scholars Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Tomanek Hall by an authorized administrator of FHSU Scholars Repository.

The University Leader

Tuesday, Aug. 29, 1995

Fort Hays State University

Volume 90 Number 4

Tomanek Hall dedicated at ceremony Saturday

Crickett Reese
Ad Representative

Dedication ceremonies for Tomanek Hall were Saturday in the Beach-Schmidt Performing Arts Center.

The three-story, 85,000 square foot facility was dedicated to the former president of Fort Hays State University, Gerald W. Tomanek, who spent nearly 50 years of his career involved in the university and its students.

At Saturday's dedication ceremony for Jerry Tomanek Hall, Jerry and Ardis Tomanek "humbly" accepted the honor bestowed upon them and their family.

Throughout the afternoon, Tomanek often thanked his well wishers gratefully, although he often protested many others were just as deserving of the honor.

Joining Tomanek Saturday were current FHSU President Ed Hammond; Mike Hayden, former governor of Kansas; Pat Roberts, U.S. Congressman; and Kenneth Havner, Kansas Board of Regents.

Also in attendance for the ceremony were Bette Sebelius and her two sons Doug and Gary Sebelius.

Mrs. Sebelius and her sons were in attendance for the dedication of the Keith G. Sebelius Lobby, located in Tomanek Hall, dedicated in memory of her late husband former Republican Congressman Keith Sebelius.

Sebelius received his bachelor of arts degree from FHSU and his law degree from George Washington University.

Sebelius was appointed to the Kan-

sas State Senate in 1962 and served for six years. He later was elected to the 91st U.S. Congress and served for six terms. In 1981 Sebelius retired from public service.

Rep. Sebelius served on the Board of Trustees of the FHSU Endowment Association, was president of the FHSU Alumni Association and twice received distinguished achievement awards from the University.

Both Hayden and Roberts reminisced about their friends and colleagues Tomanek and Sebelius.

Roberts recalled Sebelius as being "the loudest cheerleader for Fort Hays State" at Capitol Hill. In fact, while attending the university, Sebelius was indeed a cheerleader. Sebelius' family donated his megaphone that is in an encased display in the lobby of Tomanek Hall.

Roberts entertained the audience by saying "while in Congress Keith was lobbied by several people. Now he finally has his own lobby."

Although Bob Dole and Bill Graves schedules prohibited them from attending the ceremony, both sent letters expressing their congratulations to both Tomanek and Sebelius.

Tomanek first came to FHSU as a freshman in 1938. After World War II he joined the biology faculty and eventually became the chair of the department, chair of the division, vice president of academic affairs and finally to the presidency, which he held from 1976 until his retirement in 1987, according to a press release.

An expert on the prairies and grass-



Tomanek dedication
see page 4

GRAND OPENING Ardis and Jerry Tomanek, Kenneth Havner and President Hammond, celebrate after the ribbon cutting at Tomanek Hall on Saturday afternoon. Tomanek served as president of the university for eleven years. (University Leader photo by Mark Bowers)



HORSING AROUND Five-year-old grandson of Jerry Tomanek, Austin Morris, and his cousin, Mark Stanton, Independence, Mo., pass the time during the Tomanek Hall dedication ceremony Friday afternoon. (University Leader photo by Matt Shepker)

Tomanek dedication
from page 1

lands, he twice served Argentine farmers and ranchers as a consultant. He worked closely with CBS Television on a special program about prairies and grasslands, according to a press release.

Tomanek was highly respected by the students and faculty of FHSU. On Saturday many people attested to the warmth and caring spirit of Tomanek.

Patti Scott, director of student health, remembered Tomanek's kind-

ness when she first became part of the nursing faculty.

"He is always kind, and caring. He cared about his students, colleagues and the university very much," Scott said.