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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Sorensen lecture Nov. 18 to be simulcast in North Platte

In his recently published memoirs, Theodore C. “Ted” Sorensen, special counsel and advisor to President John F. Kennedy, jokes about the way he likely will be remembered. Sorensen will speak Nov. 18 at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln, as part of the 2008-09 E.N. Thompson Lectures on World Issues.

The lecture will be simulcast at 7 p.m. (CT) on the South Campus of Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, in addition to remote sites in Scottsbluff, Kearney, Columbus, Wayne and Omaha, with financial support from the Cooper Foundation.

“During my 11 years with JFK, my most important national contributions—advising him on civil rights, on the decision to go to the moon and especially on the Cuban missile crisis—did not center on the speechwriting,” Sorensen writes. “In the more than four decades that have passed since his death, neither my activities as a lawyer nor those in international affairs have made much use of my speechwriting experience. Yet I have little doubt that, when my time comes, my obituary in the New York Times (misspelling my last name once again) will be captioned: ‘Theodore Sorenson, Kennedy Speechwriter.’”

Sorensen’s lecture is entitled “America and the World, 1962 to 2008: Contrasts and Contradictions.” A widely published author on the presidency and foreign affairs, Sorensen practiced international law for more than 36 years in the prominent U.S. law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. He is a Lincoln native and graduate of the University of Nebraska College of Law. His memoirs, “Counselor: A Life at the Edge of History,” were published in May.

Other remote simulcast sites include Room C-1 in the Main Building at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, Room 101 in the Communications Center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Room 205 in the West Education Center at Central Community College in Columbus, Connell Hall Auditorium at Wayne State College, and Room 132 in the Collaborating Commons at the College of Public Affairs and Community Service on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. All simulcasts are free and open to the public.

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