

# Kings Ballroom has bigtime charisma

Opinion by MAX GRONETHAL

Some of you still might be chuckling over last Thursday's entertainment section headline "Norfolk Hits the Bigtime?"

But for those of you who took time out to drive up to Kings in Norfolk last Saturday night, you know that it was the "Bigtime" plus when Buddy Rich walked on stage with his 16 piece all-star band. The crowds hit the ceiling in voicing their approval after each number.

Besides Rich's virtuosic drumming, his band boasts some of the finest young jazz musicians in the nation. Truly a night of fine entertainment.

There's a story behind King's Ballroom that dates back 10 or 15 years. Jack King, who also owned the Kings in Shelby, was proprietor until this winter when Joe Hupp Jr., formerly of the Smoke Ring, and now their manager and booking agent, bought Kings. Joe, not too old himself, remembered the days when it was the big thing on Friday night in Norfolk to trip out to Kings for the teen dances.

For some reason, Kings eventually closed their teenage dances and left a void in youth entertainment not only for Norfolk but the entire Nebraska area. Armory dances just didn't seem to cut it and the myriad of other locations more or less fizzled out.

Joe seems to have brought an answer to this problem, not only for teens but also for the 20 and above group. In a separated area, fenced off to keep out the "gummers", is a bar where those 20 and over can be served their favorite un-cola. This aspect of entertainment has widened the scope of Joe's crowd appeal and beats sitting in the parking lot, while the band is on a break, and tipping a few.

As far as future entertainment goes, Joe has plans for the Box Tops, other big bands like the Dorsey orchestra, some big country names including Buck Owens, and for summer, talk of Three Dog Night and groups of this caliber has been mentioned. Also, to fill the gap between national groups there will be outstanding midwest groups.

With the all-around atmosphere of a very studley place, top flight entertainment and for a drive that is really shorter than the one to the "Red Dog" in Lawrence, with the added bonus of high point beer, Kings Ballroom in Norfolk, Nebr., is a good bet for an evening of exciting entertainment. Watch for coming attractions, and the next time you find yourself bored on a Friday night, head to Norfolk.

## Celebrate!—Beethoven's 200th

The fifth and sixth in a series of concerts of Beethoven's piano sonatas being presented by the University of Nebraska's Sheldon Art Gallery will be held Friday and Sunday.

The programs, in honor of the 200th birthday of the great German composer, are held at

8 p.m. in the Sheldon Gallery Auditorium, 12th and R.

Friday night's performance will be by Paul Moore, professor of piano at Emporia (Kan.) State Teachers College. Sunday night, Dennis Schweiger, professor of piano at Hastings College, will be featured.

The series was organized for Sheldon by Larry Lusk, associate professor of piano. The programs are free and open to the public.

## Martz edits

### Nebraska Review

A junior from Lincoln has been named as editor of the "University of Nebraska Review" for the 1970-71 school year.

Murray Martz, an English major, said he hopes to publish more issues of the "Review" and that he will probably standardize the format.

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