

Commissioners block Hibler concerts

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In Lincoln the English band Yes performed in Pershing Auditorium July 2. The group displayed incredible musicianship through "Close to the Edge" and "Long Distance Roundabout." One thing the concert proved: Keyboard performer Rick Wakeman's absence will not mean the end of this group.

The fifth annual Belmont Rally concert with Jerry Jeff Walker, the Lost Gonzo Band and Doug Kershaw was almost called off five days before the June 29 event.

Apparently some fearful citizens voiced visions of rape, drugs and mayhem to Lancaster County commissioners. The commission voted to grant Belmont Enterprises an amusement license, but denied their request to sell beer to anyone of legal age.

Commissioner Bruce Hamilton was the man of the hour at the Wednesday afternoon hearing where concert supporters were in the majority.

"Outdoor music concerts are popular with the young. These people deserve to enjoy this as much as others deserve to

enjoy Billy Graham," he said shortly before moving to grant Belmont Enterprises the amusement license.

Not so lucky

University of Nebraska-Lincoln assistant English professor David Hibler (and promotion man come lately) wasn't so lucky over the summer. Hibler had hoped to get a one-year license to present concerts in his backyard, but after the Belmont Rally go-round, the commission decided certain parking, security and health standards must be met—standards which they thought Hibler couldn't enforce.

Hibler, with rock-studded fantasies dancing in his head, is the guiding force behind The Boys, who have released "(She's My Girl) She's All Mine" and "I'm Not Satisfied" on Outrage Records.

The 45 has all the LP trappings—a dedication and acknowledgment sheet and a double post card with one-half for fan club information, the other half an evaluation form.

Try harder

"There is no other 45 package like it,"

Hibler said, although he mentioned that Elvis Presley and the Beatles have tried the same thing. "But we feel like Avis, we've got to try harder."

The Nebraska rock band Straight also recorded a tape for an album. The group's new producer, Norm Ratner (also producer of the Hues Corporation), hopes to market it to a major label.

Several of the School of Music's best voices closed their UNL operatic careers in George Bizet's *Carmen*. Among these performers are Rick Brandt and John Brandstetter, who were an active part of the opera program for several years.

For those who associate opera with stuffiness and a dead art form, this production could have changed all that. The opera was more a musical drama than a grand opera since it was performed in English and the recitative sections were spoken rather than sung. And even though the story is set against the fantasy background of bullfighters, gypsies and thieves, the emotions are timeless and very human.

Faculty Orientation

UNL will welcome new faculty members at an orientation beginning at 1 p.m. today at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

The orientation also will familiarize new faculty members with UNL and allow them to meet other faculty members, according to Gene Harding, director of UNL's Teaching and Learning Center.

This year's welcome and orientation will be less formal, Harding said, because individual departments and colleges are doing more to welcome new faculty members and provide them with information.

He said that there are about 150 new faculty members at UNL.

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(dates and titles subject to change)

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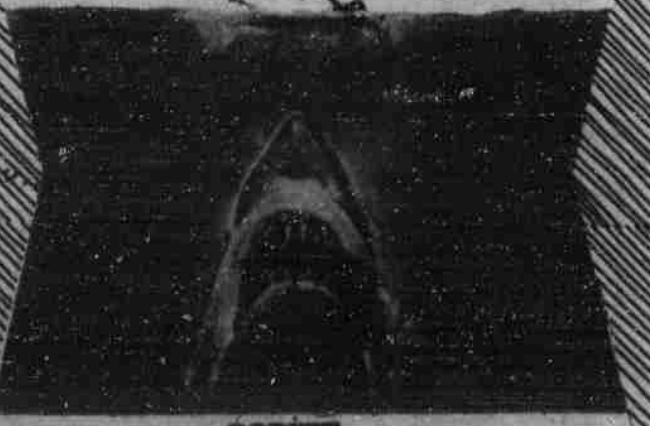
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