

Complaints causing increase in police at concerts

By Anne Carothers

Handcuffs, busts and undercover policemen will be an addition to the rock concerts at Pershing Municipal Auditorium.

However, the increase in policemen at rock concerts was not requested by Pershing, but was a move by the Lincoln Police Dept. said Ivan Hoig, Pershing Auditorium director.

There were 50 arrests at the Z Z Top concert Saturday and 61 arrests at the Boston concert March 19. Most of the arrests were for possession of marijuana, said Lincoln policeman, Doug Ohlberg.

Approximately 30 to 35 policemen were at both concerts. There were several plainclothes policemen as well as officers positioned at the gates, Ohlberg said.

Hoig said there are normally eight to 10 policemen at

a rock concert in addition to eight to 10 of Pershing's security guards.

"Security is no problem at the concerts. The kids are no problem, we don't have any fights or rapes. We have more problems with high school basketball games," Hoig added.

Ohlberg said the increased law enforcement at the concerts was a result of complaints about the "noise and instability of the people attending the concert" made by people who worked at Pershing as well as people who attended concerts.

Carey Kerr, a KFHQ disc jockey, said the station had been warning people about the increase in undercover agents at the concerts. Their broadcasts about the increase in police officers began before the Boston concert and are continuing now.

He added that he didn't think the increase in police at the concerts would have any effect on KFMQ's concert schedule or that KFMQ would try to get groups that may be labeled as more sedate.

Hoig said he didn't think there were any rock groups that would be unacceptable at Pershing. The groups are not encouraging the people to smoke marijuana, he added.

Hoig said that since Pershing is a municipal property, the City Council did have the power to stop certain groups from playing at Pershing, but he did not think the council would do that.

He also said he did not think the City Council was knowledgeable enough about the subject to make a decision without consulting him, and Hoig said he would not recommend restricting some groups.

Plans effectiveness...

Continued from p. 1

Olson said many faculty members feel there is too much emphasis on undergraduate education and teaching.

Steven Sample, executive vice president for Academic Affairs presented a report at the March 19 regents meeting on university progress in undergraduate education.

He said a Faculty Activity Survey conducted last spring measured the number of hours on an average that instructors devote to instruction related activities.

The survey showed about 36 hours of an average 57 hour work week were spent by instructors in this area.

Olson said in past years students seem to have had less difficulty contacting professors.

"I hear fewer students saying they can't get to the professor for counseling, so things may be getting better," he said. "But the only way to really know is to ask the students."

Olson said the University's Affirmative Action Program has not been successful and has not received much support.

The Affirmative Action program, approved by the regents in 1974, established some procedures to eliminate sex and racial discrimination within the university.

In 1976 similar plans were mandated by federal law

which would eliminate the underutilization of the handicapped, disabled veterans and Vietnam veterans as students and employees of the University. These plans are to come before the regents for approval early this year.

"Some departments have done well in attempting to hire women and minorities," Olson said. "My own department has recruited more minorities than they used to. But there are still many all-male departments."

Excellence needed

Olson said not enough action has been taken in developing excellence in teaching and staff development.

"The process of giving rewards at the university is tied to research and not to the quality of undergraduate teaching," he said.

The use of student evaluations as a means of evaluating instructors is slowly being implemented, Olson said. The College of Arts and Sciences has just begun to take student evaluations into account, he added.

"Some improvement has been made though. It is very difficult for a very bad teacher to become a full professor," he said. "Hopefully, in the future it will be impossible."

Olson said departments should work on developing staff members where there is an oversupply. Faculty should be retrained to work with students in other areas, he said.

"Teachers and Business College are about the only colleges making any effort in this staff development," he said. "It's my impression that not a great deal of action

has been encouraged here."

University responsibility

Ned Hedges, asst. vice chancellor of student affairs, said responsibility for implementing the five-year plan guidelines are university wide.

"It is the responsibility of every one in the university to see that we reach the goals. It requires input from faculty, students and administration members," he said.

According to Alan Seagren assistant vice chancellor for program development, specific responsibility for the plan falls under the regents, and the individual campus chancellors.

Seagren said the effectiveness of the plan is difficult to measure.

"It is difficult for me to define 'quality' of education. The five-year plan attempts to set some guidelines, some direction around which the university can grow and develop," he said. "It is only a broad game plan."

Seagren said the university has followed the program and "generally there has been improvement in teaching and the quality of education."

He said the faculty has a strong commitment to undergraduate education.

Seagren said in addition to the five-year plan, each campus has adopted a set of goals for improving education and departments on the individual campuses.

Since there are important differences among undergraduate programs and the improvements needed, each campus has different goals, Seagren said.

The UNL plan, a four-year plan, is aimed at improving the use of student evaluations, reducing class size and developing teaching materials, he said.

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