

Lincoln business appreciates high school invasion

By Kevin Schnepf
Sports editor

Thousands of words have been written about the high school invasion to Lincoln last weekend.

Teens skip along the sidewalks, their eyes bugged out at the 13th floor of the NBC Center and letter jacket wearers consider Big Macs a royal treat.

But no matter what words are written to describe the mad rush of a state high school basketball tournament, Lincoln businesses consider the invasion a royal treat themselves.

The manager of Arby's Restaurant at 14 and Q streets, a haven for some college students as well, called last weekend's crowd an enjoyment. "It's a lot of work, but we have a fun time when they come down here. We enjoy them coming to Lincoln," manager John Whittington said.

The Lincoln Center Association, which promotes downtown businesses and activities, is so appreciative of the tournament crowd each year that it sends each school an 11-by-14-inch picture of the basketball team. The note which accompanies the picture reads, "Congratulations for making it to the state tournament. Thank-you for coming to Lincoln and keep coming back."

Miller and Paine's public relations man says that during the tournament his customers "are a little younger but they're good people."

Good people, indeed. Although no official statistics have yet been compiled, Lanny Jorgensen of the Lincoln Center Association says the crowds are a big welcome.

"February and March are not big retail months for downtown businesses," Jorgensen said. "So any of these events like the girls' and boys' tournaments are a big welcome."



Photo by Ted Kirk

Between halves of a basketball game at Pershing Auditorium, boys spend a little extra on the pinball machines.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Believe it or not these fans are having a good time.

Downtown businesses prepare for the invasion by staffing more people as was the case at Arby's, Chesterfields Bottomsly and Potts and even Horsefeather's

At Arby's, business increased about 30 percent according to Whittington, so more people were needed to satisfy the high schoolers. "It went smooth because we were prepared. It was a little more boistrous but sometimes the university kids can be just as bad. They were just well-behaved."

Although some of the employees at Chesterfields didn't look forward to the mad rush of out of towners, the management looks forward to the increased business. Chesterfield's assistant manager said a lot of the kids tried to get in after 8 p.m. but the doorman was there to stop them.

The Lincoln Police Department minimized the number of days off allowed for officers in order to control the crowds.

"There's no way you can compare it to a football game day," sergeant Doug Ahlberg said. "On game days, you know when the people will be arriving and leaving, but with the state tournament, the staggered times make it a continuous job."

Few problems occurred such as vandalism, and drunken driving Ahlberg said.

"Everybody is up here to have a good time," Ahlberg said. "Most people here are guests of the city so they're treated like guests." But if these guests break the law, then the same type of enforcement occurs, Ahlberg said.

The high school spectacles of wrestling and girls and boys basketball may have disrupted the normal lives of Lincoln citizens, but for downtown businesses, the disruption is welcomed with open arms during the cold months of the year.

wednesday

EVENING

- 6:00 ●●●●● NEWS
- EMERGENCY ONE
- DICK VAN DYKE SHOW
- PREPARING CHILDREN FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
- 6:30 ● WHEN HAVOC STRUCK "S.O.S.-Disasters At Sea"
- MARY TYLER MOORE
- TO TELL THE TRUTH
- CONCENTRATION
- MUPPET SHOW Guest: Nancy Walker
- ODD COUPLE
- MUPPET SHOW Guest: Elton John
- 7:00 ● MACNEIL LEHRER REPORT
- NEWLYWED GAME



ALL YOU NEED IS CASH

- THE LIFE AND TIMES OF GRIZZLY ADAMS A widower travelling with his 9-year-old son loses most of his gear in a severe mountain storm, and learns the true meaning of Easter when he joins Adams and the Indian chiefs, Silver Fox and Watani, in their respective religious observances. (90 min.)
- EIGHT IS ENOUGH The extremely self-assured daughter of a prominent contractor showers David with expensive gifts in an attempt to buy his affections. (60 min.)
- THE RETURN OF CAPTAIN NEMO Nemo and his crew finally reach their destination, Atlantis, but find the reception there far from friendly due to a previous visit by the evil Prof Cunningham. Guest star: Horst Buchholz. (90 min.)
- ADAM 12
- NOVA "The Mind Machines" Some scientists believe it won't be long before computers can think better than their creators. This documentary looks at the "monster" man has created and predicts its future. (60 min.)
- 7:30 ● HOLLYWOOD CONNECTION
- MOVIE "1/2" "The Main Attraction" 1983 Pat Boone, Nancy Kwan, A young American dither joins a traveling circus in Italy and falls in love with a bareback rider. (2 hrs.)
- 8:00 ● MOVIE "1/2" "The General Died At Dawn" 1936 Gary Cooper, Madeline Carroll. Intrigues encountered by soldier of fortune attempting to purchase ammunition for Chinese to fight war lord. (2 hrs.)
- CHARLIE'S ANGELS Kris lands a singing and dancing role as she, Sabrina and Kelly in-

- investigate a series of "accidents" on the set of a movie musical. (R; 60 min.)
- WEDNESDAY NIGHT MOVIE "The Big Bus" Stars: Joseph Bologna, Stockard Channing. The transcontinental maiden voyage of the world's first nuclear-powered bus becomes an action-packed ride fraught with danger and hilarity. (2 hrs.)
- LAWRENCE WELK SHOW
- GREAT PERFORMANCES "Verdi Requiem" Herbert von Karajan conducts the La Scala Orchestra in a performance of Verdi's Requiem. Soloists are Leontyne Price, Florence Cossotto, Luciano Pavarotti, Nicolai Ghiaurov and Henry Georges Clouzot. (90 min.)
- 8:30 ●●● ALL YOU NEED IS CASH Mick Jagger, Paul Simon, George Harrison, Eric Idle, Dan Aykroyd and Gilda Radner host a parody of the music and movies of a certain world-famous rock quartet from Liverpool, England. (90 min.)
- 9:00 ●●● PERRY COMO'S EASTER BY THE SEA A singing celebration to Easter produced on location at San Diego's beautiful Sea World. Guests: Debby Boone, Kenny Rogers, Flo the Walrus and Shamu. (60 min.)
- GUNSMOKE
- 9:30 ● NEWS
- UNL '78
- 10:00 ● STAR TREK "Bread And Circuses" (60 min.)
- NEWS
- ODD COUPLE
- DICK CAVETT SHOW Guests: Comedy writers David Lloyd, writer for the Mary Tyler Moore Show, and Marshall Brickman co-author with Woody Allen of several films
- 10:30 ●●● THE TONIGHT SHOW Host Johnny Carson. Guests

- McLean Stevenson, Jodie Foster. (90 min.)
- POLICE STORY—MYSTERY OF THE WEEK Police Story—"The Ten Year Honeymoon" Two partners on the police force start getting on each others nerves after ten years together, when one begins acting strange. (R) Mystery of the Week—"Dial A Deadly Number" A scheming unemployed actor pretends to be a psychiatrist. (R; 2 hrs., 30 min.)
- FOREVER FERNWOOD
- MOVIE "1/2" "Grand Hotel" 1932 Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford. Germany's Grand Hotel is the scene for love and drama during a 24-hour period. (2 hrs., 25 min.)
- CBS LATE MOVIE "Hawaii Five-O" McGarrett discovers a criminal ring hijacking air cargo shipments while he's investigating the death of an airport security undercover agent. (R) "Kojak: Wall Street Gunslinger" Stars: Telly Savalas, Kevin Dobson. (R)
- LEGISLATIVE REVIEW
- GUNSMOKE
- 11:00 ● CBS LATE MOVIE "Hawaii Five-O" A mentally unstable Vietnam veteran begins firing on Hawaiian motorists from a hillside bunker. (R) "Kojak: Slay Ride" Stars: Telly Savalas, Kevin Dobson. (R)
- FIRING LINE Host: William F. Buckley, Jr. (60 min.)
- 12:00 ● WRESTLING
- TOMORROW Host Tom Snyder. Guest: Henry Kyemba, Uganda's exiled Minister of Health. (60 min.)
- 12:30 ● NEWS
- 12:55 ● NEWS
- 1:00 ● MOVIE "1/2" "The General Died At Dawn" 1936 Gary Cooper, Madeline Carroll. (90 min.)
- NEWS
- 1:25 ● DRAGNET
- 1:45 ● FOCUS
- 2:30 ● LOVE AMERICAN STYLE
- 3:00 ● DICK VAN DYKE SHOW
- 3:30 ● NIGHT GALLERY
- 4:00 ● THRILLER
- 5:00 ● UNTAMED WORLD
- 5:30 ● WILDLIFE THEATRE