

# Complex availability restricts concerts—UPC chairperson

By Kent Warneke

Because of scheduling difficulties, a limited number of concerts are in sight for this spring, according to the Concerts Committee chairperson for the University Program Council.

"All we can do is keep in constant contact with various agents and promoters and keep our ears open for groups going on tour and then decide if we want to try for them," said Stuart Kolnick, when talking about the difficulty of scheduling concerts for UNL.

"If we do think that we would like them to appear in Lincoln, because of a good crowd appeal and other reasons, then we go ahead and try to buy a show of the tour to be performed at Lincoln or go through a promotor," Kolnick said.

"The main thing is just to let the promoters and agents constantly know that we are interested in bringing shows to Lincoln."

Jethro Tull appears as the most likely candidate for a spring performance in Lincoln because of the assuredness of a Tull concert tour and also his promotor's interest in Lincoln.

**Tull likely**

"Tull looks to be a leading candidate for a show in Lincoln in the late spring," Kolnick said. "He's performed at Omaha recently and drew around 10,000 people and that's enough for us."

"But we're still at the mercy of the promotor until he calls us up and gives us a definite answer," Kolnick said.

"Led Zeppelin, Elton John and the Rolling Stones all could possibly have a tour in the near future and if that happens we'll look into each of them."

A Bob Dylan show in Lincoln in the spring is another possibility, based on the information Dylan's promoters have given out.

"Dylan's promoters tentatively thought of an Omaha concert in the fall of last year which went through and then a

show in Lincoln in the spring," Kolnick said.

The concerts committee is at a disadvantage because of the limited availability of the Sports Complex, an ideal setting for a major concert performance.

**Complex use limited**

"Right now, the Sports Complex is off limits to us from around Nov. 1 through March 15 because of the basketball season," Kolnick said. "Only if a very major show came along that would be very profitable, would the Sports Complex agree to let us use their facilities."

"That really only leaves us a four-week time slot in the spring to book concerts, since we really don't want to schedule one during either dead week or finals week," Kolnick said. "And that's a very slim time for performers to be on tour and also going through the Midwest."

"We're really at the mercy of the promoters and the groups themselves," Kolnick said. "If they know they're good and we can't offer them what they think they deserve, they'll go elsewhere," Kolnick said.

"Most big name performers want a large percentage of the take and also a flat fee at an absolute minimum, but some promoters can be talked down to a flat fee," Kolnick said.

"Fleetwood Mac and Crosby, Stills and Nash each made approximately \$60,000 when we had them last year and we made around \$5,000 apiece."

Lincoln does offer one major advantage for tour-going performers, Kolnick said.

"We are in a prime routing position," Kolnick explained. "We're right in the middle of major touring stops in the midwest, such as Denver, Kansas City and Chicago and instead of a long flight, groups may want to break it up and schedule one more performance in-between playing dates."

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