

Union cuts faculty club food because of projected losses

By Barb Richardson

In a unanimous vote the Nebraska Union Board cancelled the Union's controversial catering contract with the Faculty Club Wednesday night.

The cancellation will be effective May 12. The Union's food service now caters lunch to the club.

Acting Director of the Unions Daryl Swanson presented figures to the board that estimated the food service will lose \$4,228 this year under the Faculty Club contract. The figures showed that as of February 28, the Union food service has lost \$2,819 in the contract.

Swanson said he told the president of the Faculty Club earlier in the day that if the Union continued to cater to the club, prices would have to increase 40 percent to compensate for the loss.

The board also voted to limit the Unions' hours on Easter Sunday, April 15.

On Easter, the city union will be open between 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. and the east union will be open 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

In 1977 the city union was open during regular Sunday hours and grossed \$55.07, according to figures provided by board member Frank Kuhn. He told the group it costs at least \$10 an hour to operate the Union.

Before a vote was taken, board member Marc Davies said that closing the Unions completely would be unfair to students who do not go home for Easter.

Swanson said a move to close the Union completely may be viewed as unfair by non-Christian students.

President John Kreuzer told the board that no decision has been made yet about turning the Union Bookstore and campus vending over to the Union.

Dr. Richard Armstrong, vice chancellor for student affairs, is asking that the bookstore pay rent—\$2 a square foot—for space the bookstore occupies, Kreuzer said.

"The bookstore disagrees that they should pay rent at all," Swanson said. He said the bookstore said it is providing a service to the students so, they should not be charged rent.

Swanson said the bookstore has yet to release financial information to Union officials or to Armstrong.

Swanson said that he has heard accusations that because the Union is losing money Union officials are using the bookstore as a way out of its problems.

College Days sponsored

Alpha Zeta agricultural fraternity is sponsoring Ag College Days Thursday and Friday for about 2,500 high school students who will attend conventions and contests on East Campus Thursday through Saturday.

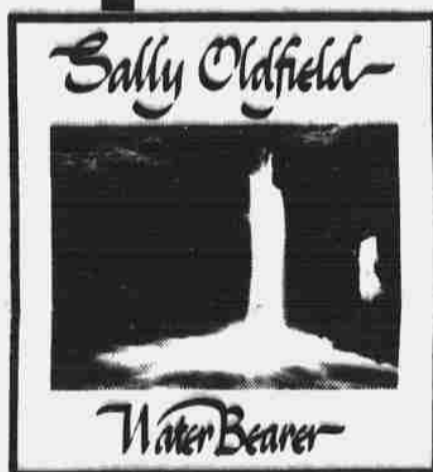
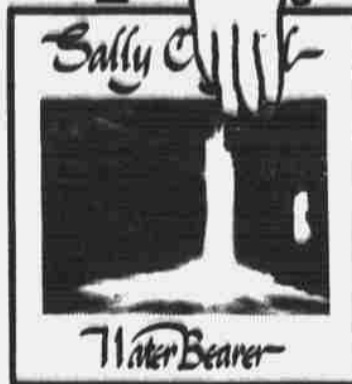
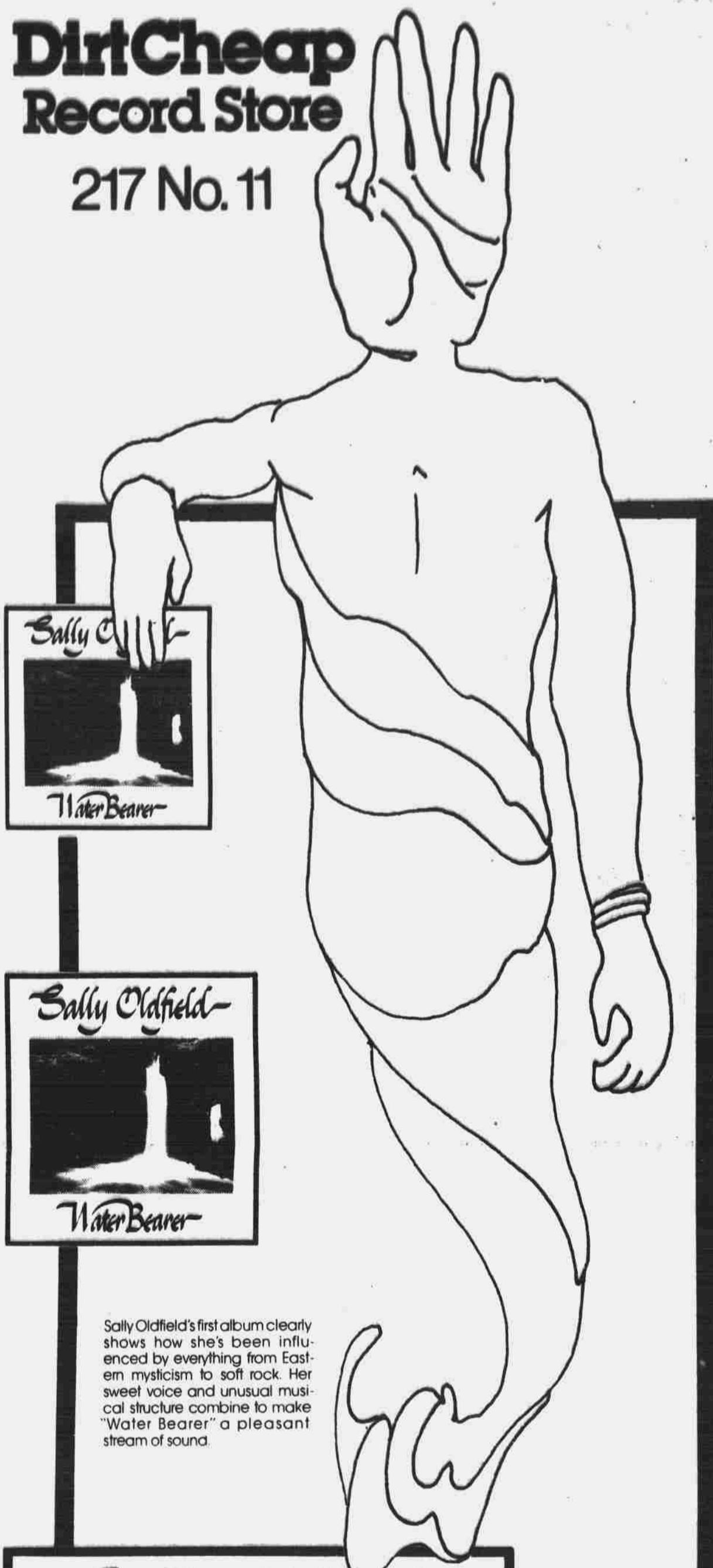
Ag College Days give prospective UNL students a chance to visit and ask questions about the UNL College of Agriculture, said Leon Wissman, assistant instructor of agricultural education.

High school students are invited to the East Campus Activities Building from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

The students are visiting the campus for the annual Nebraska Future Farmers of America convention and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources agriculture-vocational contests.

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entertainment

Performers' concert demands are reasonable—halt managers

By Kent Warneke

Major concert performers are sometimes noted for making eccentric, trivial and demanding requests on concert hall managers when they are booked for a concert.

But according to Pershing Auditorium manager Irv Chesen and Paul Schneider, administrative assistant at the Devaney Sports Center, there are good reasons for these demands and most of them are not that unusual anyway.

"They're performers who may be traveling all over the country and if they make some requests that we can provide, then we'll try and fill those requests," Chesen said.

According to Schneider, "most of the people we work with are not overly demanding with their requests, but we still review all the requests and decide what we can and can't do."

Cold cuts and cheese

Most of the small requests are for food, beverages and dressing room requirements.

"A lot of them will just ask for cold cuts and cheese, beer and whiskey, while some may have expensive tastes and want caviar and truffles," Chesen said. "For the Outlaws and UFO concert we served them a full steak dinner before their performance."

Requests in the contract for the upcoming Jethro Tull concert at the Sports Center include six dressing rooms, one with full-length mirrors and all with dressing tables with mirrors and lights. If they are not available a motor home must be provided. They requested that the temperature remain below 68 degrees Fahrenheit before and during the performance and they requested a portable drinking fountain backstage.

"Our own experience here is that we

have had no real trouble from any of the performers about our facilities. In fact John Denver was very enthusiastic about the acoustics of the complex and how the show was handled," Schneider said.

Low profile

"We just try to keep a low profile and keep things well disciplined and ask the audience to adhere to the rules, because that's what the performers like," Schneider said. "In addition we'll keep track of the performers causing troubles in other cities and try to steer away from them."

According to Chesen, performers for the most part act like professionals, because if they get a reputation for being hard to work with the concert halls may tend to shy away from them.

"It's like having a guest in your home," Chesen said. "You're going to try to please them as much as possible, but you're not in a position to jump up and down to their every whim."

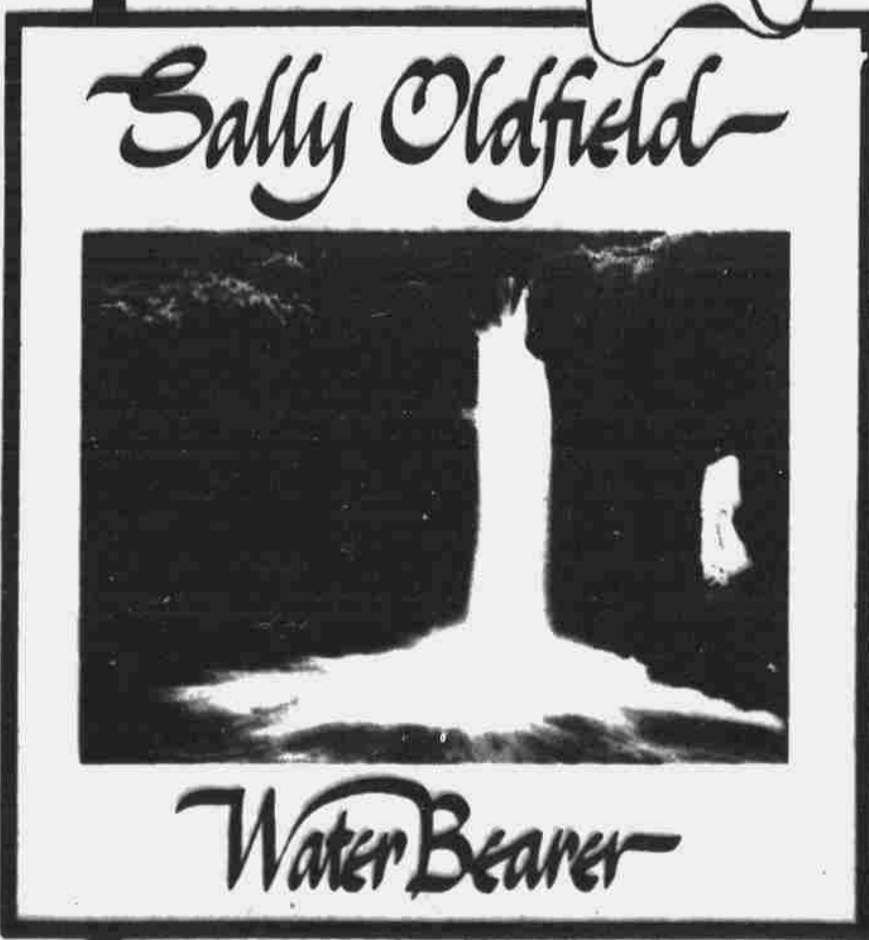
More demanding

What may come as a surprise to some is that the lesser known the performer is, the more demanding he or she will be.

"These lesser known stars think they have to demand all these things because they want to act the big guys," Schneider said. "In reality, the biggest stars are the easiest ones to please."

"When Red Skelton was at the complex he stood and talked to people for two hours after his performance and John Denver sang straight through for two hours and fifteen minutes and wasn't demanding at all," Schneider said. "All he asked was that we try and keep people out of the aisles when he was singing."

"It's these kinds of people that you're going to remember and they're the ones you're going to try your hardest to get to come back again," Schneider said.



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