## Old Blue Eyes still wows 'em

You might be asking yourself why Frank Sinatra is coming to Lincoln April 19 as part of UPC's major concerts series.

Old Blue Eyes would draw a crowd of America's middle aged, you would think. But according to Bill Buntain, the UPC staff assistant for major concerts, Sinatra ticket buyers represent a cross section of age groups. About 6,000 tickets have been sold so far, he said Tuesday.



#### Chris Welsch

And, he said, UPC does not pick groups, usually. Because it cannot afford the guaranteed fee most major performers charge, often up to \$100,000, UPC uses a promoter as a middle man. Performers and promoters approach UPC to find out if there is a good audience in Lincoln, and if it's a good place to put on a show.

### Ice Pirates.



The wacky cast of The Ice Pirates. Clockwise from upper left: Michael D. Roberts, Ron Perlman, Robert Urich and Anjelica Huston.

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The Ice Pirates concentrates too much on decapitation. Robots are continually being chopped to bits and, at one point, a strange character named Wendon (Bruce Vilanch) has his head chopped off by Jason. The head is carried around by the hair and thrown around until it is finally attached to a robot body. Jason and Roscoe are almost subjected to another form of amputation when they are captured and barely saved from being castrated and made into eunuch slaves.

The sexual implications in this movie are extraordinary for a movie which will be seen mostly by children. During one horrible scene, the men look in the cargo hold and find they are carrying a load of space herpes eggs.

The film was obviously made by people who either have a sick sense of humor or who were smart enough to know that anything dealing with space would make money.

The Ice Pirates is stupid and vulgar but give the filmmakers credit — they knew what they were doing and will probably make millions by this calculation of commercialism.

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In the case of Sinatra, Buntain said, the call from the promoter was a surprise. Sinatra is on a twomonth, six-stop tour, he said.

The stops include Detroit, Mich., Las Vegas, Nev., Atlantic City, N.J., Philadelphia, Penn. and Lincoln. "Who knows why he's coming to Lincoln," Bun-

The tickets for Sinatra are the highest priced UPC ever has sold, but students are buying the \$20 tickets instead of the lower-priced \$7.50 tickets, he

Old Blue Eyes has gained some fans at UNL - but that could be explained by the limited nature of the tour. Also, if you don't catch Sinatra in the Lincoln show, it's unlikely you'll see him here again.

UPC gets about 50 percent of the money taken in by the Bob Devaney Sports Center, Buntain said. That usually amounts to about \$6,000, he said. That money goes into a major concerts contingency fund. One day, UPC hopes to buy its own acts, instead of arranging them through the promoter.

Buntain said the contingency fund was created after the 1977 Fleetwood Mac concert. By the end of this year the fund will have \$60,000, Buntain said.

When the pot reaches \$80,000, he said, UPC will begin pursuing and buying its own acts. Because most major performers charge a guarantee fee of up to \$100,000, UPC may have to match funds with a promoter. Buying acts will allow UPC more flexibility in the acts it gets, and will get it a greater share of the profits if the show is a moneymaker, he said.

UPC currently gets funds from each concert for a variety of services, he said. Those services include security for concerts, ticket sales, transportation and meals for the acts. UPC coordinates essentially all aspects of the shows, he said.

UPC is presenting Dan Fogelberg in concert April 27, Buntain said. Tickets go on sale Saturday.

Buntain said he would like to see more students buying the \$7.50 Sinatra tickets — only about 100 have been sold so far. He said many will be sold the day Old Blue Eyes takes the stage.

"It's going to be a professional show," Buntain said, "entertainment to the maximum."

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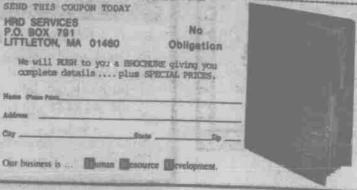
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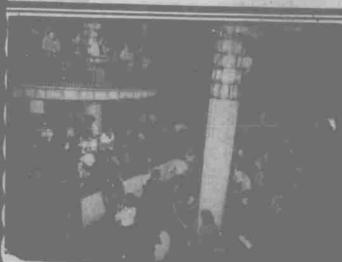
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