

Presentations team sets the stage for major concert productions

By Karna Meyer
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Elton John, Chicago and new Bruce Springsteen — three big concerts in Lincoln within a two-month span. How are we lucky enough to get these?

Bill Buntain, coordinator of the Major Concerts Presentations Team, said, "We develop a relationship with the promoters and they let us know when the performers are in the area. The Bob Devaney Complex is becoming better known across the United States and of course, good attendance and great audiences help our relations with the promoters."

The Major Concerts Presenta-

tions Team is separate from the University Program Council's Concerts committee. Gale DiSabitino, UPC adviser said the presentations team works security at major concerts.

"The members learn what really goes into a show production," she said. "They do everything from designing the dressing rooms and putting up the stage to running errands and making sure meals arrive for the performers."

"We've always had security at the concerts," DiSabitino said, "but this year, we decided to call it a team."

Working on concerts means a long day of preparation. Pat Halderman, a member of the committee, said she worked at the

Elton John concert from 7 a.m. until 2 a.m. the next day.

"It's really exciting," she said. "I enjoy seeing them set up. If you've never seen all the work that goes into the making of a performance, you wouldn't believe it."

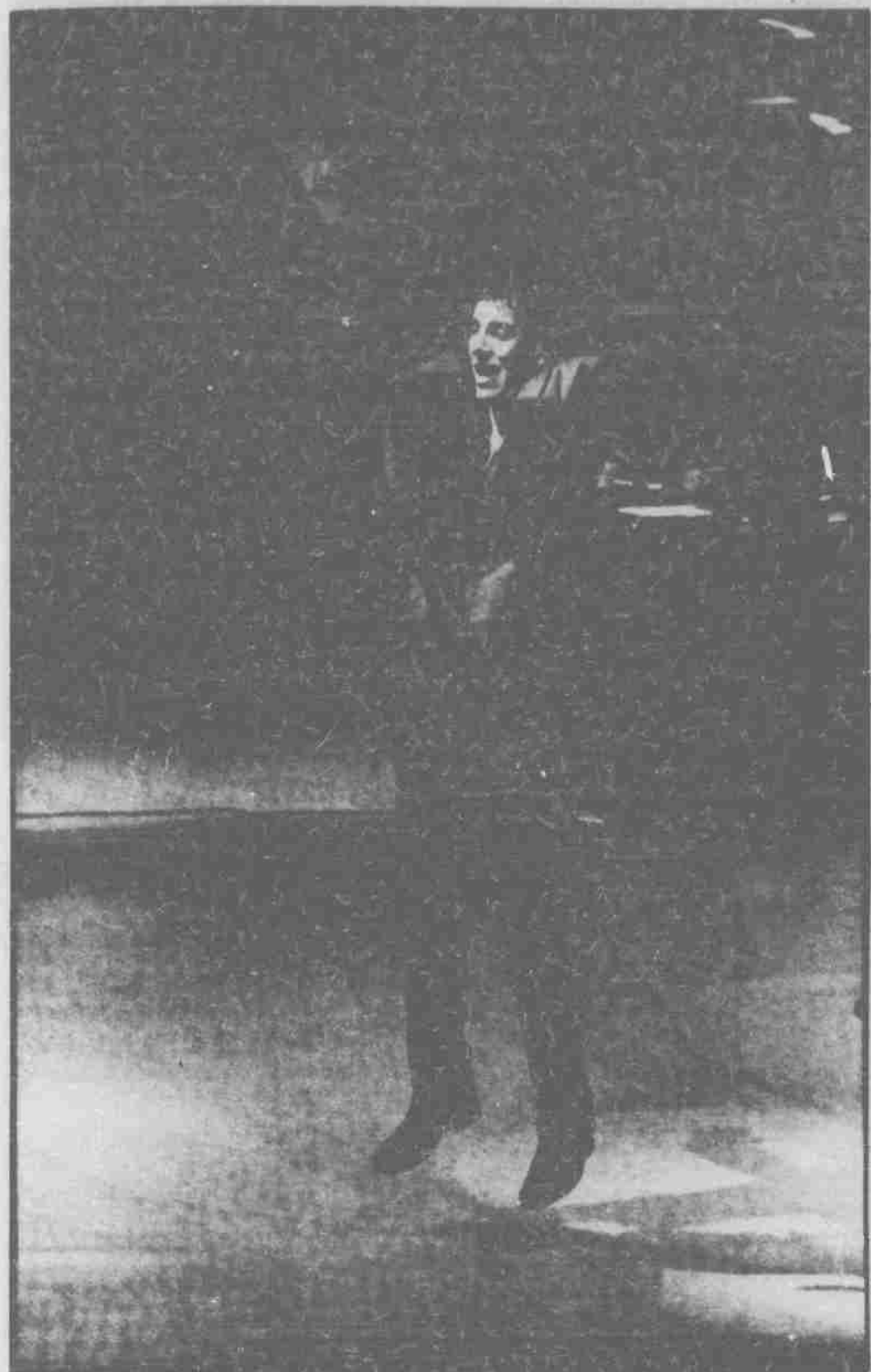
Although working on this committee is voluntary, the concerts aren't free. Buntain said average ticket prices are \$15; big acts are a little more. It costs about \$60,000 to put on a show.

Approximately 40 people and 11 alternates work at the concert.

"The response to this committee has been unbelievable," DiSabitino said. "We had 170 applications this fall. That's just too many people so we have to give priority to those who have worked in the past. To be on this committee, you must be willing to work long hours the day before the show and also the day of the show."

"It's a fun and exciting committee," Halderman said. "Being so close to the stars, there's always the chance you might meet them."

The next concert is Bruce Springsteen on Nov. 18. Buntain says to listen to the radio and read the papers for details. Ticket information will be released soon.



Daily Nebraskan File Photo

Bruce Springsteen jumps for joy after hearing he is the latest in the list of performers to come to Lincoln compliments of the Major Concerts Presentation Team.

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