

Arts & Entertainment

New beer garden opens at P.O. Pears

By Lise Olsen
Staff Reporter

In an effort to increase attendance and make P.O. Pears more than just a place to drink, the bar, located at 322 S. Ninth St., has introduced a new kind of beer garden.

Five hundred tons of sand packed 18 inches deep form an outdoor volleyball court, and eventually, a horseshoe pit. Board walkways and courtside bleachers will be added, said Pears' General Manager Kirk Welsh.

A few bricks are the only remnants of the old bowling alley that once occupied the site.

Addition of the beer garden increases Pears' space by 7,600 square feet, making its total space 22,600 square feet — an increase of 72 percent, Welsh said.

Plans for Pears' beer garden and volleyball games loosely follow standards set by other affiliated bars on the West Coast and in Arizona and Colorado, Welsh said.

So far, the volleyball court has been well-received, Welsh said. On opening night, more than 2,000 people visited the bar, and average attendance is much higher than last summer's and last year's totals, he said.

The only problems Welsh said he's experienced with the addition is some tracked-in sand from the beer garden and a couple of volleyball casualties.

"One (volleyball) went bouncing down Ninth Street. The other was 'killed' by a car, Welsh said.

Now Welsh has traded the all-leather regulation volleyballs for some less expensive models.

"We're going to go through a lot of them," he said.

Other long-term plans for the outside court include organized tournaments on Mondays and Tuesdays, accompanied by "beach music."

Beach parties, possibly under a heated tent, are planned for the winter months, he said.

"(We don't want to be) just a place to drink, but a place to have fun," Welsh said.

Variety of entertainers to perform in Omaha

Folk, jazz, heavy metal, country and contemporary Christian rock music are all part of the fall concerts scheduled at the Omaha Civic Auditorium.

Headlining the season will be Kenny Rogers, joined by The Oak Ridge Boys and Sawyer Brown for an Oct. 30 concert at 8 p.m. in the Arena.

"We are very pleased to have such a dynamic show to share with concertgoers this fall," Terry Forsberg, public events manager for Omaha, said.

Omaha also will be included in the 1985 Reunion of one of folk music's most enduring acts, Peter, Paul and Mary. The group will perform Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. at the Orpheum Theater. Tickets are on sale now at \$15.75 and \$13.25.

Ricky Skaggs, nominated for five Country Music Association Awards for 1985, including Single of the Year for "Country Boy," will perform Oct. 5 at 8 p.m. in the Arena. Special guest is Gene Watson. Tickets are \$10.75 and \$9.75.

The AC/DC "Fly on the Wall" tour

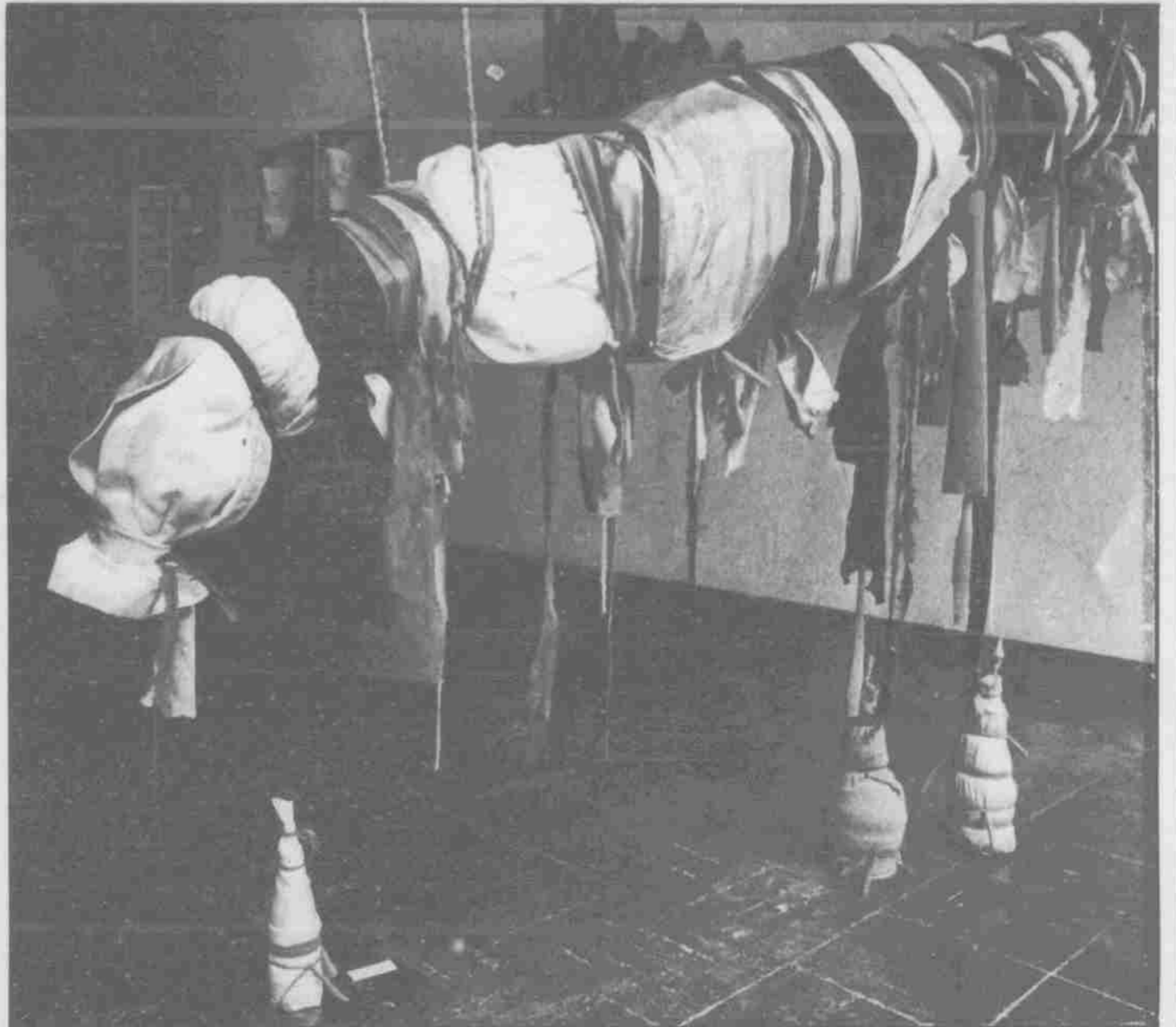
arrives Oct. 4, at 8 p.m. in the arena. The hit album is now gold, the 10th gold album the group has earned. Tickets are general admission and \$13.75 advance, \$14.75 the day of the show.

David Copperfield, the magician who made the Statue of Liberty "disappear," will reappear Oct. 13, for two shows, 3 and 7 p.m. at the Orpheum Theater. Copperfield currently is in China planning to "walk through the Great Wall." Tickets are \$15.25, \$12.25 and \$8.25.

The contemporary Christian rock group, Petra, will perform Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall. Tickets for their "Beat The System" Tickets are \$11.25 in advance.

Victor Borge will perform Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. in the Orpheum. Reserved seat tickets are \$15.25 and \$12.25.

Forsberg also said Steppenwolf will appear Nov. 2 in the Music Hall and Ratt, Nov. 15th in the arena. Ticket sales will be announced soon.



David Fahleson/Daily Nebraskan

But is it art?

Michael Lewis' "Hanging Mummy" is one of the many pieces that are part of the Cryptozoic Collection on display now at The Eleventh Street Art Gallery, 906 'O' St. The collection simulates an archaeological excavation site. Simulated artifacts and paintings are shown in a field museum atmosphere. Admission to the gallery is free.

Award-winning jazz opens Kimball set

The Art Ensemble of Chicago, a unique and critically-acclaimed group in jazz, will perform in Kimball Hall at 8 p.m. Sunday.

The award-winning group appears as the first attraction in the 1985-86 UNL/Kimball Performance Series.

Playing "Great Black Music: Ancient to the Future," the group carries two tons of acoustic instruments from

around the world. Employing humor, mime, magical special effects, dance and poetry, the Art Ensemble embodies the collective artistic spirit.

Lester Bowie, who plays trumpet, flugelhorn and percussion, said "We have five different people with five different lives and sets of experiences which are brought in to make one music."

Other members of the ensemble include Joseph Jarman (reeds and percussion), a poet and musician; Roscoe Mitchell (sax and percussion), known for his compositions, and Famoudou Don Moye (percussionist), a student of both traditional jazz and African styles.

For ticket information, call the Kimball box office at 472-3375 between 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

HOT SPOTS

Around Town

● Tex Horsehead, explosive country/pop from Los Angeles, play at the Drumstick, 547 N. 48th St, starting at 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$4.

● For those aspiring entertainers, Chesterfields, Bottomsley & Potts offers an open stage tonight starting at 9 p.m. Bar managers urge participants to arrive by 8:30 p.m. to sign up for a time slot.

There is no admission charge.

Television

● At 8 p.m., NETV, channel 12 airs "I Had A Dream: The Terry Fox Story," a documentary focusing on a young Canadian amputee and his attempt to run across Canada to raise funds for cancer research. He was forced to abandon his effort because of a relapse of bone cancer.

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