

Local and national groups serenade UNL

Official says diversity was major factor in band choice

By Kathy Shults
Staff Reporter

Local and national bands will be spotlighted this semester in a concert series sponsored by the University Program Council and KFMQ radio station.

Concert Review

The first concert, featuring five of Lincoln's most diverse bands, is tonight, said Scott Leech, graduate assistant with UPC's major programs.

Mannequin Beach, New Brass Guns, For Against, Trout Mystery and 13 Nightmares will take the stage in the Nebraska Union Ballroom beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$3.50 and available at Pickles, Dirt Cheap and both Nebraska unions.

Diversity was a major factor in setting up the first show, Leech said. UPC hopes to attract a variety of listeners. The music will range from folksy pop to psychedelic to funky hard core, he said.

The concept of exposing local talent began as a "barroom idea" in early September, Leech said. He said he was originally attempting to put together one show, but interest was so great that a series was more feasible.

The purpose of the series is not to make money, he said, but to give bands a place to play and students the opportunity to hear them.

Leech, along with cohorts Karl Stephen, Todd Peter and Jim Arthur, created "I Feel Fine Productions" to front the series.

"I Feel Fine characterizes some of

the apathy found in Lincoln," Leech said.

He said the local series wouldn't

have happened without support from UPC's Concerts and Coffeehouses and KFMQ's free promotion. Dietze Music House is assisting with the sound system.

I Feel Fine Productions will sponsor the first show, and after that UPC will conduct the series.

KFMQ Program Manager Bob Allen said he shares Leech's concern for the plight of local bands.

"It (the series) is a great idea — a much-needed idea," said Allen. "With the recent closing of The Drumstick, there have been fewer and fewer venues for up and coming local talent."

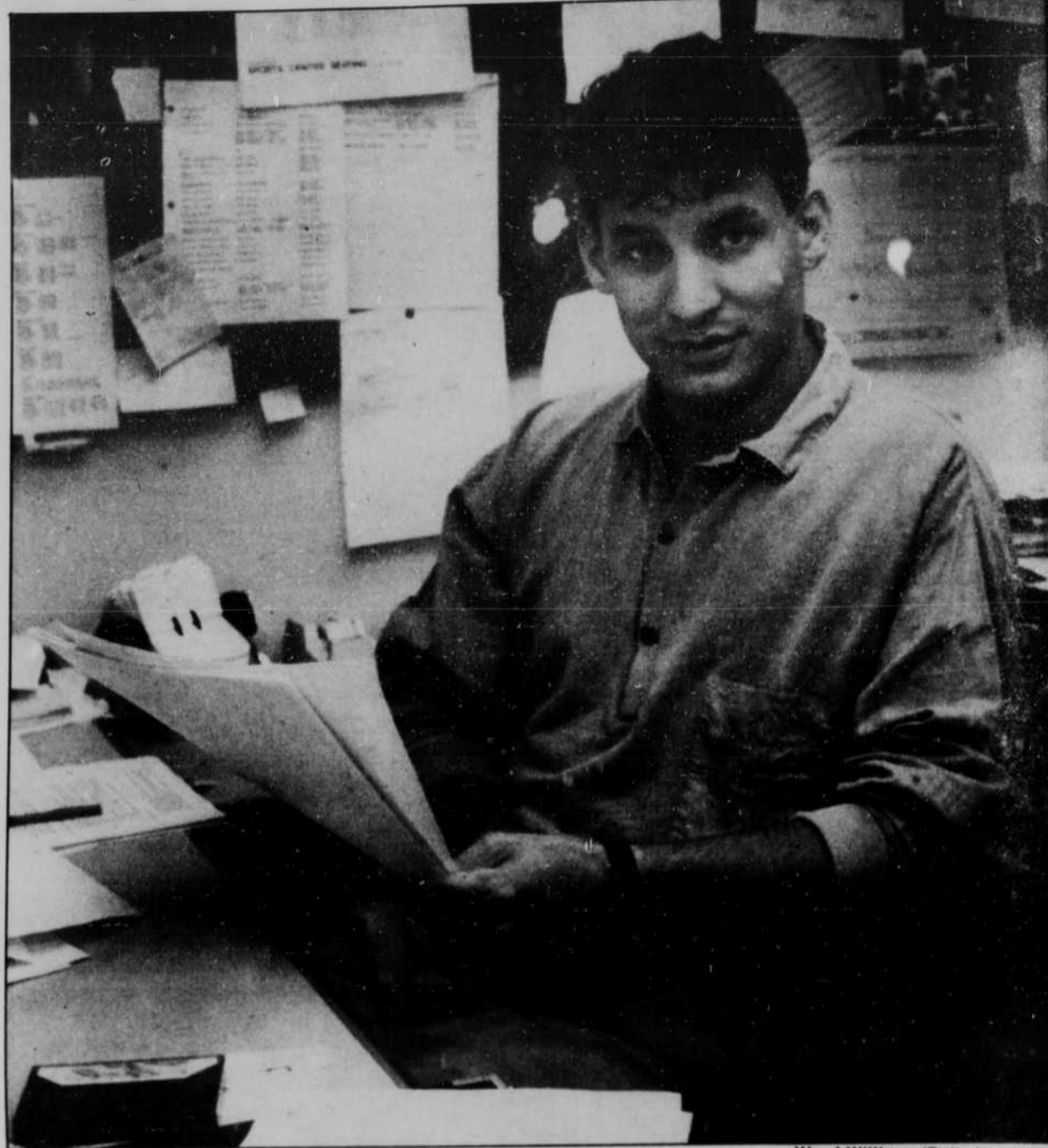
Leech said the concerts might be bi-weekly, although scheduling problems prohibit regularity.

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— Allen

The concert series began solely as an idea for promoting local bands, but it is already integrating to national bands, he said. The second concert, scheduled for Nov. 11, will feature Camper Van Beethoven of San Francisco. A local band will open.

Leech said he hopes to schedule five or six concerts next semester with national touring bands.



Ward Williams/Daily Nebraskan

Leech

'The Princess Bride' floats in flighty fantasy



Courtesy of Clive Coote

Cary Elwes and Robin Wright in "The Princess Bride."

By Charles Lieurance
Senior Editor

"The Princess Bride," East Park 3

"Anybody who tells you life isn't entirely made up of pain is trying to sell you something," says one character as Rob Reiner's romantic comedy-adventure fantasy "The Princess Bride" gets underway.

But despite this nod to existential despair, "The Princess Bride" floats along on a rudder of cotton candy, free from the cares of the world. Its message, that "true love" conquers all obstacles and that goodness can be found in the unlikelyst of places, is far from novel, but has sustained many a film. It buoys this one for a while, but in the end, it's easy to see that Reiner is trying to sell us something. What he's trying to sell is an uneasy parody masquerading as flighty fantasy, in turn disguised as a charming parade of cameo appearances. None of these masks can hide the muddled sense of

purpose behind this project.

Sudden bursts of Mel Brooks-style satire subvert the film's sensitive romance and keep the adventure angle of the movie from taking off.

Movie Review

The two central characters — empty, pretty fairy-tale ciphers — Westley (Cary Elwes) and Buttercup ("Santa Barbara" refugee Robin Wright) inhabit the tale like most fairy-tale couples. They are uninteresting but physically arresting, virtuous to the point of utter vacuousness and youthfully obsessed with their unconsummated love for one another. — It is the beasts, rogues and profligates around them that should make the tale satisfying. The child (Fred Savage) to whom the tale is being told, by his grandfather (Peter Falk), knows this. It is the monsters

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