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Midlands Auto Show rolls into Omaha tonight

By Gerry Beltz
Senior Reporter

If you're a student who is eager to look at vehicles that you have no chance of owning (unless you hit Powerball), then climb into your pea-green '73 Pontiac LeMans and head up to Omaha this weekend.

The latest in cars, trucks and automobile technology will be on display for the Third Annual Auto Show of the Midlands at the Omaha Civic Auditorium. The show runs tonight through Sunday.

Marty Beecham, president of Midlands Productions, coordinated the event. He said getting an auto show together is more work than just parking a bunch of cars in a big building.

"It's basically a year-round project," he said. "You have to coordinate with manufacturers, the dealers of those manufacturers and other auto shows around the country."

"Also, you have to make sure you're getting the displays of cars in on time and things like that."

For this year's presentation, he said, auditorium preparations started from the ground up — literally.

"We lay all new carpet," he said, "140,000 square feet of brand-new carpet. Then we lay plastic over the carpet to protect it."

Once the carpet and plastic are down, Beecham said, the freight moves into the auditorium.

"It requires coordination between the manufacturers, myself and the people who put up all the equipment and signs," he said.

The whole project is time-consuming even when it runs smoothly. But, Beecham said, preparations for this year's Auto Show have not been without snags.

"We're putting up an Acura sign a day late, and Hyundai had a different day scheduled than we had them down for."

But minor problems such as these have only slowed, not stopped the Auto Show from rolling, Beecham said.

"It all works out. You have to make sure everyone is on the same page."

Although the attendance for the past two auto shows averaged about 50,000 people each, Beecham said, this year's crowds may increase to between 55,000 and 60,000, weather permitting.

"Last year, we lost an entire day because of a snowstorm," he said, "but we still cleared around 49,000."

This year's Auto Show features 30 manufacturers, Beecham said, which are supported by 145 dealers. But the actual number of vehicles on display this year is yet to be determined.

"We haven't even counted the cars yet," he said, "but we're guessing right around 200."

And a little more carpet area wouldn't hurt, either. Beecham said there was always demand for more space.

"That's as many as we can squeeze into this building," he said. "We could really use another 75,000 square feet."

Big Red

Continued from Page 9

a presence in sports. I gave him a call for this project. He seemed like a natural."

The whole project came together fairly quickly, Richardson said. In early 1995, just after the Orange Bowl,

Richardson suggested that the Omaha Symphony scrap the second half of a Pops concert and play Nebraska music.

"It went over very well," Richardson said.

In November, another such performance was suggested and the final decision to do so was made in Decem-

ber, regardless of the outcome of the Fiesta Bowl.

"We were very excited that the team won; it just made the whole thing better," Richardson said.

Tickets for Friday's performance of "Go Big Red" are \$15 and \$10 and are available through the Orpheum Theater's box office.

Artist

Continued from Page 9

lins."

"I was really surprised to find some of those issues on sale at a horror convention later," Johnson said. "It was selling for about \$75."

As might be expected, Johnson said

horror movies were a big influence on his work. Most of his creations suggest the same grim, pagan power present in Hollywood's monsters, or in stone gargoyles. Like Aztec idols, they maniacally grin and grit their teeth, staring out into space.

In the ancient world, if someone had built the same types of models Johnson creates today, the generations

that followed probably would have either worshipped the creations or thrown them into volcanoes.

But Johnson is humble about his craft.

"I like to describe myself as an artist, junk collector and a part-time pipe installer," Johnson said. "I add on that last part just so people don't think I'm totally bogus."

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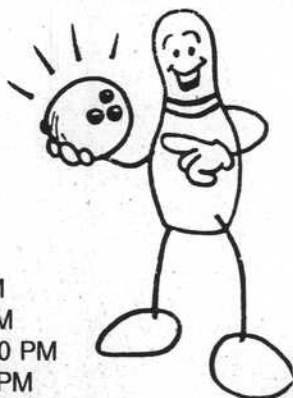
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Ladies engagement ring, paid \$2200, asking \$1650. Call 464-1690.

45 Musical Instruments

Keyboard player needed for rock band. Call Greg 467-3773 or 476-3195.

90 Vehicles For Sale

'88 Ford Escort, 89,500 miles, runs perfectly, but the body's not perfect. \$1500. 486-1873.

1992 GO Prizm, four door, five speed, air, 45K, nice. \$5450 offers.
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Baer's Auto Sales, 477-4442, 1647 S. Third.

1982 Blue, Honda Civic, 5 speed, clean, very reliable school car. Asking \$500. Call 435-2235.

200s Notices

210 Announcements

3 & 2 Year Army ROTC Scholarships
Now available for all disciplines.
If you have a 2.5 GPA or above, you may be eligible. For full tuition at UNL, plus \$150.00 a month spending money. Call 472-2468 for more information.

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Call 472-7478 for more info. Classes start January 29th. Sponsored by the University Health Center.

Alaska Jobs

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ΦΒΕ

Interested in joining a sorority and taking a step in a new and different direction? Join us for Spring Rush, Monday, January 15th, 7:00 p.m., City Union (Room posted). Unable to attend, but interested, call 436-9493.

FREE FINANCIAL AID!

Over \$6 Billion in private sector grants & scholarships is now available. All students are eligible regardless of grades, income, or parent's income. Let us help. Call Student Financial Services: 1-800-263-6495 ext. F57783.

INTRAMURAL INDOOR SOCCER

The last day to enter Co-Rec Indoor Soccer is Tuesday, January 16. Don't delay. Enter your team now at the Office of Campus Recreation. Call 472-3467 for more information.

MASSAGE THERAPY

Campus Recreation has expanded their Massage Therapy Program. New hours are Monday-Friday 11:30am-1:30pm and Monday-Thursday 3:00pm-6:30pm. Massages will run 25 or 45 minutes long. Call 472-3467 for more information.



Mortar Board

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
222 Nebraska Union
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0452
Mortar Board, a national senior honor society, is an Association of Collegians selected for distinguished achievement in scholarship, leadership, and service. The Black Masque Chapter is in the process of selecting members for next year. We invite all Juniors to complete an information sheet now available at the following locations:

- Office for Student Involvement-City (200 City Union)
- Office for Student Involvement-East (300 East Union)
- The Culture Center (333 N. 14th)
- Vice-Chancellor Griesens's Office (124 Admin.)
- The Hewitt Center
- Arts & Sciences Advising Center (1st floor, Oldfather)
- Engineering Library (2nd floor, Nebraska Hall)
- Residence Hall Front Desk
- Honors Program Office

COMPLETED INFORMATION SHEETS ARE DUE Wednesday, January 24, 1996

PRE-DENT STUDENTS!

UNMC Dentistry at the Arts & Sciences Advising Center, 107 Oldfather, Monday Jan. 15, 1-5. Call 472-4190 for appointment.

Students with Disabilities Subcommittee meeting

Thurs - Jan. 11
4:45 - 115 Nebr. Union