

Few attend Lincoln's Peacestock

By **BRET SCHULTE**
Staff Reporter

It was absolutely gorgeous, something kids in the '90s rarely get to see. Six middle-aged people behind the instrument of their choice, amid buzzing bees and burning incense, singing to an open park.

An extremely open park. Attendance was so sparse at Sunday's first-ever Peacestock that three rows of benches separated the half dozen spectators. This meager showing failed to slow down the pace of the local blues and rock band, Peaceful Conspiracy.

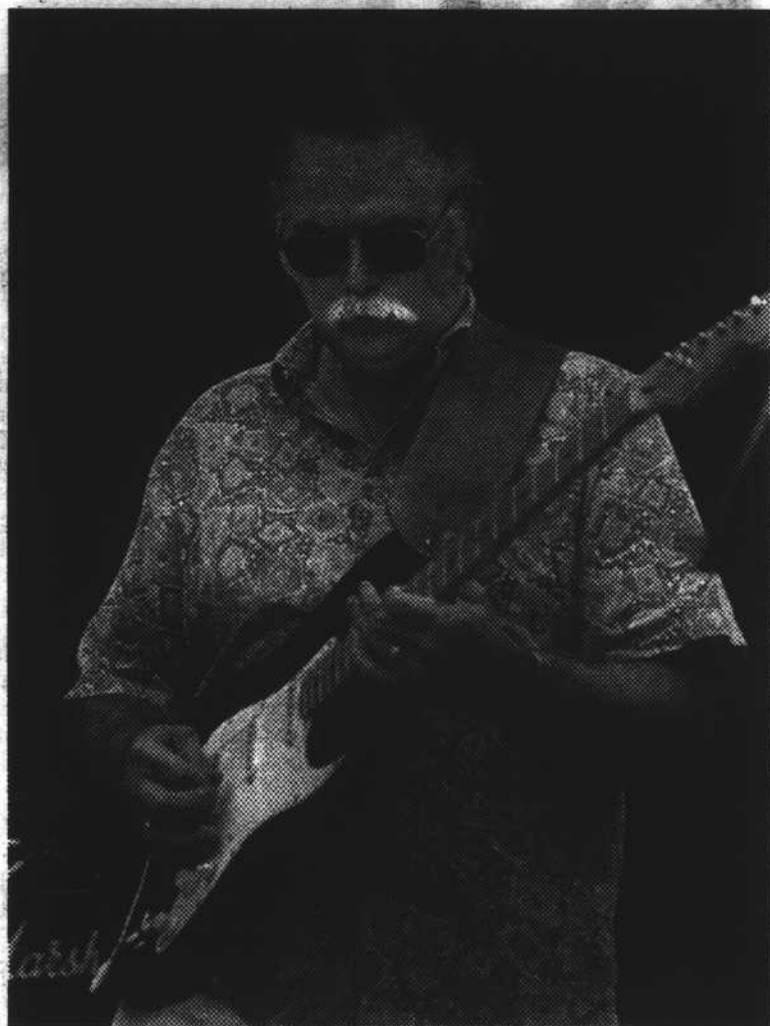
Peacestock was organized by Scott Colborn, front man of Peaceful Conspiracy, and Tim Rinne, Nebraskans For Peace state coordinator. The event was intended to raise food and organize support for Lincoln's poor and underprivileged.

"Doing activities like this are a way to get peace and justice back into fashion," Rinne said.

Peaceful Conspiracy got started promptly at 1 p.m. and broke into a blues set, liberally flavored with Garcia and Santana. The show began with a blues/rock set, which was followed by an acoustic set and finished with more blues.

Playing with startling energy and composure, Peaceful Conspiracy ripped out electric blue ribbons of guitar and harmonica into the park. The sound was intentionally reminiscent of the prevalent blues and mood rock of the late '60s and '70s.

Rinne seemed disappointed in the low attendance of the concert but not particularly surprised or disheartened. He said in the recent wave of conservatism, altruism has



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

SCOTT COLBORD jams Sunday afternoon at Peacestock in Antelope Park. Colborn, a member of the band Peaceful Conspiracy, hopes to continue Peacestock annually.

been left in the wake.

"You can accuse people from the '60s and '70s of being liberals and do-gooders. I'm guilty as charged. Notice you never hear the phrase 'conservative do-gooders,'" he said.

Rinne said the low attendance reflected general public apathy and

that a lot of people now harbor a general cynicism toward the poor.

Although attendance was low, Colborn said, the band plans to sponsor Peacestock again next year.

"We hope to make it an annual, full-day event, but this year people are stuck with us," he said.

Classy style of 'First Wives' packs an impressive punch

By **ANN STACK**
Film Critic

You've heard it before — don't get mad, get even. You've also heard "hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

Make that three women scorned — women like Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn and Diane Keaton, and you've got yourself some serious business in the form of "The First Wives Club."

The plot surrounding this powerhouse comedy is pretty basic. Three friends from college, reunited after more than 20 years by a fourth friend's (Stockard Channing in a delightful but too-brief appearance) suicide, find over a boozy lunch they have something in common. They've all been dumped by their low-life husbands for younger, more gravitationally-enhanced trophy-women.

Midler ("Beaches") is Brenda, whose electronics-salesman husband leaves her for nubile Sarah Jessica Parker. Keaton ("Mother of the Bride") is Annie, an Upper East Side housewife and Hawn ("Death Becomes Her") plays Elise, an alcoholic actress on the downside of her career.

They vow to make their sleaze-bag exes pay for dumping them for silicone floozies in spandex, and hence form their own psychotic, psychoactive-therapy club. Ah, sweet revenge.

The acting by all three women is superb. Midler shines as the comic relief, dropping one-liners like nobody's business. Hawn plays the struggling artist going through a mid-life crisis role to a hilt, and Keaton is excellent as the wimpy doormat who just wants everyone

to get along.

Although the plot gets a little sidetracked in the middle, it holds together nicely, coming together in a totally fun, get-out-of-my-way dance finale. Cameos by Gloria Steinem, Kathie Lee Gifford and Ivanna Trump do a lot to spice up this already charming film.

It doesn't portray young women in the best of light, however, making them all look like spoiled, gauche, anorexic little brats. It's the older women who've got all the class. They've lived life and have experienced dealing with grief — and with revenge. They're intelligent, witty and absolutely delightful in their deviousness.

This isn't a movie about feminism, despite the premise of revenge. It's about women getting mad, getting even and then taking that anger and channeling it towards something positive.

The Facts

Film: The First Wives Club

Director: Hugh Wilson

Cast: Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton

Rating: PG

Grade: B+

Five Words: Three women find revenge sweet

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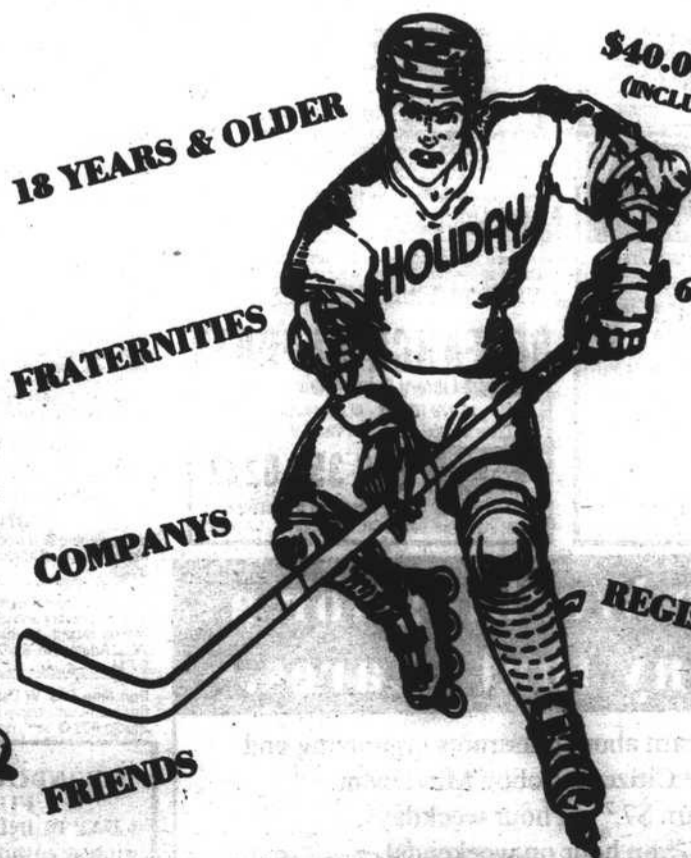
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