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Promoter, athletic contributors lower curtain on rock concert

By KEN HASWELL
Of the Emerald

Vice Pres. of Administration and Finance Ray Hawk said Thursday the University Athletic Department will not sponsor the rock group Chicago at Autzen Stadium because the promoter got "cold feet" at the suggestion of scheduling the event for less than four hours and because the Athletic Department received several complaints from people who contribute large donations.

In order to by-pass a county ordinance requiring an outdoor assembly permit for all events within unincorporated sections of the county that last more than four hours and attract more than 15,000 people, the Athletic Department needed a three and one-half hour concert contract with Chicago.

The assembly permit for a longer concert was denied two weeks ago by the Lane County Department of Community Health and Social Services (CHSS) after both Sheriff Dave Burks and four of the five county commissioners recommended that Janet Chappell, acting director of CHSS, deny the assembly permit.

Hawk said Chicago's support group, the Beach Boys, backed out at the suggestion of a concert less than five hours long, which left Chicago without a "name" group to help draw crowds large enough to fill Autzen Stadium and command the proposed \$12-per-person tickets.

When talking about a June 28 morning meeting with Athletic Director John Caine and Public Services Vice Pres. Curt Simic, Hawk said "we were probably in

error in trying to schedule a concert that would have the connotation of a rock concert."

He said "we got so much public relations' hassle last year with the commissioners and the sheriff over the Grateful Dead and with other people who were terribly unhappy about the fact that the University would be involved in this kind of promoting."

Two official complaints were received by the University from last year's concert, one from Commissioner Archie Weinstein and one from Hannum Datsun.

Hawk said he supported the Chicago concert because he heard from people who knew rock that it would draw entirely different clientele than last year's Grateful Dead concert.

The University decided, during the June 28 meeting, to abandon that approach and see if the promoter can't, by stretching out the time to a five hour concert later this summer, "come up with either a saleable program in country western or maybe John Denver or this kind of program where we are not going to run into this enormous reaction we seem to get to the other type of concert."

He said the city might annex the Autzen Stadium area this fall, because it is surrounded on three sides by city land and the city will not need to even call a public hearing for the annexation. This step by the city would, Hawk said, allow the University to deal with an entirely different governmental body for future events.

He said Commissioner Rust told him that if the University appealed the CHSS permit denial, there was a chance to gain the support of at least three of

the five commissioners for a Chicago concert. But Hawk added that even if the University won the battle with the commissioners and the sheriff, it would lose the public relations battle.

Hawk said Caine told him that "several people who have been very strong supporters of the Athletic Department, people who give substantial amounts of money to support the athletic program" said "Hey, we don't want you in that business and if that's the sort of thing you're going to do we are just going to withdraw our support."

Caine confirmed the statements attributed to him "are correct" but declined to identify who made them. "Under no circumstances would I tell you that," Caine said.

Pres. William Boyd, who said he had no knowledge of the complaints made to Caine's department, told the Emerald that "when any issue of academic freedom (including personnel and curriculum matters) is involved, we would not tolerate dictation or even influence as the price for receiving a gift. That would involve the integrity of the institution."

"However, there are times when the freedom or integrity of the University are not involved and where the wishes of benefactors deserve to be considered. 'Peripheral matters like rock concerts clearly fall in that latter category. 'As the public whose University this is, whether they make financial contributions to it or not, feels we ought not engage in such activity, then I am perfectly willing to re-think University policy out of respect for public opinion. I do not regard that as yielding to pressure or threats."

Music festival features Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach returns to Eugene Tuesday through July 15 for his tenth consecutive year as the featured composer of the University Summer Festival of Music.

Helmuth Rilling, recognized as one of Europe's outstanding choral conductors and authorities on Bach, will be the musical director throughout the festival.

Each year a major work and eight cantatas by Bach are performed at the Festival. This year's major work is 'Magnificat'; cantatas include BMV 46, 64, 65, 95, 105, 136, 138 and 190.

In addition, the festival will include Mozart's 'Mass in C Minor'; Haydn's 'The Seasons', an oratorio; two concerts of

chamber music by the Syrinx Woodwind Quintet; a lieder recital by soprano soloist Arleen Auger and an organ recital by Joan Lippincott.

John Solum will perform a flute cantata Tuesday July 10, at 8:30 p.m. This concert has been added since the Festival's schedule was printed.

Paul Hume, music editor of the Washington Post, will conduct a free lecture on music criticism and the creative art of listening from the point of view of both critic and audience Friday at 3:30 p.m. The lecture will focus on the Bach 'Magnificat' and the Mozart C Minor Mass to be performed that evening.

The choral orchestra is sold out, and 'The Seasons' is sold out. However, seats remain open for the other performances. Tickets are being sold at the School of Music box office, with prices ranging from \$3.50 to \$8.50.

In 1970, Rilling came to the University to conduct one concert and some workshops in choral conducting. At that time, performers were mostly students. Through the years the festival has changed from a small town event to a cultural attraction bringing about 10,000 music patrons and a host of international performers to Eugene. Only a few graduate students play in the festival but students learn from performers while they are here, through workshops and lectures.

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