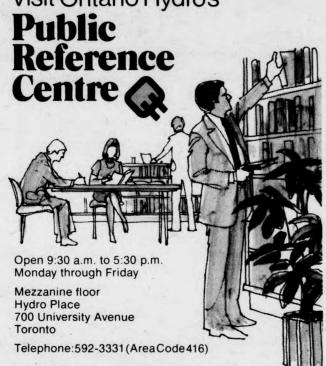
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The Centre, which includes a comfortable study area, is an extension of Ontario Hydro's activities to encourage public involvement.

Springsteen disproves the myth

ByEVANLEIBOVITCH with I.W.

Too many people who know little of Bruce Springsteen's music hate him. The result of a massive publicity campaign, the antipathy follows from the idea that an act that is pushed that much must be mediocre. Witness the Bay City Rollers and King Kong, two apt examples. Springsteen however, is different, and his concert at the Concert Bowl at Maple Leaf Gardens re-establishes him as an exception to that idea.

ONE OF THE BEST

The concert was easily one of the best to roll into Toronto in the past year, because Springsteen is the type of performer who gets off on playing live. He doesn't even think twice about making various forays into the audience (once complete with guitar) and dancing with fans in the aisles. And the best thing about this type of display, is that Springsteen doesn't even need it to win a substantial following. His songs would work even if he sang them statue-still and simply screamed his lyrics (like the ringmaster of the Rolling Thunder Circus, who many claim he resembles). Instead, he adds an energy and feeling to his singing not present on his albums. All of the songs were performed better than the studio versions, making one



A beardless Bruce Springsteen belts out one of his street ballads between Clarence Clemens (on sax) and Max Weinberg.

hope that he could follow Frampton's example and put out a live disc, since he can't record an original one until his legal hassles are cleared

an original one until his legal ahssles are cleared up.

MUCH TIGHTER GROUP

Much of the credit for Springsteen's success as a live act belongs to Clarence Clemons and the rest of the E Street Band, easily a much tighter group than they were when Bruce played at Seneca College last year. The lighting crew were also an integral part of the show, while not distracting from the mood of the music.

As was the case last year, much of the material Spingsteen played was from his last album Born to Run. He opened with "Night", and finished his final encore with an astounding version of the album's title cut. Bruce also played his own version of "Spirits in the Night", a composition of his which was made into an AM single by Manfred Mann's Earth Band. Mann's other Springsteen - penned single, 'Blinded by the Light", was omitted. The only song which was missed was "Sandy", with which the Hollies tried to break into AM. Last year, "Sandy" was used in the

GOOD AS THE HYPE?

Finally back to the question of the hype: Is he really as good as Rolling Stone and others make him up to be? No. But then even the Beatles didn't have as much talent as Springsteen was claimed to posess. All he is, is a singer - songwriter whose music combines a fifties feeling, using seventies technology, a fine talent for "street poetry", all delivered in apowerful, raspy voice.

All this has combined to make Springsteen the most dynamic rock personality to emerge in many years, with or without the hype. His music is well worth getting to know.

Winds play at Burton

Featured works include "Quintet in B flat major" by Danzi, Beethoven's "Duo for Clarinet and Bassoon No. 1", and "Suite, Op. 57" by Lefebvre. The world premier of a work commissioned by the York Winds, entitled "Jeu de Cinq" by Hambraeus, will also be included in the concert program.

York's University wind quintet in residence continues its university series of concerts at Burton Auditorium tonight at 8:30 p.m.

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