

Controversial Saturday Mart to open at courthouse in June

The Saturday Market will re-open downtown in the courthouse plaza during the first week of June.

After several months of argument between city commissioners, citizens, and craftsmen, the Lane County commissioners voted 2-1 Wednesday to permit the controversial market operation on Saturdays at the plaza site until Sept. 1. Last month the commissioners voted 2-1 against use of the location.

Backers of the Saturday Market have been looking for a place to re-open since ending operations at the 10th and Oak Overpark last fall.

Under the Saturday Market plan, vendors set up tables to sell such things as homemade candles, beads, pottery, and other art items and home-grown produce.

The key to Wednesday's favorable vote was commissioner Jess Hill, who changed his mind about opposing the market when backers offered to operate it on a trial basis only through August. Market committee members had indicated earlier that they wanted to use the site through the fall months.

Another factor which aided the market's cause was support from downtown Eugene merchants. Mrs. A. Robert Thomas, a Saturday Market director, submitted a petition to county commissioners Wednesday signed by representatives of 71 downtown firms favoring the plaza site. The petition was obtained since the opposing vote of a month ago.

Principal commission opponent of the market was Kenneth Omlid, who argued that the plaza area is not intended for commercial activities. He further expressed concern for the safety of people who would visit the Saturday Market in light of recent demonstrations in the area.

Mrs. Thomas noted that she believes the market atmosphere will be such that there is less apt to be a confrontation there than elsewhere in the city.

Robert Harris, a craftsman with the Saturday Market, added that the outdoor operation will bring in much-needed commerce to downtown Eugene. "And to sell flowers in the spring time is a beautiful thing," he added.

PE to stay . . .

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that he had thought physical education was "a waste of time," but now realized it was "one of the best things that ever happened to me."

Eugene Dils, Director of University Placement Center, said that when he hung up his football suit after college he realized he was "ignorant." "I wasn't taught activities I could use after college."

"I think the bleeding hearts that want to reduce restraints are right, but they'll get small thanks from those who get bleeding ulcers and heart attacks in early life," he said. "I think the things students learn about taking care of their bodies and physical activity may have more far-reaching effects than other disciplinary skills."

The ASUO Senate asked the faculty to postpone the consideration of the proposed changes until they had completed a student poll on the requirements. In a preliminary poll completed Tuesday, students voted to abolish the health requirement and on the P.E. requirement, 1350 voted to keep some form of P.E. requirement and 918 voted to abolish it.

At the meeting, ASUO President Ron Eachus spoke against the P.E. requirements and ASUO Senator Fred Loveys, spoke for it. Eachus said he thought the students who wanted to take P.E. classes would have a better chance to use facilities if requirements were dropped.

Lovies, however, said abolishing the requirement would "destroy what it means to be an educated person," and added: if one requirement were dropped all undergraduate requirements should be abolished.

The changes proposed by the ad hoc committee on undergraduate education were the second series of changes proposed by the committee over the past two years. Last spring, the faculty approved major changes in group requirements and grading policy proposed by the committee.

Allman said they plan to consider the foreign language requirement next.

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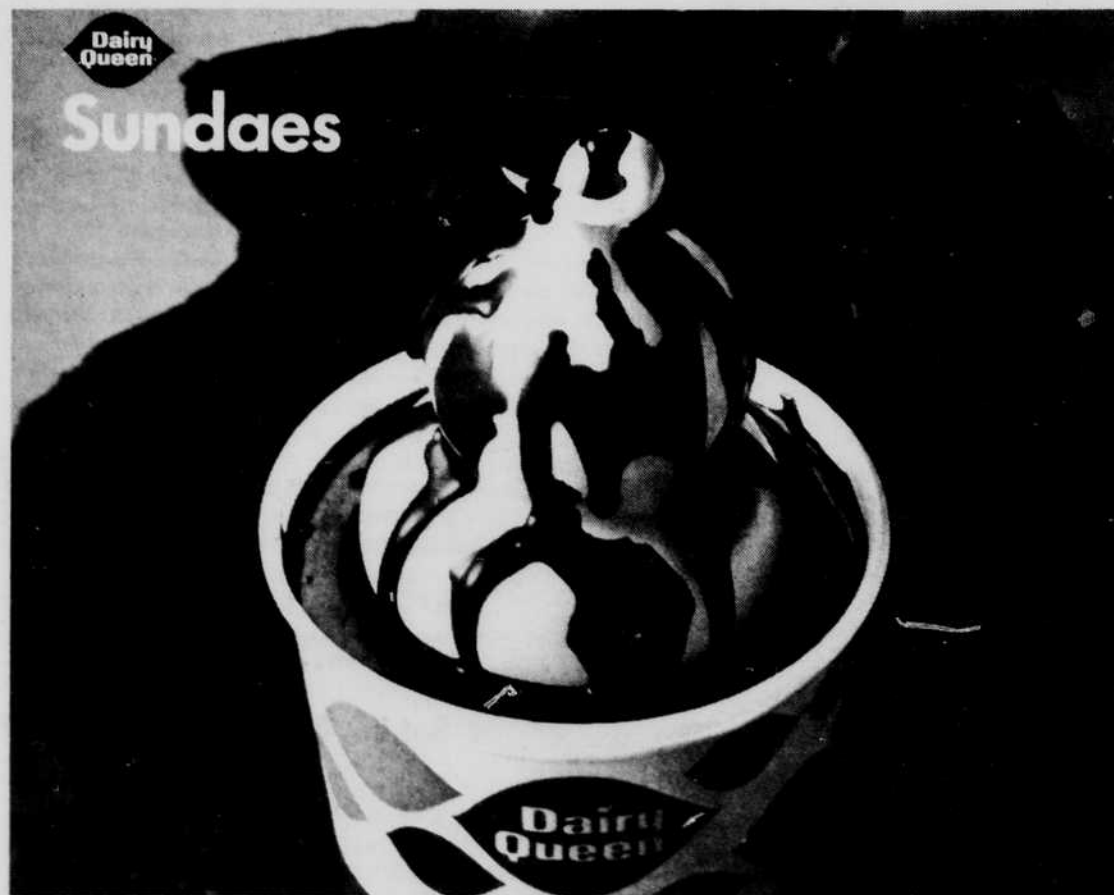
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