

Spring awakens Market

By Mindy Nix
Emerald Contributor

Fresh-squeezed lemonade. Handmade arts and crafts. Live music. Linger-ing scents of good food.

You are entering a com-munity celebration. Not just any celebration, but one that allows you to purchase a product with more than a piece of paper listing the ingredi-ents.

Your salesperson is not working on commission for a distant company, but hand-crafting each item with individual care.

It is a place where you can meet a culturally di-verse group of people. The atmosphere is friend-ly, and you feel as if you are on vacation in some far-off country.

You are seeing the world, sampling interna-tional foods, meeting peo-ple and enjoying all walks of life. And the best part: You don't even have to purchase a plane ticket for this experience — it is all concentrated into two downtown Eugene blocks.

The Saturday Market began its 23rd season on Saturday, April 4, and will continue through Novem-ber. Rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each Saturday, people will come, nearly 200 vendors will craft and sell, chefs in 20 food booths will cook, and art-ists of all kinds will per-form.

There is plenty of free parking around the mar-

ket's site, located on the park blocks at Eighth Avenue and Oak Street, and bike racks for those who choose alternate modes of transportation are available.

Stepping back a bit, the very first Saturday Market was held in the rain on May 9, 1970, with 29 partici-pating vendors. Since that day, it has flourished to include nearly 200 vendors, and the idea has spread to similar markets around the state, bringing the community celebra-tion atmosphere to their own interpretation of a market plaza.

The life of a Saturday Market vendor is filled with hard work and dedi-cation. Preparation is put into crafts all year long for vendor Michelle Rose. She has done beadwork for 13 years at Saturday Market and feels it is "a good center for all kinds of exchanges of informa-tion."

Rose's children have been a part of the Satur-day Market's environ-ment since they were born. Her eldest child of 10 opened a booth of her own, knitting booties and doing beadwork. She makes about 20 dollars each Saturday and has a business sense that most 10-year olds will wait years to experience with-out the opportunities Sat-urday Market has to offer.

Saturday Market pro-vides a great place to shop for gifts and see all walks of life. Each vendor pays \$7 plus 10 percent

of their weekly booth sales. Vendors are wel-come to participate with-out having their works approved.

One of the guidelines for Saturday Market is that all products must be sold by the person who made them or by a family member. This ensures firsthand information on the products and their value — something be-coming very rare in purchasing any product these days.

The Saturday Market experience is one that goes beyond dancing, be-yond watching live per-formance, beyond shop-ping and beyond eating out. Saturday Market combines all of these as-pects into one place.

"These are the most ex-citing two blocks in the Northwest," said market manager Bill Goldsmith.

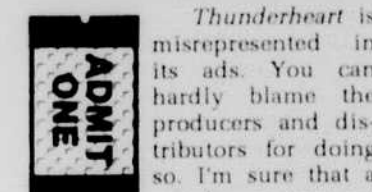
This weekend will be packed with exciting events beginning at 10 a.m. with Eugene's popu-lar bluesman, Eagle Park Slim. An 11 a.m. perfor-mance for children will feature storyteller Barbara Stevens-Newcomb. At noon, Terry Wagner's lit-ting flute style is featured in a performance by the group Pyramid. At 1:30 p.m., Jim Roberts' Actors Cabaret will present a preview of their forth-coming production, *I Do! I Do!*. That will be fol-lowed by the afternoon dance, beginning at 3 p.m., featuring the all-original rock music of Corvallis' Magick Circle.



Booths opened and visitors were drawn in (and on) as the Saturday Market came out of its winter hibernation last Saturday.

'Spiritual odyssey' film is compelling, beautiful

FILM *Thunderheart* is currently showing at Movieland and Springfield Quad Cinemas. Rated R.



Thunderheart is misrepresented in its ads. You can hardly blame the producers and distributors for doing so. I'm sure that a murder-mystery set in a South Dakota Indian Reservation would attract more customers than a carefully crafted examination of a man forced to come to grips with the soul he has denied having all his life.

If given the choice, I would probably choose a good action-thriller over a spiritual odyssey. But that would be a mistake. *Thunderheart* is a compelling and important vision of reverence and redemption.

The film shows that a person cannot exist in a state of well-being as long as the person's inner truth is denied. It also says there are no depths to which a person can sink that he can't still regain his soul.

Val Kilmer plays an FBI agent sent to a reservation to investigate the murder of an Ogala Sioux. His mission also includes putting down a civil dispute between militant traditionalist tribal members and those who support the U.S. government in hopes of getting out of their third world conditions.

The FBI thinks he's the man for the job because he has some Sioux blood on his father's side. But his father died when he was seven and his Native American heritage died with him. The agent is racist and holds contempt for the reserva-

tion citizens. He can't understand why they don't appreciate what he's doing for them.

He goes along with another agent, played by Sam Shepard, who has prior experience with the tribe and seems, at first, to be more accepting of their ways. Also participating in the investigation is a tribal police officer played by Graham Greene.

Greene comes off as kind of Lakota Sherlock Holmes. This is intentional. He loves to tell Kilmer, ambiguously, "Listen to the wind." Greene plays up the wizened old master stereo-type which drives Kilmer crazy.

Kilmer is surrounded by peo-ple who have virtually nothing of material value. They live in dilapidated houses with poor sanitary conditions, overcrowd-ing, and sub-standard medical and educational facilities. Yet they are fighting tooth and nail to remain autonomous.

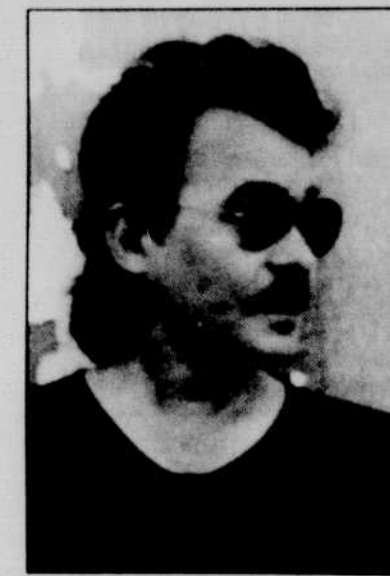
Director Michael Apted is an expert at weaving the spiritual birth in Kilmer's heart with a compelling narrative. Not only that, but the scenery is magnifi-cent and Apted makes full use of a large screen with this film.

Much of the middle section is slow and the climax is too long in coming. There are sev-eral scenes that simply reiterate things that have been said be-fore. But for the most part, *Thunderheart* is a compelling and beautiful portrait of a man who has the tough duty of dis-associating himself from his former life and comes to grips with the man he never knew he was.

By Lucas J. Gutman
Emerald Contributor

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