

'Mission Impossible' features fabulous cast

By Damon Houx
Freelance Reporter

Mission Impossible is a fun machine. That is, much like a machine, it is highly impersonal, but for what it's worth you're going to have fun.

The film stars Tom Cruise as Ethan Hunt, a IMF agent whose exact job is never really defined.

With him is Jim Phelps and his wife (played by Jon Voight and Emanuel Beart).

The pace, though, is lightening-quick for the most part, and there are a sufficient number of explosions.

The film was directed by Brian De Palma, which is a shock because his touch is barely noticeable. This is probably his least personal and least visually interesting film. It is also his second TV-to-film adaptation, and it isn't half as good as *The Untouchables*.

I understand that there were many disputes between De Palma and Cruise, who also produced the film. This doesn't kill the film, but it does hinder it.

MOVIE REVIEW

Mission Impossible

Rated PG-13

Starring: Tom Cruise

★★★

One great saving point though, is that cast.

Ving Rhames gives a great performance as a hacker-type, and his enthusiasm over new computer equipment is palpable. Beart, sadly, doesn't have much to do but be looked at, but she is a quite beautiful.

Tom Cruise didn't annoy me, and he did well with the stunts, but the most striking thing about him is that the only thing that has changed about him in ten years is his haircut.

Mission Impossible was a good film, but its impersonal nature drove me away.

Nowadays, films assume that the audience already likes Tom Cruise. I don't. This trend, which I like to call the *Speed* trend, is one of the worst in films because it assumes spectacle is more important than anything else.

This is not the case, and I wish Hollywood would get the idea. But when spectacle films such as *Speed* and *Jurassic Park* make more than \$100 million, I guess my argument is pretty weak.

Hinds: Diversity at country fair celebrates 1960s

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"heads" do not make up the majority of the people you see at the country fair. White- and blue-collar workers, students and professionals, men and women, and people of all ages, races, and creeds attend the event.

Indeed, without their money to purchase the original arts and crafts for sale at the fair, its continued existence would be difficult to project.

What the Oregon Country Fair offers all of us is the chance to experience a social microcosm that is based on the cultural revolution of the 60s.

It celebrates a movement that brought to the forefront women's liberation, black power and public scrutiny of government policy.

It celebrates the beginning of the erosion of Christian, white-male rule and cultural homogeneity in the United States.

Perhaps that is the real reason why conservatives in Lane County oppose the Country Fair.

Local politicians should wise up. Eugene's reputation as a mecca for alternative culture is an asset that should be embraced, not disparaged.

Ted Hinds, a senior double-majoring in business and psychology, is an entertainment columnist for the Emerald.

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Grind: This will be the last 'First Annual' Grind

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tor for the EMU Cultural Forum, has high expectations for this year's show and the future of the Oregon Grind.

"The event is designed to be an opportunity for students to have fun and listen to some good bands. We made the show free so it wouldn't break the student budget," he said.

In the past, the Oregon Grind has not been an annual event, its funding coming from the Cultural Forum's national music

budget. In the future, however, the funding will come from student fees, and the Oregon Grind is now an official annual event.

That is why this is the "First Annual" Oregon Grind.

Organizers are counting on this year's Oregon Grind to set the standard. This year's show will be used as a model for future Oregon Grind's.

"The bands are a mix of local and national talent, a formula that we think will be successful for years to come," Samrick said.

said.

Produced by the EMU Cultural Forum and sponsored by Rock The Vote, the Oregon Grind is designed to be exciting and to increase the political awareness of the student body by inviting an opportunity for campus organizations to promote themselves and their ideas.

"We wanted to make this a big production, something that the students can really get into," Samrick said.

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