

FRIDAY



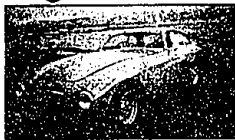
Michael Jai White stars in "Spawn" an action-adventure opening today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY

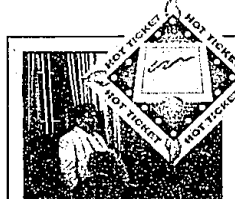


Food historian Howard Paige of Southfield demonstrates the art of African-American cooking at Greenfield Village in Dearborn during "Celebration of Emancipation," (313) 271-1620.

SUNDAY



Meadow Brook Hall hosts Concours d'Elegance, a classic car and art show, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Admission \$20-\$100, ages 13-17, children under 12 free. (248) 370-3140.



Hot tip: Guest pianist Alexander Markovich joins Neeme Jarvi and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Meadow Brook Music Festival in Rochester Hills Friday for "Music from the Motion Picture Shine." On Saturday, the DSO presents Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana," and an "All-Beethoven Program," Sunday. All concerts begin at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$42 to \$123, call (313) 333-3700, (248) 377-0100 or Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666.

WHAT TO DO • WHERE TO GO

ENTERTAINMENT

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

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STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBEL

HIGHLANDERS GAME FOR ANNUAL GATHERING

BY KEELY WYGONIK • STAFF WRITER

It's only fitting that the 148th Annual Highland Games, which celebrate Scottish traditions, be presented in a historic setting. Last year they were at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores. This year, Saturday, Aug. 2, they're moving to the 103-acre Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia.

"The Ford house certainly was a wonderful venue, but we just got too big," said Larry Donaldson who is chairman of the games sponsored by the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, a Scottish Benevolent Society founded Nov. 30, 1849. "Last year between 10,000 and 15,000 people came, we hope to match it this year."

Highland Games is a daylong event, which features a variety of competitions including athletics, dancing, drum major, Highland bag-piping and drumming.

If you have absolutely no Scottish background, the heavy athletic or strong man contests, tests of strength and agility, might seem a little bizarre especially caber toss in which athletes toss a log, which resembles a telephone pole.

According to research done by the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, many have suggested a practical origin of the caber toss, such as woodmen attempting to cast a log into or

over a stream. In all probability, though, tossing the caber was simply a test of strength to while away free time.

Farmer's Walk, in which the athlete lifts a 200-pound weight in each hand and walks as far as possible, is one of the most brutal. "The games were part of physical training for battle, and also a necessary part of daily life on the farm," explained Donaldson. Other events include the stone put, weights for distance, weight for height and hammer throw.

Vanya Sigro of Redford will be competing in the dance competition with other Mitig Dancers led by their teacher Alison Mitig of Novi, a former four-time U.S. champion.

"It's fun, and I enjoy competing," said Sigro. "I do it because it's fun and something unique. You're doing by yourself, for yourself," added Kerry Farmer of Novi formerly Birmingham.

Mittig whose mother Sheila is a dance instructor, has been dancing since she was 2, and competed for 21 years. "There are similarities between Irish and Scottish dancing, but our dances are more balletic in positions," she explained.

One of the most interesting is the Sword Dance, performed by Highland warriors on the eve before

battle. The dancing spot was marked by their crossed sword and scabbard. If the dancer completed the dance without touching the sword or scabbard it was believed his clan would be victorious in battle.

"The dancers will be competing for medals and trophies. The focus shouldn't be on winning. All you can do is practice and do the very best you can on that day, and be happy with how you danced. That's what's important," said Mitig who dances at special events.

But competition is just part of what the event has to offer. It's a way of passing on Scottish culture to the next generation, and sharing it with others who aren't familiar.

"From a teaching point of view, dance teaches discipline and how to compete in a sport with a graceful attitude. It's fun to watch the dancers grow, and hopefully they'll enjoy it, and want to carry on the tradition," said Mitig. "What makes the games special is it's a gathering of people who share their heritage. It's a time for renewing old friendships and making new."

There will be a number of activities throughout the day. An entertainment tent will feature a number of Scottish folk singers and groups.

Please see GAME, E2

Practice makes perfect: Highland dancers (left to right), Vanya Sigro, 10 of Redford; Kerry Farmer, 19, of Novi, formerly Birmingham, and Bridget Garrity, 13 of Detroit rehearse at Greenmead Historical Village to prepare for the 148th Annual Highland Games.

148TH ANNUAL Highland Games

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2

Where: Greenmead Historical Village, Newburgh Road at 8 Mile Road, Livonia

Admission: At the gate: Adults \$8, (children under 12 free with adult).

Parking: Handicapped and limited general parking available in Main Lot at Greenmead, entering from Newburgh Road. There is a \$3 charge.

Shuttle: General parking available in the Shuttle Lot at Schoolcraft College, (south of 7 Mile Road on Haggerty Road). There is no charge for parking in this lot, and the complimentary shuttle bus will run every 5 to 10 minutes throughout the day, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Shuttle buses are handicap accessible and will drop off/pick up passengers at the main gate of Greenmead. There may also be additional shuttle lots available in the area and they will be clearly marked.

General information: Call (313) 832-1849.

Website: WWW.Highlandgames.com

Highlights:

- 9 a.m. - Gates open
- Noon - Opening Ceremonies
- 5 p.m. Closing Ceremonies
- Ongoing throughout the day:
 - Heavy Athletics
 - Highland Dancing
 - Piping and Drumming
 - Scottish Arts and Entertainment
 - Children's Events



ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF DETROIT

Honor guard: Dennis D'Arcy of Livonia, a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, is participating in this year's Highland Games at Greenmead.

STREET SCENE

Celebrating debut: Detroit rockers Hoarse - from left, drummer Jimmy Paluzzi, singer/guitarist John Speck, and bassist Robby Graham - release its debut album "Happens Twice" on RCA Records on Tuesday, Aug. 12.



Hoarse wins the third time around

BY CHRISTINA PUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Postponing the release of an album generally isn't a good thing. But for Detroit rockers Hoarse it was a blessing.

When the trio delivered its first version of "Happens Twice," its debut for RCA records, the record company wasn't happy with the mixes.

"Radio programmers (at record companies) want three singles. One that gets your foot in the door, one that sells records, and one that pushes you over the top," said singer/guitarist John Speck, a 1990 Troy Athens High School graduate.

"They were wondering about the singles potential on the album," he added.

The band remixed the album with Tim Patalan of Loft Studios in Saline who has worked with Sponge, Solid Frog and Jeff Buckley.

"That was closer to the mark, but it wasn't quite there."

Hoarse - which also includes drummer/vocalist Jimmy

Paluzzi, and bassist/vocalist Robby Graham - tried once again with Tom Lord-Alge and Jack Joseph Puig, both of whom worked with Hoarse's inbalmates The Verve Pipe. Finally, everyone was happy.

"If we were to put the record out the way we did it the first time, we wouldn't be happy with that record now. The record is something that exceeds any of our expectations like how well it sounds and how well it gets together," said Speck, formerly of the Generals.

Originally scheduled for a September 1996 release, "Happens Twice" is due in stores Tuesday, Aug. 12. The album is a collection of mixes by Lord-Alge, Puig, Patalan (who did one mix at Canton's Pearl Sound studio), and Hoarse's A&R representative Brian Malouf. Blending the ferocity of punk with straight-ahead rock 'n' roll, the 12-song release captures the intensity of raucous live shows.

Paluzzi agreed with Speck that this is the perfect time for "Happens Twice" to come out.

Please see HOARSE, E2

Who: Hoarse

What: Performs and signs autographs.

When: 10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11

Where: Record Time record store, 27360 Grandt, Roseville, for more information, call (810) 775-1550.

Why: To celebrate the release of "Happens Twice," its debut album for RCA in stores Tuesday, Aug. 12.