

New restaurant is more than "Sooo Gute"



By Sarah Duey
Staff Reporter

Polka music, bratwurst, red cabbage and Warsteiner beer are a "wunderbar" combination.

Instead of traveling across the Atlantic Ocean to find such pleasures, Lincolniters now can taste old world Germany in downtown Lincoln.

"Sooo Gute stands for good German food," said Gunther Beckmann, owner of Sooo Gute, 130 N. 13th St. "Sooo Gute" means "so good" in English.

Beckmann first came to Nebraska in 1956 to practice cabinetmaking and building in the Old-World manner. He is now showing his love for the United States by bringing the authentic German taste here.

Sooo Gute offers more than 50 varieties of gourmet German meats, a bakery counter full of fresh pastries and hard rolls and a deli with more than 40 imported German goodies, Beckmann said.

"I must point out the applesauce torte," Beckmann said. "Every birthday, my mother made it for me, and now I'm making it here."

The menu features the "truly German meats"—Frikadellen, bratwurst and knackwurst, Beckmann said. Red cabbage and mustard accompany the meats, which are 80 percent lean.

"I must say that American burgers and dogs never tasted this good,"

Beckmann said.

Beckmann's wife, Carol, said that University of Nebraska-Lincoln Food Processing played an instrumental part in helping Sooo Gute with pricing and handling techniques.

The downtown Lincoln restaurant is only the start of the Sooo Gute concept. Beckmann International hopes to expand its restaurant concept into other heavily German-populated areas.

Beckmann said he thought that because of the great German population, Americans were ready to taste German gourmet food.

Because Beckmann has lived in Lincoln for 12 years, and Nebraska has a 46 percent German heritage population, he started the franchise here.

Beckmann said his company also manufactured push-carts and trailers that serve these same German goodies.

"We call our concept a 'fest,' which means 'to celebrate' in German," Beckmann said.

"We celebrate our concept." Beckmann said he had to be committed to make his concept work.

"I have to eat, drink and sleep it, otherwise, it isn't possible," he said.

Beckmann said Sooo Gute, which opened June 19, had already experienced great success.

"We've been told we have the best potato salad west of the Mississippi."

Carol and Gunther Beckmann, owners of Beckmann International, sit at a table at their new German restaurant, Sooo Gute, 130 N. 13th St.

Michelle Paulman/DN

Kansas Festival to link college, veteran bands

Venture sparks 2nd annual gig

RIVER VALLEY

WHAT: River Valley Music Festival
WHEN: Saturday, gates open at 1 p.m., show starts at 3 p.m.
TICKETS: Available at any Ticketmaster location, or charge by phone: 816-931-3330
MORE INFORMATION: Call 913-841-0505

MUSIC FESTIVAL

By Stacey McKenzie
Senior Reporter

A calm, 20-acre field seven miles outside of Lawrence, Kan., will sprout five bands Saturday at the second River Valley Music Festival.

The eight-hour festival has grand offerings of rock 'n' roll, R&B, gospel and soul.

The festival's showboats are Little Feat and the BoDeans.

Soul Food Cafe, The Red Devils and Lawrence's Baghdad Jones also will play.

The first festival attracted about 7,500 people from 10 states.

Promoters said they hoped to double attendance this time around.

Little Feat — They've been around for two decades and are on their 12th album. The seven-man band regrouped in 1988, and has since put out three albums.

BoDeans — The BoDeans' reputation as one of the great college rock bands still holds with their latest release, "Black and White." The BoDeans' grit shows in their live performances as well as on their albums.

Soul Food Cafe — This five piece R&B and gospel band from Dallas was named Best New Original Band in The Dallas Observer's 1991 readers' poll.

The Red Devils — Named "Best Blues Artist" at the 1992 Los Angeles Music Awards, The Red Devils have played to packed houses around the L.A. area. The Red Devils just released their first album, "King, King," on Def American Records.

Baghdad Jones — A seven-piece R&B band from Lawrence, Baghdad Jones features a sax-driven sound seasoned by the soulful voice of Buffy Barton.

Short-lived flicks peak interest



By Anne Steyer
Staff Reporter

Another minor week for home video — more small releases.

Though that is not to say that these offerings are not fit for viewing, just that they did little at the box office and probably won't be in high demand on video.

"Mississippi Masala" Director Mira Nair's ("Salaam Bombay!") latest film has been compared to "Jungle Fever" because of the interracial romance at its center.

Like "Jungle Fever," this film does more than examine the love affair of two very different people — it examines the difficulty their families and their communities have in dealing with their relationship.

Nair explores the relationship and also incorporates the importance of trust, family ties and culture.

Denzel Washington (Oscar winner for "Glory") and the star of the upcoming "Malcolm X" and Anglo-Indian newcomer Sarita Choudhury play two people from different backgrounds

who are falling in love in the New South. Hence the title: the location, and masala refers to a blend of spices.

"White Sands" Mickey Rourke adds another sleazy, bad-guy role to his already full collection ("Wild Orchid," "9 1/2 Weeks") in this complicated mystery/thriller.

Willem Dafoe ("Platoon") also stars as a small town New Mexico deputy. He follows the tracks left by a dead man directly into a hornet's nest replete with illegal activities and unscrupulous federal agents.

Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio ("Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves") is the requisite skin.

Also this week:

"Time Out: The Truth About HIV, AIDS and You" Arsenio Hall and Magic Johnson, together with some special guests, give the straight talk on AIDS. Both talk confidently and with concern to young people about this serious epidemic.

"The Playboys" played Lincoln for a very short time this summer. It stars Robin Wright ("The Princess Bride") Aidan Quinn ("Avalon") as two members in a love triangle set in Ireland.

Although it did not play here, "Leaving Normal" looks like it will

be worth a watch. It stars the under-appreciated Christine Lahti ("Running on Empty") and Meg Tilly ("Big Chill") as two women who find themselves during a road trip to Alaska, a la "Thelma and Louise" meets "Easy Rider."

MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

- By The Associated Press
1. "The Firm," John Grisham (Island-Dell)
 2. "A Time to Kill," John Grisham (Dell)
 3. "Night Over Water," Ken Follett (Signet)
 4. "The Sum of All Fears," Tom Clancy (Berkley)
 5. "Needful Things," Stephen King (Signet)
 6. "The Novel," James Michener (Fawcett)
 7. "Against the Wind," J. F. Freedman (Signet)
 8. "Outer Banks," Anne Rivers Siddons (Harper Paperbacks)
 9. "Exceptional Clearance," William Caunitz (Bantam)
 10. "See Jane Run," Joy Fielding (Avon)
 11. "Games of the Hangman," Victor O'Reilly (Berkley)
 12. "The Choice," Barry Reed (St. Martin's)
 13. "Daniel's Bride," Linda L. Miller (Pocket)
 14. "The Kitchen God's Wife," Amy Tan (Ivy)
 15. "Xanth 15: The Color of Her Panties," Piers Anthony (Avon)

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110 Announcements
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ALL-NIGHTER
The Intramural Sports Program will be offering three events on the evening of September 18, 1992. These three events are Frisbee Skills, Hackey Sack, and the Wallyball Tournament. No advance entry is required - enter on site. Be sure to bring your current UNL photo I.D.

Annual Burr-Fedde Riverboat. Thursday, September 17, at 7:00pm. Open to Burr-Fedde residents, alumni and friends. Tickets \$12 Call 436-0894 or 436-0928.

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Tuesday, September 15
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115 Nebraska Union
Questions ?? - Call 472-2581

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