

Oberlin fest targets independent films



**Steve
Fogarty**

Most people who toil and sweat to make movies fly below the radar. Alex Morrison would like to see that their labors of love get their just due.

And that's why the 23-year-old Oberlin native and filmmaker has come back home to offer a free series of weekly screenings of films by independent filmmakers.

"I'd say that the large majority of filmmakers are largely unnoticed," Morrison said. "You never even hear about their work."

A graduate of Ithaca College, Morrison has already run into about 10 people in Oberlin who have made a film or had "a direct connection to one" since he returned to town three weeks ago.

This weekend's screenings feature a trio of animated shorts that have electronic music scores, all of which were composed by Tom Lopez, an Oberlin College professor.

In a few weeks, nationally known video producer and Dayton resident Steve Pribish will have his whimsical documentary "Goose World" screened at the Foxgrape Cafe in Oberlin.

FOXGRAPE FILM SERIES

WHEN: Friday-Saturday, Nov. 1-2, 8-9; all at 9 p.m.

WHERE: Foxgrape Café, Main Street, Oberlin (across from Tappan Square)

ADMISSION: Free

INFORMATION:

www.foxgrapefilmseries.tripod.com

"It's put in a fictional setting but it's all about those cement geese you see everywhere," Morrison said.

Pribish will attend the screening and discuss it with audience members later.

"I'm really interested in publicizing works from the Midwest," Morrison said. "People tend to think that most film work is done in Los Angeles or New York City and that's just not true."

Morrison has affiliated with the Seattle-based Microcinema movement in hopes of getting a helping hand to establish a permanent space where short films (30 minutes or less) can be shown on a regular basis.

"They try to create small cinemas in obscure places such as Baptist churches or abandoned warehouses or anywhere you can project a film and come in and watch it," Morrison said.

The films are shown on video and projected on a large-screen TV.