

# Prairie film festival draws few

Medicine Hat News

PETRA KOSSMAN  
Of The News

June 1/90

Prairie Film I, the first festival of prairie film-makers to be held in Medicine Hat, got off to a disappointing start Thursday evening.

The film fest, presented in conjunction with the Spectrum festival, offered a screening of five films by Alberta and Saskatchewan directors at the Medicine Hat College Theatre.

Four people turned up to watch.

The event was poorly publicized and poorly organized. One film couldn't be shown because they didn't have the correct projector for it.

But the organization did not detract from the quality of some of the films.

The brightest spot in the evening was the work of Gerald Saul, a Regina film-maker.

A two-minute animated Saul film, titled My

Idea, used photocopied imagery cleverly counterpointed with voiceovers.

It was amusing, clever and enjoyable, despite being somewhat puzzling.

Saul's Angst — A Vampire Romance, was premiered at the evening's screening.

It was alternately, angry, witty, despairing, moving, joyful, and above all, human.

The film unfolds through the mesmerizing voice of Kirsten McPhee as a narrator rather than developing as a drama with dialogue.

Dawn Henderson, as Kynth the Vampire, makes an attractive, mysterious vampire girl who poses dramatically and dances vibrantly behind grave-stones in a cemetery.

Scenescence, a bleak William Hornecker film, stars Isobel Smith as Hattie, who tells of her marriage to an unfaithful husband in a tight and raw monologue.

It is about anger, guilt, betrayal, fear of aging, and is acted superbly by Smith

## Review