

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

The Current ~ Spring 1999

## SPRING BREAK!

Can't afford Florida?  
Can't take a week off work?  
Still want to go somewhere?  
We'll give you some ideas on  
weekend get-aways.  
page 4

Plus: Tips you should know before  
leaving St. Louis



### MUSIC

Bands battle for a spot on the Mirthday program. To find out who won see page 7



### FILM

Find out who will win and who should win an oscar this year. For this story see page 6

### OTHER STUFF INSIDE

- Did you know that UM - St. Louis' Department of Music is producing the musical *Man of La Mancha* to be performed here on campus? They are, and we've talked to the director, Milton Zoth, just so we could tell you how the production really is coming along. For this story turn to page 3.
- Also, check out the A&E calendar on page 2.

# A&E

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Mark Madsen as Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*

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# A&E CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## CONCERTS

The walls of the Galaxy nightclub will be thumping to a hardcore beat on Saturday, March 20. Three bands are lined up, prepared to satisfy the audience's desire to get a little crazy. Drown,

The Clay People, and Locash will take the stage starting at 8pm. The show is open to all ages, so everyone can enjoy the rhythms of the night. But, beware, only the enthusiastic crowds should attend because the show is guaranteed to be full of energy. It's not recommended for the weak or the wallflowers. Galaxy is



Joel Cochrane of Locash

located downtown at 1227 Washington Avenue. The cover charge for people over 21 is \$5, and anyone under 21 pays \$7. For more information, the phone number of Galaxy is (314) 231-2404.

## DANCE

Dance St. Louis presents **Parsons Dance Company** as their last event for the 1998/99 season at the Fox Theatre at 8 p.m. on **April 16 and 17**. For the past 12 years, **David Parsons** and his dancers have won the hearts of audiences throughout the world. The program includes *The Envelope*, *Anthem*, *Ring Around the Rosy*, *Sleep Study*, and Parsons' signature work, *Caught*. *Caught* is a solo work that through creative uses of light and numerous jumps, creates the illusion that the dancer never touches the ground. Tickets are \$18 - \$34 for adults and \$15 - \$28 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at the Dance St. Louis Box Office by calling (314) 534-6622 or Metro Tix at (314) 534-1111.



Parsons Dance Company

## THEATER

The Bard of Avon closes the Mainstage season of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis with the lusty Elizabethan romp, *The Taming of the Shrew*, running **Mar. 17 through Apr. 16**.

William Shakespeare's rich, energetic language fuels one of theatre's most fascinating romantic comedies and boisterous farces about Petruchio, the dashing adventurer, who meets his bride Kate's fiery temper with a more blistering fire of his own.

Directed by **Bruce Longworth**, *The Taming of the Shrew* features **Katherine Leask** as Kate and **John Resenhouse** as Petruchio. For Tickets, call The Rep Box Office at (314) 968-4925 or Metro Tix at (314) 534-1111.



The Taming of the Shrew

# The Man of La Mancha

An Interview with the director of UM-St. Louis's production of *Man of La Mancha*

STEPHANIE PLATT  
staff editor

How do you teach someone to believe in their dreams?

For Milton Zoth, that is just part of his job. Zoth is the director of the University of Missouri - St. Louis music department's production of *Man of La Mancha*. The play will be performed April 8, 9, and 10 in the J.C. Penny auditorium.

"I'm working with a very eager cast," Zoth said. "Based on the talent involved, this will be a very good show. I'm very pleased."

Zoth received his Master of Fine Arts and Directing from Webster University. He is currently the director of theater in

the Kirkwood School District. He has been a free lance director since 1983 and has directed for the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The New Theatre, Arrow Rock Lyceum, and numerous community theater companies.

"I like directing because I love to tell a story, to be able to create life on stage," Zoth said.

Zoth said he got involved in the production when someone recommended him to Mark Madsen, director of vocal studies and producer of the show. Zoth has directed *Man of La Mancha* twice before. From there, Zoth was able to develop a core production staff including Teresa Doggett as costume designer and Patrick



Huber as set and lighting designer.

Zoth said he liked directing *Man of La Mancha*.

"As musicals go this is one of the better ones. It is very dramatic and powerful. It is an ensemble piece, meaning that everyone is on stage doing something all the time. It is much more cohesive and exciting," Zoth said.

Zoth said the play is organic. He explained it as a giant game of charades, in which the characters on stage turn it to other characters as the story progresses.

"It's more playful than just having scenery move on and off the stage," Zoth said.

Zoth has been rehearsing with the cast since late January.

"I was impressed with the sophistication of their voices and their ability to play the characters. They are very good actors across the board and they've progressed to the point that we can get to the meat of the story and dissect it," Zoth said.

He said that the chemistry within the cast has been very good because there is no real lead in the play.

"There is a lot of laughter during rehearsal. The cast works hard. It can be painful at times for certain actors, but they are all supportive. There have been no divas, no prima donnas, everyone is real giving," Zoth said.

Zoth said the real breakthrough in production came when Michelle Eise, who plays Aldonza, truly started to understand what her character thought of herself.

"Aldonza is basically a kitchen slut and in the second act she is violently gang raped. It is followed by this wonderful



Photos by Stephanie Platt  
Top: Mark Madsen as Don Quixote and Michelle Eise as Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha*  
Above: Michelle Eise as Aldonza

song about what kind of person she feels she is. We had to dig deep to be able to capture those emotions. I kept asking her questions. I like to ask questions because you can't just ask someone to feel pain. It's artificial. You have to work from the inside out. Michelle has a great voice, but I was hearing all voice and no emotion. When she broke through emotionally, we were blown away," Zoth said.

Zoth thinks the play will be successful. "It is a fascinating play with beautiful music. It will be a thrilling production," Zoth said.

University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Department of Music  
presents

## Man of La Mancha

April 8, 9, 10  
J.C. Penney Auditorium  
8:00 p.m.



Premier Performances Ticket Office  
Adults \$7.00 Students \$4.00  
516-5776

Check out our **Weekly Columns** on the web at [www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current](http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current)

# LEAVING ST. LOUIS...

*You don't have to go far to find fun on your time off*

BY AMY LOMBARDO  
staff editor

Spring break is often synonymous with warm weather vacation spots like Tampa or Cancun. If you don't have the time and money to jet off to some beach-front resort for the week, you're not alone. Or, it's possible your priority list has outgrown the 'keg parties and skimpy attire' level, and you're looking for a little more depth during your time off. There are nearby places to visit that provide fun and entertainment in just a short road-trip. Don't feel like you have to stay in St. Louis if you have those get-out-of-town urges.

Chicago is only five hours away by car. (There are also very reasonable airfare rates to the Windy City, and the flight is so short the plane will be touching down before you can say "honey roasted peanuts".)

Once in Chicago, there are endless possibilities. Shedd Aquarium is the world's largest indoor aquarium, housing nearly 8,000 aquatic animals. There are 650 species of fish, reptiles, amphibian, invertebrates, birds and mammals to check out. On Mondays, visitors receive a discount on combined Aquarium and Oceanarium admissions.

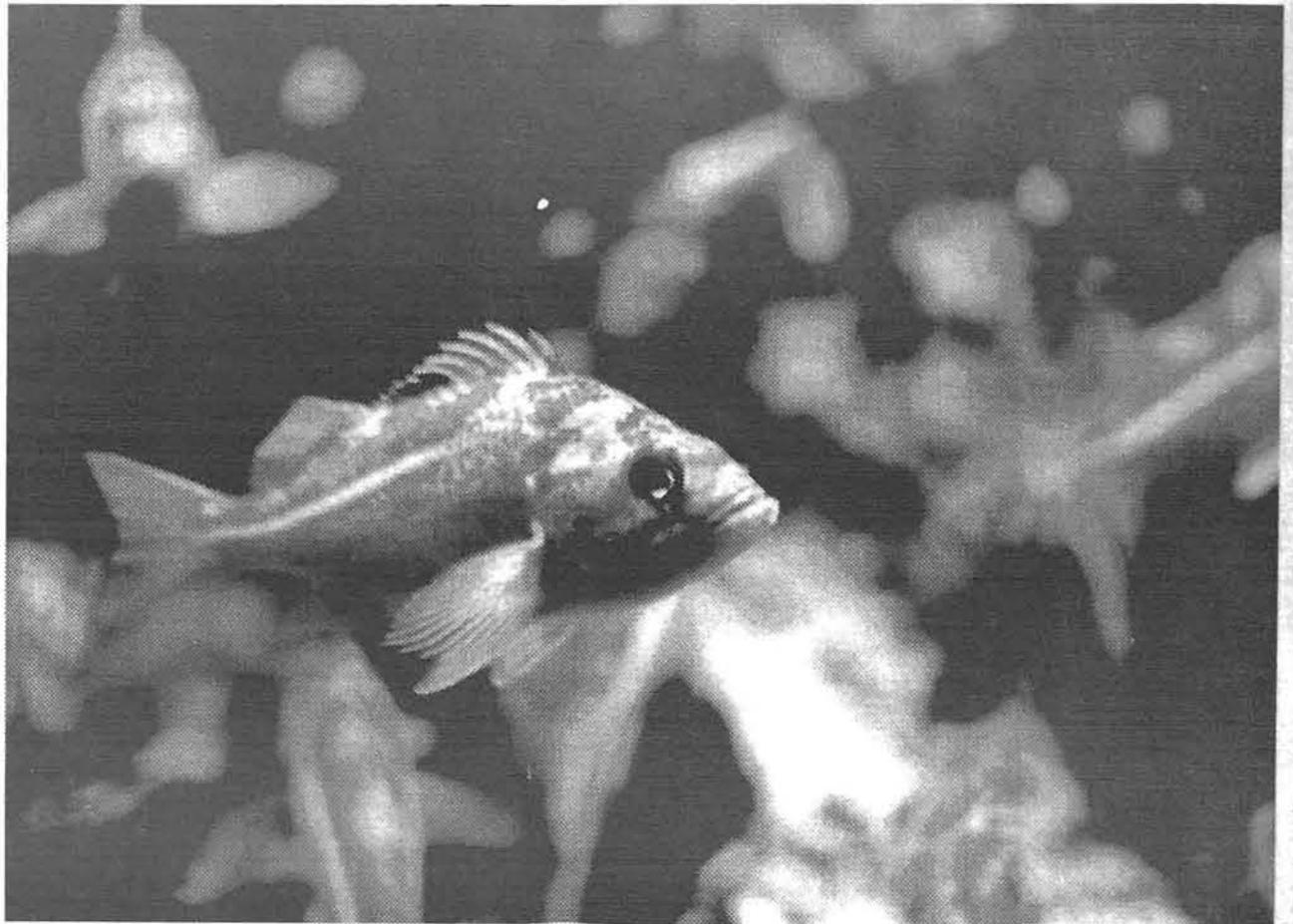
The Navy Pier has a variety of unique attractions, with the 150-ft. Ferris wheel probably being the most obvious. It was modeled after the very first Ferris wheel which was built for Chicago's 1893 World Columbian Exposition. Crystal Gardens is a 6-story glass atrium that houses a one-acre botanical oasis. There is also a beer garden, dining cruise boats, large-screen theater, outdoor restaurants and unique shops.

Since it is considered the world's first city of modern architecture and design, it would be a good idea to stop by The Chicago Athenaeum. The price is only \$2 for students. Other museums worth the time and effort are the Art Institute of Chicago (free on Tuesdays, \$5 all other times) and the Museum of Contemporary Art (\$4 student admission).

If it's your first time in Chi-town, it's imperative to travel up the Sears Tower or look out of the John Hancock Observatory. For those with the means to spare some cash, the shopping can't be beat at Michigan Avenue... at least in the Midwest. Stores like Saks Fifth Avenue, Bloomingdales and Gucci line the street.

Kansas City is located approximately 4 hours from St. Louis. One of the first things you'll notice as you're driving in on the highway, is the impressive 118,000-seat Harry S. Truman Sports Complex. The facility houses stadiums for both baseball and football.

Once inside the downtown area, there are plenty of things to see and do. The Kansas City Art Institute, the first cultural institution in the 'Heart of America', is free and open to the public. There's also the Kansas City Museum, set up in a 50-room mansion, for a mere \$2.50. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art is made up of 58 galleries and 11



Photos By: Stephanie Platt

**Above: Visitors to Chicago can see all types of fish, including the one above, at Shedd Aquarium.**

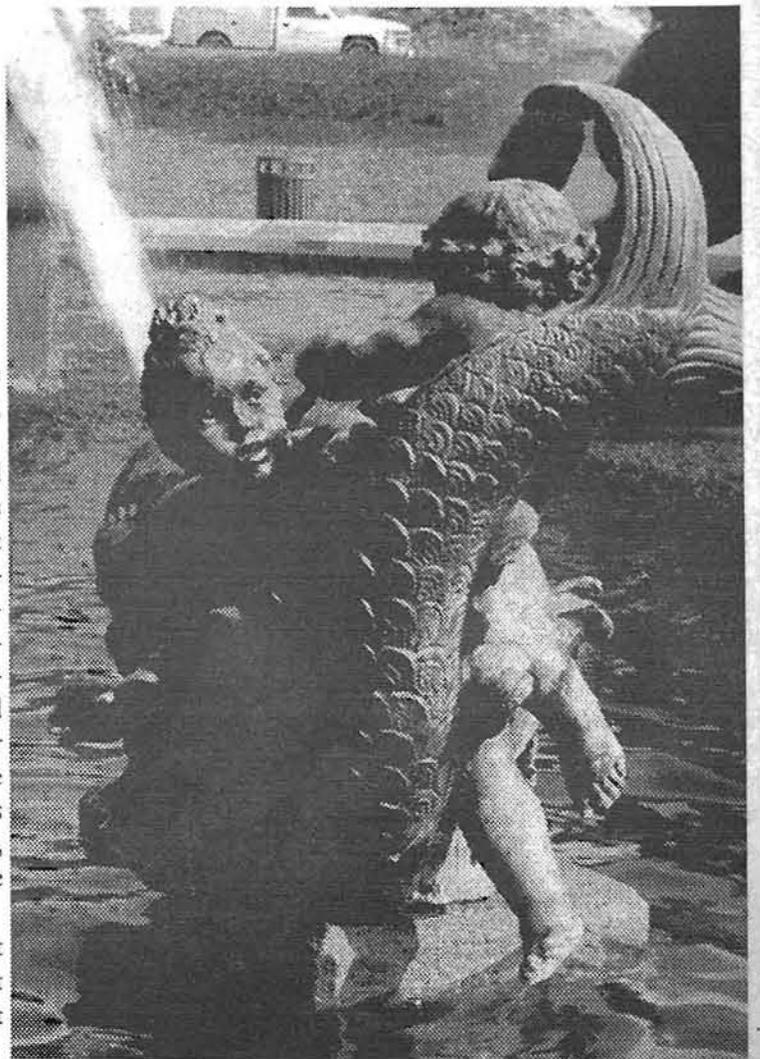
**Right: Fountains abound at the Plaza in Kansas City, the city of fountains.**

period rooms, plus students are in for \$1.

The Kansas City Zoo is a nice place to spend the day, weather permitting. It does cost \$5 to get in, but Tuesdays are only \$1.

Shopping is something of a tradition in KC, and is considered an enjoyable experience for browsers and buyers alike. In 1922, J. C. Nichols built the first completely planned shopping center in the US - Country Club Plaza - which includes over 150 mainstream and specialty shops, restaurants and night-clubs. Crown Center is hotel, mall, dining and entertainment complex in one. It covers 85 acres and reaches three levels. River Market is an open-air market featuring small shops and fresh produce stands run by area farmers. Last, but not least, is Westport Square, comprised of shops, galleries, restaurants and bars in buildings renovated from the days of the Santa Fe Trail outfitting station.

On a final note, if you do decide to venture out to either of these fair cities, keep in mind that most museums are closed on Mondays and don't forget your college ID for discounts.



# Can't Hardly Wait!

## Do's and Don'ts for traveling Spring Breakers



BY LISA M. PETTIS  
special to The Current

Whether you are traveling far or near for spring break, you can take some precautions to ensure a fun, safe one. Here are some suggestions:

1) If you're flying the friendly skies, you should take some reading and writing materials along. You might get a chance to read that novel you haven't had time to read or start writing that novel you've been dying to write.

2) If you're traveling by automobile, make sure you get a tune up, the oil checked, or an overall check up. And although you take the extra precautions, you might find yourself stranded. Take along some emergency items such as a cell phone, some blankets, a flash light, and some non-perishable food items.

3) Don't forget to apply sunscreen to protect your skin from the sun if you plan to sunbathe. It doesn't matter what color your skin is, anyone can get skin cancer from not properly protecting their skin from the sun's ultra-violet rays.

4) And all of you party-goers who plan to drink, remember, "Don't drink and drive." Before you go out, decide who will be the designated driver. If you're partying in a group, take turns with the designated driver. If one person volunteers one night, someone else should volunteer the next night, so everyone can get their party on.

5) If you meet someone for the first or second time, think twice before you have that one night stand. But if you decide to go through with it, protect yourself.

6) Now, instead of using your Walkman for recording class lectures or interviews to write a paper, you can put in some inspirational music. Sit or lie down, relax, and let the music soothe your mind.

7) Treat yourself to a candlelight bath with peaches and cream bubble bath, which soothes and conditions your skin or with your favorite bubble bath.



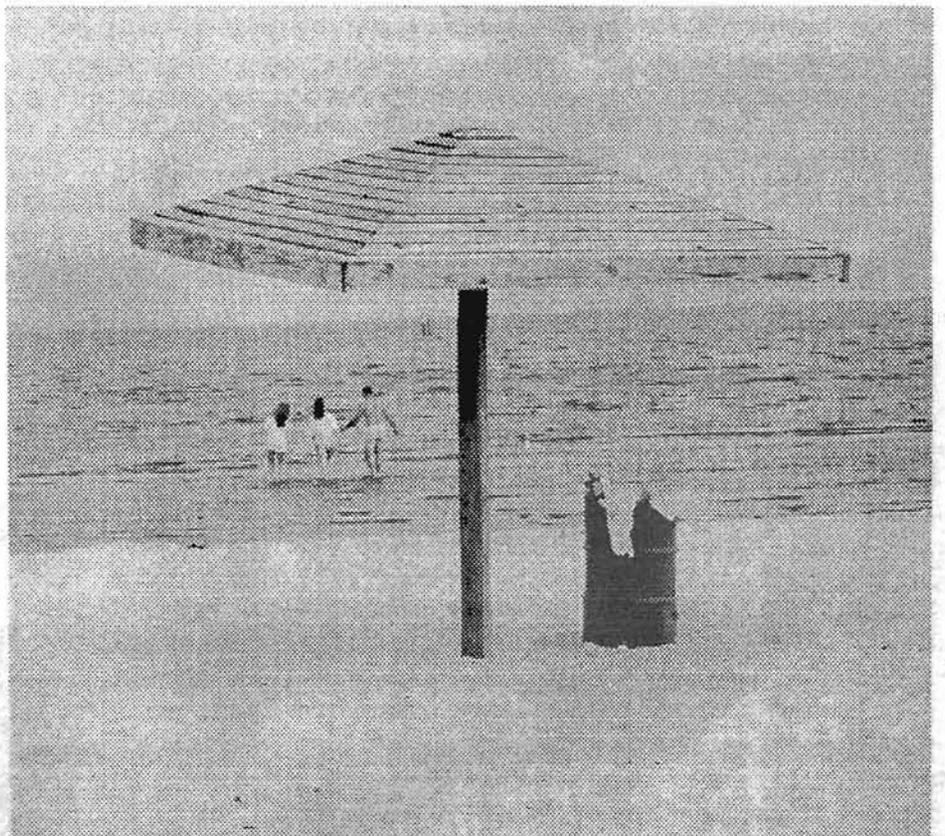
8) Try a new sport or activity you've been wanting to try, but you haven't had the time. If you're going to a warmer climate, try an outdoors sport or activity, and if you're going to be in a colder climate, try an indoors sport or activity.

9) Treat yourself to eating at Red Lobster or your favorite restaurant. Eat, drink, and be merry! But remember, "Don't drink and drive." #4

10) If you plan to carry a large amount of money, get some travelers checks. If the checks are lost or stolen, you can report it and possibly be reimbursed. You won't have a chance to be reimbursed if a \$100 dollar bill is lost or stolen.

11) Smile and greet people even if you don't know them. You will have joy and peace within yourself. Some people won't respond, but don't give up on being friendly.

12) What if all doesn't go as planned? Don't blame anyone else for the mishap, although they may be responsible for the misfortune. For your own piece of mind, try to make the best out of the situation. Whatever you do or wherever you go, use these tips or tips from your own experiences to help you prepare for the expected as well as the unexpected. Get revived for the rest of the semester, and have a fun, safe spring break.



Photos by: Sam Kasle

A suitcase filled with must-haves for hitting the beach (upper-right), airplanes preparing to escort travelers to their vacation destinations (upper-left) and a beach in Panama City, Florida.

## MOVIES

## BOX OFFICE

## HITS

1. **Analyze This**  
(Warner Brothers)
2. **Cruel Intentions**  
(Sony)
3. **8mm**  
(Sony)
4. **The Other Sister**  
(Buena Vista)
5. **Payback**  
(Paramount)
6. **October Sky**  
(Universal)
7. **My Favorite Martian**  
(Buena Vista)
8. **Message in a Bottle**  
(Warner Brothers)
9. **Shakespeare in Love**  
(Miramax)
10. **She's All That**  
(Miramax)

Top 10 taken from  
Blockbuster online  
March 7, 1999

And the award goes to ...

## Oscar Nominations Represent Year's Best

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

of The Current staff

Ah, the Oscars! The enduring appeal of these awards seems to lie in their position as a symbol of that piece of Americana called "Hollywood" and in their history as the inspiration for an array of other entertainment awards and ceremonies. While the history of the Oscars reveals some laughable oversights and some puzzling winners, they still endure by their combination of popular taste (since big moneymakers often win), insider knowledge (since the Academy is made up of Hollywood insiders, notably producers and studio executives), and artistic and academic judgment of film (since the creative people who actually make film are also represented in the Academy). This combination is unique among movie awards, which tend lean either more to popular taste regardless of artistic value, or more to artistic/academic standards regardless of popularity.

Personally, I find that looking at the list of nominated films is more representative of the year's best films rather than the winners (although the more artistic but less commercial films are still often overlooked). Oscar winners are often chosen to reward or recognize individuals involved in those films for previous work rather than for the current film nominated, hence it's hard to guess who the Academy will pick, and we get those sometimes squirrely winners.

I was lucky enough to see most of the films nominated for the major awards this year, and I'd like to offer my picks for winners in the top categories, as well as my guess for the Academy picks. Fortunately

for movies buffs who may have missed some of the nominated films, a number of them are at area theaters now, and I'll list those too.

As a note, I'd like to mention that there was an article in a Post Get Out section on the Oscars that suggested that people look up the American Film Institute's 100 movies list. Despite its academic sounding name, the AFI is primarily an organization that promotes the interests of several big studios. While two-thirds of these films could be on a list of great films, other turkeys and less-than-stellar films also appear while films that for years appeared on lists of great films, even in the top ten, were excluded. Any really knowledgeable film buff would not recommend using the AFI list as a guide to the best films; plenty of other lists found on the Web or at the library will give a much more accurate guide (including the Library of Congress list).

Now those Oscars:

**Best Picture:**

Nominees: Elizabeth, Life is Beautiful, Saving Private Ryan, Shakespeare in Love, The Thin Red Line.

My choice: Life is Beautiful (but this year's choices are all excellent)

Likely winner: Saving Private Ryan (big money maker, serious theme)

**Best Actor:**

Nominees: Roberto Benigni (Life is Beautiful), Tom Hanks (Saving Private Ryan), Ian McKellen (Gods and Monsters), Nick Nolte (Affliction), Edward Norton (American History X)

My choice: Ian McKellen (awesome performance, in a field of excellent choices)

Likely winner: Nick Nolte (mostly for his longevity, but also excellent work)

**Best Actress:**

Nominees: Cate Blanchett (Elizabeth), Fernanda Montenegro (Central Station), Gwyneth Paltrow (Shakespeare in Love), Meryl Streep (One True Thing), Emily Watson (Hilary and Jackie)

My choice: Cate Blanchett or Fernanda Montenegro (both stand-outs)

Likely winner: Gwyneth Paltrow

**Best Supporting Actor:**

Nominees: James Coburn (Affliction), Robert Duvall (A Civil Action), Ed Harris (The Truman Show), Geoffrey Rush (Shakespeare in Love), Billy Bob Thorton (A Simple Plan)

My choice: Billy Bob Thorton

Likely winner: Ed Harris

**Best Supporting Actress:**

Nominees: Kathy Bates (Primary Colors), Brenda Blethyn (Little Voice), Judi Dench (Shakespeare in Love), Rachel Griffiths (Hilary and Jackie), Lynn Redgrave (Gods and Monsters)

My choice: Lynn Redgrave (remarkable)

Likely winner: Judi Dench

**Director:**

Nominees: Roberto Benigni (Life is Beautiful), Steven Spielberg (Saving Private Ryan), John Madden (Shakespeare in Love), Terrence Malick (The Thin Red Line), Peter Weir (The Truman Show)

My choice: Terrence Malick (but a really tough choice here)

Likely winner: Terrence Malick (to encourage to make more films!)

**Foreign Film:**

Nominees: Central Station, Children of Heaven, The Grandfather, Life is Beautiful, Tango

My choice: Central Station (but sadly two of these films didn't play here)

Likely winner: Life is Beautiful (since it won't win Best Picture)

**Cinematography:**

Nominees: A Civil Action, Elizabeth, Pleasantville, Saving Private Ryan, Shakespeare in Love, The Thin Red Line

My choice: The Thin Red Line (unique marvelous photography)

Likely winner: The Thin Red Line

**Original Screenplay:**

Nominees: Warren Beatty and Jeremy Pikser (Bulworth), Roberto Benigni and Vincenzo Cerami (Life is Beautiful), Robert Rodat (Saving Private Ryan), Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman (Shakespeare in Love), Andrew Niccol (The Truman Show)

My choice: Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman (Shakespeare in Love)

Likely winner: Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman (Shakespeare in Love)

Oscar nominees still playing in the area: Affliction, Saving Private Ryan, Elizabeth, Central Station, Life is Beautiful, Shakespeare in Love, and A Simple Plan.

## 'Two Smokes' has abundance of successful plot twists

"Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels"

Now Playing (R)

Running Time: 106 minutes

Ready for a roller coaster ride?

A fast-paced, wild, downhill ride of a film, "Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels" throws together an assortment of criminals and sleazy types into a cleverly-drawn plot with more twists and turns than a country road. The film has the feel of a British "Pulp Fiction," but with more humor and less violence. It retains the surprising plot twists, the overlapping stories, and high tension, electrifying feel of that film. This film also features unusual, intriguing photographic techniques, especially during the poker game scene. The pacing and editing are marvelous, lending the right rhythm to maintain the action and keep you off balance for every surprise in the plot. The acting is exactly right to create the vividly-drawn characters.

The story centers on a London gang of four young small-time criminals. A plot to make some quick money in a high-stakes poker game with a local crime boss and pornographer backfires and leaves this group with a huge debt they must repay in one week. The ensuing events weave a variety of colorful characters into a story that loops and twists and finally draws every detail into a neat package, with tongue-in-cheek humor.

While this film has no larger message on life or society, it is ter-



Jason Fleming (left), Jason Statham, Nick Moran, and Dexter Fletcher in *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*

rifically entertaining and a great story, filled with humor, action, and plot-twists in abundance.

~Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

## MUSIC

## TOP 10

1. **TLC:** Fanmail
2. **Eminem:** The Slim Shady LP
3. **Lauryn Hill:** The Miseducation Of Lauryn Hill
4. **The Roots:** Things Fall Apart
5. **Britney Spears:** ... Baby One More Time
6. **Dixie Chicks:** Wide Open Spaces
7. **Shania Twain:** Come On Over
8. **Various Artists:** 1999 Grammy Nominees
9. **Cher:** Believe
10. **The Offspring:** Americana

Top 10 taken from  
Billboard online

# Campus Bands Battle it Out

*Judges select the group to play at Mirthday '99*

BY CORY BLACKWOOD

music editor

Last Saturday, March 6th, in the J.C. Penney building, a battle of the bands was held to decide the opening slot for the Mirth Day concert. While the details of the headlining performer are still classified, it is promised that the band will be big enough to warrant a large crowd. With this knowledge, 20 bands containing UM-St. Louis students entered the competition and six made the cut.

The six competing bands- Colorspace, The Mims, Fat Cactus, The Kinetics, The Patrick Clark band, and Hindsight- gathered to play to a nearly empty J.C. Penney auditorium. Though the crowd was small, there were six judges present, including but not limited to the manager of the Urge and the legendary Beatle Bob.

Some of the bands had some technical difficulties, mostly in the way of faulty guitar amps, but the bands played an impressive show, and the final decision was close for the judges. In fact, the winning band took the first place slot by only three points on a total of a six hundred point scale.



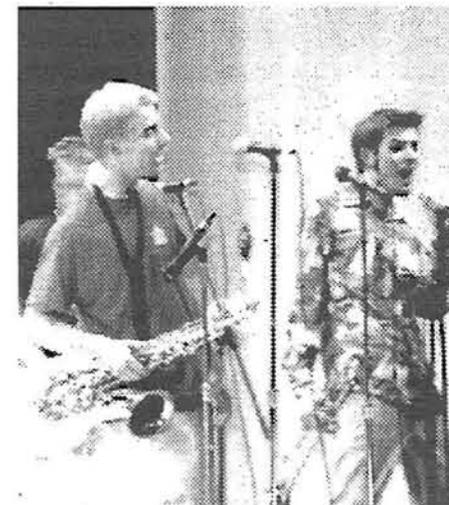
Fat Cactus was the eventual victor, a ska band out of St. Charles. As the six piece band including a singer, guitar, bass guitar, drums, tenor sax and trumpet; and while none of the band members stayed in one place ever (with the obvious exception of the drummer), watching Fat Cactus play is an event. It is difficult to decide which member to focus on, as they are all running and interweaving onstage throughout every song.

"We entered because we thought we had as good a chance as anyone else, and in hopes of getting some recognition on campus," said Pat McCurren, guitarist for Fat Cactus. Pat is the only member of Fat Cactus currently attending UM-St. Louis, as he is only one of two members no longer in high school.

"We didn't think in the least that we would win, between the Kinetics, the Mims, and Hindsight. We were hoping for one of the top 4 slots, so we could get a paying gig on campus later on," McCurren said.

"When we found out we won, we were amazed, stricken. It was a complete shock, we were all drop-jawed. A couple of our guys couldn't even sit in the auditorium to watch us lose, so they waited in the hallway. When people started congratulating them, they thought it was for maybe second or third place," said McCurren.

"Our show was pretty much stock Fat Cactus, we didn't do anything to try and please the judges. We don't have a lot of



PHOTOS BY: TODD APPEL

MEMBERS OF THE SKA-BAND FAT CACTUS PLAY THEIR WINNING MUSIC AT THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 6, IN THE J.C. PENNEY AUDITORIUM. (TOP AND BOTTOM)

details on where the Mirth Day show is going to be held, but if it is outside, we will have to tweak a few aspects of our show a little bit. Other than that, we are just practicing a lot, and we hope to have a couple new songs by then," McCurren said.

Though the official headliner for the Mirth Day show is still officially unannounced, anticipation is high, and the turnout should be impressive. Be sure to check out Fat Cactus' high energy show and the unknown band on April 21st for Mirth Day, it is promised to be big.

## Grammy's Lack Excitement

BY CORY BLACKWOOD

music editor

Every year, millions of people watch the Grammy's, and not just to see which musicians win what awards. While the awards are the heart of the event, other aspects provide the lifeblood. The performances, the outfits celebrities wear, the reactions and the sheer unpredictability of the whole ceremony is what keeps the show entertaining.

People may not remember what Guns & Roses won an award for, but no one will forget their drunken acceptance speech or them being helped offstage by a security guard after a number of vulgarities. Year after year, rock stars take advantage of the live recording of the show and, well, act like rock stars. Everyone remembers Ol' Dirty Bastard from the Wu-Tang Clan rushing the stage last year and complaining that his band didn't win, but can you name who was on-stage accepting the award at the time, or what the award even was?

The reason I am mentioning years past is because this year's Grammy's, held February 17th, had nothing worth mentioning. The most exciting thing said at the

Grammy's this year was Rosie O'Donnell polite trashing of pop diva Celine Dion. That simply doesn't compare to the shirtless freak with Soy Bomb painted on his chest dancing alongside a befuddled Bob Dylan.

Maybe our culture is at fault, with shows like America's Funniest home videos and When Bumblebees Attack 7, we expect folly on our television. With a youth culture used to the MTV music awards, notorious for booking shocking performers like Marilyn Manson, Madonna and Wyclef Jean with Canibus and ODB (Ol' Dirty Bastard to the

Wu-Tang uninformed) the musicians playing on the Grammy's just don't cut it. Even Shania Twain's amazingly short miniskirt failed to raise eyebrows this year.

On top of the lack of shocking performances of outbursts, there were also no upsets. No one won that wasn't supposed to, no one didn't that should have (not really, anyway) and everything ran like clockwork from beginning to end. At the risk of sounding whiny or just plain demented, I hope something goes out of order next year, for the simple fact that my roommates won't have to wake me up halfway through the "gala" event.

“  
**E**ven Shania Twain's amazingly short miniskirt failed to raise eyebrows this year.”

Check out Things To Do While  
You're Skipping Class on The Current  
website ([www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current](http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current))

# TWISTED...



Keyboardist Kathleen Supove (left) and composer Eve Beglarian of Twisted Tutu performed live Thursday in J.C. Penney auditorium. Twisted Tutu was part of the Art, Design, and Music in the Electronic Age conference sponsored by the Center for the Humanities.

# The Milwaukee (Citizen) King of music

Citizen King  
Mobile Estates  
(Warner Brothers)

Not much is known for coming out of Milwaukee Wisconsin, other than cheese. Liberace is pretty much the only musician that has come from Milwaukee and led a successful career... until now. Citizen King is perched on the brink of a musical explosion with their Warner Brothers debut, Mobile Estates, and possibly become the next big hit from the cheesehead state.

Citizen King is a five piece band, made up of a guitarist, drummer, bassist/vocalist, keyboardist, and a DJ. With both a keyboardist and a DJ, the sound of a traditional rock band is pretty much thrown out the window, so instead Citizen King strives to take influences from all genres of music and meld them into one coherent style. Many bands strive for the same greatness, but fall short where Citizen King excels. Combining hip hop with hard rock, funk, and even some pop can create a volatile mixture, normally considered more than a little pretentious, but the Milwaukee band pulls it off flawlessly.

On the opening track, "Under the Influence," is it apparent that the vinyl scratching is written into the song, and not added later, as is the practice in many bands. It is rare to find a DJ that is



Citizen King

neither drowned out nor overpowers the music, but Citizen King have found the perfect balance.

With such an original sound and energetic feel on the album, they are sure to be a hit live, demonstrating the same fun feel they exude on the album. Lucky for us, because Citizen King is playing Wednesday the 17th at Mississippi Nights, at one of the Point dollar five shows. Between your cushion and your car seat a 1.05 should not be too hard to find, but a show like this would be a shame to miss.

~ Cory Blackwood

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