

'Lil jailbird

Hip-hop singer gears up for life behind bars with reality show.

See Page C4



Go!

Your guide to music, movies, festivals, the arts and anything else that's cool

Make the most of your free time

Pullout guide inside keeps you in the know about fun things going on.

Here's a sample:

Fired up about glass

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis opens the Fireworks of Glass exhibit today. It features a 43-foot-tall blown-glass sculpture and hands-on glassblowing exhibit. The museum is at 3000 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors, \$7 for ages 2 to 17 and free for children 2 and younger.

Information: www.childrensmuseum.org



Pound the pavement

Bring your dog or borrow one from the Humane Society of Johnson County for the Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound event. Walk the Greenway Trails in Franklin and talk to humane society officials about adoption and foster options from 9 to 11 a.m. April 8.

Information: 716-0934

Move your feet

Kick up your feet at the Indiana Roof Ballroom's Big Band Dance featuring the Russ Morgan Orchestra.

The event is from 5 to 9 p.m. March 26 at Indiana Roof Ballroom, 140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. Admission is \$13.

Information: 236-1877



Easter festivity

Hop to it at the Franklin Parks and Recreation Department's Breakfast with the Bunny on April 15. Breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. followed by an Easter egg hunt. Registration is required. Cost is \$12 for children ages 1 to 10 and \$6 for ages 11 and older. Franklin Parks and Recreation is at 396 Branigin Blvd.

Information: 736-3689

Out to the ball game

Batter up for the Indianapolis Indians' season opener at Victory Field. The Indians take on the Syracuse Skychiefs at 7 p.m. April 14. Tickets are \$7 to \$12. The field is located at 501 W. Maryland St. in Indianapolis.

Information: 269-3545

Up close

Get up close and personal with ocean dwellers in "Deep Sea 3D" at the IMAX Theater. The movie will show various times through late summer at the Indiana State Museum, 650 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$7.50 for seniors and \$6 for children 12 and younger.

Information: www.indianamuseum.org

Get growing

Learn how to care for trees, plant bulbs, fertilize vegetation and more during a lecture on preparing your lawn and garden for spring. The free presentation will be at 7 p.m. March 29 at the White River Library, 1664 Library Park Blvd., Greenwood.

Information: 885-1330

WANT MORE?

Pull out the Free Time guide inside this section.



Greenwood Community High School student Daniel Hill, playing Harold Hill, Music Man." Greenwood, Indian Creek, Franklin and Roncalli high schools all practices a scene with other cast members during a recent rehearsal for "The will host student stage performances in the coming weeks.

STAGING A SHOW

Students display theater skills in front of, behind scenes

'Nunsense'

A lot of nonsense raising money to bury 48 nuns is the premise of the award-winning Broadway musical comedy of the mid-1980s, "Nunsense," recreated at Franklin Community High School this weekend.

The nuns died of botulism after eating tainted soup prepared by Sister Julia, the convent cook.

The small cast of five nuns has been supplemented with a chorus of five female novices who will interact with the audience. Five religious brothers stage bingo games and a pin-the-halo-on-a-saint game.

In a role-change, Mason Mills will play the lead as the Reverend Mother Mary Regina.

Mills has performed with the Lilly Theater at the Children's Museum of Indianapolis and with Our Town Players, as well as several school productions. This role is his first lead.

"My goal has never been to be a star," he says. "I like character acting." Brad Good, one of the brothers, is another theater veteran. He will attend Indiana University as a theater major in the fall.

"We had to figure out our own parts," he says. The brothers made up a parody of a song from the "O Brother, Where Art Thou" soundtrack and will entertain the audience during intermission.

BY ANNETTE JONES

Musicals and a murder mystery will hit the stages of four area high schools this weekend and next.

Student cast members range in experience from community-theater veterans to stage newcomers.



Hannah Demaree, a senior at Franklin Community High School, plays a nun in the musical comedy "Nunsense." The show starts at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the school, 625 Grizzly Club Drive in Franklin.

Another quirky "Nunsense" character is Sister May Leo (Hannah Demaree), who longs to be a ballerina and wears a tutu with her habit.

'The Music Man'

At Greenwood Community High School, director Rebecca Davis and stage director Susan Roberts have pulled together a cast of nearly 70 students for "The Music Man," the award-winning musical set in the Midwest.

The show, accompanied by a live orchestra amid elaborate sets, includes songs such as "Gary, Indiana" and "Seventy Six Trombones."

"The music is terrific, and it's a fun show," Davis says.

Besides orchestrating the huge cast, one of the biggest challenges is moving the large sets by hand, she says.

The show presents other challenges to the cast, who made their costumes, as well as the directors.

The fun begins when Harold Hill (Daniel Hill) arrives in River City, Iowa, planning to cheat the community by offering to equip a boys marching band, then skipping town with the money.

The plot is stymied when he falls in love with the town librarian, who talks him out of his scam.

Junior Brittany Hassee plays the female lead, Marian Paroo, known in

(SEE STAGE, PAGE C3)

HIGH SCHOOL STAGE SHOWS	'Nunsense'	'The Music Man'	'The Unexpected Guest'	'Grease'
	When: 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday Where: Franklin Community High School Auditorium, 625 Grizzly Club Drive Admission: \$3 for students; \$5 for adults	When: 7:30 p.m. today, Friday and Saturday Where: Greenwood Community High School, 605 W. Smith Valley Road Admission: \$7 reserved seats; \$6 regular admission Tickets: 889-4030 Ext. 414	When: 7:30 p.m. today, Friday and Saturday Where: Indian Creek Middle School Auditorium, 803 W. Indian Creek Drive in Trafalgar Admission: \$5 for students; \$7 for adults; free for children 5 and younger	When: 7 p.m. March 23, 24 and 25 Where: Roncalli High School Gymnasium, 3300 Prague Road, Indianapolis Admission: \$5; free for students

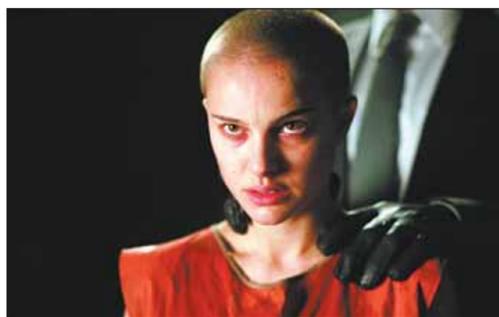
'V for Vendetta' will have audiences rooting for terrorist

Natalie Portman plays unlikely ally in movie

By DAVID GERMAIN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The totalitarian saga "V for Vendetta" scores well enough in its first hour as it works its way through the alphabet, earning a D for daring and an E for erudite compared to most action-oriented spectacles.

But the movie loses focus midway through, the tone shifting from silly but smart to just silly. The movie merits a P for pretension as it tries to comment on current world affairs and a T for tediousness as it drags on far



Natalie Portman plays a woman rescued by a masked vigilante known only as "V" and emerges as his ally in "V for Vendetta."

longer than the story deserves. Andy and Larry Wachowski, creators of "The Matrix"

movies, wrote the screenplay based on David Lloyd's 1980s graphic novel, and the result

feels like an extension or philosophical cousin of the siblings' sci-fi trilogy.

"V for Vendetta" lands somewhere between the neo-noir freshness of the original "The Matrix" and the indecipherable bombast of the two sequels.

First-time director James McTeigue, a Wachowski brothers protege as assistant director on "The Matrix" movies, effectively creates an image of Britain under the government's boot heel.

He blends the somberness of George Orwell's "1984" with the flair of Stanley Kubrick's

"A Clockwork Orange" and Terry Gilliam's "Brazil."

Natalie Portman makes for a strong-willed heroine casting off complacency to rebel against a repressive regime.

She's generally upstaged by "Matrix" co-star Hugo Weaving as the title character of "V for Vendetta," even though he spends the entire movie concealed behind a mask.

"V for Vendetta" is set in a near future where xenophobic reactionaries have seized

(SEE VENDETTA, PAGE C12)

MOVIE REVIEW

'V for Vendetta'
• **Rating:** R for strong violence and some language
• **Stars:** 2½ out of four