

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Diana Van Fossen (left to right), Avril Gentles and Fiona Davis perform in "Three Tall Women," 8 p.m. at Meadow Brook Theatre, (248) 377-3300 or (248) 645-6666.

SATURDAY



The Birmingham Temple Vivace series presents Wendell Harrison and Friends 8 p.m. in a cabaret concert at the temple in Farmington Hills, (248) 788-9338 or (248) 288-3953.

SUNDAY



Farmington Players present "Sylvia," featuring Barbie Amann (left), Chuck Fisher and Cynthia Tupper, 2 p.m. at the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, (248) 553-2955.



Hot tix: Canadian pianist Jon Kimura Parker will appear with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1. The drama-filled program includes Wagner's Overture to Tannhauser, Samuel Barber's Concerto for Piano, and Schumann's Symphony No. 4, (313) 833-3700.

Steve Martin's conversation with Picasso Einstein

By FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

When legendary comedian Red Skelton died a few months ago, his wish to be remembered simply as a clown elicited pathos and a wry smile. Neither honors nor fame could substitute for the power of making people laugh.

As Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton showed before Skelton, there's more behind a true clown's silly facade. Although comedian Steve Martin couldn't be accused of being at a loss for words, his recent foray into playwriting offers plenty of theatrical glimpses at the human face behind the mask of one of America's most playfully charming, yet serious-minded clowns.

This Tuesday, the Fisher Theater begins a two-week run of Martin's much-publicized comedy play "Picasso at the Lapin Agile."

The play is based on a hypothetical meeting at an actual Parisian bar of two of the 20th century's most creative minds — Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein. The chance meeting occurs in 1904 at the

Please see MARTIN, E2



Comedy: Paul Provenza (left to right) and Mark Nelson in a scene from "Picasso at the Lapin Agile"



Playwright/comedian Steve Martin

STREET SCENE



A "relapse": Jane's Addiction, one of the leaders in the alternative music scene of the late 1980s, calls its tour a "relapse" not a reunion because original bass player Eric Avery refused to participate. The band which includes, from left, singer Perry Farrell, drummer Stephen Perkins, guitarist Dave Navarro, and bassist Flea of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, will perform Tuesday, Nov. 4, at the Michigan State Fairgrounds.

Jane's Addiction suffers 'relapse'

By CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

For Jane's Addiction, it all comes down to the sound.

Leaders in the alternative music scene of the late 1980s, Jane's Addiction broke up in 1991. As the original band members — singer Perry Farrell, guitarist Dave Navarro, and drummer Stephen Perkins — began to gravitate toward each other once again, they, along with Red Hot Chili Peppers' bassist Flea, realized what was important.

"There's a sound after being together for six years. Me, Dave and Perry are reconnecting those fuses. I think Flea is just an amazing bass player. He's connecting so well. You want to get a sound

and we're gettin' that. It's going to be smoking," Perkins explained.

"It" is the Jane's Addiction "relapse" tour dubbed "I-Itz M'My Party Tour," which comes to the State Fair Coliseum in Detroit on Tuesday, Nov. 4. Farrell calls it a "relapse" instead of a reunion because it doesn't include original bass player Eric Avery. He declined to be involved because he was busy with his band Polar Bear.

"I'm definitely looking forward to playing these songs again," Perkins said.

"There's a lot of energy going on right now. We're putting a lot of time and energy into the process because I really want it to sound as potent as possible.

The idea for the "relapse" came when

Farrell and Perkins' new band, Porno for Pyros, recruited Flea and Navarro of the Red Hot Chili Peppers to record "Hard Charger" for the soundtrack to the movie "Private Parts."

"Flea joined Porno for two or three shows because (bassist) Mike Watt was busy. Dave flew out to some of these shows and it was such a great musical, beautiful relationship. It started to boil and it's really exciting to play new tunes."

The new songs — "Kettle Whistle" and "So What?" — will be found on "Kettle Whistle" (Warner Bros.), a new Jane's Addiction album along with rare, previously unreleased tracks, live recordings and demos. It's scheduled for an early November release.

"I'm excited about the new music. If you listen to 'Then She Did,' and the last three to four songs of the 'Ritual' (the

Please see RELAPSE, E2