

DMA

FROM PAGE B1

course, Eminem's *8 Mile* movie and the wild success of the Detroit Electronic Music Festival.

The night also was about celebrating independent music — and trashing the big guys in the music industry. Tom Ness, founder of *Jam Rag* magazine who also heads the Michigan chapter of the Green Party, earned a riotous standing ovation when he received a lifetime achievement award. Ness blamed big media outlets for not providing a venue for local music.

"Every week I receive dozens of CDs by local bands," Ness said. "And I listen to every one. Sometimes they aren't good, but many times they are. Every local musician deserves to have their CD listened all the way through at least once."

He's been listening for decades, writing about it in *Jam Rag* and the audience recognized him for it.

The absence of Detroit's biggest stars didn't seem to matter to the crowd filled with people who wanted to see and be seen — elegant socialites, hipster funk fans, trendy hip-hop teens, hardcore punk rockers, aging big-hair rockers, Bebe fashionistas and musicians and their fans from every other genre. Rock band Hemigod and

Vinnie Dombrowski of Sponge won best songwriter to the boisterous approval of the entire audience.



PHOTOS BY TOM HUSSELM

Attracting a lot of attention at the Detroit Music Awards was hard rock band Hemigod.

funk band Black Bottom Collective — the latter who won for best funk/hip-hop recording — captured attention during their performances.

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

But what do the awards mean?

Different things to different people in the industry. For Howard Hertz, president of the DMA, the awards were created to let the best of the bunch shine.

For Ian Ferguson, of the steel drum band Upizin, the award show is an outlet to meet, mingle and cheer on his fellow artists — and listen to live local music.

To Karen Savely, of WCSX-FM, who won an achievement award, the awards are about a woman who simply wanted to be on the radio playing good music.

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Above, even the fans were beautiful at the show. Brent and Shannon McKay share a peaceful moment to themselves at the energetic event. Top, longtime instrumentalist Calvin Cooke on stage at the Detroit Music Awards.



'Techno Hippie' who was up for outstanding electronic/dance artist, waits patiently as the nominees are listed. Techno Hippie didn't place this year, but still attracted attention with the punk mohawk and hippie ponytail.

Win tickets to 'Blast!'

We've been having a blast putting our new Arts & Entertainment section together. Premiering Thursday, June 5, the section will be called *Filter*, and include stories about music, comedy, clubs, movies and upcoming productions like *Blast!* running May 13-18 at the Fox Theatre.

To celebrate, we're giving away seven family packs of four tickets to the 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, performance of *Blast!*

Blast! is a celebration of movement and music that evolved from the drum corps Star of Indiana. Musical numbers include *Bohemia*, *Everyone Loves the Blues*, and *Geer*. Officer Krupke.

Winner of the 2001 Tony Award for Best Special Theatrical Event, you and your family and friends are sure to have a *Blast!* watching the show.

To enter our contest, send a suggestion for the types of stories, restaurants, events, and venues you'd like to read about in *Filter* along with your name, address, and daytime phone number to Keely Kaleski, Assistant Managing Editor-Features, Observer & Eccentric.

Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or e-mail kkaleski@oe.hometown.com. Entries are due by Thursday, May 1. Winners will be notified by phone.

HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some entertainment highlights for the week of April 20-26:

■ In 1956, the first Godzilla movie, *Godzilla, King of the Monsters*, premiered in New York.

■ In 1961, Bob Dylan made his recording debut, playing harmonica on Harry Belafonte's *Midnight Special* album. He received \$50.

■ In 1969, The Who performed the rock opera *Tommy* in its entirety for the first time in Bolton, England. The show was unannounced; they premiered it officially in London a few weeks later.

■ In 1978, Bob Marley & The Wailers performed at the *One Love Peace* concert in Kingston, Jamaica.

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