what's out west

WINNIPEG

The CBC Winnipeg Comedy Festival March 24-28, 2004 - Various Venues

This annual event presented by Gas Station Theatre Set promises to deliver the laughs! Look for the Turtle Island Comedy Hour and a Half -North America's Best Aboriginal Comics, the High School Improv Superteam, Myths, Lies & Maple Leafs; Tales from Late Night -Canadian Comics Who've Hit the Big Time, CBC Gala - The Best of CBC Comedy, Best of the Fest and more. Ticket information at www.winnipegcomedyfestival.com

SASKATOON

Nokia Brier 2004

March 6-14, 2004 - Saskatchewan Place

Our House: Canada's Party celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Canadian men's curling championships with nine days of fabulous entertainment, food, dancing and the very best in Canadian men's curling. Tickets: (306) 938-7800 or 1-800-970-7328 www.nokiabrier.ca

Amati Quartet

March 6 & May 8, 2004 - Broadway Theatre

The University of Saskatchewan Amati Quartet in Residence presents two concerts. The March program features Haydn, Ernest MacMillan, Schubert and Ravel, the May program Mozart, Haydn and Brahms. For tickets, call (306) 652-6556 or visit www.amatiquartet.usask.ca

Flicks: International Film Festival for Youth March 19-21, 2004 - Broadway District

Three days of award-winning film from around the world for everyone from the very young to teenagers to adult cinephiles. FLICKS teaches, entertains and provides a window on the world with out-of-the-mainstream animated, live-action, short and feature-length films. More information at (306) 956-3456 or www.flicksfilmfest.org

REGINA

presented by Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet April 20, 2004 - Centennial Auditorium

A new full-length ballet created by choreographer Mark Godden for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet' 2003-2004 season. It is a delightful blend of romance, enchantment, fantasy and extraordinary journey from darkness to light, featuring the music of Mozart and the exquisite dancers of the RWB. For tickets, call (306) 938-7800 or 1-800-970-7328. www.saskcent.com

Regina Highland Festival

May 23, 2004 - Douglas Park Track

Featuring the Saskatchewan Pipe Band Championships with competitors from the three Prairie Provinces. Enjoy the Highland Dance competition, athletic events (including the caber toss), weaponry displays, vendors and an evening ceilidh. For information, call (306) 789-6516.

Cathedral Village Arts Festival May 24-29, 2004

A six day celebration of the arts, culture and spirit of Regina's popular Cathedral area, home to artists, writers and musicians. Thousands enjoy the Saturday Streetfair, as well as live theatre, music, buskers, literary, visual arts and dance performances at various venues through the week. For information, visit www.saskfestivals.com.

Habitat: Canadian Design Now until May 30, 2004 - MacKenzie Art Gallery

An exhibit that looks at contemporary design in Canada. With the concept of design becoming a significant factor in the consumer market, designers are gaining greater exposure and receiving the attention they deserve. From the chairs we sit in to our personal computers, design affects every aspect of our lives. The exhibit celebrates the work of ten Canadian designers/firms. www.mackenzieartgallery.sk.ca.

CALGARY

US Hot Rod Monster Jam

March 5-7, 2004 - Pengrowth Saddledome

Don't miss the mud-slinging, car-trampling excitement as six US Hot Rod Monster trucks, including Grave Digger, tear through the Saddledome in three thunder-filled, heart-pounding shows. Tickets at Ticketmaster outlets, charge by phone (403) 777-0000 or www.ticketmaster.ca

EDMONTON

2004 JUNO Awards April 4, 2004 - Rexall Place

The 33rd annual JUNO Awards recognize the best in Canadian music, as well as live performances by some of the hottest acts in the business. Barenaked Ladies, Michael BublÈ, Nelly Furtado, Avril Lavigne, Sarah McLachlan and Nickelback will all be performing and CTV will broadcast the Awards live from Rexall Place. Tickets at Ticketmaster outlets or www.ticketmaster.ca

VANCOUVER

Fosse

March 9-14, 2004 - The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts The Tony Award winning smash hit musical of the work of legendary dancer, choreographer and director Bob Fosse. His sexy style revolutionized musical theatre, from the Broadway hits Sweet Charity, Chicago and Dancin', to the films Cabaret and All That Jazz. An extraordinarily talented cast brings Fosse's all-time best choreography to life! For tickets, call (604) 602-0616 or visit www.centreinvancouver.com

VICTORIA

14th Annual Floating Boat Show

April 22-25, 2004 - Victoria Harbour

What better way to start the year than with an invigorating dip in Elk Lake. Join countless other daring dippers on a memorable first day of the year ... or just watch the lunacy. Find out more at www.tourismvictoria.com

WEST COAST

Pacific Rim Whale Festival

March 13-21, 2004 - Ucluelet, Pacific Rim National Park, Tofino During the annual Pacific Rim Whale Festival, over 22,000 Gray Whales swim by the west coast of Vancouver Island on their annual northern migration. Whale watching is a given during the two-week festival, but you have a choice of spotting by boat, from shore or seaplane. Familyfriendly activities centre in Ucluelet and Pacific Rim National Park and Tofino. For more information, visit www.uclueletinfo.com.