

5 forgotten '90s dramas

1. *The Ice Storm*

Ang Lee's earlier and better take on the suburban situation that gained acclaim in *American Beauty*. A difficult film, but still my pick as the best of the decade.

2. *The Sweet Hereafter*

Featuring a pre-hobbit Ian Holm doing what he does best, exposing the tortured inner souls of characters. A surreal and beautiful film.

3. *Affliction*

If there were nothing in this film but Nick Nolte, it would still make the list. He delivers one of the best dramatic film performances ever.

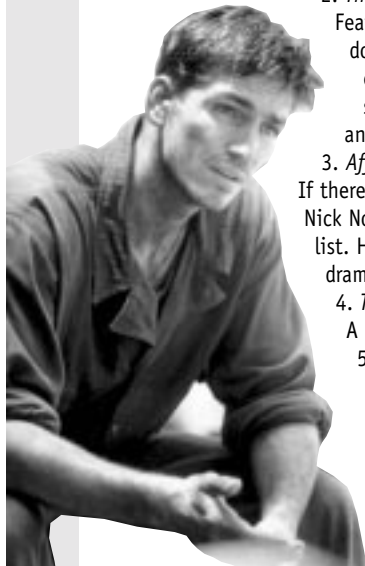
4. *The Thin Red Line*

A bold war poem.

5. *Sweet & Lowdown*

Woody Allen's last really good movie, largely because it's nothing like a Woody Allen movie, features another powerful Sean Penn performance.

Jeremy Blodgett



Jim Caviezel, star of *The Thin Red Line*.

5 forgotten 90's comedies

1. *Citizen Ruth*

This black comedy from the creators of *Election* and *About Schmidt* proves that an abortion comedy is possible.

2. *Everyone Says I Love You*

Woody Allen beat *Moulin Rouge!* to the punch by writing this light, hysterical musical about the many forms of love. Featuring bad singing and worse dancing, this is one of few musicals that survives on the merits of its script alone.

3. *As Good As It Gets*

Jack Nicholson plays Jack, Helen Hunt actually acts worth a damn, Greg Kinnear gives a wonderful yet overshadowed performance, and James L. Brooks crafts a script you'd expect of a developer of *The Simpsons*.

4. *Chasing Amy*

Yeah, I don't think anyone can come to Grinnell without seeing Kevin Smith's seminal How-to-sleep-with-a-lesbian film, but man, I just love it too much to not include it.

5. *Happiness*

Writer/director Todd Solondz makes excessively perverse films.

This "family comedy" that couldn't get an R rating follows a pedophile, an overweight killer, a crazed Philip Seymour Hoffman, and the three sisters that connect them. While almost black beyond being comedic, it certainly is an original, 'ed up gem.

Bradley Iverson-Long



Laura Dern and Swoosie Kurtz star in *Citizen Ruth*.

5 actors to watch

1. Charlie Chaplin

The best physical comedian before Arnold Schwarzenegger. Films include: *Modern Times*, *City Lights*, *The Great Dictator*.



Charlie Chaplin was a gifted, funny man.

2. Jimmy Stewart

Cinema's greatest stutterer. Films include: *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *Vertigo*.

3. Susan Sarandon

I don't know why, but I like her. Films include: *Thelma and Louise*, *Bull Durham*, *Dead Man Walking*.

4. Jack Lemmon

A very gifted actor, both in comedy and drama, when young or old. Films include: *Some Like it Hot*, *The China Syndrome*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*.

5. Katharine Hepburn

A tough actress who meshes well with modern ideas of gender. Films include: *The Philadelphia Story*, *Woman of the Year*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*.

Bradley Iverson-Long

5 directors to watch

1. Spike Lee

He's prolific yet erratic, but he has made some great, kinetic movies. Films include: *Do the Right Thing*, *Malcolm X*, *He Got Game*.

2. Martin Scorsese

Like Lee, an amazing New York filmmaker. Films include: *Raging Bull*, *Taxi Driver*, *GoodFellas*.

3. John Woo

A great, stylized Asian action director. Films include: *Face/Off*, *Hard Boiled*, *The Killer*.

4. Ernst Lubitsch

Maker of fine black and white romantic comedies. Films include: *The Shop Around the Corner*, *Ninotchka*, *To Be or Not to Be*.

5. Alfred Hitchcock

You may have heard of him—he's good. Films include: *North by Northwest*, *Psycho*, *To Catch a Thief*.

Bradley Iverson-Long



Spike Lee, a very stylized director

5 films from 5 countries

1. *Battleship Potemkin* or *October*

Two films from the Russian master Sergei Eisenstein, perhaps the last man to truly understand the craft of film—and he died in 1948.

2. *La Dolce Vita*

From Italy, a vibrant celebration of life, lust, and debauchery by director Federico Fellini.

3. *The Seven Samurai* or *The Idiot*

Of course Akira Kurosawa makes

this list, and either of these films, the action packed historical epic *The Seven Samurai* or the breathtakingly beautiful modern Japanese Dostoyevsky adaptation *The Idiot*, is a good introduction.

4. *The Seventh Seal*

Simple dark philosophy from Swedish director Ingmar Bergman.

5. *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror*

A silent film, but German never the less. No modern horror or suspense film would exist without the influence of *Nosferatu*.

Jeremy Blodgett



Gimme 5 films

Spring break doesn't imply taking a break from watching movies. Here are some handy lists of great movies, chosen by the S&B's film reviewers

5 films Jeremy recommends

1. *The Bicycle Thief*

The most depressing film ever made, but also one of the most incredibly powerful and memorable. I had to mention it somewhere.

2. *Partner*

Bertolucci taking a Dostoyevsky novel, shaking it up with a bit of Artaud and a whole lot of cinema. Then things get crazy. Makes a Charlie Kaufmann script look as boring as a cookie recipe.

3. *Waking Life* or *Slacker*

Watch Richard Linklater movies!

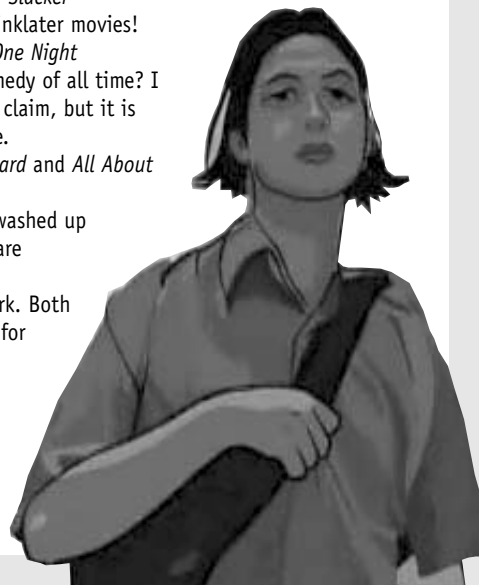
4. *It Happened One Night*

The greatest comedy of all time? I won't make that claim, but it is pretty darn close.

5. *Sunset Boulevard* and *All About Eve*

Both are about washed up actresses. Both are scathing and unrelentingly dark. Both were nominated for Best Picture in 1950. (If only it could have been decided by mud wrestling!)

Jeremy Blodgett



Wiley Wiggins is animated in Richard Linklater's *Waking Life*.

5 trilogies to (re)watch

1. *Back to the Future*

These movies were released on DVD last winter, and they're all enjoyable time travel comedies.

2. *Indiana Jones*

B: Journey back to a time when Harrison Ford made good movies.

3. *Alien(s)(?)*

These great space horror films were directed, chronologically, by Ridley Scott, James Cameron, and David Fincher, all of whom are still making great movies today.

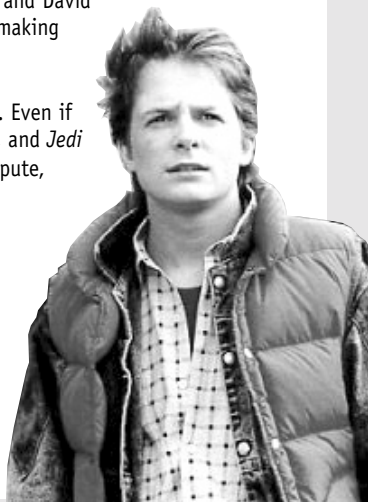
4. *Star Wars*

The original trilogy, of course. Even if it turns out *Star Wars*, *Empire*, and *Jedi* were all caused by a trade dispute, they're still great fables.

5. *The Apu Trilogy*

Consisting of *Pather Panchali*, *Aparajito*, and *The World of Apu*, these 50's Indian classics are available at Burling. I haven't seen them, but *The Village Voice* loved them. So broaden your horizons.

Bradley Iverson-Long



Micahel J. Fox is Marty McFly in *Back to the Future*.

5 films Rachel Long recommends

(B: All the ink my mother's gotten has caused some family tension. So please, read my sister Rachel's choices, for my health.)

1. *Shawshank Redemption*

It's the best movie ever. It can always be watched again. I probably watch it once a month.

2. *Babe: Pig in the City*

Very dark for a children's movie: dogs get hanged and the farmer falls down the well. But somehow they all manage to live happily enough ever after.

3. *Before Sunrise*

A romantic comedy for smart people. A Richard Linklater film about an American boy and a French girl who meet on a train and spend the night wandering around Vienna.

4. *But I'm a Cheerleader*

A high school cheerleader's friends and family think she's a lesbian so they send her off to a conversion camp. Hilarity ensues.

5. *Lagaan: Once Upon a Time in India*

This movie has something for everyone: costumes, drama, sports (if cricket is a sport), anti-imperialism, large musical numbers, romance, subtitles, a predictable ending, and length—it's about 4 hours long.



Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman shine in *The Shawshank Redemption*.



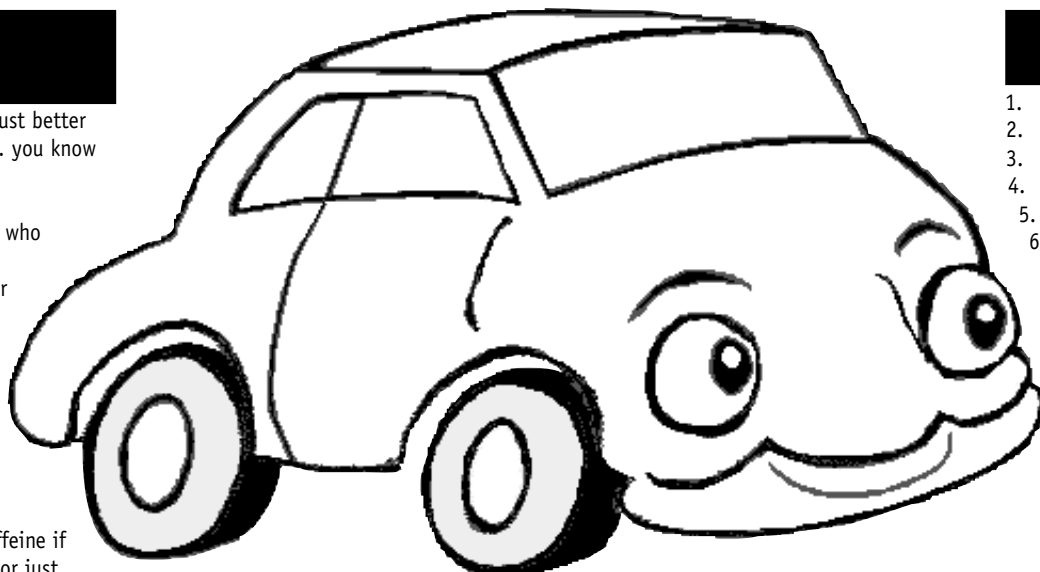
Road trip: whether it's to Cancun or Calvarie, here's what you can't forget

by Brian Clites and Leslie Boyadjian
Staff Writers

Taking a road trip over spring break? You better not go unprepared, lest you spend hours of boredom. In fact, there's no reason to wait for your destination to start partying—you can party the whole way down! With great music, exceptional dress, awesome munchies, great games, fun reading, and all the emergency safety items, your road trip will be a smash success (You might not even want to stop and stretch your legs). Here are the items we can't imagine going without.

Food

1. Little Debbie® Zebra Cakes. Just better hide them from everyone else... you know why.
2. Pringles® original flavor.
3. EZ Cheez® "Cheese" in a can, who doesn't like this stuff?!
4. Twizzlers® Roof Dispenser. For details, see *Wayne's World*.
5. 12-pack Sam's Club® water
6. Keebler® E.L. Fudge® cookies. Soooooo good.
7. Apple®(s)
8. Soft Batch® chocolate chip cookies
9. Bugles®
10. Case of Coke®, and more caffeine if you're driving overnight alone, or just hate sleep.



Clothing

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. Okay, you're right—your feet *might* get cold. Better take socks.

Games

1. Travel chess
2. Playing cards: bridge, go fish, blackjack, solitaire, and bridge, just to name a few.
3. The alphabet game, where you go through the alphabet calling out things you see that are in alphabetical order. Too easy? Try reverse!
4. Strip Peddiddle (and Pedunkle). Don't know strip Peddiddle? LEARN IT!
5. "I Spy"
6. Game Boy
7. The license plate game
8. Wacky Mad Libs
9. "Name that song" or name that commercial.
10. The "quiet" game. This one doesn't sound fun yet? Wait for the ride back to Grinnell!

Music

1. *Graceland* by Paul Simon. A classic for everyone.
2. *Dookie* by Green Day
3. A Disney sing-along mix, because we all love Ariel, Jasmine, Simba, and Gaston.
4. *Doggystyle* by Snoopy Doggy Dog. Still every bit as good as the first time you heard it in 1993.
5. James Taylor's Greatest Hits
6. *Dirty Dancing* Soundtrack. "Baby, don't say maybe, you're the one."
7. *The Sign* by Ace of Base
8. Best of Tom Petty
9. The Grinnellian Harris party Madonna mix, so that you don't forget a word of the songs you hear every weekend here.
10. *Yanni Live*—no, seriously.

Magazines

1. *Cosmo*. For her.
2. *Maxim*. For him.
3. *YM*. Because teenage quizzes are even funnier than the twisted adult ones in *Maxim* and *Cosmo*.
4. *Sports Illustrated*. Don't like sports? Try the swimsuit issue!
5. *The New Yorker*. Who said you're not intellectual and sophisticated?

Safety

1. Cellular phone. But please don't talk while driving if you already can't drive.
2. Car jack and wrench
3. Spare tire. Not just the one you got from drinking too much Icehouse last weekend.
4. Road flares. Tons of fun!
5. Swiss army knife
6. Flash light
7. Warm blanket. If you don't really break down, you can always pretend. This is a great plea for close "cuddling"
8. Insurance information
9. Empty gas can. I stress empty, but take the risk of filled if you're driving anywhere north or west of Iowa.
10. Full fluids. Oh, yes, we like our fluids!

Miscellaneous

1. Beer hat, for passengers only.
2. Condoms
3. Deodorant. You think you smell good after sharing 34 cubic feet with five other Grinnellians?
4. Camera
5. Extra batteries
6. Bongos and eights for each person.
7. Walkie talkies. These + two cars = best time ever! But only if you don't crash.
8. Toothbrush
9. Sunscreen
10. FRIENDS! Yeah, don't even call it a "road trip" if you're doing it alone.

Who will be crying at the Oscars?

Bradley: Like the sell-out film columnists that we are, we'll preview next week's Academy Awards, even though we could go on at length about how unimportant they are. What's important is seeing and enjoying good movies. Forget what other people think—if you like *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, like *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*.

Best Actress

B: For the second straight year, this category is loaded with amazing talent, concentrated primarily in Nicole Kidman (*The Hours*) and Julianne Moore (*Far From Heaven*). Both deserve the award, although Moore does more. But for some reason, Renée Zellweger (*Chicago*) will win.

Jeremy: I've only seen two of these performances, although I will go out on a limb and pick Moore. If Zellweger wins, I'll throw something heavy at the TV.

Also nominated: Diane Lane (*Unfaithful*) and Salma Hayek (*Frida*).

Best Actor

B: Jack Nicholson (*About Schmidt*) is the best actor at doing Jack Nicholson. That earns him a third Oscar, in my book.

J: Nicholson won't win. Daniel Day-Lewis (*Gangs of New York*) has the best shot, although it would be great to see the relatively unknown Adrien Brody (*The Pianist*) take home the prize.

Also nominated: Nicolas Cage (*Adaptation*), Michael Caine (*The Quiet American*).



bradley iverson-long & jeremy blodgett

cheap two-hour thrills

Best Animated Feature Film

B: *Spirited Away* is a jaw dropping yet simple work of art that I hope all of you will see when it hits Harris after Break. That said, Disney's *Lilo & Stitch* will probably win.

J: I don't understand why *Spirited Away* is coming to Harris when it's in the Listening Room. Regardless, the best animated film of the year wasn't even nominated—*The Powerpuff Girls Movie*.

Also nominated: *Ice Age*, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, *Treasure Planet*.

Best Adapted Screenplay

B: A movie called *Adaptation* should be nominated for its name alone. When it brilliantly details the frustrating nature of adapting a plotless book into a mainstream film, as Charlie Kaufman's wonderful script does, it should win the award.

J: But what about turning a worthless novel by a hack writer into a great script, as in *About a Boy*? Peter Hedges, who adapted it, is also from Des Moines, so I guess you could say he's the hometown favorite. That said, *Adaptation* will win.

Also nominated: *Chicago*, *The Hours*, *The Pianist*.

Best Original Screenplay

B: I so thoroughly loved *Y Tú Mama También*, that I'd feel dirty not supporting this dirty movie.

J: Outside chance for *Far From Heaven*, but I'm with Brad on this one.

Also nominated: *Gangs of New York*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *Talk to Her*.

Best Director

B: I'm rooting for Pedro Almodóvar (*Talk to Her*), who proved he's more than Spain's answer to John Waters. Sadly, *Talk to Her*, *Y Tú Mama También*, and *Spirited Away* aren't eligible for the Best Foreign Language Oscar. The rules for that category are far too archaic. Curse you, Academy!

J: Every one of the nominees deserves the award. It's hard to pick a personal favorite, but I have a feeling the Academy will go with either Rob Marshall (*Chicago*) or Stephen Daldry (*The Hours*), giving the edge to Daldry.

Also nominated: Martin Scorsese (*Gangs of New York*), Roman Polanski (*The Pianist*).

Best Picture

B: I really did enjoy *Chicago*; it's a fun musical with great production numbers. Still, I'll be pained when it wins Best Picture, because I think it doesn't have the timeless value that a

Best Picture requires. Then again, it's a step up from *Gladiator* and *A Beautiful Mind*.

J: I agree, *Chicago* is great, but too much fluff and fun for best picture. There are two epics, Oscar's favorite genre, but *The Two Towers* is crap and *Gangs of New York* is far too inconsistent. So you have *The Hours* and *The Pianist*. If the Academy steps out of their safe little box, *The Pianist* will win; otherwise, count on *The Hours*.

B: To find out who really wins, watch the Oscars on Sunday, Mar. 23.

Films after spring break

Harris

Adaptation, *Promises, Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, *Far from Heaven*, *The Hours*, *Talk to Her* (*Habla con Ella*), *Chicago*, *25th Hour*, *Roman Holiday*, *Spirited Away*, *The Pianist*, *City of God*, *Antwone Fisher*.

The Forum

The Ring, *But I'm a Cheerleader*, *11'09'01*, *Sleepers*, *The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys*, *Daughters from Danang*, *Thunderheart*.

Finals Week

Reservoir Dogs, *Dazed and Confused*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Office Space*.

Cultural Films

The Best Years of Our Lives, *El Amor Brujo*, *Mostly Martha*, *Come Back to the Five and Dime...*, *Citizen Kane*.