

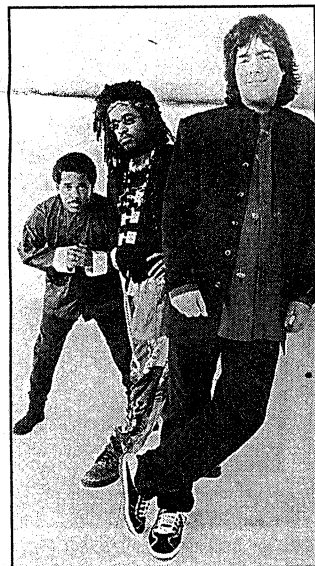
Jammin' takes Lexington-based Funnel to Cincy

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Call it a weekend of geographical curiosities. A band of true rising-star rockers from Lexington get a big break out of town while a pair of national faves slated to hit the Kentucky Theatre in the months ahead are in action elsewhere in the region this weekend.



Former Lexingtonian Bela Fleck, front, will play with his Flecktones, Future Man and Victor Lamonte Wooten, back.

Jammin' On Main

7:15 tonight and 6 p.m. Saturday in downtown Cincinnati. \$8 (single night admission), \$10 (both nights).

Lexington's **Funnel** gets to open the Saturday evening entertainment at Cincinnati's weekend-long spring blowout, **Jammin' On Main**. The music will be spread out over three stages that are, unfortunately, only identified by their corporate sponsors. But **Jammin' On Main** all but consumes downtown Cincinnati. You can't miss it.

The event tops off what has been an enormously busy 16 months of existence for **Funnel** — vocalist **Allen Case**, guitarists **Matt Weisenberger** and **Kevin Rexroat**, bassist **Phil Weisenberger** (Matt's brother) and drummer **Jamie Eades**. A month after its formation, the band won the 1998 installment of WKQQ-101.1 FM's Decent Exposure contest. **Jammin' On Main** represents **Funnel**'s largest out-of-town show to date.

"This will probably be our biggest show ever," said Matt Weisenberger. "We've got that coming up, plus we've been trying to spend more time writing some new music and honing that down. It's been a lot of fun."

Also at **Jammin' on Main**, but in a headline capacity tonight, is former Lexingtonian and recent Grammy winner **Bela Fleck**. The banjo ace will be performing with his electric fusion-and-more band the **Flecktones** but will be heading back to Lexington to share the stage at the Kentucky on May 19 with mentor Tony



Lexington's own **Funnel** will open Cincinnati's weekend spring extravaganza, **Jammin' On Main**. The gig will be the band's biggest show yet. The group has been together for only 16 months.

Trishka on an acoustic program called *Masters of the Banjo*.

Funnel plays at 6 p.m. Saturday and **Fleck** plays at 10:15 tonight.

Other **Jammin' on Main** highlights include Texas country-folk queen **Nanci Griffith** (10:30 tonight), a pairing of Lone Star pop-rockers **Fastball** with the busiest rock 'n' roll combo this spring, the **Goo Goo Dolls** (8:50 p.m. Saturday) and '70s pop icon **Peter Frampton** (10:30 p.m. Saturday). Tickets are available through TicketMaster (281-6644) or at the gate.



Nanci Griffith will perform at 10:30 tonight as part of **Jammin' on Main**.

Junior Brown/Mandy Barnett

8:30 p.m. Saturday at Headliners Music Hall in Louisville. \$15.

Here's another chance to preview a major act that's heading our way.

Guitarist **Junior Brown** will be bringing his patented double-neck "guit-steel" country mischief to the Kentucky Theatre on August 19. Tickets go on sale Saturday at the Kentucky box office.

But for a more immediate peek at what **Brown** has been up to lately, take a quick road trip to Headliner's in Louisville on Saturday night.

The newest **Brown** sounds can be found on the year-old *Long Walk Back*, a hearty sampler of slow-poke Texas country (*Long Walk to San Antonio*), a bizarre island-flavored rockabilly guitar summit (*Rock-a-Hula Baby*)

and a nine-minute blues exercise that takes **Brown** out of his familiar retro-country turf (*Stupid Blues*).

And in strictly non-musical news, *X-Files* fanatics may have caught a brief cameo by **Brown** as an Idaho farmer on a November 1998 episode entitled "Drive."

If you're planning on seeing **Brown** on Saturday, you should definitely get there in time for the opening act.

Mandy Barnett, whose tough and traditionally-flavored *I've Got a Right to Cry* is one of the best country albums so far this year. Tickets are available through TicketMaster. For info on the Kentucky Theatre show, call 231-6997.



Mandy Barnett