Papa Roach
NU METAL Q: How long does it take for a rock band to go from self-releasing EPs with titles like ‘Potatoes for Christmas’ to playing the main stage at Ozzfest? A: Six years. Ever since DreamWorks Records caught wind of Papa Roach’s explosive demos, they’ve been helming huge stadiums alongside legendary acts like Guns N’ Roses and Metallica. Crois. Recently, the California boys have come somewhat of a “300”, diluting the attack sound they accepted after their 2002’s love-hate-tragedy, to return to their nu-metal roots. On their latest, 2005’s ‘Metamathematics’ (the Erka’s reference dudus) the eight-legged Papa Roach invade Scout Bar on Wednesday. Hint: Don’t forget your denim and hair gel, but leave the Pearl at home. $35, 8pm, Scout Bar, 15324 Highway 281 North, Suite 120, courtbazaar.com, fromcastofkids.com.

Street Beat
ART OPENING David Rubin, Arturo Arredondo, and Helio Mauricio curate the “Three Good” group exhibition featuring artists from Texas, California, and New York, who took inspiration from all things “street.” The influence of street culture on art, fashion, and music is nothing new, but with such a broad approach to the show, the results promise to be entertaining. Hopefully, the curator’s selection process will showcase work that casts an artful spell while glorifying the neighborhood’s graffiti. Free, 7pm, Hausmann Millworks, 205 Russell Place, (210) 934-6390.

Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza
MUSICA For the last 15 years, San Antonio has been a second home to Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán, which was founded in 1897 and is considered the world’s greatest mariachi. The annual extravaganza is the main MVA concert after a week of workshops and talent competitions. This Saturday’s show, besides featuring the usual showcase of this year’s winners, adds a special treat: the 10-year reunion of Viva Mexico, the voice of mariachi in Los Angeles; and Tejana native Ricardo Bustamante, 420 E. 2200, 7:30pm, Municipal Auditorium, 100 Auditorium Circle, (210) 225-3353, ticketmaster.com, mariachimusic.com.

Lyle Lovett
VARIETY Even if you’re not a fan of Lyle Lovett’s music, the talent pool this Texas icon has drawn to could probably make even the Grinch want to get off his green ass and dance. During breaks from seamlessly bouncing between country, blues, gospel, and jazz, Lovett engages in dry, witty banter with members of his Large Band, making sure each of them gets some quality time in the spotlight. This generosity could almost make you forget that Lovett’s the star of the show, as each of his backups could hold an audience on his or her own. The sweetly ironic “Penguins” is always a crowd favorite. As the song goes, “I don’t go for fancy cars, for diamond rings, or movie stars... Penguins are so sensitive to my needs.” $55-$49, 8pm, Majestic Theatre, 224 E. Houston, (210) 226-3333, majestic OPERA.COM.

Full Steam Ahead! Steamroller Prints 2009
ACTION ART On Saturday, artists Alex Rubio, Gary Sweeney, Luis Valderrama, Felix Hram, Aracely Sandoval, and Michelle Love will be expressing themselves with a little help from a steamroller. While enjoying the music and refreshments, guests can watch as large-scale woodcuts are produced right in the middle of Blue Star’s parking lot. Stone-metal Press has made this city’s event extra kid-friendly with the addition of a creative activity station and a cake walk. Fri., 7-10pm, Stone-metal Press, 1420 S. Alamo, (210) 227-0312.

6th Annual Downtown Alliance Urban Spaces Tour
ARCHITECTURE Ever wonder what’s going on inside those mysterious-looking buildings downtown? Well, there’s your chance to take a peek. The Downtown Alliance has organized a walking tour focusing on the area between Main Plaza and Market Square. After taking in the breathtaking view from the Motif Building’s Penthouse, the tour continues on, visiting eight more examples of unique architectural styling—mostly living spaces, cultural centers, and commercial spaces—before arriving at the Valenta Building’s Penthouse, where guests will be treated to food, drinks, and a live set by Henry Dunle and the Latin Players. Students: $25. Non-students: $50 in price based on using the promotional code below, tours leave every half hour beginning at 4pm, registration required at downtownsa.org/urbanspaces/sacurrent, (210) 225-3362.

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