

ELI Weekly

Time for a Break!

As you know, Spring Holiday begins this Thursday and all of next week is Spring Break. So, what are you going to do with all that free time? Hopefully you will do something more fun than study! Some of you may have a great trip planned, but others of you may be wondering where to go. Don't worry, there are plenty of fun things you can do in Missouri that won't cost a lot of money!

Spring Break has been a tradition at universities in different countries for many years. In the United States, Spring Break usually comes sometime between the end of February and mid-April. It has been a documented tradition for American university students to take a break from their studies since the late 1800's. However, Americans didn't *really* start to celebrate Spring Break as it is today until the 1960's. Back then, Florida cities such as Fort Lauderdale and Daytona were the prime spots to spend Spring Break. Today, Florida is still a major Spring Break destination (Panama City is a popular place), and so is South Padre Island, Texas, but students are also known to frequent non-beach destinations such as Colorado and New York. Some students even travel internationally to such places as Mexican beach cities Cancun, Acapulco, and Mazatlan, as well as to Jamaica and the Bahamas.



Resort in the Bahamas



Skiing in Colorado

But, what if your budget doesn't allow you to make it to the beach? Have no fear—you can still have an enjoyable Spring Break. St. Louis and Kansas City are both a 3-4 hour drive from Springfield. With many great things to do in each city, you can easily plan a short trip there without breaking the bank.

In St. Louis, you can visit the Arch, the Zoo, the Art Museum, the Science Center, take a cruise on the Mississippi River, and/or visit restaurants and clubs on the Landing. You won't be bored! Kansas City also offers fun activities like shopping at the Country Club Plaza or the Zona Rosa, visiting Union Station, where you'll find a museum, shops, and restaurants, and watching animals at the Kansas City Zoo.



Already been there and done that in St. Louis AND Kansas City? How about Memphis, Tennessee? Memphis is a 4 1/2 to 5 hour drive from Springfield, so it's not that far either. In Memphis you can visit Elvis' home Graceland, enjoy live music in the entertainment district Beale Street, take a ride on the Tunica Queen Riverboat, and even tour historic mansions.

Tulsa, Oklahoma is pretty close to Springfield too—just about a 3 hour drive. Tulsa has many great museums, a planetarium, a zoo and museum, the Oklahoma Aquarium, and many areas for shopping and dining, such as Utica Square and the Blue Dome District.

Planning to stay in Springfield? Well, there are fun things to do here, too. Take some time to go somewhere you haven't had a chance to visit yet. Relax and enjoy a coffee or smoothie at the Mudhouse, catch a movie at the Moxie, check out the Springfield Art Museum, go shopping (or window shopping) at the Battlefield Mall, or see what the animals are up to at the Dickerson Park Zoo. Even if you don't do anything special for Spring Break, have a relaxing time!



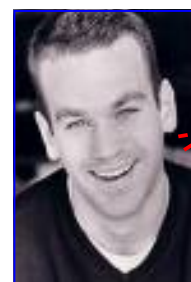
Activities This Week

Tuesday, Mar. 18

Comedy Show: Mike Birbiglia

See a funny comedian who has performed on many late night shows and Comedy Central.

PSU Theater; 7:00-9:00 PM; FREE



For more events and activities, visit: <http://calendar.missouristate.edu/>

Also, ALWAYS check the Student Activities Board across from the 2nd floor Computer Lab

Announcements



• **Academic Lectures THIS week:**

Tues. (3/18): Levels 5; room 410
History--Japanese Camps in the U.S.

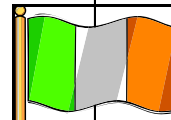
• **Special Days This Week:**
Today--St. Patrick's Day
Thursday--First Day of Spring & Beginning of Spring Holiday

• Have a SAFE and enjoyable Spring Break next week!

Did You Know....

A few interesting facts about Ireland:

Ireland's three most famous symbols are the shamrock, the harp, and the Celtic cross.



The Blarney Stone, which is a block of bluestone built into the Blarney Castle, is a famous tourist attraction. Legend has it that if you kiss the stone, you will receive "the gift of gab," or the ability to speak eloquently.



The Titanic was constructed in Belfast, Ireland, in the Harland & Wolff shipyard.



Newgrange, a famous passage tomb in Ireland, was built around 3200 BC—500 years before the Great Pyramids of Egypt, and 1,000 years before Stonehenge.

Amazingly, the tomb was built so that on the Winter solstice (De. 21 or 22), the rising sun shines through the roof and lights up the central chamber.

What's Showing at The Moxie?

The Moxie is downtown's independent cinema located near the corner of Walnut and Campbell.

This week:

- The Kite Runner
- Teeth
- Funny Games
- Taxi to the Dark Side



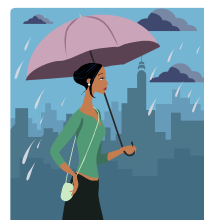
See Schedule on the Student Activities Board

Weather Forecast

Degrees: High/Low

Forecast for March 17-23

	<u>Fahrenheit</u>	<u>Celsius</u>	
Monday:	63/56	17/13	—chance of rain
Tuesday:	56/37	13/03	—chance of rain
Wednesday:	58/37	14/03	
Thursday:	65/46	18/08	
Friday:	61/40	16/04	—chance of rain
Saturday:	56/38	13/03	—chance of rain
Sunday:	44/31	07/-1	—chance of rain



Weather forecasts are *always* changing, so for the most up-to-date forecast, go to: www.weather.com, or watch the local news or weather channel.