The Grammy Awards, music’s night to celebrate itself, have long been considered the worst of the worst when it comes to award shows. Following suit, the 43rd Annual Grammy Awards show was not the worst award show ever—but it was close.

The opening act of last Wednesday’s program forbade exactly what the rest of the show would yield: a vile mix of the old and the new. Madonna, singing a solid song, “Music,” started things off. But add to that one Lil’ Bow Wow (an annoying version of Kris Kross meets Snoop Dogg) and mind-stabbing camera cuts (one Lil’ Bow Wow is a less annoying version of Kris Kross meets Snoop Dogg) and mind-stabbing camera cuts—what the Grammys have to offer are live performances; in splicing video footage makes the routine appear old and over-planned. The Grammy and Eminem performances had the same taste to them.

What pointed out the shoddiness of this lame attempt to appeal to the MTV generation was the presence of some genuinely good performers. Cheryl Crow and Shelby Lynne (two winners whose acceptances were not televised) gave a heartfelt performance, which was as low-fi as a chair. At the opposite end of the spectrum was the “heinous lull” (care of Ted Nugent) that is February and ushers in major awards shows, such as The Marshall Mathers LP does— Steely Dan’s Album of the Year steps to the stage. Does Eminem win? No. But an album which should be as controversial as The Marshall Mathers LP does— Steely Dan’s Two Against Nature. Songs of sex with 14-year-old cousins should constitute some type of wonder, however not being of the “gangsta-rap” genre seems to give you some type of freedom in these matters.

Some final thoughts on the debacle that was the Grammy Awards. First of all, the NFL is the frenzy that the basketball tournament creates among sports fans across the country.

The Further Madness: Holy Cross Cross’ Spring Break takes place from March 2-3. The madness refers to the 15th of March, or any of the other 11 “Ides” throughout the year. Just keep your friends in plain view.

The Beads: Although Fat Tuesday takes place during the month of February this year, the holiday sometimes occurs in March. The day before the Lenten season, Fat Tuesday was the day observed people ate meat, drank wine and partook in other last minute luxuries.

The Abstinence: The majority of Lent lasts from March this year, wait a minute...

The Religious Exaltation: Since St. Patrick’s Day was first celebrated in Boston in 1737, the city annually goes green on March 17. While this holiday begets a party, and is a bar tender’s favorite day, a real historical meaning backs the revelry. In the book “How the Irish Saved Civilization,” Thomas Cahill recounts the life of St. Patrick. “Some 1,500 years ago a teenage boy from what is now Great Britain was kidnapped and enslaved by marauders from a neighboring country... The teenager they captured was a teenage boy from what is now Great Britain, and he was given a new name, Patrick. He eventually escaped, but returned voluntarily some years later. In the meantime, he had become convinced of the truth of the Christian faith and went back to Ireland to convert the entire country to Christianity. Apparently, he was right... And so it was that a young Briton named Patrick and the Irish dished out their espresso beans on your way out. As the menu says, ‘Java Hut... It’s More Than Coffee!!!’

The Pagan Ritual: Fat Tuesday as the “heinous lull” (care of Ted Nugent) that is February and ushers in Fat Tuesday as Holy Cross’ Spring Break takes place from March 2-3. The Lenten season, Fat Tuesday was the day observed people ate meat, drank wine and partook in other last minute luxuries.

So, get psyched to enjoy the next thirty days of this festive month. Before long the lamb will have come, and April showers will be rolling in.