



Thursday, August 28, 2003

Friday Night Live offers laughs for all

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Oakland University students, faculty, staff and their guests are invited to start their weekends with a laugh at the Friday Night Live comedy series, presented by OU's **Residence Hall Programming**. The series will feature eight nationally known comedians, who are scheduled to make free appearances in Vandenberg Hall Dining Center during fall semester.

"The Friday Night Live series is a good way to unwind after a long work week," said Residence Halls Program Coordinator Alicia Sanzica. "We've booked a number of nationally known performers, some of whom make regular appearances on Comedy Central.

"Usually we draw close to 200 people to the shows. We also want faculty and staff to know that they're always welcome to come enjoy the entertainment."

Dave Coulier, who played Joey on the TV series "Full House," will kick off the series Sept. 5 at 7 p.m. From standup comedy on "The Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson and Jay Leno, to his role as host of the prime-time hit series "America's Funniest People," Coulier has covered the spectrum of family entertainment. He also has hosted ABC's "The World's Funniest Videos" and his own series, "Out of Control," for Nickelodeon. Additionally, he will star as one of the judges on ABC's highly anticipated family reality show, "My Life Is a Sitcom," which premieres Jan. 20.

Tickets for the Coulier performance are required and available free of charge beginning Sept. 2 at 9 a.m. at the **Center for Student Activities Service Window**, 49 Oakland Center. Tickets also are required and free of charge for the Oct. 17 performance by Dustin Diamond, who is best known for his role as Screech in the hit TV series "Saved by the Bell." Tickets are not required for any of the other performances.

All performances start at 7 p.m. in Vandenberg Hall Dining Center. For more information on the Friday Night Live series, contact the program coordinator in the University Housing Office at (248) 370-3570. See the following schedule for a description of the remaining performers:

Sept. 19: Michael Dean Ester

Ester has performed his comedic skits centering on college life at more than 1,200 schools, clubs and cruise ships. He also has appeared on NBC's "Friday Night," "Talk Soup" on E! and in the film "Senseless" with David Spade. Ester's high-energy routine as a university student is no stretch for a man who describes himself as a "professional college senior."

Oct. 3: Alexandra McHale

McHale has been a regular at clubs such as The Comic Strip, Catch a Rising Star and Caroline's and is a member of the prestigious Actor's Studio in New York. She's also well known in the improv circles, having performed with N2O Comedy; All Legs, No Brains; and the Bottlerockets.

Oct. 10: Dale K

If your idea of a hypnotist is a man in a tuxedo swinging a pocket watch, prepare to be shocked. Dale K puts the art of hypnosis into his wacky physical comedy routine while incorporating physical illusions. He'll cause bowling balls to appear from nowhere and juggle doggie dishes and toilet bowl brushes in ways they shouldn't be.

Oct. 17: Dustin Diamond

Best known for his portrayal of the character Screech in the popular NBC series "Saved by the Bell" and its spin-offs, Diamond has taken his zany brand of comedy to the stage, selling out college auditoriums nationwide. Since leaving television, Diamond has played bass in the progressive rock band Salty the Pocketknife and completed two chess instructional DVDs. Tickets for this show are required and are available free of charge at the **CSA Service Window**.

Oct. 24: Elvira Kurt

A Toronto native and alumna of Second City, Kurt is an accomplished comedian who hosts her own TV program in Canada, has starred in an acclaimed Comedy Central half-hour special, has earned multiple nominations as College Comedian of the Year, and has countless other TV credits as a comic actress, host and writer – often on gay/lesbian shows.

Nov. 14: Troy Thirdgill

Originally from Portland, Ore., Thirdgill has appeared on A&E’s “Evening at the Improv,” and “Comic View” on BET. Among his other TV credits are appearances on Fox’s “In Living Color” and NBC’s “In the House.” He also has toured all over the world performing for U.S. troops in places such as Australia, Belgium, Egypt, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan and many more.

Dec. 5: Scott Kennedy

Kennedy is one of the funniest openly gay comedians working today. He can be seen on Comedy Central’s “Premium Blend” and “The Amanda Show” and in the feature film “10 Attitudes.” Since 1994, he has toured in the “Gay Comedy Jam,” selling out shows in more than 150 cities in the United States and Canada.

SUMMARY

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