

A trip down Laugh Avenue

COMEDY CLUBS

By Lorraine McClish

Mike Veneman may be the star of the show at Joey's Comedy Club...



Comedian Mike Veneman has already put 76,000 miles on his car in two years.

But driving is better than flying for the man who once described an airport as "Mardi Gras gone mad."

Veneman has performed in Detroit twice since he became a full-time stand-up comedian three years ago...

THAT MEANS I galded students in the school of physical education, and recreation and dance," he said.

On down days, he sometimes wonders if he could still get his doctorate, but follows that up quickly with "I'm only joking."

Veneman was the class clown in high school and has enjoyed making his friends laugh for as long as he can remember.

As for the "Watch for ice on the Bridge" sign, Veneman responds, "Now what do I do?"

death. "We've got to drive up and die sooner or later," he asked.

While observational comedy was the mainstay of his act for a long while that is changing — "The routines are always changing, they've got to keep changing."

So the routine is taking a whole new turn these days. But it's still about all of the funny and absurd things all around us.

JOE BIELASKA, owner and operator of Joey's, met Veneman in Las Vegas during a Comedy and Club Owners Convention.

It was the first time Veneman performed at the convention.

Mike Veneman will perform a Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 25-27, and 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28.

Here are some listings of comedy clubs in our area. To let us know who is appearing at your club, send the information to: Comedy Listings, Observer & Critic, News Dept., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

BEA'S COMEDY KITCHEN Downtowna Tony Brown will perform with Tim Butterfield and Mitch Schatz Friday-Saturday, Oct. 27-28, at Bea's Comedy Kitchen, 541 Larned, Detroit. Show times are 8:30 and 11 p.m. For information, call 961-2581.

CHAPLIN'S EAST Rosie O'Donnell will perform Wednesday-Saturday, Oct. 25-28, at Chaplin's East, 34244 Groesbeck, Fraser. Show times are 8:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information, call 792-1902.

CHAPLIN'S PLYMOUTH Randy Montgomery will perform Wednesday-Saturday, Oct. 25-28, at Chaplin's Plymouth in the Plymouth Radisson, 14707 Northville Road, Plymouth. For information, call 454-6880.

CHAPLIN'S WEST Brian Regan will perform Tuesday-Saturday, Oct. 24-28, at Chaplin's West, 18890 Telegraph, south of Six Mile, Detroit. For information, call 533-8866.

LOONEY BIN Sireter Murray will perform Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28, at the Wolverine Lounge and Looney Bin Comedy Club, 1655 Cleary, Walled Lake. Show times are 9 p.m. Friday and 8 and 10:15 p.m. Saturday. For information, call 669-9374.

HOLLY HOTEL Jason Stuart will perform along with Don Borza and Karl Anthony Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28, at Holly Hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly. Show times are 8:30 p.m. with additional 10:30 p.m. shows on Friday and Saturday. For information, call 634-1891.

JOEY'S LIVONIA Mike Veneman will perform Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28, at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Show times are 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. For reservations, call 261-0555.

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MISS KITTY'S Michael Casper will perform Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28, at Miss Kitty's Comedy Club, Long Branch Restaurant, 595 N. Lapeer Road, Oxford. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information, call 628-6500.

MAINTREET Rita Radder will perform Wednesday-Thursday, Oct. 25-26, and John Higgil will perform Friday-Saturday, Oct. 27-28, at Mainstreet Comedy Showcases, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-9800.

SECOND CITY Second City Touring Company will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$12.50 and \$15. For information, call 99-MUSIC.

Looney Bin Too Coast Jacobson will perform on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27-28, at the Looney Bin Too at the Rosy, 1-94 and Haggarty, Belleville. For reservations, call 699-1829.

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Comedy show to benefit MDA

WJBK-TV Channel 2, in conjunction with Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, will present "Stand Up and Laugh" 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, at Holiday Inn Livonia West.

Muscular Dystrophy Association. Tickets are \$15 and are available through Ticketmaster Ticket Centers. To charge tickets by phone, call 645-6666.

Special guests scheduled to appear will be Mark Ridley, MDA Television co-host Bruce Klirk of WJBK-TV, feature reporter Pierre Kimsey and MDA State Foster Children Tania and Shannon Rice.

The comedy extravaganza will feature Ray Combs of the television game show "Family Feud." Proceeds from the event will benefit the

Appearing along with Combs will be local comedians Norm Stultz, Norma Zager and Eric Champnella.

For information, call 476-2920 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THE MUSICIANS' BIG BAND HALLOWEEN BALL MONDAY, OCT. 30th 7pm to 11pm

HALLOWEEN IN YESTERDAY'S TUESDAY - OCT. 31st It's eerie! It's spooky! It's howling fun!

On the Town DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT BLACKS GET CANCER AND DIE FROM IT MORE THAN ANY OTHER GROUP.

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL UPLAND HILLS TOWN Saturdays & Sundays in October 11:00 to 4:00

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

Alfie (M.P. C.K.A.B.) presents Burn This The Story Of Two Hearts In Fire by Lanford Wilson OCT. 25 - NOV. 19

Walt Disney's World on Ice KENNETH FELD Peter Pan ALL LIVE! World Premiere! Tue. NOV. 7 thru Sun. NOV. 12 Joe Louis Arena

GIVE BLOOD, PLEASE Imagine if you had to ask for blood to save the life of someone you love.

AMC THEATRES "CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAYS" MON - FRI ONLY 10:23 - 10:27 ONLY

PERFORMANCES Tue. NOV. 7 7:30PM Detroit Free Press FAMILY FRIENDLY NIGHT ALL TICKETS \$3.50

Your Wait Is Almost Over! Then It's Our Turn Champion Grill