Dennis Wolfberg: getting high on life and success.

By Shirles Rose Iden

What could be better than having strangers on the street smile and call out your name, or interrupt you in a restaurant and ask for your au-

in a restaurant and ask for your au-tograph?

This type of celebrity is no small thing to a working comedian and it's no joke when comic Dennis Wolfberg declares: "I'm getting my biggest kick out of going around known as Mr. Y. Chromosome."

Wolfberg refers to his 4-year-old son and twin sons expected to be born to his wife Jeannie and himself at the end of summer.

Having grown up dreaming of being an entertainer, Wolfberg is liv-

ing it out now.

"All this is beyond my wildest imagination," said the comic. "No matter what people think, we comedians are not morose, droll and democrated."

Wolfberg admits he doesn't have wonberg aunits ne obean thave much to be down over with a career that has taken off like an intercon-tinental missile. "Recently, I won the American Comedy Award as The Best Male Stand Up Comie in America for 1990' and was on the ABC network. That was great credi-bility."

WOLFBERG ALSO was honored with the title of "best drawing comic" by club owners. Actually, he abeen voted tops by comedy club owners twice, and honored by Rave Magazine a stop comic for 1899.
Wolfberg, who travels for appearances about 30 weckends a year, will perform at the Comedy Castle in Royal Oak April 30 to May 4. Wolfberg lived most of his life in New York and made the move to "tinsel town" in 1988.
"Truthfully, since I'm Jewish I was going to be a doctor. It was

'No matter what people are not morose, droll and depressed.'

— Dennis Wolfberg

mandated that I at least go through pre-med studies. But when I got to organic chemistry, I was done in. But I got an M.A. in clinical psychol-ogy. So I'm a master but not a doc-tor."

WOLFBERG relates that he went into education and spent 12 years teaching sixth graders which gave him endless material for comedy

him endless material for comedy writing.
"Teachers and comics have a lot in common," he said.
"I always wanted to entertain and my turning point came in the summer of 1976 when I landed a 3 a.m. audition in a club. In those days, I sang and played the guitar when the play a song that was a favorite of the "This was shown luck because at the common of the common of

play a song that was a ravorte of the club owner.

"This was sheer luck, because at that hour the audience was zero. The owner gave me a I-d a.m. time for another audition the next night and I was estatic." In those days, I sang more than I joked because I still had a lot to learn about the business."

Wolfberg, like many comedians, writes his own material which is largely ancedual, His stories are derived from experiences in his own life. Early on, his material was about teaching in the ghetto and inner city life. Later, it evolved with his real life romance, his marriage, and the birth of his son Daniel.

"RIGHT NOW family discussions

said Wolfberg who expects to have reams of baby naming stories very

Jeannie McBride, Wolfberg's wife, is a former comedienne who main-tains a close partnership with her

tains a close partnership with her "She's very much a part of the writing, the publicity, and every fa-cet of the business," he said. Most of the couple's triends are in-volved in the entertainment business, but Wolfberg said they also have 'non-show bir' aspects to their social life.

The family is knee deep in renova-tion now, fixing up a historical house on the old MGM backlot.

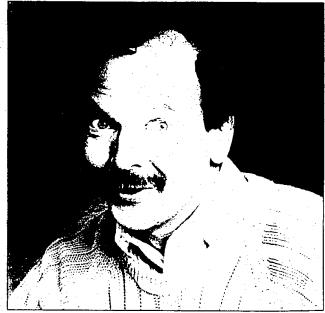
on the old MGM backlot.

"This involves having no furniture," said Wolfberg, "But J just jot a desk and now have somewhere to count my money. My kid Danlel plays beneath the trees that Tarzan swang from."

On a vacation in Orlando recently, Wolfberg got a lucky break and landed a six-minute television appearance. "They picked up all our expenses too," he said.
The comic does a great deal of TV including regular spots on the Arsenio Hall Show, To Tell the Truth, Joan Rivers, David Letterman, Johnny Carson, and more. He did a one-hour HBO show and hopes in another the end of this summer.

With twins boys on the way and Danlel growing fast, Wolfberg, a man who loves entertaining almost as much as his family, asys that working 30 weekends a year gives him two or three times as much a shi family, asys that working 30 weekends a year gives him two or three times as much adulty time ear most fathers. And that's no joke either

Dennis Wolfberg will perform April 30 to May 4 at the Comedy Castle, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak For reservations, call 542-9900.



median Dennis Wolfberg expects to have nty of fodder for jokes, especially from

naming a set of twins that will join the family this summer.

COMEDY CLUBS

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

• CHAPLIN'S EAST Alex Cole will appear with John Klernan and Ray Kilfer Tuesday-



Saturday, April 30-May 4, at Chap-lin's East, 34244 Groesbeck, Fraser, Show times are 8.30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 8.30 and 10.30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, For reser-vations, call 792-1902.

CHAPLIN'S WEST

Don Reese will appear with Chris O'Donnell Tuesday through Satur-day, April 30-May 4, at Chaplin's West, 16890 Telegraph, Detroit. Show times are 8:30 pm. Tuesday through Thursday; 8 and 10:30 pm. Friday and Saturday, For reserva-tions, call 533-8866.

CHAPLIN'S PLYMOUTH
Chris Smith will appear with Tom
Naughton Wednesday through Saturday, May 1-4, at Chaplin's Plymouth,
14707 Northville, Plymouth, Show
imes are 8.30 p.m. Wednesday and
Thursday, 8.30 and 10.30 p.m Friday
and Saturday, For reservations, call
454-4680.

MAINSTREET

MAINSTREET
Kirkland Teeple will appear Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, at MainStreet Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Show times are 30
and 11 p.m. Friday and 7, 9 and 11

p.m. Saturday. For information, call 996-9080.

● COMEDY CASTLE
Dennis Wolfberg will perform
with Gene Taylor Tuesday-Saturday,
April 30-May, 4 at the Comedy Castle, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, Show
time is 8:30 p.m. Monday through
Thursday and 8:30 and 11 p.m. Priday and Saturday. For reservations,
call 542-9900.

BEA'S COMEDY CLUB
 Downtown Tony Brown Skeeter
Murry, and Rueben Rueben will perform Friday-Saturday, May 3-4, at
Bea's Comedy Club, 541 Larned, Detroit. Show Limes are 8.30 and 11
p.m. For information, call 961-2581.

JOEY'S ALLEN PARK

Baile will perform with Mike Bonner and Vanick Wednesday-Sat-trafay. May 1-4, at Joey's Comedy Club and Sports Emportum, 15246 Southfield Road, Allen Park, Snow times are 8:30 pm. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 and 10:30 pm. Friday and Saturday For information, call 362-7641.

JOEY'S AT THE ROXY
Jeff Nease will perform Wednesday-Saturday, May 1-4, at The Roxy,
Haggerty Road, near 1-94, Belleville,
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HOLLY HOTEL
 Ross Bennett will perform with
 Steve Brewer and Jill Washburn
 Thursday-Saturday, May 2-4, at the
 Holly Hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly.

MISS KITTY'S
 Tim Lilly will perform Thursday-Saturday, May 2-4, at Miss Kitty's Comedy Club. Long Branch. 595 N. Lapeer Road, Oxford. For Informa-tion, call 628-6500.

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