### COMEDY

# Second City celebrates fifth anniversary with new revue

By Keely Wygonik Staff Writer kwygonik@oc.homecomm.net

Irreverent as ever, The Second City-Detroit celebrates its fifth anniversary with "Daimlers Are A Girl's Best Friend," their 14th

live-comedy revue.
In typical Second City fash-In typical Second City lastion, the show, which opened Thursday, has nothing to do with Daimler or Chrysler. It's edgy in spots, the kind of comedy that makes you think, and disappointingly, a little offen-

When will comedians get it the f-word isn't funny, and because it's so over-used, doesn't even have much shock value. So why use it?

why use it?
Opening day at the brand new
Tiger Stadium, same old Tigers,
score 0-14, could have been
played a lot of different ways.
Larry Campbell and KeeganMichael Key were funny as the

sportscasters with their running commentary and commercials - 'Down River Ale, if you're gonning od own, go down smooth. The scene where Eric Black slaps thardly a top) Mary Jano Pories, 'you're so annoying I land to hit you,' was upsetting. Pories in the skit is Kate, the friend of newcomer Nyima Anise Woods who divorced Black and finds herself sitting next to him at the Tiger's game. Upon discovering his ex-wife's newly acquired knowledge of baschall, Black is smitten, and wants to get back together. Kate and Margaret Erner are her girlfriends who run interference.

I suppose they were exagger-

run interference.

I suppose they were exaggerating to bring light to an issue, but you can take things a little too far. Maybe that was the intent. Seeing someone slap a woman on stage, oo matter how lightly, is disturbing. It was just a little too real to be comedy.

#### "Dalmiers Are A Girl's Best Friend"

What: The Second City-Detroit's 14th live comedy revue Whon: 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, with additional shows 10:30 p.m. Pridays and Saturdays. The cast performs an improvisational set, free of charge, after every performance Wednesday through Sunday (after 10:30 p.m. Show Friday-Saturday). Tickets: \$10 Wednesday Thursday, and Sunday, \$17.50 Friday. and \$19.50 Saturday. Call (313) 965-2222, or (248) 645-6668. Holiday Highlights

Bl Accidental Terroits – A multi-media master class production, directed by Lorry Campbell – 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 28-29; 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6. Tickets \$4, call (313) 965-2222.

Bl Homoless for the Holidaya – A dysfunctional seasonal revue (Second City Detroit Workshop Production) – 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1; and Monday, Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Tickets \$8, call (313) 965-2222.

That's not all. There's more sexual innuendo in this show than other shows, sometimes aimed at homosexuals. Like the slap, they're cheap shots — not very creative when measured

against previous revues.
Fans will enjoy repeat performances of popular skits from previous shows. The Lawn Guy (Key) returns to help poor Miss Angela (Woods) who's African Amorican and lives in Birmingham, sort out racial issues. "I don't feel black enough," she

says. "Eight Mile seems really wide." This is what Second City does best, take a charged issue like racism and diffuse it to make their audience think.

If you're stressed at work, you'll enjoy the skit where Veods, Fories and Key, downsize everyone else out of a job-"although you will always be part of our family, you'll be part of our extended family. The only thing is, the staff doesn't get it. "If we're not working here, then where are we working? We need to know so we can be there in the merning."

There's a new spin, an Affirmative Action sequence where Black and Campbell lament, "No one's hiring white guys."

T'u is cleverly pictured as "evil and sucking the life-blood out of und sucking the life-blood out of under the life blood out of under the life

TV is cleverly pictured as "evil and sucking the life-blood out of us," and President Clinton (Campbell) and his wife Hillary (Exner) share a joint and con-versation on the White House

There's a lot of really creative animated humor such as the

video game skit where Bill Clinton (acting like a video game character complete with robotic moves) goes to battle with Linda Tripp, Kenneth Starr, and Hillary, who of course, wins.

Hillary, who of course, wins.

Open mike night all.

Auschwitz, featuring Key as the comedian, was funny, but no! offensive — What's the difference between Hitler and Himmiler? It's the spelling. The situation was absurd.

Skits on men and women falling to communicate were a riot, and to hear 'All the Crazy People are from Michigan, featured in a previous skit, was a treat.

Changes made by producer Rico Bruce Wade are apparent. The cast finishes the skits they start. There's more emphasis on relationships between men and women.

women.

In a clever move, just before the ending, each cast member stops, and comments on unfamished business. They hurry up go back into character to complete the scene.



Main Stage: The cast of Second City-Detroit, (back row, left to right) Margaret Exner, Eric Black, Larry Campbell, and Mary Jane Pories (front row, left to right), Keegan-Michael Key, and Nyima Anise Wood in "Daimlers are a Girl's Best Friend."





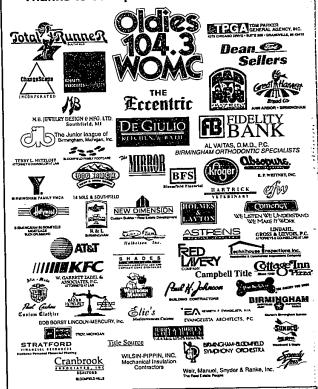


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