

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 & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

#### BEA'S COMEDY KITCHEN

Tim Allen, Tim Lilly and Downtown Tony Brown will perform Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at Bea's Comedy Kitchen, 541 Larned, Detroit. Show times are 8:30 and 11 p.m. For information, call 951-2581.

#### MAINSTREET

Tim Lilly will perform Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 6-7, and Ken Savara will perform Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at Mainstreet Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-9080.

#### JOEY'S LIVONIA

Joey Cola will perform Wednesday through Saturday, Dec. 6-9, at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth, east of Levan, Livonia. Show times are 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. For reservations, call 261-0555.

#### HOLLY HOTEL

Soupy Sales will perform a special show with guest, Jill Washburn Friday-Sunday, Dec. 8-10, at Holly Hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly. Show times are 8:30 p.m. with additional 10:30 p.m. shows Friday and Saturday. For information, call 634-1891.

#### JOEY'S ALLEN PARK

Lowell Sanders will appear Wednesday through Saturday, Dec. 6-9, at Joey's Allen Park, Southfield Road. Show times are 8:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and 8 and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information, call 382-7041.

#### MISS KITTY'S

Craig McCard and Bruce Murray will perform Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 7-9, at Miss Kitty's Comedy Club, Long Branch Restaurant, 555 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.

#### LOONEY BIN TOO

Peter Berman will perform Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at the Looney Bin Too at the Rosy, I-04 and Haggerty, Belleville. For reservations, call 699-1829.

## Family man makes them laugh

### Marriage has him settled down

By Rebecca Haynes  
staff writer

Livonia native Jerry Elliott has held jobs from pumping gas to delivering pizza, but the 29-year-old seems to have found his niche in the world of stand-up comedy.

He began performing in 1979, while a senior at Churchill High School.

"I used to go to the Comedy Castle on new talent night," he said. "I worked locally for about a year and a half. My first job on the road was at the Cleveland Comedy Club, and my \$200 paycheck bounced."

Elliott has been on the road a lot since then, but admitted that his wife Lynn of 15 months and his new baby son Nicholas have settled him down a lot.

"I met my wife at the comedy club in Columbus (Ohio)," he said. "She sent me a drink after the show and I turned it down."

Lynn didn't take no for an answer, however, but Elliott didn't seem to mind.

"I knew I was going to marry her the first time I met her," he said. "Marriage has definitely settled me down, and I'm limiting my time on the road to the first and third weeks of the month. It might not be the best for my career, but at this point in my life I'm much more interested in my wife and baby than I am about being on the Tonight Show."

ELLIOTT ALSO admitted that having a wife and son have given him a lot of ideas for his act.

"I got kidded that I needed new material so I got married," he said. "I do talk a lot about family experience."

"I use a basic straight style of stand-up," he said. "So many comics use gimmicks. I don't use any props or do any magic."

Elliott also said he doesn't use language or stories that are that are

overly offensive.

"My act usually lasts 45 minutes to an hour and I'd say the last 10 or 15 minutes I do tend to get a little dirtier, but it's at the end of the show and it's there because it gets the most laughs," he said. "It's the old adage of give the audience what they want."

"A lot of comedians talk about their work like it's an art form," he said. "I'm just up there to make people laugh."

Breaking in new material can sometimes be difficult.

"Right now I probably have two or three pages of new stuff written, but it's hard to justify trying it out when you're making big bucks as the headliner," he said. "I like to go into a club on open mike nights to try the new stuff. For me, it's sort of like going to the gym and working out."

Although he lived and worked in Los Angeles for about five years, Elliott recently relocated to the Columbus, Ohio area.

"I WASN'T real keen on raising the baby in L.A.," he said. "And my wife has family here, so I didn't think it was fair to ask her to move to California when I'm on the road so much anyway."

Elliott has performed at both The Improv and The Laugh Factory in Los Angeles. Several years ago he finished second in "The Hottest New Comic In L.A." contest. He's opened for Dionne Warwick, the Pointer Sisters and Kenny G. and performed all over the country.

His favorite city to perform in is Atlanta, Ga., but he said he enjoys coming home to Detroit.

"It's pretty hard to beat the Punchline in Atlanta. It's one of the top clubs in the country and you can go in on a Tuesday night and they've got 350 people there," he said. "I do have a lot of fun in Detroit, but there's a little extra pressure when you know your family and friends are in the audience."

Elliott remembered a few performances that were a little out of the ordinary.

"The South is hard," he said. "Once I got heckled in South Carolina with someone saying 'I hope you die, Yankee.'"

"What do you say to that?" he said. "Usually you have a comeback and the audience is behind you."



Jerry Elliott, a Livonia Churchill High School graduate, appears to have found his niche in comedy.

There they were backing the heckler.

"One of the strangest things that happened to me was at the Comedy Castle," he said. "It was a long time ago, but a guy in the audience pulled out a big knife, and while I was up on stage the police came to take him away."

Jerry Elliott will return to the Detroit area with performances at Chaplin's Comedy Club West and Ann Arbor's Mainstreet Comedy Showcase.

He'll be at Chaplin's, 16890 Telegraph, one block south of Six Mile

Road, Tuesday, Dec. 5 through Saturday, Dec. 9. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and tickets are \$5. On Friday and Saturday, performances are set for 8 and 10:30 p.m., with tickets at \$8. Call 533-8866 for reservations.

The following weekend, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16, Elliott will perform at Mainstreet, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Shows are scheduled for 8:30 and 11 p.m. Friday and 7, 9 and 11 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$12. Call 996-9080 for reservations.

Soupy Sales appears Friday through Sunday, Dec. 8-10, at the Holly Hotel.



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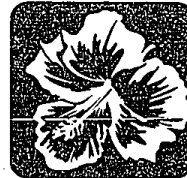
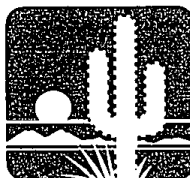
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