

"Political satire became obsolete when they awarded Henry Kissinger the Nobel Peace Prize" ~ Tom Lehrer

TAKING THE AIR IN PALM SPRINGS



Melinda and I were honored to be a part of an all-star cast which included **Gavin MacLeod**, **Marion Ross**, **Joyce Bullifant**, **Carole Cook**, **Roger Perry**, **Valorie Armstrong**, **Tom Troupe**, **Alix Korey**, and **Steven Brand**, on Thursday, March 12 in a special charity event for producer **Michael Shaw's Dezart Performs** directed by **Gregg Op-**



RADIO LOVERS

Clockwise from top:
Melinda and Phil flank
Marion Ross; Valorie
Armstrong and Melinda
caught in the act; Phil with
Ron Masak deciding who
goes on first!

Allen episode, a mystery from **The Shadow**, and the **Abbot & Costello Show**, which introduced the immortal "Who's on First" routine to a national audience. I played Bud Abbot to **Ron Masak's** spot-on Lou Costello, and we received a standing ovation, which was most gratifying.

penheimer at the Palm Springs Camelot Theatres.

For a sold-out house, we recreated three vintage radio shows, with live music and sound effects, comprised of a **Burns &**



The only glitch was when our announcer, veteran broadcaster **Bob Hardt**, experienced heart pains after his opening remarks and had to be whisked off to the local hospital where he received life-saving treatment. Talk about radio drama!

"How far that little candle throws
his beams! So shines a
good deed in a weary world."
~ **William Shakespeare**

BOTTOMS UP

A man walks into a Dublin pub on St. Patrick's Day and notices a large jar on the counter filled to the brim with 10 Euro notes. He approaches the bartender and asks, "What's with the money in the jar?"

"Well, if you put in a ten-note and pass three tests, you get all the money in the jar and the keys to a brand new car." The man certainly isn't going to pass this up, so he asks, "What are the three tests?"

"You gotta pay first," says the bartender, so he stuffs his cash into the jar. "Okay, here's what you need to do," says the barman. "First, ya has to down a whole bottle of Bushmills in 60 seconds or less, and you can't make a face while doing it. Second - there's a pitbull chained out in the beer garden with a bad tooth. You have to remove that tooth with your bare hands. And third, there's a 90-year-old ex-nun in the snug upstairs who's never had sex. You have to take care of that problem."

The man is stunned! "I know I paid me tenner, but I'm not an idiot! I won't do it! You'd have to be nuts to drink a liter of Irish whiskey, though it's the best in the world, and then do dem other tings!"

"Your call," says the bartender, "but your money stays where it is." As time goes on, the man has a few more drinks and finally says, "Where's the damn bottle!" He grabs it with both hands and drinks it as fast as he can, tears streamin' down his cheeks -- but he doesn't make a face -- and he empties it in 58 seconds! Next, he staggers out the back door where he sees the pitbull chained to a pole.

Soon, the people inside hear loud growling, screaming, and sounds of a terrible fight and then -- silence! But just when they think that the man surely must be dead, he staggers back into the bar, his clothes ripped to shreds and bleeding from bites and gashes all over his body.

He drunkenly says, "Now -- where's that nun with the bad tooth?"

"How can you tell when an Irishman's on the wagon? Look out the window and see if one's missing." ~ Johnny Gaza

HARD CHEESE

According to *Popular Science*, the oldest cheese in the world has been found and it puts **Trader Joe's** aged Gouda to shame, because while Gouda can be aged for five years this dates back to 1615 BC, making it older than Cheeses Christ!

Buried with ancient mummies in China, residue was found on the necks and chests of Bronze Age cheese aficionados, known as **Sloppy Tzos**, and has been "vacuum-packed for centuries" in the Taklamakan Desert where the dry air and sodium-rich earth kept it from decomposing. The proteins and fats in the clumps of the 3,600-year-old food confirm that it's not butter or milk, and is probably lactose-free and made with a mixture of bacteria and yeast. They also say that it might have tasted "something like cottage cheese."

That's Gouda 'nuff for me...

*"If you was not difficult, I would like to get your autograph he would definitely brighten up my life and the internal state of the soul. Thank you very much."
~ Fan from the Republic of Udmurtia*

AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband is not in bed. She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a hot cup of coffee in front of him.

He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee.

"What's the matter, dear?" she whispers as she steps into the room. "Why are you down here at this time of night?" The husband looks up from his coffee, "It's the 20th Anniversary of the day we met."

She can't believe he has remembered and starts to tear up. "Do you



■ CONTINUED



12
STEP PROGRAM
TO STOP DOING
IMPRESSIONS

COPY THAT

In "Impress Me," a new series created by Ben Shelton and produced by Rainn Wilson, celebrity impressionists Ross Marquand and Jim Meskimen (from left) are struggling to transform themselves into dramatic actors. Guest stars include Angela Kinsey, Erika Christiansen, Josh Groban, Matt Jones and Weird Al Yankovic.

remember 20 years ago when we started dating?" her husband continues, "I was 18 and you were only 16," he says solemnly. "Yes, I do," she replies, touched to tears. The husband pauses; the words were not coming easily. "Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car?"

"Yes, I remember," said the wife, lowering herself into the chair beside him. The husband continued. "Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, 'Either you marry my daughter or I will send you to prison for 20 years?'"

"I remember that, too," she replied softly. He wiped another tear from his cheek and said, "I would have gotten out today."

"It is wiser to find out than suppose." ~ **Mark Twain**

I'M IMPRESSED

My good friend, **Jim Meskimen**, is starring in **IMPRESS ME**, a new 13-week series from Executive Producer **Rainn Wilson** and writer-director **Ben Shelton**, which debuts Wednesday night on Pop TV at 10:30 pm/9:30 central right after the critically acclaimed 'Schitt's Creek', starring **Eugene Levy** and **Catherine O'Hara**.

The comedy series was first aired on **SoulPancake** and centers on two celebrity impressionists, played by Jim and **Ross Marquand** (now a regular on AMC's *Walking Dead*)

trying to quit impressions and become serious dramatic actors. Hilarity ensues...

To find your local Pop channel, [CLICK HERE](#)

"Life is not easy for any of us; but what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained."

~ **Marie Curie**

DON'T ASK

The lawyer says to the wealthy art collector, "I have some good news and, I have some bad news." The tycoon replies, "I've had an awful day, let's hear the good news first."

"Well, your wife invested \$5,000 in two pictures this week," the lawyer continues, "and she figures they're now worth a minimum of \$2 to \$3 million."

"Well done... very good news indeed!" the tycoon replies enthusiastically. "You've just made my day! So, what's the bad news?"

"Well," answers the lawyer, "the pictures are of you with your secretary."

■ **CONTINUED**

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." ~ **Marie Curie**

HINDSIGHT

"There is no question whatsoever that **Saddam** is seeking, is working, is advancing towards to the development of nuclear weapons. Once Saddam has nuclear weapons, the terror network will have nuclear weapons. If you take out Saddam, Saddam's regime, I guarantee you that it will have enormous positive reverberations on the region." So said **Benjamin Netanyahu**, in his 2002 testimony to Congress.

And the March 16 **New Yorker's** "Talk of the Town" referred to **Anthony Weiner's** amorous alias, **Carlos Danger**, and noted that "his possible relative Nick Danger [was] the proprietor of a secret email account maintained by the former North Carolina governor **Mike Easley...**" Rocky Rococo is not amused.

"Watch your thoughts for they become words. Choose your words for they become actions. Understand your actions for they become habits. Study your habits for they become your character. Develop your character for it becomes your destiny..." ~ **Frank Outlaw**

THE DARWINS

Sixth place goes to 22-year old **David Hubal**, who died when he hit a lift tower at Mammoth while riding on a foam pad. He and his pals apparently hiked up a ski run called Stump Alley and removed some yellow foam protectors from lift towers designed to protect skiers from hitting the towers. The tower he hit was the one with its pad removed.

Fifth Place goes to **Robert Puelo**, 32, who shoved a hot dog into his mouth in a St. Louis market and walked out without paying. He was discovered



AWARD-WINNING FILM

The 2008 film starring Joseph Fiennes and Winona Ryder includes a re-enactment of Mr. Pernicky's ill-fated Metallica attendance. **VIEW**

CROSSING THE RED LINE

Graphic evidence of Iran's progress developing nuclear weapons capabilities.



prone in front of the store, choked to death by the six-inch wiener lodged in his throat.

Fourth place goes to Spanish poacher **Marino Malerba** who shot a stag standing above him on an overhanging rock and was killed instantly when it fell on him.

Third place goes to a **Jerry Stromyer**, 24, of Kincaid, who bit down on a blasting cap as a prank at a party in West Virginia, triggering an explosion that blew off his lips, teeth, and tongue.

Second Place goes to **Tony Roberts**, 25, who lost his right eye during an initiation into the Mountain Men Anonymous rafting club in Grants Pass, Oregon. A friend tried to shoot a beer can off his head, but the arrow entered Robert's right eye, went through 8 to 10 inches of brain with the tip protruding at the rear of his skull, somehow missing all major blood vessels.. Said Roberts, "I feel so dumb about this."

"Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape." ~ **Anonymous**

THIS YEAR'S WINNER/LOSER

John Pernicky and his friend, **Sal Hawkins**, of the great state of Washington, decided to attend a local Metallica concert at the George Washington amphitheater. Having no tickets (but having had 18 beers between them), they thought it would be easy to "hop" over the nine-foot fence and sneak into the show. Unfortunately there was a 30-foot drop on the other side.

Having heaved himself over, Pernicky found himself crashing through a tree in a fall abruptly broken, (along with his arm) by a large branch that snagged him by his shorts,

PLANETCLICK

MESSY-GES

and figuring the bushes below would break his fall, he used his pocket knife to cut away his shorts.

Finally free, Mr. Pernicky crashed into the holly bushes, which scratched his whole body, and without the protection of his shorts, a holly branch penetrated his rectum while his pocketknife penetrated his leg.

Hawkins then threw him a rope and tried to pull him to safety by tying the rope to the pickup truck, but in his drunken haste, he put the truck into reverse and crashed through the fence, which landed on his friend and killed him. John was discovered deceased, half-naked, scratches all over his body, a holly stick up his ass, a knife in his thigh, and his shorts dangling from a branch above. Sounds like a case for Hemlock Stones...

"Humans are deuterostomes, because in the womb the anus forms before any other opening; which basically means at one point you were nothing but an asshole."
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE

From the film *Kiss And Make Up* (1934) Music: Ralph Rainger / Lyrics: Leo Robin — Helen Mack & Edward Everett Horton **MORE**

I'm simply wild about you
I couldn't do without you
Corned beef and cabbage, I love you

You always set me raving
You satisfy that craving
Corned beef and cabbage, I love you

If I could have you every day
My life would have more spice
And even if I'd have to pay
I'd gladly pay the price
I see you and surrender
Oh, won't you please be tender
Corned beef and cabbage, I love you!

I'm always happy when you
Are featured on the menu

SFX	MURMURATIONS
PAPER	DOGGIES
NO-PAPER	F**k U
THAT MAN	ANYTHINGE
CATSONGS	HELP STEVEN
WATCHOUT	ALLSAY
	FOOD

Corned beef and cabbage, I love you

Although you're so plebeian
You're fit for any queen
Corned beef and cabbage, I love you

You fill me with a strange desire
That haunts me all night through
You seem to set my heart on fire
You give me heartburn, too
Why don't you try a load -a
Bicarbonate of soda?

Corned beef and cabbage, I love you!"

"Nonsense wakes up the brain cells." ~ Dr. Seuss

MESSY-GERS

Steve Donofrio, Barry Pearl, Keith Hebble, Kenneth Wilhite Jr., Leigh Curran, Terry Shultz, Victor Kopcewich, Art Peterson, M. C. Gwynne. And a special callout to all lovers of improv, as the **Spolin Players** celebrate their 30th anniversary in the **Palisades Theatre** at 8:00 on March 28. Come and add your suggestions to the fun! **TICKETS**

"Satire is a sort of glass, wherein beholders do generally discover everybody's face but their own"
- Jonathan Swift

"If there are no dogs in heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." ~ Will Rogers

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