

## JUST FOR LAUGHS! (continued)

**TUES., JAN. 27 - WED., JAN. 28**

**Robert Klein**

See the comedian who has entertained and thrilled audiences for more than 40 years and has been nominated twice for Best Comedy Album of the Year at the Grammys for "Child of the Fifties" and "Mind over Matter." Currently preparing his eighth HBO one-man show, Klein can be seen regularly on television thanks to his more than 100 appearances on "The Tonight Show" and "Late Night with David Letterman." Don't miss this New Yorker as he comes to DC Improv for just two nights. Shows on both days start at 8:30 p.m. and tickets are \$20. DC Improv: 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 202-296-7008. www.dcmprov.com

**THURS., JAN. 29 - SAT., JAN. 31**  
**Dennis Regan**

You've seen this L.A. comedian on everything from HBO to Comedy Central to Showtime to "The Tonight Show" to "Comic Strip Live." The writer for "King of Queens" is coming to the DC Improv for three nights. Showtimes are Jan. 29 at 8:30 p.m., and Jan. 30 and 31 at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$15. DC Improv: 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW, D.C.; 202-296-7008; www.dcmprov.com

**FRIDAY, JAN. 30**

**John Betz Jr.**

He was a math teacher who happened to enjoy improv, and now he's making a name for himself and is a full-time stand up comedian. John Betz Jr. honed his comedy skills in the D.C. area and is back to perform for two nights at the Wiseacres Comedy Club. Check him out on Friday and Saturday night starting at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Wiseacres Comedy Club & Pub: 8401 Westpark Drive (in the Best Western Tysons Westpark Hotel), McLean, VA; 703-734-2800; www.wiseacrescomedyclub.com

**SATURDAY, JAN. 31**

**Suzanne Westenhofer**

Suzanne Westenhofer, the first openly gay comedian in the U.S., has made a career of telling the truth. She's been delivering gay comedy to a straight audience since the '90s when she responded to a dare and eventually had her own HBO Comedy special. Westenhofer makes audiences laugh with more than 100 performances per year, and she's hitting The Birchmere in Arlington on Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45. To learn more about Westenhofer, go to www.suzanne.com. Birchmere: 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA; 703-549-7500; www.birchmere.com

**Finding the Funniest College Kid**

The DC Improv's search for the District's Funniest College begins its sixth season later this month. The Improv will host free comedy showcases at most of the major universities in the area from January to March featuring college comedians entertaining the audiences with five minutes of original material. Judges will choose two students from each college to compete in the finals at the DC Improv on March 25. The winner gets a paid hosting gig at the DC Improv, among other accolades. American University kicks off the competition on Jan. 21. Georgetown University, University of Maryland, George Mason University and George Washington University also are participating. See the full schedule here at www.dcmprov.com.

— Kristina Hernandez

**The DC Improv Comedy Club:** 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.; 202-296-7008; www.dcmprov.com

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

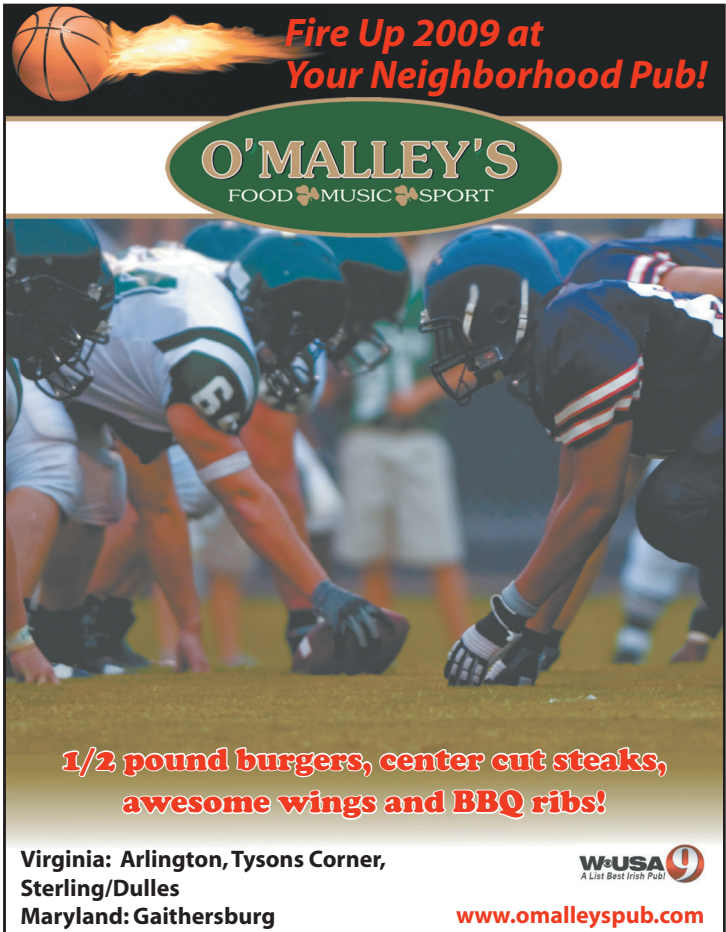
**Lisa Lampanelli at Warner Theatre**

Having taken down the likes of Flavor Flav, Pam Anderson, Jeff Foxworthy and William Shatner, Lisa Lampanelli has found her calling as premier insult comic in the industry, trading barbs at Comedy Central roasts and earning the nickname "Comedy's Lovable Queen of Mean" (she does, after all, have slight compassion for her victims). Once a Connecticut Catholic-school-girl-turned-journalist, and then a reporter and editor for newspapers and magazines including Rolling Stone hoping to meet rock stars, she decided to turn to comedy at age 30. After a decade in the business Lampanelli caught her big break in 2002 when she, as the only female comedian invited, absolutely floored the audience with her performance at Chevy Chase's roast, and she hasn't looked back since. Warner Theatre: 513 13th St. NW, D.C.; 202-783-4000; www.warnertheatre.com

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

**Bill Cosby at Kennedy Center Opera House**

It's hard to fathom that Bill Cosby, one of America's most beloved and respected comedians, was once a high school dropout in Philadelphia working as an apprentice at a shoe repair shop. He served in the Navy, once stationed at Bethesda's Naval Hospital, and after helping injured Korean War casualties with physical therapy, he realized the importance of education. He finished his degree, and went on to Temple University. Now his good-natured, fatherly image — especially during the hit NBC 1980s decade-defining series "The Cosby Show" — has given him the nickname "America's Dad," with his humor often centering on parenting, children, and family members. — Alfredo Flores



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