

STANDING ROOM ONLY



Heavy metal band **Bang Camaro** features a full choir of lead singers and plays in the style of '80s glam rock. They hit Sonar tonight. The Cheaters also perform. **Info:** 7 p.m.; Sonar, 407 E. Saratoga St., Baltimore; \$10; 410-783-7888.



Plan B troupe of the **BIG Improv Group** practices for upcoming shows with word games and exercises. — George Hage-george/For The Examiner

BIG gets bigger and better

By **Emily Campbell**
Examiner Staff Writer

Baltimore has caught the improv bug. Mike Subelsky, president and founder of the Baltimore Improv Group, said that the comedy troupe has grown significantly in the last four years. "We initially started with eight people, and now we're about 47 people strong."

BIG is a nonprofit dedicated to promoting the style of improvisational comedy in Baltimore. The organization is now up to six member troupes, and is teaching two improv classes per quarter because of high demand. Two of the troupes were selected to perform at the prestigious Dirty South Improv Festival in North Carolina this February, which means that BIG has now performed at comedy festivals in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and North Carolina.

"It's amazing how large the troupe has gotten," said Heather Moyer, BIG's artistic director and an original member of the cast. "It's great to see not just the growth of our troupe, but the growth of interest in the city."

Subelsky said that a lot of the people are attracted to improvisation be-

If you go

Baltimore Improv Group

- » **Where:** Creative Alliance at the Patterson, 3134 Eastern Ave., Baltimore
- » **When:** 8 p.m. Feb. 15
- » **Tickets:** \$10 to \$12
- » **Info:** www.bigimprov.org

cause of its unique qualities. "It's one of the only kinds of comedy where the performer is really taking a risk. Stand up comedians can do that, but they have prepared material, they can try it out. In improv, you are literally seeing someone jump off a cliff and hoping it takes flight. Occasionally some things fail, and that makes the victories all the sweeter."

BIG's next show takes place Feb. 15 at the Creative Alliance at the Patterson.

"It's a great opportunity to see something that you know hasn't been created before," Moyer said. "The input is always different. People know it's going to be funny, but they have no idea what it's going to be about. No matter what, you are the only person who gets to see this. No one will be able to see it again."

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AROUND TOWN

DANCE

From wedding couples to the casual social dancer to competitive dancers, **Towson Dance Studio's** salsa, meringue and tango dance lessons will be a treat for all. **Info:** 7 p.m.; Towson Dance Studio, 31 Allegheny Ave., Towson; \$12; 410-828-6116.

EXHIBIT

Wonders of Water, the new interactive exhibit at Port Discovery, explores the components of water. **Info:** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Port Discovery, 35 Market Place, Baltimore; \$11.75; 410-727-8120.

MUSIC

Country singer **Phil Vassar** sings hits from his fourth studio album, "Prayer of A Common Man." **Info:** 6 and 9 p.m.; Rams Head Tavern, 33 West St., Annapolis; \$47.50; 410-268-4545.

SCIENCE

Gunther von Hagen's Body Worlds 2 is the exhibition of more than 200 body specimens that have been preserved through the process of Plastination. **Info:** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St., Baltimore; \$10 to \$24; 410-545-5927.

Dudey puts the 'fun' in funny

By **Emily Campbell**
Examiner Staff Writer

Comedian Jason Dudey is on his way to the top.

Raised in Baltimore, Dudey has opened for Judy Gold, Ant and Sandra Bernhard and is currently on tour with funny man Craig Shoemaker. Dudey is also working with comedienne Jennie McNulty and Erin Foley in the comedy troupe "Queer On Their Feet," at the Creative Alliance. "We're all gay, we all do a little gay material, but we also do observational material that has nothing to do with gay or straight at all," Dudey remarked.

Q When did you first decide you wanted to pursue comedy?

A I've always wanted to be a comic. I used to get in trouble when I was little for sneaking into the living room to watch Johnny Carson. He was my idol. And I'm a people person. I will talk to any stranger in the world. It made my mother nervous.

Q When was your first time on the stage?

A I hosted my senior talent show. I was like "I like this!" When I moved to New York, I started open mic nights. It was like, two minutes of material at 1 a.m. on a Tuesday, with almost no one in the audience. I loved it. But I kept hearing the voice of responsibility — it sounded a lot like my dad — and I got a job in commercial production.



Comedians Erin Foley, left, Jason Dudey and Jennie McNulty. — Courtesy photo

Q What happened? How did you get back to the stage?

A Although I was successful, I was miserable. I hated it. I did that for 13 years. Then I did a three-minute set at the comedy store, and the fire was reignited. I started getting onstage as much as possible.

Q How did you get involved with Queer on Their Feet?

A Jennie McNulty started it. She came up to me about a year ago about it, and then we found Erin Foley, and it just started. We each do some standup, and then we all do improv together.

Q Are you looking forward to coming back to Baltimore?

A It's going to be like "This Is Your Life." My parents will be there,

If you go

Queer on Their Feet featuring Jason Dudey, Jennie McNulty and Erin Foley

- » **Where:** Creative Alliance at the Patterson, 3134 Eastern Ave., Baltimore
- » **When:** 7 p.m. Sunday
- » **Tickets:** \$12 to \$15
- » **Info:** www.myspace.com/queerontheirfeet

and some high school friends, maybe some old girlfriends. That will be weird. They probably knew I was gay before I did. They should have told me.

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TUESDAY Dining Out Guide

Best Specials Offered in Maryland Dining

Area Code: C-Baltimore City, AA-Anne Arundel, HO-Howard County, BC-Baltimore County, H-Harford County

SEAFOOD

HO Frank's Seafood
410-799-5960

Maryland's Best Crabs! Full service seafood market. Franks carries fresh lobster, shrimp, wild salmon, sushi grade tuna, and over 100 varieties of premium seafood. **Specials on website. Hours on website**

BC Bill Bateman's Bistro
AA 410-760-5535

\$8.99 1lb Jumbo Shrimp, **\$12.99** rib specials Full rack of ribs with fries. Slaw and garlic bread
\$12.99 ½ rack and ½ lb shrimp. **\$10** Bacon Wrapped

SEAFOOD cont.

Petit Filet with Baked Potato and Vegetable of the Day
***No Coupons on daily specials, available at all participating locations.**

ITALIAN

C Chiapparelli's
410-837-0309

SEAFOOD RAVIOLI: Homemade ravioli stuffed with crab & shrimp served in a light tomato cream sauce! **\$25.18**

AMERICAN

BC An Poitin Stil
410-560-7900

AMERICAN cont.

Prime Rib Night 14oz cut of Prime Rib served with broccoli and sliced wedges. **\$13.95, 5pm to 11pm**

C Long John's Pub
410-235-2426

Humungous ½ pound Angus Hamburger \$3.99, Sumptuous Shrimp Salad Sandwich \$5.99, Finger Lickin Chicken Wrap \$2.99. * Cheese \$1.00 extra on all sandwich specials. Bucket of 5 beer special, Noon till Midnight, Yuengling, Killians, Miller Lite, or Coors Lite \$8.50.
Monday Night Natty Boh special \$1, 8 till midnight

To reach Baltimore Examiner readers Mon. thru Fri. with your specials, call Jaime at 443-573-5173