



laughing matters

Funny Bone Comedy Club & Cafe

EASTON TOWN CENTER (614-471-JOKE,
WWW.COLUMBUSFUNNYBONE.COM)

PERFORMER » Ralphie May

CREDITS » *Last Comic Standing*,
USO tour of Iraq, *Girth of a Nation*
(compact disc/DVD)

SHOWTIMES » 8 and 10:15 p.m.
Friday; 7, 9 and 11:15 p.m. Sat-
urday; and 7:30 p.m. Sunday

TICKETS » \$22

THE KICKER » May took a dip in
one of Saddam Hussein's pools
after the despot went into hiding —
a perk of a USO tour. He also fin-
ished first runner-up on the first
season of *Last Comic Standing*.
Speaking of reality shows: May
appeared on *Celebrity Fit Club* as
leader of the winning team,
"Ralphie's Angels."



Frank Caliendo

PERFORMER » Frank Caliendo

CREDITS » *MADtv*, *Best Damn*
Sports Show Period, Fox NFL Sun-
day

SHOWTIMES » 7 p.m. Tuesday
and Wednesday

TICKETS » \$25

THE KICKER » Caliendo is one of
the best impressionists around. His
John Madden, reduced to a yam-
mering buffoon, never fails to
induce laughter from anyone —
except Madden, who reportedly
hates it.

Other Caliendo impersonations:
Presidents Bush and Clinton, Sean
Connery, Bill Cosby, Robert De Niro,
Jay Leno, Al Pacino, Jim Rome,
Andy Rooney, Adam Sandler, Jerry
Seinfeld, William Shatner and Robin
Williams.

Not only can he imitate their voices,
but he can also tell jokes in charac-
ter or as himself. To wit: "I think it's
great we have a president who
seems like he's always looking
directly into the sun."



The cast of *FFN in Spaaaaace*

MADLAB THEATRE

MADLAB'S SPACE CADETS TO TAKE JABS AT SCI-FI NOTABLES

BY GARY BUDZAK | THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

at a glance

Full Frontal Nudity

CREDITS » the improv comedies *Love*
Jungle and *The Murder*

SHOWTIMES » 8 tonight through
Saturday night and June 7-9 and
14-16

VENUE » MadLab Theatre, 105 N.
Grant Ave. (614-221-5418, www.
madlab.net)

TICKETS » \$6 to \$10

Science fiction will be spoofed in the
latest Full Frontal Nudity enterprise
(pun intended): *FFN in Spaaaaace*.

MadLab Theatre's improvisational
troupe will satirize *Star Trek*, *Star Wars*
and other sci-fi standouts during the
next three weeks.

"We're basically improvising an entire
play," said Andy Batt, the managing
director of MadLab and a member of
Full Frontal Nudity.

"This is our fourth long-form play
(lasting 60 minutes), and our audiences
have just been eating it up."

Piloting *FFN in Spaaaaace* are Batt and
his wife, Michelle; Vicki Andronis;
Melissa Bair; Sarah Brunet; Peter
Graybeal; Nikki Johnson; Josh Kessler;
Randi Morgan; Ric Shoemaker; scOtt
summitt; David Thonnings; and
Stephen Woosley.

"I'd say six of us are geeked out and
the others know enough (about science
fiction)," said Woosley, marketing

director. "We told them: 'If we mention
something and you don't know what it
is, that might be just as funny. Go with
that.'"

The set includes a few boulders
made of papier-mache and chicken
wire (a staple of the *Star Trek* series).

"One of the girls, her homework
assignment was to watch *Star Trek II: The*
Wrath of Khan," Woosley said.
"Josh Kessler, the other co-director —
that's his favorite movie of all time,
period."

In late summer, the troupe will
boldly take *FFN in Spaaaaace* to
Indianapolis.

The key to improv, despite the
references and experience on which
the comedians draw, is pacing.

To move the show along, they will
rely on stock characters — a hero and
a villain, sidekicks for each and one
person playing a prop.

"We'll have somebody who will be
designated the red-shirt guy (a non-
essential character who dies during
each episode), like from *Star Trek*. We
came up with a name for him: Ensign
Dead. So that's a character we know
will be fun every night."

gbudzak@dispatch.com