



## THE FRIARS CLOSE-UP FEBRUARY 2007

### *The Month You Are Forced to Love Someone and Buy Them Candy*

A MONTHLY ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

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*Comedy Writing for Hire: Comedywise.com- A New and Exciting Comedy Writing Company for Your Every Need*

FRANK SANTOPADRE

Recently, a bunch of Bulgarian bandits in Texas made off with \$ 18,000 dollars in quarters (yes, you read that correctly.) When the cops asked what the heck they were thinking, the bandits drew a blank- not because they're idiots, though they most certainly are- but because they didn't have a good speech prepared. Ah, if only they had retained the services of Friar Frank Santopadre who, along with his partner, former ad exec Jim Pharo, has launched a new comedy writing company called Comedywise- a professional services firm that provides scripted comedy material for entertainers, politicians, corporate executives, and, of course, coin-thieving Bulgarian bandits. You see, Friar Santopadre and his staff are the geniuses who put the jokes, quips, and comic banter into the mouths of some of the country's most prominent speakers and speech makers. "I could tell you who we work for," says Santopadre, "but I'd have to kill you. Or, at the very least, seriously injure a loved one." And with writing credits that include *The Tonight Show*, HBO, *Caroline's Comedy Hour*, myriad prestigious awards shows and events for ABC, Comedy Central, the Writers Guild, *The Howard Stern Show*, Meredith Vieira's farewell show on *The View*, as well as our own Donald Trump and Don King Celebrity Roasts, Friar Santopadre knows comedy writing! And his freelance staff of top comedy writers boast credits that include *The Daily Show*, *Saturday Night Live*, *The Colbert Report*, *The Tonight Show* and Air America Radio. Devoted exclusively to providing written humorous content for those in need- from punching up a CEO's speech to customizing jokes for comedians, emcees and other entertainers-Comedywise puts the best and the brightest humorists at your disposal. As Jim Pharo explains, "We've made it easy to tap into established comedy talent, whether you're a CEO addressing a benefit gala, a politician on the stump, or a corporation communications specialist looking to spice up a sales meeting." So, the next time you need to deliver a speech that wows the crowd, call the pros at Comedywise ([www.Comedywise.com](http://www.Comedywise.com)). They'll turn you into the most sought-after orator on the circuit. And they work in the strictest of confidence. 'Unless of course, the check bounces,' jokes Santopadre. (Or you pay in quarters like those idiots in Texas.)

*February 23 & 24- 8 PM & 10:30 PM - Comix - 353 West 14<sup>th</sup> St, NYC 212-524-2500*

RICHARD LEWIS

SAG nominated for his recurring role on HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm* Friar Richard Lewis, our beloved "Prince of Pain", performs at Comix this month for two exclusive engagements. Comedy Central declared Friar Lewis one of the top 50 stand-up comedians of all time, and GQ Magazine placed him on its list of 'The 20th Century's Most Influential Humorists.' Fans will also want to purchase his memoirs *The OTHER Great Depression* and Friar Lewis' boxed set *Concerts from Hell- The Vintage Years* which includes his classic comedy specials: the ACE nominated *I'm Exhausted* and *I'm Doomed*, as well as the incomparable *I'm In Pain*. And don't forget to reserve your tickets at Comix! Because Friar Richard Lewis' pain is always our pleasure!

*Feb. 3 - 9:00 pm - "Stone and Stone" - Triad Theater, 158 W. 72<sup>nd</sup>, NYC 212-362-2511/ [www.triadnyc.com](http://www.triadnyc.com)*

TODD STONE & ADAM STONE

Move over Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen! There's a new set of twins in town. And *this* duo doesn't need Prada handbags or *Full House* reunions to get our attention. Introducing newly inducted Friars Adam and Todd Stone, the delightful fraternal members of 'Stone and Stone,' a comedy team that brings twice the fun to the Triad Theater this month. Not only gifted comedic performers, but intellectuals to boot, the Friars Stone attended Wesleyan University, where Adam presided over Punchline, Wesleyan's stand-up comedy club, and Todd wrote and edited for Wesleyan's college newspaper as well as served as Executive Editor. And somehow, in between studying classical literature or chemical engineering or whatever the heck Ivy Leaguers study for 'fun', these talented twins found time to create their comedy show, "Stone and Stone." And boy was it was a smash hit! Since graduating, the Friars Stone have taken their act to comedy venues all around the city, and audiences are raving. As a matter of fact, they just completed a sold-out run at New York's 59E59 Theaters this summer, and performed their act for haggis-eating fans at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. (Wonder if the Stones swapped their trademark blazers for

kilts while over in Scotland? And more importantly, did they see the Loch Ness Monster? And did good old Nessie pay for her ticket to the Festival, or was she comped?) Anyway, we hope Friars will head on over to the Triad theater on the 3<sup>rd</sup> to show their support for these talented newcomers. Stone and Stone is an act that promises to please, and leave you laughing doubly-hard. Check out [www.stoneandstone.org](http://www.stoneandstone.org) for more information on these great new additions to our Monastery. (Apparently, the Loch Ness Monster also has her own website-but it's real hard to find.)

*New Show on the Horizon- "Out of Bounds"- In Production Soon on Comedy Central*

**BARRY WEINTRAUB**

Ever wonder what it's like working on a live radio show? Well, wonder no more, folks, because thanks to Friar Barry Weintraub's latest creative endeavor, the cat's out of the bag in a most hilarious television send-up of the radio show genre set for production early next year on Comedy Central. The brainchild of Friar Weintraub, *Out of Bounds* will be a partially improvised laffer that takes a behind-the-scenes look at the radio show genre, in the vein of workplace comedies like *The Office* and *The Larry Sanders Show*. Friar Weintraub, whose credits include *Sportschannel S.F. Bay Area*; *Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn*; *Stars, Stripes/Human Rights BBC*; *Scampaign Week Bay TV*, *Talk Soup*, *E! Entertainment TV*; *National Enquirer TV Show* and *MGM Television*, will supervise production. And actor Ken Marino (*Reno 911*, *The Ten*) will pen the pilot as well as portray one of the hosts of *Ball Talk*, a Long Island radio show, who has aspirations to get into bigger markets. Joe Lo Truglio will play his co-host, and IMG will provide real star athletes to appear as the faux radio show's guests! So, keep your eyes peeled for more production information on *Out of Bounds*. We're pretty sure Friar Weintraub has a hit on his hands!

*Feb. 21st- Mar. 18 -Long Wharf Theatre, 222 Sargent Drive New Haven, CT 203-787-4282. [www.longwharf.org](http://www.longwharf.org)*

**RENA STROBER**

Friar Rena Strober, whose credits include B'way's *Les Miserables*, takes on the role of 'Antonia' in *Man of La Mancha* at the Long Wharf Theatre this month. Set in a Spanish prison during the Spanish Inquisition, *Man of La Mancha* tells the story of the prison trial of Don Miguel de Cervantes. We'd also like to congratulate Friar Strober on recently winning San Diego Theatre Critics Circle "Craig Noel Award" for her role in *Zhivago* at the La Jolla Playhouse. The award honors the finest in theater production, direction, acting, playwriting, scoring and technical achievements. And considering how talented Friar Strober is, she probably won for all those departments (though maybe not 'technical'- we're not sure how good she is at changing those giant theater light thingies with the colored gel sheets in them.) So, check out Rena at the famed Long Wharf Theater this month as she takes us back to those fun Spanish Inquisition times.

*Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> - 8 PM- Pianos- 158 Ludlow Street, NYC - 212-505-3733*

**RACHEL PASTARNACK- GRANDDAUGHTER OF FRIAR ANDREW PASTARNACK**

Friar Andrew Pastarnack's beautiful granddaughter, Rachel, is taking the music industry by storm with her pop, rock and R&B musical talents. This multitalented singer/ pianist/ songwriter is currently recording with the hot "Trackmasters" music label, and has already released some amazing songs for your listening pleasure: *Bad Enough*, *More Baby Girl*, *No Quiero Soledad* and *Don't Let Me Go* - all of which showcase her ability on the keys, as well as her gift to infuse passion and soul. Rachel performs this month at Pianos for one night only, and this show is not to be missed! We'd like to congratulate Rachel on her impending success, and thank her for donating her time to the Sunshine Committee's holiday party for kids this past December! Who knew we had a star in our midst!

*Feb. 21- 7:30 PM "Talk Show Confidential" - Triad Theater, 158 W 72<sup>nd</sup>, NYC.*

**BILL BOGGS**

Friar Bill Boggs' Off-Broadway show *Talk Show Confidential* continues its run at the Triad Theater featuring rare video clips and true, behind-the-scenes stories about your favorite celebrities. Friars are invited to attend the show for free! (email: [JTPARSON@YAHOO.COM](mailto:JTPARSON@YAHOO.COM)) Check out [www.billboggs.com](http://www.billboggs.com) for more information. You never know what you'll learn at *Talk Show Confidential*- but it's always something fun!

**SUBMISSIONS MUST BE SENT IN WRITING BY THE 15th OF THE PRIOR MONTH TO**  
**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:ALISON GRAMBS (alison.grambs@friarsclub.com- fax 212-355-0217)**

**( YOU MUST INCLUDE: date, time, location, reservation #, description of event & bio)**

**Confirming receipt of your submission is highly recommended**

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