

LAUGH OUT LOUD

SPA brings Andrew Kennedy to HUB

By Sky Friedlander
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

In case you missed the giant sign in the HUB-Robeson Center's lobby, comedian Andrew Kennedy is coming to Penn State this fall.

The Student Programming Association (SPA) is responsible for that giant sign, as well as for booking Kennedy, SPA Entertainment Chairwoman Katy Tufts (junior-marketing and public relations) said.

At 8 p.m. Sept. 13, Kennedy will perform his material at University Park, and he said he likes performing for students.

"I don't have to bend my material for college students," Kennedy said. "I know they're intelligent and I can be real with them."

Kennedy describes his comedy as just telling stories.

"I talk a lot about not judging people by the way they look," he said. "I talk about life and people and things I think are awkward."

He draws on his own personal experience

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Andrew Kennedy
comedian

— being half-Hispanic and fluent in Spanish but not looking it, he said. He said he often surprises people with his heritage.

He said he also does impressions, including Christopher Walken, Gene Wilder and politicians.

Kennedy went on to say that his performance isn't "some kind of act."

"I'm real onstage," he said.

Tufts said Kennedy has a wide range of jokes.

"You don't have to like a certain kind of comedy," she said. "He's got a lot of the bases covered."

And others in SPA said they think everyone will enjoy the show.

If you go

What: SPA presents comedian Andrew Kennedy

When: 8 p.m. Sept. 13

Where: Paul Robeson's Cultural Center

Details: Free

"He's a really good comedian, he's really entertaining, and it's a free event," said Stephanie Pollitt, SPA marketing chairwoman.

"I'm confident that the auditorium is going to fill up on the night of the show."

Pollitt (senior-advertising and psychology) and SPA have been marketing the Kennedy show for some time.

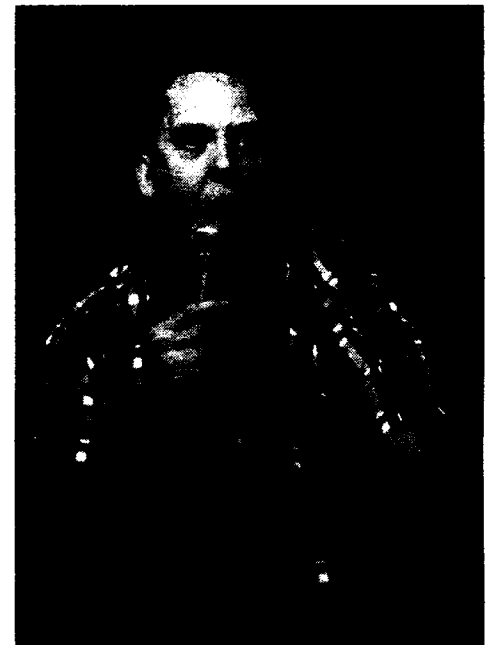
But Kennedy was not always a comedian. After college, he started a lawn chair business, he said.

His road into comedy involved trying out for a production of "Grease." While in the show, he developed a crush on a dancer. To impress her, he went to an open mic night and enjoyed it, he said.

He kept doing comedy, though it took eight years to start making good money.

Pollitt said SPA has tweeted and made Facebook events and related statuses, among other marketing plans.

She said there appears to be a good



Courtesy of andrewkennedylive.com

Andrew Kennedy will perform a free comedy show for Penn State students Monday night.

response to the show, especially from freshmen. Pollitt said SPA has put fliers up in East Halls.

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Courtesy of andrewkennedylive.com

Andrew Kennedy, a comedian coming to Penn State next week, didn't start out as a comedian. He only fell into the career after trying to impress a crush at an open mic night.

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