

COMEDY IMPACT REPORT 2012

COMEDY IMPACT REPORT: POWER OF COMEDY

Funny people

Saturday's laugh-a-thon brings fresh material from 17 comedy heavyweights

JOEL McHALE *Host*

IMPACT: In addition to playing Mark Wahlberg's smarmy romantic rival in "Ted," the host of E!'s "The Soup" juggled an intriguing turn as a con man in "Sons of Anarchy."

NEXT: Will resume his role as the charismatic Jeff Winger on "Community," which is slated to return to NBC in February.
CAUSES: Hillside's Foster Soles, an online shoe auction for charity.

ERIC ANDRE

IMPACT: The "Blewish" (black and Jewish) standup launched his bizarro-sketch comedy skein "The Eric Andre Show" on Adult Swim and appeared on "Don't Trust the B in Apt. 23."

NEXT: Wrapped a role in the Vince Vaughn-scripted feature, "The Internship."
CAUSES: Skyler Stone's Comedy Rocks fundraiser

OWEN BENJAMIN

IMPACT: The team player has carved out a role on the TV comedy "Sullivan and Son," in which he appears as Owen, Steve Sullivan's childhood friend.

NEXT: Recorded a one-hour standup special, "High Five 'til It Hurts," airing on Comedy Central in 2013.

ALEX BORSTEIN & RACHAEL MacFARLANE

IMPACT: Borstein (who voices Lois Griffin on "Family Guy") could also be heard in "ParaNorman" (and seen in "Ted"), while MacFarlane's voice was all over "Robot Chicken," "American Dad" and "Family Guy."

NEXT: Listen for both in future episodes of Seth MacFarlane-produced toons.

CHRIS D'ELIA

IMPACT: The former *Variety* 10 Comics to Watch honoree has been building a primetime following as co-star on NBC's "Whitney."

NEXT: Hopes to parlay his supporting turn in "Celeste and Jesse Forever" into larger standup and movie opportunities.

CAUSES: D'Elia is a regular on the charity comedy

event circuit, with appearances at the Venice Family Clinic Benefit and Free the Children.

GARFUNKEL & OATES

IMPACT: Musical comedy duo Kate Micucci (on ukulele) and Riki Lindhome (on guitar) regularly perform together live and on TV. On the solo front, Micucci appearing on "Raising Hope" and "Motorcity" and Lindhome appeared in "Fun Size."

NEXT: Lindhome is set to take a bigger role in "Hell Baby," while Micucci will appear in "Decoding Annie Parker."

SETH GREEN

IMPACT: Between "Family Guy" and "Robot Chicken," animation kept the voice actor and stop-motion aficionado busy. He also exec produced the "Robot Chicken: DC Comics Special."

NEXT: His Stoopid Buddy shingle is developing "Spy Vs. Spy" and MAD projects.

CAUSES: Amnesty Intl., Doctors Without Borders



MAX GREENFIELD

IMPACT: Broke out as Zooey Deschanel's randy roommate Schmidt on Fox's popular skein "New Girl."

NEXT: Will appear in comedian David Wain's new comedy pic "They Came Together."

CAUSES: Led a Spin class at SoulCycle for children's literary nonprofit Milk + Bookies.

ANTHONY JESELNIK

IMPACT: The *Variety* 10 Comics to Watch alum shot a



one-hour comedy special and appeared on several Comedy Central Roasts, including Rosanne Barr's. **NEXT:** His own series, a weekly topical show with a twisted spin, will air on Comedy Central in 2013.

NICK KROLL

IMPACT: Another *Variety* alum, the writer/co-star of FX's "The League" has been prepping his own show. **NEXT:** Comedy Central plans to launch his sketch comedy skein "Kroll Show" in January. **CAUSES:** Has participated in charity auctions and Comedy Central's "Night of Too Many Stars."

BILL MAHER

IMPACT: Between hosting "Real Time" and performing 75 standup dates a year, Maher had a busy 2012. Speaking to *Variety* just before the election, he said, "I feel like a woman who's 9½ months pregnant. I just want the baby out of me."

NEXT: "I'm thrilled that HBO has picked us up for another couple of years after this," he says. "I just want to keep this going as long they'll have me. And luckily, standup I can do until I'm 100. Like George Burns."

CAUSES: On his \$1 million donation to a Super PAC supporting President Obama's re-election, Maher says, "It was no secret who I was for in this election. I didn't think it made any sense to pretend anymore. I'm a citizen and I care about my country."

PATTON OSWALT

IMPACT: Following his well-reviewed turn in "Young Adult," the comic debuted "Nature Calls" at the SXSW film fest.

NEXT: Will star in "Odd Thomas" and the Ben Stiller-helmed "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

CAUSES: Auctioned his ice cream Carvel Black Card to benefit the L.A. Regional Food Bank.

GIOVANNI RIBISI

IMPACT: Played it tough in "Contra-band" and tongue-in-cheek in "Ted," both opposite Mark Wahlberg.

NEXT: "Gangster Squad" opens in January, followed by a role in the indie feature "Race to Save Nome" opposite Hilary Swank and Kurt Russell.

CAUSES: Shot a musicvideo for Cat Powers' new charity single.

PAUL SCHEER

IMPACT: Grew his TV career in 2012, playing Andre on "The League" and Trent on satirical laffer "NTSF:SD:SUV"

NEXT: Has several films slated for 2013, including "Orenthal: The Musical," "Ass Backward" and "Hell Baby."

CAUSES: Malaria No More

AMY SCHUMER

IMPACT: Exec produced her own standup comedy special, "Mostly Sex Stuff," and had regular TV appearances in "Delocated."

NEXT: Her sketch-comedy pilot was greenlit by Comedy Central and will air in 2013.

— Eddie Kim

