

# Comedian Bobcat Goldthwait pounces on UNLV campus

Night

Beat

by Steve Medcroft

If primal scream therapy is a valid way to rid your psyche of the pressures of urban life then Bobcat Goldthwait is probably one of the most content, together human beings I can think of.

If you know who I'm talking about, you'd understand. If not; do you remember the neurotic, psychotic gang-leader who later turned cop in the Police Academy series or Whoopi Goldberg's strange sidekick in Burglar? Well, that's him and Bobcat's stand-up routine is more than just a continuation of that manic twitch, hair-pulling, whiny, neurotic punk-rock comedy.

Saturday, April 28, Bobcat Goldthwait comes to UNLV to perform at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. Have you ever looked at someone and wondered — Just where the hell did they grow him?

Well, nothing that I've seen in this man's background points to any specific planet.

He was born in New York to a sheet-metal worker and a Sears and Roebuck sales lady in 1962 (normal). At 15 he was thrown out of his punk-rock band (the Dead Ducks) and began performing stand-up at local bars and clubs, still a high-school sophomore (OK, a little weird but nothing to loose your temperament over).

In 1980 he formed an underground comics group called The Generic Comics (this, I think, is where he blew his mind. It's certainly when he started blowing mine), as a way to help each other with shows, but it wasn't until after they group broke up that Goldthwait really caught on.

He landed a Letterman spot and

soon after moved to the comedy hot-bed, San Francisco, a move which catapulted his career putting in the right place to land the Police Academy, and he has since gone on to appear in many other movies (Burglar, Scrooged) and television shows (HBO special, "Is He Like That All The Time"), "Some good, some bad," he says.

As far as Goldthwait's stage show, Los Angeles Times comedy review writer, Lawrence Christon, writes — "His act was a pure masochistic frenzy. It touched... the silent majority — who had more than an inkling that modern life is out of control... He still comes on with that choking cough that sounds like someone trying to dislodge a furball. He pulls his thinning hair and refers to himself variously as fat and bald and obscenity-spewing and a troll..."

I don't know how totally at peace and content you're life really is, but I'm ready for a little of that primal scream therapy thing. I hear there's a seminar Saturday night. The show kick's off at 8:30 p.m. and cost \$16.50.

See you there.



## Video contest deadline June 15

"Vision of U.S.," the annual amateur video contest sponsored by Sony Corporation of America and administered by the American Film Institute, celebrates its sixth anniversary with a prestigious panel of judges.

This year's eclectic panel of judges includes directors Jonathan Demme, Amy Jones and Jerry Kramer, producer Karen Murphy, Rolling Stone editor Jeffrey Ressler and actors LeVar Burton, Tim Robbins and William Dafoe.

Tapes are being accepted in the four categories — fiction, non-fiction, experimental, and music video, with a "Young People's Merit Award" recognizing videomakers age 17 or younger. All entries must be produced and submitted on half-inch Beta or 8mm video cassettes and be no longer than 30 minutes. First through third prize winners will take home a new top-of-the-line Sony Video 8 camcorder with Hi 8 picture quality.

According to Jay Sato, Director of Sony's consumer video department, "With the popularity of video camcorders increasing every year, many people are now able to communicate their self expression and personal vision in this new medium. The purpose of this competition is to encourage and reward those who create that unique and original vision."

Last year over 600 entries were received from across the United States. Grand prize winner Beeja Quick has since been approached by video and motion picture producers interested in developing projects with the talented videomaker.

The deadline for "Visions of U.S." is June 15, 1990. Everyone will receive a black Sony videotape just for entering. For further information and entry brochure, please call (213) 856-7743 or write to Visions of U.S., P.O. Box 200, Hollywood, CA 90078.

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