

FOCUS

New Chappelle Episodes Air on Comedy Central

From recordings before walkout

(AP)—Comedy Central couldn't resist the easy joke, opening the aborted third season of "Chappelle's Show" with a shot of an empty stage and introduction of a star who never appears.

It's the first of three episodes compiled from sketches left behind before Dave Chappelle's now legendary freakout, walking out on a \$50 million contract and one of TV's hottest shows two years ago under still mysterious circumstances.

"This isn't a designed farewell,"

said Neal Brennan, the show's co-creator who put them together. "There's no cliffhanger. These were just three out of what was supposed to be 10 - and the other seven never happened."

The opening sketch, besides illustrating the sharp comic touch that made the show popular, gives fodder for armchair psychologists.

Chappelle is sitting in a barber's chair, getting a trim in a place that advertises \$8 haircuts. His barber says Chappelle must be raking in



Dave Chappelle in a Comedy Central promotional photo for his show's "lost episodes", compiled from sketches left behind before Chappelle's now legendary freakout, walking out on a \$50 million contract.

the money as a big-time TV star. "Nah, man, it's cable," he replies. "I do all right, but it's nothing to write home about."

Just then, a TV in the corner airs a report of Chappelle's big payday from Comedy Central. The barber's face turns cold and his haircut has a new price - \$11,000.

Chappelle also gets a prediction from a dying man: "You didn't have to do two more seasons. No matter how good the show is, they're only going to say it's not as good as last year was."

A second, darker sketch shows Chappelle exacting revenge on

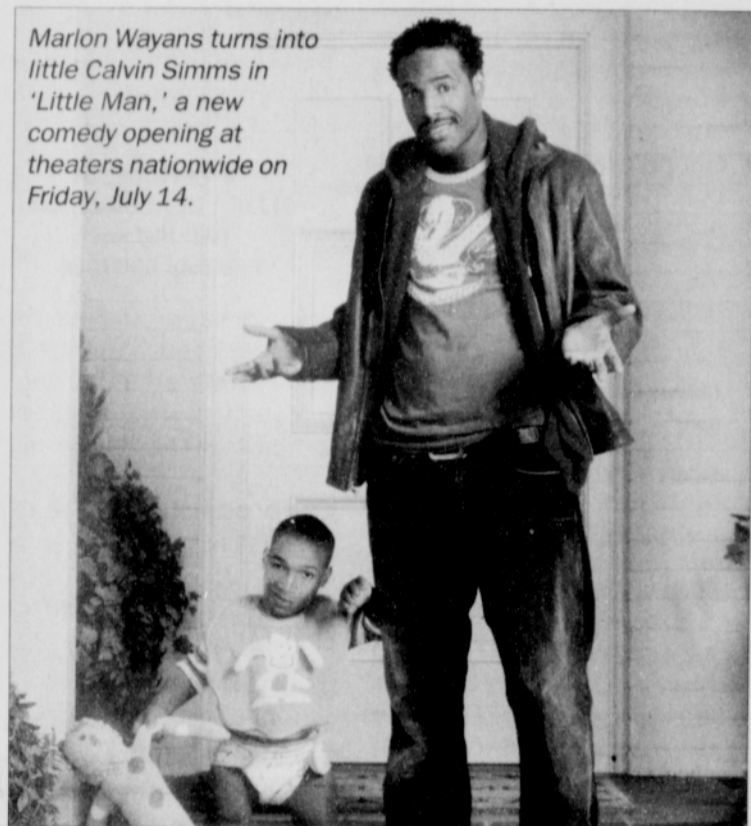
people who mistreated him before he was rich.

It's never been fully explained why the comedian dropped out of his hit show. He has denied rumors of substance abuse or psychiatric problems. He's complained of arguments about the show with Comedy Central and also said he had doubts about how racial elements of his show were being taken.

During an appearance on "Oprah" in February, Chappelle said that he might be amenable to returning to his show providing some arrangement could be made about providing money to charities.

'Little Man' is Big Bundle of Laughs

Marlon Wayans turns into little Calvin Simms in 'Little Man,' a new comedy opening at theaters nationwide on Friday, July 14.



Wayans Brothers comedy opens Friday

Keenen Ivory, Shawn and Marlon Wayans, are poised once again to make cinema history, when "Little Man" opens in theaters nationwide on July 14th from Revolution Studios and Columbia Pictures.

In Little Man, the Wayans brothers use visual effects to turn 6'2" Marlon Wayans into 2'6" Calvin Simms. In 2004, the African-American filmmakers brought us the hit comedy "White Chicks," where they used makeup effects to turn two black men into young white women.

"I'm kind of scared to think what my brothers will have me doing

next. Who knows, I will probably be a little white alien," Marlon laughs.

Shawn says, "All our movies have one goal, we're always thinking about the audience and how to make them laugh. We just want them to enjoy our films and not take them seriously. Take your brain out of your head, sit down and just have a ball."

Shawn Wayans plays Darryl Edwards, a man so anxious to become a father that he mistakes Calvin, a short-statured, baby-faced criminal on the run, played by Marlon Wayans, for his newly adopted son.



Graduating Actors Present Showcase

The Portland Actors Conservatory will present 'An Evening of Monologues,' a graduation showcase of the class of 2006 at the Firehouse Theatre at 1436 S.W. Montgomery St. The annual celebration will feature a wide range of material and styles. Show times are 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 20 and 8 p.m. on Friday, July 21 and Saturday, July 22.

Pyramid Beer Tasting Tour

More than 100 men and women will join in Pyramid's Unfiltered Refreshment tour on Thursday, July 20 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at participating businesses on Northeast Alberta Street.

The tour will include Pyramid beer tasting, pint specials and prize giveaways at selected tour stops. Canned food and cash donations will be accepted at each tour location to benefit the Oregon Food Bank.

Participants will start at Binks, 2715 N.E. Alberta, and include stops at Lagniappe, 1934 N.E. Alberta; Alberta Street Pub and Eatery, 1036 N.E. Alberta; and Tin Shed, 1438 N.E. Alberta. Future neighborhoods for the Unfiltered Refreshment Tour



include Burnside, Belmont and Northwest Portland as featured tour stops in upcoming months. Guests must be 21 to attend.

"We are pleased to offer Portlanders a fun, free event that supports an amazing local cause," says Ericka Dickey, president of Social Enterprises, Inc, the tour-presenting sponsor.

Event cost is free, but space is limited. RSVP online at unfilteredrefreshmenttour.com.

Microsoft to Compete with Ipod

(AP)—Microsoft Corp. is preparing to roll out a portable digital music player later this year, an apparent bid to capture a slice of the market now dominated by the iPod, music industry executives said Thursday.

The world's largest software maker has been briefing record companies on the proposed device that would play digital music and video files and carry wireless technology enabling users to download music without linking

to a computer, according to executives who spoke on condition of anonymity because plans for the player have not been made public.

In addition, Microsoft has engaged in talks to secure licenses to sell digital content for the device, the executives said.

iPods account for roughly 80 percent of the portable music player market, while iTunes has sold more than a billion tracks since it launched three years ago.

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