



Last Comic Standing a winner will be crowned Thursday, Aug. 12 at 9 PM on NBC

TEN weeks ago, 40 comics began competing on the hit NBC talent competition Last Comic Standing. Now, only three are still making 'em laugh — the gigantic Gary Gulman, manic John Heffron and natty Alonzo Bodden. On August 12, a winner will be declared, and he'll walk away with an exclusive talent deal with NBC, a special on Comedy Central and an appearance on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.

Star was behind the scenes at the Aug. 5 taping and chatted with the new kings of comedy

The Last

3 Comics STANDING

GARY GULMAN, 34
HOMETOWN: Boston
DOING STANDUP: About 10 years
FUN FACT: The 6'6" Gulman tells *Star*: "I sleep with the blanket I had as a baby. When I told my mom I was taking it to the *Last Comic Standing* house, she said, 'Please don't show it on camera.'"
ROMANTIC STATUS: Gary met his actress/comedienne girlfriend April Macie at a comedy club.
IF HE WINS THE DEAL: "I will give half to the government, to pay for roads and things, 15 percent to my manager, so he doesn't sue, and I'll buy my mom a recliner."
SAMPLE JOKE: "We had space shuttles before we had self-adhesive postage stamps. What — was the post office sitting on the technology?"

JOHN HEFFRON, 33
HOMETOWN: Detroit
DOING STANDUP: "12, 13 years."
FUN FACT: He wed wife Rie in Lake Tahoe just one week ago! "We met in a bar. We joke that it was a one-night stand that's going to last forever," John told *Star*. "It was a real wedding; Elvis didn't marry us. We had a reception with 50 people. We didn't take a honeymoon. It was a Saturday and I had to be back on Monday to tape a show."
IF HE WINS THE DEAL: "I only allotted myself \$2,500 bucks to buy a TV and the wife OK'd it."
SAMPLE JOKE: "When I was a child, I asked my mom for a cape and she gave me a dishtowel. What kind of superhero was I with a stupid goose embroidered on my back?"

ALONZO BODDEN, 42
HOMETOWN: St. Albans, N.Y.
DOING STANDUP: 11 years
FUN FACT: "My tattoos are not a bad-boy thing," single Alonzo told *Star*. "I have jesters, a harlequin, the drama and comedy symbol with my motto, 'Laugh now, cry later.'"
RECOVERED: "I'm a 12-step guy — 16 years. My primary drug was cocaine. I'm the only idiot who goes to rehab and cleans up *before* I got into show biz!"
IF HE WINS THE DEAL: "I'm going to use the winnings to pay the debt off the stuff I bought during the course of the show. I bought an Aprilia racing motorcycle. I have three bikes — it's my Jay Leno starter set."
SAMPLE JOKE: "I don't like hockey. You know why? The only thing black is the puck and every time I look they're hitting it with a stick."