

Comic Rocky LaPorte to Headline PDSA 10th Anniversary Party

April 23, 2008

If laughter is the best medicine, then attendees to this year's ITP conference will get just what the doctor ordered. To celebrate the Platelet Disorder Support Association's 10th anniversary, comedian Rocky LaPorte will perform his stand-up act at the PDSA anniversary party on Saturday evening, June 21.



With his unmistakable accent, hilarious yet endearing delivery and clean observations and take on life, Rocky is a favorite at top comedy clubs, corporate events and television shows. His likability and every-man style gives him an unparalleled universal appeal that any audience can enjoy and relate to.

Rocky's performance on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" brought him a standing ovation, and he's been featured on his own "Comedy Central Presents" special which is currently running on Comedy Central.

Rocky's star has continued to rise - after Tim Allen saw Rocky perform on "The Tonight Show" he proclaimed Rocky his "favorite new comic" and cast him in his hit movie, "The Shaggy Dog". He just wrapped up filming a second movie with Allen.

Rocky recently visited Iraq along with Drew Carey and the trip has been turned into a Showtime movie called "Patriot Act: a Jeffrey Ross Home Movie" which is currently running on Showtime. Rocky's performance will also be featured in "Godfathers of Comedy", which is slated for release later this year.

He's done an enormous amount of charity work, including St. Jude's for Children, NFL Charities, homeless shelters, cancer research, and police and fire department fundraisers. You can visit Rocky's Web at <http://www.rockylaporte.com/index.html>.

To register for the ITP Conference 2008 "Lighting the Way: Celebrating a Decade of Sharing, Caring & Hope" or for more information, visit the PDSA Web site at www.pdsa.org. **Questions?** Call toll free 1-87-PLATELET (1-877-528-3538)

About ITP

ITP, immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura, is an autoimmune disease. In autoimmune diseases, the body mounts an immune attack toward one or more seemingly normal organ systems. In ITP, platelets are the target. They are marked as foreign by the immune system and eliminated in the spleen and sometimes, the liver. In addition to increased platelet destruction, some people with ITP also have impaired platelet production. Without a sufficient number of platelets, a person with ITP is subject to spontaneous bleeding or bruising.

About PDSA

The Platelet Disorder Support Association is dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) and other platelet disorders through education, advocacy and research. For more information, visit www.pdsa.org.

Contact: Caroline Kruse
(301) 770-6636
ckruse@pdsa.org