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**Comedian comes home for a night of laughs**

by [Krystal Bick](#)

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Courtesy photo - Nevada funny man K-Von will kick off a night of laughs with comedian Jamie Kennedy Saturday at the Grand Sierra Resort.

“Don’t quit your day job,” is a phrase K-Von, 26, is glad he never listened to.

The funny man, who has performed with the likes of fellow comedians Dane Cook, Chris Rock and Carlos Mencia, said he always knew he would never be one to work a regular 9-to-5 job.

“There was the class clown and the class comic (when growing up),” K-Von told the Sparks Tribune. “I was the class comic. I was more interested in hearing the teacher say something and I tried to say something funny after that. I just tell jokes and make people laugh.”

Now, years past grade school, the Nevada native

and 2004 graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, is performing alongside comedian and actor Jamie Kennedy in a homecoming visit Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Grand Sierra Resort.

And K-Von, whose Persian first name is spelled phonetically to avoid mispronunciations, said he almost can’t believe how far he has come.

“It’s very hard, probably the hardest thing I’ve ever done in my life,” K-Von said about staying in the comedy business. “There is no guarantee in comedy. You can be the best act and get passed over by a kid who can play the harmonica with his nose.”

While no nose-playing harmonica kid has beaten him out yet, K-Von said he has had a few setbacks, including some people who discouraged his dedication to comedy — even to the point of quitting for a couple of years.

“I cut off friends that were negative,” said K-Von, who since moved to Los Angeles to pursue his comedy act. “And (it’s really about) any mic, any time. Everything is hit or miss once you get on stage with 50 people in the crowd. (You have to) dedicate yourself.”

Dedication helped the budding comedian, as he mentioned with a laugh

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that in comedy “you don’t get paid for the first three years.”

Drawing influences from comedy greats George Carlin and Frank Farina, K-Von is coming into his own, scoring a weekly hosting gig at the Laugh Factory comedy club in L.A., a spot on Showtime’s “Comics without Borders” and even his own starring role in a comedy/horror film “The Gingerdead Man.”

And he’s loving it all.

“When everything is going perfectly, it’s the freedom to say whatever you want,” K-Von said, explaining what he enjoys the most about performing. “The best part is when everyone is getting involved.”

Selling out several venues on his current university tour, K-Von admits though that he’s still learning and comedians like Jamie Kennedy and Dane Cook have helped him out along the way with tips.

“Just be yourself,” K-Von said Dane Cook told him before an act one time. “They may like it, they may not. But just have a good time”


Now, in “kicking off Jamie Kennedy’s party every night” K-Von has a whirlwind of a schedule coming up — including a world comedy invitation tour through HBO and hopefully future movies.


His only regret?


“By the time you actually make it up there,” K-Von said, “you wish you had done it sooner.”


Tickets are \$27.50 and \$37.50 and can be purchased at the Grand Sierra box office or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).


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