

No cow too sacred for equal-opportunity insulters

MARK BREWIN
Of The News

If there's one message Bruce Williams and Terry Ree want audiences to get from their comedy act, it's that we're all the same.

They say this repeatedly at the beginning of their show. Everyone's equal: white people, Indians, orientals, black people, Mexicans...

Ree stops and looks and at Williams; Williams stops and looks at Rees.

"Well, maybe not Mexicans," Ree says.

Everyone laughs, and Ree and Williams — also known as the Indian and the White Guy — get away with that joke and a dozen others like it, jokes that, if said in a bar, would probably get the teller thrown out on his keister.

They get away with it because everyone knows it's all in good fun and because Ree and Williams are equal-opportunity insulters.

No cow is too sacred. One minute Ree — a mem-

ber of the Sioux nation of South Dakota — is calling Williams "honkey" and "snowflake," and discussing the national anthem of native North Americans, "This land ain't your land, this land is my land."

The next minute, Williams is telling Ree about the Wishawas tribe: "I Wishawas an Indian so I could get a big government cheque."

They also make fun of — in no particular order — orientals, Scots, Irish, East Indians, homosexuals, farmers, and residents of the town of Redcliff.

Williams says in an interview after the show the only people who ever get angry about the jokes are those who take things out of context or who don't understand what the two are all about.

"We're only in it for the laughs."

And they do have a certain sense of decorum, after all. When Williams lights into the opening strains of "I Love Fat Women," Ree stops him, because, "You may be offending some of the fat broads here tonight."

The two have been together since 1988, Williams says. They met when students at Black Hills State College in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Since then they've managed to make quite a name for themselves on the country circuit. Those who missed Thursday's show can catch them on the Nashville Network's "Country Kitchen," and regular appearance's with "Hee Haw."

After Medicine Hat, the duo head down to Watertown, South Dakota and then up to a powwow in Lake Manitoba Reserve, near Winnipeg.

Given some of the jokes about government support cheques in the act, Williams says he is approaching the latter gig with a little trepidation.

"This may be the last you hear from me."

Williams and Ree are the first comedy team the Stampede has ever booked. Judging by the crowd of 2,478 — who gave the two men a standing ovation at the end of the show — it probably shouldn't be the last.



PEOPLE SAY I LOOK LIKE ELVIS — "You look like Elvis just before he died," responds Bruce Williams (the White Guy) tells Terry Ree (the Indian), after Terry Ree's boast. The team took their comedy act to the Stampede grounds Thursday night, and kept the crowd in stitches throughout the show.

— News photo Paul VanPeenen

Kid's brave heat in cool costumes

MARK BREWIN
Of The News

They had tin men. They had fairy princesses. They had bumblebees. They had dogs and cats and clowns and witches and majorettes and shetland ponies.

They had that lightning-bug guy from the electric company commercials.

They even had — wait for it, you knew he was coming sooner or later — Bart Simpson.

Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede's 1991 Kiddie Parade had a little something for everyone — even an international flavor.

Phillip Scoville, 13, made it up all the way from Delta, Utah, to strut down the streets of Medicine Hat dressed as a vampire. Phillip, who is visiting his aunt, said she was the one who come up with the idea for the costume.

He gave a thumbs up to the parade, as well as the city that hosts it every year. "It's a lot bigger than my town."

Dory McEvoy and her two sons, Jacob, 8, and Nathan, 5, also travelled quite a distance to get to the parade — from Victoria, B.C.

McEvoy, who grew up in Medicine Hat, said her family came all the way just to see the parade and the Stampede.

She said she spent quite a bit of effort making her sons' Mutant Ninja Turtle costumes: "Let's just say they didn't see me for two weeks."

"More than two weeks," Jacob interjected.

The two boys' costumes looked sophisticated, but Jacob said they were also hot.

"I'm sweating. I went to the pool yesterday and I'm going to go to the waterslide after this."

Serena Richardson, who is 8 turning 9 and was in the parade with her cousin, Lindsey Unreiner, 13, agreed.

Serena and Lindsey were dressed as a married couple, and it was Serena who got stuck wearing the groom's suit.

"It's hot right now," she said,



LITTLE BULL FIGHTER — Three-year-old Emily Van Maarlon gets finishing touches to her make-up from aunt Kathy McKenzie prior to the start of this morning's 31st annual kiddies parade.

pointing to her slacks. "Especially in these black pants."

Ernie Droske, one of the fathers who helped the Medicine Hat BMX Club build its first-place float in the Rural Playground group, said it took BMX members and parents about seven hours to complete their entry.

"It's the first time we ever entered," Droske said. "We wanted to get a longer one and put some dirt on it, but they said we couldn't."

Results of the 31st annual Kiddies' Parade, Friday July 26, in first second and third place order, followed by honorable mentions:

Junior Decorated Bicycles — Terra Brown, Angela Spears, Daniel Smythe, and Stephanie Olsen
Senior Decorated Bicycles — Megan Westgarth, Annette Reynolds, and Christen Doychak
Junior Comic — Courtney Finlay, Dalcy Bergen, Gail Wall, and Colin and Laura Beterbach
Senior Comic — Kurtis Maser, Emma Bennett, Jackie Milner
Junior Western Floats — Heather Mook, Tammy Helm, and Thomas Devine
Junior Western, Walking — Kayla Patton

and Amy Hrenyk, David Bennett, Camero Pitcher, and Kent Macdougall
Senior Western, Walking — David Douglas, Jeff Milner
Junior Decorated Carriages and Wagons — Carlisa Johnstone, Tanya Rouleau
Senior Decorated Carriages and Wagons — Michael and Chris Hewitson, Ian and Stephen Bishop, Ian Leskowski, and Amy Good
Junior Decorated Animals — Rachael and Amy Dow, Daniel Douglas, Tony Armstrong, and Evan Davison
Senior Decorated Animals — Colin and Brandon Pacholek, Leigh Johnstone
Junior Dress and Fancy — Dane Coster, Jody Hauk and Sabrina Moore, Ben Leuck, and Jacob and Nathan McEvoy
Senior Dress and Fancy — Costar Landon, Serena Richardson and Lindsey Unreiner,

— News photo Frank Webber

David Playter, and Phillip Scoville
Day Camps — Southview Kiddie Kamps, YMCA, Rise 'N Shine Daycare, and Grovers Gang
Commercial Floats — The Costume Shoppe, Medicine Hat Public Library, and Gerry's Ad Cellar
Shetland Ponies — Megan Klaudd, Tara Helen
Institutional Floats — Diamond Backs Junior Forest Wardens, Canada Multicultural, and Adenna White
Rural Playground — Medicine Hat BMX Club, Cora Roll
Neighborhood Groups — Rudy's and Johnson's: The Wizard of Oz, Kelmryn, Field, Posh, and Mariposa Adventure Club
Ethnic Floats — Logan Symington
Majorettes — Elk Majorettes
Motorized — Hay Farms, Dale Wood

Highway twinning complete

Its four lane sailing from here to Calgary from now on.

Paving the final 26-kilometre twin stretch of the Trans-Canada Highway just east of Brooks was completed earlier this week, said Bob Comchi, Alberta Transportation regional director in Lethbridge.

Now that lines and signs have been added to the road, the highway was expected to be opened to two-lane traffic in each direction Thursday afternoon, he added.

Completion of paving the twin section comes ten years after the Alberta government promised to twin the highway from border to border.

That promise has since been revised to twinning stretches with high traffic volumes. A 25-kilometre section between Irvine and the Saskatchewan border remains single lane in each direction.

Comchi said the Brooks section — which was tendered last winter — was close to being completed on schedule.

"Weather is always a determining factor and the wet weather this spring delayed things a little bit."

A final layer of pavement still needs to be applied to the new stretch and Comchi said that will be done next year.

The department likes to stagger the process and get the road open as soon as possible, he said.

"Most people don't even notice the pavement isn't up to its full height." The paving could result in some delays on the route next year and Comchi said one lane will always be open.

As for the remaining 25 kilometres of single lane highway near Irvine, Comchi said the department has had a number of requests to have it twinned.

"We will be undertaking preliminary survey work on that section."

Rodeo vet honored at opening ceremony

LOUISE SMITH
Of The News

The rodeo officially opened Thursday with a show of galloping horses and a special appearance by the arena director and secretary of the rodeo.

Reg Kessler, the arena director who has supplied stock for the rodeo for 40 years, rode into the rodeo arena with his wife Liz, rodeo secretary, in a red and white horse-drawn carriage.

Reg, a three-time all around champion of the rodeo circuit, was inducted into the historical hall of fame in 1989 and to the Sports Hall of Fame in 1990, Alex Clarke, president of the Stampede, told the crowd.

"Forty years have gone by pretty fast when I think about it. It has been some of the most enjoyable times I've ever had," Reg said to the audience.

Clarke presented Reg with a

watch and a battery for a watch he received 10 years ago.

"Every once in a while a guy needs a new battery," Reg joked.

Led by Stampede queen Dode Minor and rodeo princess Tammy Quinn, several riders galloped around the arena carrying the Canadian, American, Alberta and the Stampede flags.

Also making an appearance were Miss Rodeo Canada Trish Kostelansky and rodeo queens and princesses from Calgary, Maple Creek, Jenner and Taber.

Former saddle and bull riders Mo Schneider and Rocky Rockaber, both from the Medicine Hat area, were also honored.

Blaine Pedersen, of Amisk, who won a \$50,000 purse at the Calgary Stampede, and Ted Nuce, 1985 World Champion Bull Rider, currently fifth in the world, were also introduced.



RODEO OPENS — During opening ceremonies for the rodeo, Thursday, Alex Clarke, president of Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede, presents a watch to stock contractor and arena director Reg Kessler, who has supplied stock for the rodeo for 40 years. Kessler and his wife Liz were driven into the arena in a red and white horse-drawn carriage.

— News photo Paul VanPeenen

Lambs poked, prodded during live appraisal

LOUISE SMITH
Of The News

Ten lambs bleated and stood still under the hands of their owners as judge of the market lamb live appraisal ran her hands down their backs, poked their ribs and checked their teeth.

Colleen Sawyer, of Saskatoon, who has raised sheep for 23 years and has gone to judging schools, was rating the lambs in the Jack Anderson Pavilion Thursday for the quality of their meat. The appraisal is worth 20 per cent of the competition.

"I look for good conformation. You want them to have their particular breed characteristics," she said, noting some breeds of sheep are longer, have better wool or better meat.

"I feel for finish — the degree of fat. You want a thin cover."

Lamb has become six per cent leaner from about eight years ago, she said.

A long loin, from the last rib to the end of the rump, is preferred because that area produces the best cuts of meat, Sawyer said.

The mouth is checked for yearling teeth to ensure the lamb was born this year. None of the lambs was a year old, she said.

Marilyn Verweire, who has 1,500 Dorset and Rambouillet ewes near Strathmore, picked her entry because he was finished in time for the competition.

"You pick lamb for good meat. It should have lots of length and a good rear," she said.

Over 15 years of breeding sheep, Verweire has increased the meat on her lambs to about 57 per cent meat from about 50 per cent, she said. The rest of the carcasse is waste.

The right rations of barley, supplements and hay also determine the amount of meat on an animal, Verweire said.

Peggy Newman, who has 40 Hampshire ewes near Blackie, took her lamb from the pasture without giving it special feed to finish it, then sheared it for the show.

Sawyer said a sheared animal is preferred for judging because the muscle is easier to see and feel.

The 10 lambs will be slaughtered at Cypress Packers this morning, said Stu Torrie, chairman of the sheep exhibit.

The quality of the carcasses makes up the final 80 per cent of the competition. Results will be posted this afternoon in the Stampede office, he said.

Sun, fun
lures
17,000

LOUISE SMITH
Of The News

The sunshine and Stampede fun lured 17,000 people to the grounds Thursday and just as large a crowd is expected today, said the Stampede's General Manager Dana Sodero.

Starting today, horticulture exhibits of foods and flowers will be on display in the Cypress Centre.

The exhibits are scheduled for the last three days of Stampede because the products don't last the full five days, Sodero said.

Results from beef and lamb carcass appraisals are available today. Winners of the

beef carcass class will be posted in the Cypress Centre around 3 p.m. while winners of the lamb class will be listed in the Stampede office in the afternoon.

Tanya Tucker will entertain to night's nightshow crowd with a selection of songs from her more than 30 top 10 hits including Love Me Like You Used To and Strong Enough to Bend.

Pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice will be dished up at a free pancake breakfast Saturday from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the east park ing lot of the Medicine Hat Mall.

Enjoying the midway is a good idea as the

\$21 Gold Book of 40 ride coupons is \$6 cheaper with tickets purchased from downtown businesses.

Also Saturday, the Beef Show at 8:30 a.m. in the Cypress Centre features Angus and Hereford breeds, said Hector Schneider, chairman of the livestock committee.

The cows, calves and bulls come from all over Saskatchewan and Alberta to be judged, Schneider said.

And a new venture this year is a display of different types of cat tie, including exotic breeds.