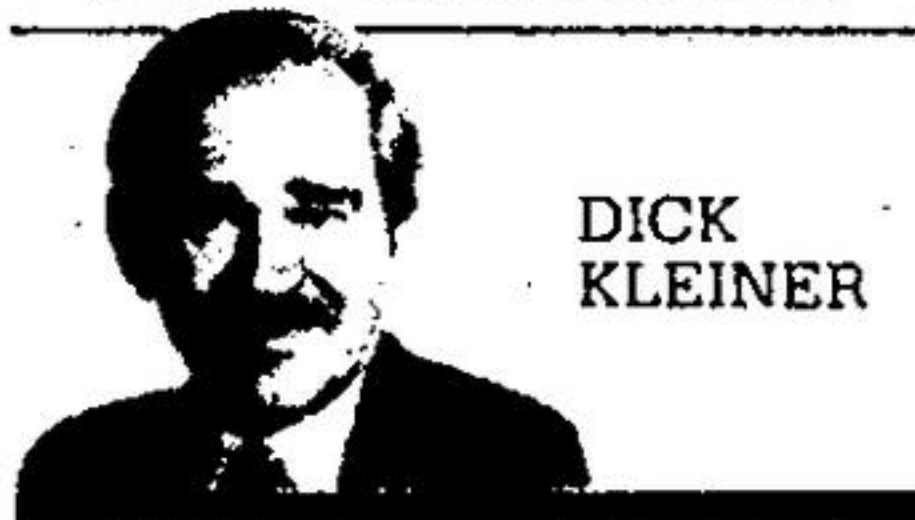


Champlin croons TV's In the heat of the Night

ASK DICK KLEINER



DICK KLEINER

Q. I would like to know who sings the theme song on the TV show "In the Heat of the Night" with Carroll O'Connor. — Mrs. E.P., Lufkin, Texas.

Q. Is there any way I can get a record or tape of the theme song from "In the Heat of the Night"? I know Ray Charles sang the theme song for the movie, but who sings the one from the series? — Y.M., Muskegon, Mich.

A. Bill Champlin is the singer with that haunting voice. As of now, his version is not available — unless you tape it yourself.

Q. Could you please tell me if Mac and Christine, the characters on "Night Court," are going to have an affair. If they do, I really wouldn't be interested in watching it any more. — A.F., Springfield, Ark.

A. The "Night Court" people tell me there was a rumor that Mac (Charlie Robinson) and Christine (Markie Post) were going to have an affair. The story was started in one of the tabloids. The story was untrue, the rumor is untrue and you can, therefore, rest easy. No affair.

Q. Please settle a disagreement. Was Chuck Norris in the movie "Cujo"? — D.B., Edinboro, Pa.

A. It's settled. No, he wasn't.

Q. Could you please tell me how many Perlman are associated with show business, and how they are related. There's Rhea and Heidi Perlman with "Cheers," the one who plays Vincent on "Beauty and the Beast," and I seem to remember a violinist named Perlman. — L.E.E., Sioux City, Ia.

A. The only related Perlmans are Rhea and Heidi, who are sisters. (Heidi has moved from being one of the "Cheers" writers to being executive producer of "The Tracy Ullmann Show"). Ron (Vincent) and classical violinist Itzhak Perlman are just random Perlmans.

Q. Our family loves watching "MacGyver" and would like to know the name of the theme song. — B.A.N., Mohnton, Pa.

A. Like most TV themes, it is nameless. Just "The MacGyver Theme," if you must call it something.



Carroll O'Connor

Jim Davis

Q. How old is the actress who plays Sophia on "The Golden Girls." My mother says she is in her early 60s, but I think she is 40-something. — L.S., North Andover, Mass.

A. Estelle Getty is her name, and she will be 65 on July 25.

Q. Please settle a bet I have with my son. He says Lloyd Bridges played Jock Ewing on "Dallas." I say Jim Davis was Jock. Who is right? — H.T., China Grove, N.C.

A. You are. Davis was the one and only Jock.

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Author predicted Beijing massacre

By BOB SPENCE
Thomson News Service

Several days before last weekend's massacre began in Beijing, a Canadian author predicted the Chinese government would send in troops to break up the student protests in Tiananmen Square.

Chuck Konkel, a Toronto police sergeant, was in the U.S. promoting his novel, The Glorious East Wind, when he made his prediction on a number of U.S. radio stations.

Konkel, who served for more than three years on the Hong Kong police force in the 1970s and has visited Hong Kong a number of times since then, said the events unfolding in China are following a pattern.

"When the first student protesters were in the square, I was indicating the protests would be accepted for some time... then repressed by troops brought in from other provinces," Konkel said in a telephone interview. "I also said the protests could lead to civil war."

"The students were protesting corruption. Their talk of democracy was within the communist framework... The government didn't like the fact the students were acting autonomously... and publicly ridiculing them. The government felt it was losing control... and you cannot insult a very autocratic government."

Konkel, 38, whose novel, The Glorious East Wind, is set in Hong Kong in the 1990s - just before the British colony is to be turned over to Communist China - said some of the events unfolding in China, including the student protests, are similar to portions of his novel.

Konkel said he wasn't shocked by the massacre in Tiananmen Square, "but understanding what happened doesn't mean I condone it."

"What we are looking at right now in China is a cancer. To the Chinese government, the cancer is foreign influence. To us, obviously, the cancer is a mindset."

"As a westerner who lived in a Chinese society, I can understand why the government reacted the way it did."

The government, he said, is

"wantonly ignorant of what is happening in the world. Their biggest fright is that the system that has been built up since 1949 is breaking down."

Many of the Chinese leaders, he said, are looking to the past, not to the future.

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