



Kinky Friedman went on the offensive at the Horseshoe Tavern last week. (Photo by David Meyler)

## Horseshoe goes Kinky

By DIAHANN NADEAU  
Herald Special

After a few years away from music, Kinky Friedman, ex-Texas Jewboy, now a successful mystery author, played at the Horseshoe Tavern in downtown Toronto last week. In two solo acoustic sets, Friedman presented one of the weirdest concerts this reviewer has ever attended. Mixing business with business, Friedman managed to sell a hundred books between sets, (a record for the tour at that point), while his bizarre humor and satirical songs kept the audience laughing for two hours.

Friedman and his Texas Jewboys came out with their first record in 1973, *Sold American*, which Kinky tells us is being re-issued. His albums have offered a blend of country and western tunes and wicked humor, often tasteless, always funny. Kinky is Jewish, and he is from Texas. This is an ethnic aberrance he milks endlessly. It gives him scope to do Jewish jokes, redneck jokes, and all the permutations in between.

He opened with the marvelously tasteless 'The Ballad of Charles Whitman,' a song about a person who goes mad and shoots a bunch of people from town. 'There was a rumor, 'bout a tumor, at the bottom of his brain,' goes the chorus. This pretty well set the tone for the night. Other songs included 'We Reserve the Right to Refuse Service to You,' 'Get Your Biscuits in the Oven and Your Buns into Bed,' (it's not going to make the feminist songbook), and 'Men's Room L.A.', a brilliant ditty about finding a picture of Jesus in a men's room. You can imagine where that song goes.

Friedman and manager Cleve Hattersley are touring North America in a Cadillac, the "Yom Kippur Clipper; it stops on a dime and picks it up." Poor Cleve found himself the butt of numerous homosexual jokes (couldn't resist that pun, sorry), until he finally re-introduced Kinky for the second set as "that noted heterosexual." There isn't any group Kinky isn't willing to offend.

Friedman has been busy in his years away from music; he has written four novels, the latest being 'Frequent Flyer' which just came out in hard cover. His first book, 'Greenwich Killing Time' has been picked up by Ron Howard for a movie. The Kinksters would like to play himself, but he has to test for it.

Friedman also ran for Justice of the Peace in his hometown of Kerrville, Texas, where his family has a ranch. He lost, one reason being the fact he hid Abbie Hoffman from the FBI for six months. Not a good move for a potential justice, non? The man who came third had "cut up the family Colie a few months before, and everyone knew about it. He still got 800 votes. But I'm not bitter." If Friedman had won, would he be touring now? Probably not. So some things do turn out for the best, Kinky. And y'all come back now, ya hear?

## When swinging was king



Bob Spence  
Entertainment  
Thomson News Service

When North America was caught in the grinding teeth of the Great Depression, some people still went dancing. Others listened to music on the radio. What most people were dancing and listening to was jazz.

"Swing jazz," which emerged out of the growth of jazz in the 1920s, rose to national prominence. Band leader Benny Goodman, who helped push his brand of music to new heights, was appointed the King of Swing.

James Lincoln Collier recalls that period in a biography of Swing's King. Collier delves into an era when the music industry was expanding and radio was the prime source of musical entertainment.

Collier chronicles the rise of Goodman and his band in Benny Goodman and the Swing Era (Oxford University Press), which arrives on bookshelves in early October.

Goodman was the first prominent, band leader to hire black musicians (Terry Wilson and Lionel Hampton) for a white band.

Does someone at The Sports Network believe the Toronto Maple Leafs are finally going to start playing hockey?

TSN will televise 40 regular-season National Hockey League games this season, all but one featuring at least one Canadian-based team. And TSN cameramen will be spending more time following the Leafs than any other team.

While 12 Leaf games will be televised, the Edmonton Oilers and Winnipeg Jets each show up on only three TSN telecasts. The Vancouver Canucks will be featured 10

times, while nine Montreal Canadiens' games will be shown. The Stanley Cup champion Calgary Flames have eight matches on the TSN schedule and the Quebec Nordiques four.

Either a key TSN programmer is a closet Leaf fan or someone (obviously) has been studying time zones - picking games that can be telecast in prime time in the populous heart of Canada. Thirty of the 40 games, including all but three of the Leaf games, start at 7:30 or 8:30 p.m., Ontario time. Only four start as late (for those in central Canada) as 10:30 p.m. All four are Vancouver home games and the visiting team in each case is another Canadian team.

Kevin Sullivan, the producer for the Emmy Award-winning *Anne of Green Gables* miniseries and its multi-award-winning sequel, hopes to strike creative gold with another tale based on a teenager's personal development.

Looking For Miracles, a one-hour special that airs on CBC-TV's Family Hour Oct. 22, is based on A.E. Hotchner's memoirs of growing up during the Great Depression.

Sullivan was the co-writer, director and executive producer for Looking For Miracles, which drew praise from American critics when it premiered on The Disney Channel in the U.S. this summer.

Sixteen-year-old Ryan Delaney (Greg Spottiswood) uses his ingenuity to land a job as a summer camp counselor. At camp though, he has to face the daily challenge

of how to avoid disgrace. Delaney, a city kid who had never been out of the slums before, not only can't swim, but is terrified of water.

And life is complicated by the presence at camp of his 10-year-old brother (Zachary Bennett), with whom Delaney had just been reunited.

Delaney is Looking For Miracles.

"We were fortunate," said Sullivan, "to find two remarkable performers who succeed in bringing all the heartache and magical moments of sibling rivalry to the screen."

Two more characters are taking to the street.

Street Legal, CBC-TV's award-winning drama series, opens its fourth season Oct. 13 by introducing two new recurring characters. Dillon Beck (Anthony Sherwood) is a new Crown attorney who catches the eye of Carrie Barr (Sonja Smits). And Alana Newman (Julie Kahner) is a heavyweight litigation lawyer who develops a romantic interest in Leon Robinovitch (Eric Peterson).

"This season," says executive producer Brenda Greenberg, "there will be more in-depth character development, along with harder-hitting, real-life storylines."

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