A little smoke won’t kill you

By Alan Back
Keep a jackhammer in his coat.

Do you ever get the feeling that you’re stuck in the Twilight Zone? That nagging sensation that no matter what you do, you’re going to end up so far off the map that a search party won’t be able to get anywhere near you for a month?

Talk to the Cigar Store Indians and they’ll tell you a few stories that may leave you scratching your head all day long. The quartet has proven itself good at attracting two things: bizarre events and people who want to have a loud, crazy, hip-wobbling good time.

For lead singer/rhythm guitarist Ben Friedman, the ride started normally enough on the home front. “My dad was certainly a blue-collar guy... he knew nice stuff, but he had Southern roots. Instead of saying ‘refrigerator,’ he said ‘icebox.’ And when I’d leave at night, he’d say, ‘Don’t get thrown in the hoosegow’—you know, to jail.”

Absorbing a steady diet of jazz and swing with the help of his parents’ favorite music--A little smoke won’t kill you

By Alan Back
Keep a jackhammer in his coat.

Do you ever get the feeling that you’re stuck in the Twilight Zone? That nagging sensation that no matter what you do, you’re going to end up so far off the map that a search party won’t be able to get anywhere near you for a month?

Talk to the Cigar Store Indians and they’ll tell you a few stories that may leave you scratching your head all day long. The quartet has proven itself good at attracting two things: bizarre events and people who want to have a loud, crazy, hip-wobbling good time.

For lead singer/rhythm guitarist Ben Friedman, the ride started normally enough on the home front. “My dad was certainly a blue-collar guy... he knew nice stuff, but he had Southern roots. Instead of saying ‘refrigerator,’ he said ‘icebox.’ And when I’d leave at night, he’d say, ‘Don’t get thrown in the hoosegow’—you know, to jail.”

Absorbing a steady diet of jazz and swing with the help of his parents’ favorite music--
Oh, Saint and Begorrah! The luck of the Irish to all o’ ye! March, the month of lions and lambs, is also the month of luck. Therefore, for this Two Bits installment, you’re getting a Probability Alterance Personality Meter based on the sole fact of which is your favorite Lucky Charms marshmallow of all time. Be prepared to learn things about yourself that you never knew.

Hearts: Although you think of yourself as a romantic, this choice shows you to be a perfect replacement for Ben Stein. Has it never occurred to you that those cutesy little hearts are symbolic of misshapen organs?

Some needs spend a little more time studying for their biology tests and less time munching on cereals endorsed by cartoon characters. That should show you, you Froot Loop-chomping maniac!

Stars: You rank yourself above such Hollywooders as Ellen DeGeneres and the Pepsi Girl. Good for you. Some things need saying, and you are more than willing to blurt them out. In fact, you blurt out a lot of things that, incidentally, would have to be replaced with stars if ever printed. You have an outlook on life that will lead to fame and fortune…possibly a job in a four-star Chinese restaurant.

Clove: If you aren’t a vegetarian, you shouldn’t be. If you are, why in the world are you eating Lucky Charms? Do you know what they put in these marshmallows? Besides that, there’s the fact that you don’t seem to grasp the concept of shapes, since the “clover” marshmallow is actually a hat.

Pots of Gold: This is a bad sign. The only worse sign is at a New Jersey Amoco reading “Kids With Gas Eat Free.” Your motto is “Money isn’t everything,” because your cash flow is at a constant lull, and money is practically down to nothing.

You notice that frosted Cheerios taste just like Lucky Charms, only staler.

Rainbows: While there are many colors in the rainbow, your least favorite is purple. Stay away from red wine, PBS when Barney is on, and Prince music videos. Your sense of taste is exceptional; a job deciding the programming for PBS might be the thing for you.

You love passing trends. You own at least one box of pogs, a Tamagotchi, a Furby, and a Tickle-Me-Elmo. You started collecting Beanie Babies and Pokemon, but quit when you didn’t have one. Their conversion was directly led by others to arrive at false conclusions. Your choice of marshmallow is especially significant to your view of the school paper. You only read the Technique every once in a while.

Color-Change in Milk Pieces: You love passing trends. You own at least one box of pogs, a Tamagotchi, a Furby, and a Tickle-Me-Elmo. You started collecting Beanie Babies and Pokemon, but quit when you realized they aren’t ever going to pass on. Your obsession with fads drives your every move, your every thought, your every miniscule action…or maybe you just like neat colors and shapes that appear like magic! Ooohohoh…

Cereal Pieces: You’re an abstract thinker, which explains a lot about your wardrobe. Your friends would like to understand you, but you have little or no time to deal with such trivial matters as making sense.

Your cohesive thought processes disintegrate when perusing vocabulary usage or words longer than two syllables. You also do not listen very well, because I said to choose a marshmallow. What are you talking about? I hate the stupid cereal!

Some things are better left unsaid. That cliché’d last sentence is a prime example. You notice a lot, like the fact that the self-proclaimed “Frosted Cheerios” taste just like Lucky Charms, only staler.

This can only be a direct effect of the company’s new recycling program. Why do you think they call it General Mills? You also notice the Trix Rabbit has been advertising the cereal since 1959, and has not eaten once the entire time. Realistically, the next ad should feature that silly rabbit disguised as a disgraced postal worker.

So until next time, this is Two Bits Man, wishing all the rainbows a nice run.

“...And the sea will grant each man new hope, as sleep brings dreams.” Name that movie. It’s one of my favorites.
I’m really going to Europe in 2 months...I really, truly am. I have the money and have bought my plane tickets and everything. I’m really going! I’m so excited!
Another day, another 500 dB

**EDDIE’S ATTIC (515-B N. McDonough St.)**
(404) 577-2007
[http://www.masq.com](http://www.masq.com)

**MASQUERADE (695 North Ave.)**
(404) 681-3600
[http://www.masq.com](http://www.masq.com)

**THE WOOLY (1102 Euclid Ave.)**
(706) 524-3488
[http://www.woolyatl.com](http://www.woolyatl.com)

**ECHO LOUNGE (651 Flat Shoals Ave.)**
(404) 381-3600
[http://www.echolounge.com](http://www.echolounge.com)

**dark horse tavern (816 N. Highland Ave.)**
(404) 237-7657
[http://www.cjslanding.com](http://www.cjslanding.com)

**THE ROXY (3678 Peachtree Rd.)**
(404) 233-7699

**THE TUBINGEN (152 Luckie St.)**
(404) 659-9022
[http://www.tabernacle.com](http://www.tabernacle.com)

**THE AGONIZING (437 Montgomery Ave.)**
(404) 681-9018
[http://www.agonizing.com](http://www.agonizing.com)

**THE STARS (589 Norcross Mill Rd.)**
(770) 964-9890
[http://www.starsbargains.com](http://www.starsbargains.com)

---

**Another day, another 500 dB**

**3/16—Soup, Eddie Bush, Tentilfour, Tin Roof, Sonny Cellos, Area, Hark & Mike, Homemade Jam**

**3/17—Soup, Eddie Bush, Tentilfour, Tin Roof, Sonny Cellos, Area, Hark & Mike, Homemade Jam**

**3/17—Something Left After Misfortune, Eddie Bush, Tentilfour, Tin Roof, Sonny Cellos, Area, Hark & Mike, Homemade Jam**

**3/18—Rich Healy, Marlin Brackett, Ray Chesna**

**3/19—Son Seals Blues Band**

**3/20—New Deal**

**3/20—Emerald Rose**

**3/21—Alternate Roots Artist Showcase**

**3/21—Bach on a Hook, Brian Doyle**

**3/21—Sarah Jo, Sarah Jo**

**3/22—Lynn Miles, Jeffrey Hyde**

**3/22—Randy Quaid, Savoy, The Phunk Junkeez, Rehab, Bargain**

**3/22—Alex Bugnon, Stanley Jordan**

**3/22—Flickerstick, Sparkledrive, Travisty**

**3/22—Joey DeFrancesco, Terry Byrd, Amin Shams, Jerry Green**

**3/23—Big Sky, Lithp**

**3/23—Jennifer Daniels, Claire Holley, Billy Chesna**

**3/23—Sick Speed**

**3/23—Sepultura, Hatebreed, Flybang, Puya**

**3/23—The Phunk Junkeez, Rehab, Bargain**

**3/23—Countdown Quartet, Johnny Dowd**

**3/23—The Stained Souls**

**3/23—The Jukeboxs, The Bostards, Reach the Sky**

**3/23—Eight Drunks**

**3/23—The Martian astronomer, gazing off into the air - wonders what happened to all her sliver box skills. Argh. Apologies all around.**

---

**The Martian astronomer, gazing off into the air - wonders what happened to all her sliver box skills. Argh. Apologies all around.**

---

**This week on GTCN**

By Rebekah Bardwell

**GT CN Correspondent**

This week on *PlayTV*, Kara takes you to the International Auto Show at the Georgia World Congress Center. She’ll compare and contrast cars, from Hyundai to Ferrari. *PlayTV* airs Sundays at 7:00 p.m. and Mondays at 7:30.

This week on *Flava 101*, Richard picks up a favorite pastime—roller skating. He’ll talk to skaters and employees at Golden Glide’s college night, and he’ll even try to do some tricks like the pros. *Flava 101* airs on Channel 21 on Sundays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

On *The Latest Dish*, you can catch up with Chef Eric and Mart as they bring you the best of this semester’s shows from tapas to lobster. You’ll see funny outtakes and your favorite moments since the semester began. *The Latest Dish* airs Sundays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:30.
Not quite folk: Tegan and Sara reveal musical acumen

By Jon Kaye
Big fan of these gals.

Artist: Tegan and Sara
Genre: Alternative
Venue: Eddie’s Attic, Decatur, GA
Date: Monday, March 12
Rating: ★★★★★

If you have had any experience with the unique sound of Canadian singer-songwriters Tegan and Sara, you might think of their music as having distinctly folk qualities, but they proved otherwise at a packed Eddie’s Attic on Monday night. The twin sisters rocked the house with their aggressive blend of uncom¬promising lyrics and vibrant guitar accompaniment.

They pair tout socially conscious lyrics and confident use of acoustic guitar, and though many critics have likened their sound to that of Ani DiFranco, Tegan and Sara tend to avoid comparisons with that accomplished artist. As Tegan observed, “We shy away from Ani DiFranco. Just because we are girls who can sing doesn’t mean that our music is similar. We’ve gone full circle.”

Tegan Responding to comparisons to fellow singer Ani DiFranco

“Just because we are girls who can sing doesn’t mean that our music is similar. We’ve gone full circle.”

Tegan

If you have had any experience with the unique sound of Canadian singer-songwriters Tegan and Sara, you might think of their music as having distinctly folk qualities, but they proved otherwise at a packed Eddie’s Attic on Monday night. The twin sisters rocked the house with their aggressive blend of uncom¬promising lyrics and vibrant guitar accompaniment.

They pair tout socially conscious lyrics and confident use of acoustic guitar, and though many critics have likened their sound to that of Ani DiFranco, Tegan and Sara tend to avoid comparisons with that accomplished artist. As Tegan observed, “We shy away from Ani DiFranco. Just because we are girls who can sing doesn’t mean that our music is similar. We’ve gone full circle.”

Tegan

“Just because we are girls who can sing doesn’t mean that our music is similar. We’ve gone full circle.”

Tegan

Rating:

Date: Monday, March 12
Venue: Eddie’s Attic, Decatur, GA
Genre: Alternative
Artist: Tegan and Sara

By Robert Hill / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Sara (shown performing during Monday’s show at Eddie’s Attic) and her twin sister Tegan have an aggressive blend of lyrics and vibrant guitar.

She joked, “Oh my gosh! What if my fly’s unzipped?” Sara, on the other hand, seemed a tad more shy while she had her guitar in hand. All in all, their personalities fit together beautifully, both on and off stage.

However, the fans came not for the twins’ witty repartee, but for their powerful music, and Tegan and Sara proved that quality of their music transcends the boundaries of the studio. As anyone who has heard it will agree, The Business of Art is an exceptional album, yet the sisters showed that they do not need clever studio magic to produce captivat¬ing music. With just Tegan, Sara, and a pair of Martin guitarst, they produced music that was as good if not better than their first major-label release. As one fan put it best, “I’ve been a fan of theirs ever since I heard them on CD-Now, and I think this concert was incredible.”

I hate it when I get in these loud moods. I annoy myself, and that’s probably a bad sign.
Cigar Store Indians

From page 21

vided to perform at a festival in the Caribbean just after Thanksgiving. According to Friedman, they were supposed to have the night off when they arrived, but a bus breakdown on the way to where they were going to be playing and staying left them stranded by the side of the road.

In the bad part of town. In a cemetery. In the pouring rain.

The bad part of Jamaica.

The list of Christmas gift ideas that featured little more than a cookie recipe.

“I’ll never have somebody cookies for Christmas, and that’s all that I was doing, everybody would look at me like I was an idiot,” he said.

“Sometimes I think that people have lost the true meaning of what the holiday is about. Nowadays if you don’t get what you want, you feel like someone’s getting slack... I’d never had something to really open my eyes like that experience in Jamaica.”

The Indians seem to be magnets for weird events when they’re state-side, too. Friedman described a van fire that left them high and dry on a deserted school-D-D late one night (“It was like a David Lynch movie; it was surreal”) and their visit to the Viper Room in Hollywood.

“I guess they all started scratch- ing their heads and thinking, ‘Oh my God, they’re real hillbillies!’” he mused. “We’re the farthest thing from any kind of Hollywood cats.”

“I realized how spoiled we are here and how many things we take for granted, that we just automatically assume we’ll have.”

Ben Friedman, on the band’s visit to Jamaica

According to Friedman, they were invited to perform at a festival in the Deep South again, though, the group plans to release the albums independently.

He noted, “There have been some successes with Ani DiFranco, some of those people who have done it on their own. I never intended for the Cigar Store Indians to be a band that radio loved or that would ever get on MTV... I wanted to play music that moved me, and if it did get on the radio, that’d be icing on the cake.”

Airplay or no airplay, his merry bunch soldiers on with one purpose in mind: to get their audiences to shake whatever body parts aren’t nailed to the floor. If they happen to raise Cain while they’re at it—well, everybody really goes home happy.

The Cigar Store Indians will be at the Atlanta Brewing Company (1219 Williams St.) on March 24 to benefit Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. Call (404) 929-8618 to order tickets. They will also be at Smith’s Olde Bar on March 30. Visit them online at http://www.cigarstoreindians.com for more details.

By Alex Bank / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

ENETERTAINMENT

Plugged in or not, the Cigar Store Indians can shoot a dose of Southern twang into the rooms they play. Pictured: Jim Lavender, Ben Friedman.

Please refrain from campaigning in the office. But you can eat our pizza. Ah, I am amused.