

Series tests extreme friendship

Making her mark

By CHRISTINE CLARKE
CANWEST NEWS SERVICE
TORONTO

The secrets to long-lasting friendship aren't inane things like honesty, love or loyalty: it's the truly meaningful gestures that count, like the assurance that if you're hung over, you can always vomit in your best friend's mouth. This is true friendship. This is the friendship shared by Kenneth Hotz and Spencer Rice of Showcase's hit TV series *Kenny vs. Spenny*, a reality-style show that sees the men engage in ridiculous, vengeful competitions that usually result in pain and humiliation each week.

"There's nothing that you can do about it," says Spenny about his life-long pal. "You grow up with someone, your fathers are best friends and he's in your life. He's like the brother that I never wanted."

"I thought you were going to say herpes," Kenny riffs, referring to the thing that he supposed Spenny never wanted.

"No, I wasn't going to say herpes," responds Spenny. "That is friendship to us."

For the past three years, the two Toronto natives have been testing the boundaries of that friendship on their off-kilter reality-contest series. As a serious case study for the behavioural patterns of the male species, *Kenny vs. Spenny* is a program that provides considerable insight into man's competitive nature.

To determine who is the dominant male, the duo put themselves through the rigour of gruelling challenges that test their endurance and their sanity. On a lesser level, it's about two guys putting the stinking corpse of a dead octopus on their heads to see who can



COMPETING: Spencer Rice holds Kenny Hotz as they promote their TV series *Kenny vs. Spenny*, returning tonight on Showcase.

stand it the longest. Whoever loses, is subjected to a cruel humiliation dictated by the winner.

"I like to do something disgusting in every single episode," notes Kenny, whose professed hang-over remedy is vomiting in Spenny's mouth, although he actually hasn't done it yet. "But it just turns into this nightmarish blur of hell that we're trapped in."

This season promises to be the most outlandish yet. While the past two seasons have found Kenny and Spenny competing to see who can drink more beer or who can live in a van the longest, this season will feature the highly anticipated "Who can produce more semen?" contest. A trial of cornucopian proportions that may have made *Kenny vs. Spenny's* old home at

ON THE TUBE

The third season of *Kenny vs. Spenny* premieres at 9:30 p.m. tonight on Showcase (cable 34).

On the Net: Watch a video interview in which Spenny reveals which of the *Degrassi: The Next Generation* kids is his cousin and Kenny talks at length about a Rita MacNeil shoe fetish, only at www.dose.ca.

the CBC blush, but is right at home on its new network, Showcase.

"This season has some of the worst experiences of our lives," says Kenny. "We did the Qigong competition, which is the ancient art of weightlifting with your testicles. (I lifted) one of those old 1954 TTC double-decker buses no problem. We also did 'Who could stay homeless the longest?' which really sucked. Living under a bridge for a week? That was brutal."

But, despite the many tribulations that Kenny and Spenny put each other through (during the course of this interview, Kenny threatened to jump over the hotel's third-floor balcony at the prospect of yet another of many Spenny's diatribes), their relationship is solid as a rock.

"The one thing that could break up this friendship," says Spenny adamantly, "is Showcase cancelling the show. We're hanging by a television show at this point. If this show gets cancelled, I will never see Kenny again ... if I'm lucky."

"There are some things on the planet that are just meant to be," affirms Kenny. "And Spenny and I being friends are meant to be, much like the Titanic sinking or Hitler shooting himself. We're meant to be."

CONTINUED FROM B6

Follows' real-life partner, Stuart Hughes, also plays her fictional husband, Thomas, in "Booky."

Performing with her partner was nothing new to Follows, who grew up in a show business environment. Both her parents, Dawn Greenhalgh and Ted Follows, are actors.

"I was actually just having a laugh with my mom about that," said Follows. "They did things like 'Alpha Beta' and 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?' and I kidded her that the quietest times at home for us kids was then because they got all their frustrations with each other out onstage."

Follows came to "Booky" from an intense few months on stage with her husband in Sam Shepard's "Fool For Love" for Toronto's Soulpepper Theatre Company.

"We played an incestuous brother and sister and came through that OK," she said laughing.

"It was a real treat for both me and Stuart. Most of his work has been in theatre, so he was very helpful to me in that world."

"Then when we came to do 'Booky's Mark,' I was able to provide him with a little sense of what it's like to act in front of a camera."

She has been able to stay close to her family, too. "There's so much time in our business which we have to spend away from families, I feel fortunate to have worked this time with my partner. To have an opportunity to do what you love with the people you love is a real bonus."

tshaw@thestar.canwest.com or 519-255-5777, ext. 641.

Super

Friday,
Saturday
& Sunday
OCT. 20, 21 & 22, 2006

Truckload Floor Model Clearance!

ALL recliners, sofas, chairs and selected major appliances must go...

Save 40%

on all manufacturers' clearance-priced floor model recliners, sofas and chairs from our Truckload Sale

Selection may vary by store. While quantities last. Details in store

Save an additional 10%

on selected sale-priced surplus major appliance floor models from our Truckload Sale

Selection may vary by store. While quantities last.

SNOWFEST ON NOW

ENDS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2006

ALL REG.-PRICED
SNOWBLOWERS
ON SALE

except all Sears 'Value' Programs with prices ending in .97

FEATURING:

SAVE \$50



CRAFTSMAN™ 5.5-HP
SNOWBLOWER

• powered by a Briggs & Stratton engine. #52605.

Sears reg. 999.99. **949.99**

Also, save \$100 on CRAFTSMAN

9-hp, 24" snowblower. #52429.

Sears reg. 1299.99. **1199.99**

ORDER: R7184 WE103F5 E 7



When you use your Sears Card or Sears MasterCard on all furniture**, sleep sets, major appliances and snowblowers, you can choose...

Collect Double Points

OR

No Money
Down

When we say
No
we mean it

- No Up-front Taxes
- No Up-front Deferral Fee
- No Up-front Delivery Charges
- No Payments until Jan. 2008

On approved credit. Purchases made on the Sears Card will receive Double Sears Club™ Points and purchases made on the Sears MasterCard will receive Double Colours® Points when finance option is not chosen. For Shop by Phone, Catalogue and on-line orders, quote bonus offer #9416 22499 to receive your Double Points. Excludes items in our Liquidation/Outlet stores. Offer ends Sunday, Oct. 22, 2006, where open. Ask for details. Unless otherwise stated, optional financing programs do not qualify for Sears Club Points or Colours Points. Sears Club Points do not apply to taxes, delivery or protection agreement charges.

No payments until January 2008 only with your Sears Card or Sears MasterCard, on approved credit. Minimum \$200 purchase. \$99 deferral fee and all applicable taxes and charges will be payable in Jan. 2008. Offer ends Sun., Nov. 5, 2006, where open. Excludes items in our Liquidation/Outlet stores. Payment options and plan details may be changed or discontinued at any time without notice.

Ask for details and other payment options. Unless otherwise stated, optional financing programs do not qualify for Sears Club Points or Colours Points.

**D/601 Furniture Shop; excludes baby furniture in Sears Department stores

NE103G136 © 2006. Sears Canada Inc.

Devonshire Mall 519-966-2822
Open Mon.-Fri. 9:30-9:00, Sat. 8:00-6:00, Sun. 11:00-5:00
Sears Home Store - Legacy Park 519-967-0121



Look for this symbol and shop by phone
1-800-267-3277

When you see this phone symbol on an item shown here, it means you can buy it at your local Sears store, or order it over the phone by calling the above toll free number. If you shop by phone, you can pick up the item at any Sears store or, for a nominal fee, you can have it delivered to your home.

Sears

Good life. Great price.™