

University of
Lethbridge



The Chem Road Show


Opening Act for "The





The Chem Road Show

February 6, 2010

- Featuring John Eng and Wayne Lippa
 - The Chem Guys were the opening act for “The  Tory Belleci and Grant Imahara”



Tory, Eric Hill, Grant



**John Eng, Breanne Kamenz, Susan Lait,
Wayne Lippa, Andy Hudson, Kevin
Johnson, Kevin Anderson, René Clark;**

Wayne explains the next experiment



**Popping balloons filled with different
gases to the 1812 Overture;**

John & Wayne make their volcano erupt





The Grand Finale by the Chem Guys



- Wayne ignites the cotton batting and liquid oxygen for a explosive reaction. There were 6 fire extinguishers on hand to put the fire out and protect the audience.



(MYTH) BUSTED!

TV SHOW HOSTS WOW
CROWDS WITH SCIENCE

Dave Mabell
LETHBRIDGE HERALD
dmabell@lethbridgeherald.com

If bulls charge at a red flag, what about someone in a red jumpsuit? That's the kind of science "myth" that grabs young people's attention.

And that's why Tory Belleci, a host on the popular "MythBusters" TV show, put on that suit and dared to confront a belligerent brahma.

"That 1,600 lb. bull was terrifying," but Belleci obviously survived. He was joined Saturday by co-host Grant Imahara for a sold-out appearance at the University of Lethbridge, ahead of another sold-out event this morning in Taber.

Their show, watched by millions on the Discovery Channel, features many visually amazing experiments. But not every myth-busting idea gets

approved, they told a press conference before the U of L show.

Insurance companies and network officials have the final say, they said. Insurance agents want to know all the details of an experiment before deciding.

"It's a fairly rigorous process," Imahara said. "Some get refused."

Network bosses in the U.S. will also cancel an experiment, they said, if it's feared youngsters will be injured trying it themselves. And they're not fond of political debate, though some "MythBusters" items have mentioned global warming.

Said Belleci, "We wouldn't do something too controversial, like breaching airport security."



Grant Imahara



Herald photos by Ian Martens

The University of Lethbridge's own "Chern Guys," John Eng and Wayne Lippa, open the show for MythBusters' Grant Imahara and Tory Belleci with an exploding balloon rendition of the 1812 Overture Saturday night at the 1st Choice Savings Centre.

The topics they do deal with draw plenty of interest in homes and schools across North American, just the same.

"We get a lot of story ideas and feedback on the Internet," he adds.

"If just one in 100 pans out, we'd still have a lot to do."

It's the fourth time Belleci and Imahara,

based in California, have been brought north by the Alberta Science Foundation.

The Lethbridge appearance — with 1,500 tickets snapped up — and a full house in the W.R. Myers High gym were the biggest shows to date.

◆ CONTINUED Please see page A2

BUSTED

Both events were part of Science Happens Here, the foundation's province-wide promotion of the sciences as career choices for young Albertans. In preparation, the duo took on a few southern Alberta "myths."

For example, could the CPR viaduct support 10,000 elephants and a train carrying them across? Yes it could, they decided, so long as the

animals were head to tail — and no more than three abreast!

Could a single, one megawatt wind turbine power more than 300,000 electric cars for a full year? Yes indeed, they held, if the wind was relatively steady and the cars were recharged weekly.

But no, the hosts said, it's never hot enough in Taber to pop the corn while it's still on the stalk.

And you can't grow salt-and-vinegar chips by soaking potato fields with those two ingredients!

Teachers play "a huge role" in

sparking students interest in the sciences, Belleci said, and many of them contact their show with comments and ideas.

"The most creative teachers were the ones I learned the most from."

It's not just teachers and science-oriented students who watch the show now, he noted, but parents tune in too.

"At first it had a cult following, but it's just kept growing and growing."

Added Imahara, "We never expected to become part of pop culture."