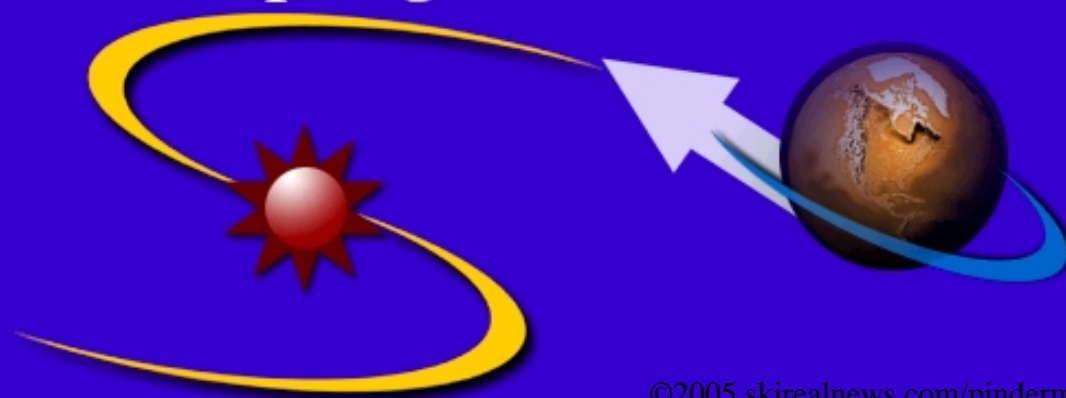


# The Real News The Real News

Spring Forward Edition



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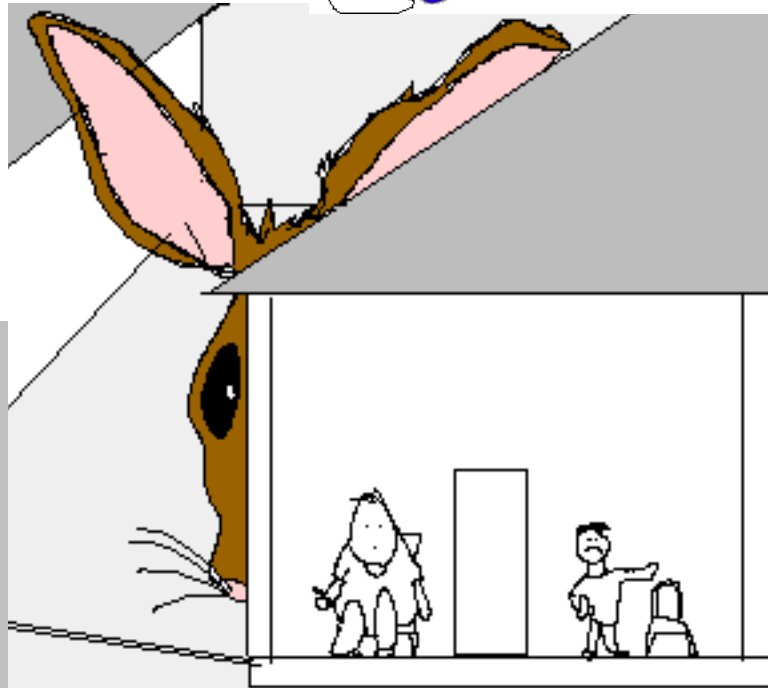
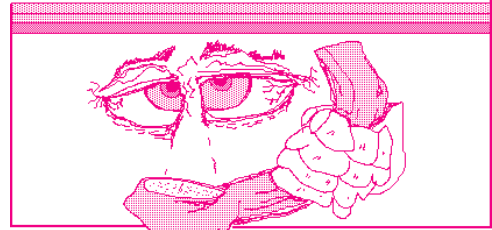
The Entertainment Re-Revolution

The Bachelor Summit Revisited

# THE BACHELOR SUMMITS REVISITED



## CAPE HASH



# THE NEXT CIVIL WAR

It will not be a conventional battlefield. Most combatants will not know that they are in the middle of a war zone. They will think they are just living their normal lives. They will not pay attention to the major news events because they do not directly affect their lives.

It is a fundamental principle that will be at stake.

America's founding fathers were religious men who risked everything for an opportunity to create a new, free life in the colonies. They fought for their independence from a central, regal, and oppressive king.

America's founding fathers would be appalled at the state of the Americas. They would not be stunned by the technological progress of the inventive American mind. They strongly believed in the individual being able to control his or her own destiny. The only map was one's own ambitions. The only true guidance was an individual's moral compass.

The main purpose of the federal government was to protect the States from invasion by foreign superpowers, England, France or Spain. An individual's life was purely left in his own control. He had full dominion over his property, his public life and his private life. Government did not care what he did, unless he harmed another person. Tolerance was a given commodity between neighbors.

Today's American dy-

amic is different. Tolerance is a political buzzword for interference. The national government is not guarding against the old superpowers; it has become its own superpower flexing its muscle against both friend and foe.

The War between the States was defined as a moral war (with economic overtones.) The next civil war will be between people advocating different core philosophies.

The United States has positioned itself as the largest secular institution on the planet. Leaders stress the importance of lack of religion in the daily affairs of their citizens. It is a subtle attempt to lessen the importance of religion in a person's life.

A secular institution propagandizes that it is the source of the solutions to your daily problems. Only a few generations ago, the source of strength and comfort to families was their church and their family bible. Religion taught them how to act, what is the difference between right and wrong, and how to behave with your neighbors.

A secular institution, the state, is teaching that it is the government that has the cures for a person's ills. It downgrades religion. It attempts to cast any symbols from religion from any public space. Out of sight; out of mind.

This position has been growing steady in the past 40

years. Until the last national election, when the "religious" sector came out in quiet record numbers in key states to set back the institutional secularists at the polls.

The secularists continue to attack any religious connotations in the courts. They proclaim that the Constitution requires separation of church and state. However, it is a narrow misreading of the founder's intent. The colonists were rebelling against a single, national, mandatory religion like the King's Church of England. They sought their own worship. The separation is only between the government creating its own church.

But the secular institution has grown into its own cult. Its high priests are incumbent politicians in Washington who have created a temple of power that attempts to micromanage a person's daily life. They want to regulate what you eat, what you can listen to on radio, what you can see on television, and what you do on the internet. They want to make it unpopular to express religious beliefs in public. The Ten Commandments should not be read by school children (even though the principles are the basic tenets in every civil and criminal code in America.)

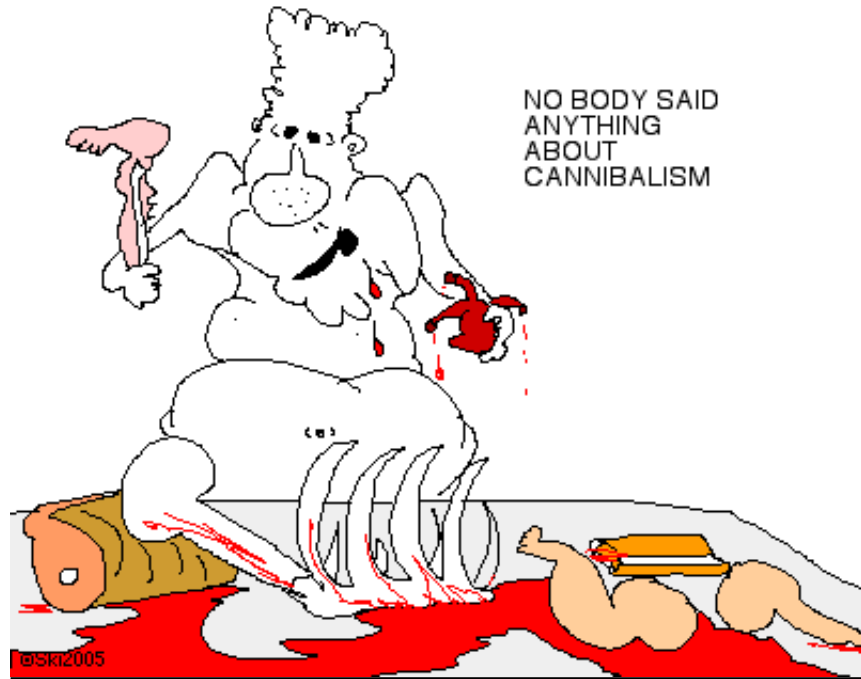
Politicians are bantering against video game manufacturers. They claim the game world is lessen the morals of today's youth. These same pols are trying to downplay religion which

teaches morals, accountability and responsibility. In essence, politicians believe that religion is not society's moral compass or source of comfort or solutions to personal problems. Government is attempting to integrate "government is the only solution" to the masses. All the ills of the world can only be solved by public officials: education, health care, elderly care, consumer fraud, land use development, poverty, civil rights. The list is endless because politicians have to find a single issue voter who agrees with his position in order to get that person's vote.

The religious sector in America is attempting to take back its historic place. The secularists will not give up their power. It will be a bloody fight to the finish. It is only beginning.

The Supreme Court liberal justices sided with the Big Government model by ruling that local municipalities can condemn non-blighted private property and turn it over to private developers as part of local economic development. The media and homeowners are appalled by the decision. Property ownership is

### CLINTON VOWS TO END CHILD OBESITY IN HIS LIFETIME



a fundamental constitutional right that has been thrown under the bus. The majority opinion is fundamentally flawed: the alleged development increase in jobs and more taxes is not a "public use." It is not the job of government to create jobs. It is not a "public use" to use police power to increase taxes. Increased taxes on citizens is not a

public benefit but a taxpayer burden!

The Supreme Court sidestepped the favoritism, the ripeness of corruption by saying the States can address those concerns on a case by case basis. But when does a fundamental US constitutional right are now only to be enforced by State Courts? Which means those rights will never be truly enforceable by citizens.

Sometimes it is good to **BARF.**



# THE HUNTER IS THE HUNTED

When the alarm radio went off a minute before 6 a.m., the news report briefly stated that Hunter S. Thompson was dead. For a hard living writer, it was not unexpected to have a drug overdose or excessive drinking taking a final toll on him. But it was a mild shock that the details included the fact that it appeared that Thompson had done a Hemingway.

There is no clear comparison between the two situations. Thompson was not staring at a blank canvas each day. The literary world had not passed him by. He was a columnist for ESPN.com with apparent lax deadlines. He had optioned another book, *The Curse of Lono*, for a movie deal. Filming in Hawaii was to begin shortly. He had at least three other projects and books ready for final editing. He was not in dire financial straights. He was still the King of the Mountain outside Aspen.

But apparently the last book tour had taken its toll. Or maybe it compounded and took root with his inner demons. He was physically being torn down with one major injury after another. He was frustrated that his once athletic body was failing him. Call it vanity, call it frustration. Call it old age, call it the beginning of the end. A lingering pain that most Americans will call their last personal friend. A celebrity whose stardom had spanned several generations was on the verge of the plight of the



**Average Man. It is not a comforting feeling to begin to take stock.**

Days before his self-inflicted demise, it was reported that Thompson had begun giving away mementos to family and friends. He was making his final odd-hour telephone calls waking up startled movie stars or literati. In retrospect, he was making his final amends without telling anyone he spoke to that his time had come.

The Kingdom of Fear was the title of his 2003 collection of columns and stories. His Kingdom was reaching its zenith this year. But the Fear had reached its pinnacle, too. When the body will not take commands from the mind to continue his legendary crazy antics, craziness sets in. It begins to rot the frontal lobe.

On that February Monday morning when the news hit, I began to speculate like others. I knew something was up. He did not write any gambling/Super Bowls stories for ESPN last month. That was out of character. He also had seriously injured his back a year or so ago and had extensive surgery (insertion of a

rod I believe).

Unless he woke up on that Sunday morning to the TV sounds of the "Super Bowl" only to find that the announcers were talking about stock car racing, then realized that he was smack dab in the middle of a Red State, or that the Clintons were spanning the globe for pity photo ops, or that the page in his typewriter remained blank for weeks, caused him to do a Hemingway.

In the weeks that followed, it appears that there was a slow progression toward the End. He had tightened up some loose ends. He had his family around him. His was in his command center, his kitchen, sitting behind his typewriter. A letter was in the cylinder, awaiting for a quick turn of a phrase. An argument with his wife festered during the day; his was in a commanding mood. And it was reported that during a telephone call, he pulled the trigger. No one knew what had happened until later in the day. No note. Just a gun on the floor, and an exit would behind the head.

It was not the way that most of his readers imagined his End would have been. The fanciful writing style of his own quasi-fictional tirades would have had him in a slow motion, Tarantino style machine gun fire-fight on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court cursing about the lack of any angry, 1960s true principled Democrats left in America.

# THE UNREAL POSSIBILITY

Tuesday, April 19, 2005 1:41:25 PM

Email Dispatch:

A slight surprise from St. Peter's today.

Only 3 cardinals in the college ever voted for a pope before. One of the three is elected pope. Batting average: .333. (Should lead off for the Sox)

Why Benedict? Benedict XV was the pope when he was born.

Why a German? The 8th German pope, but in reality, a Roman-Vatican fixture for 20 plus years. He was the conservative doctrine enforcer.

First words out of American Catholic mouths? "He was a Nazi."

He was indoctrinated (by force) into Hitler youth; and drafted in German army, but he deserted and became a anti-Nazi, anti-Communist.

Appointment consequences to the third world Catholics? Status quo. The Cardinals continued to follow-the-money by electing a European pope who would be acceptable to North Americans who probably fund most of the global church efforts.

How will he lead after JP II?

He has a similar war-torn background of John Paul II. But as JP II was an outsider to inner Vatican politics, B-XVI knows where all the skeletons are buried, literally and figuratively. I suspect that he will move quickly to have his college cardinals take the positions of power.

At 78, he knows the dissents and agendas of the world Cardinals during their deliberations that elected him, so he will fill the college to the ranks of 120 men quickly (5 new appointments) to solidify his power base.

Church doctrine will not change dramatically (though the Church itself has lost control over its basic format --- over a three week period in last month went to three different churches: St. Peter's in the Loop; the Friars still conduct a "traditional" mass; then to Holy Family, which is a theatre production to compete with Willow Creek Church; and St. Mary's in Crystal Lake, which was inbetween, but rang bells during the consecration of the sacraments (which has not been done since Vatican II?) I don't think he likes the limelight as much as JP II did; however, I predict that his first Papal Trip will be to Cologne Germany next month for the annual Youth Day that JP II established.

I had a live video feed on

the desktop machine (in a small window in attempt to capture as much real time feed as possible) at the office when the news broke that there was white smoke.

When Ratzinger did not come out behind the curtain, I knew he was the new pope (the Dean of College makes the announcement).

Apparently, it only took 4 votes for election. I suspect that the first vote on the first day was fairly fragmented, with a half dozen serious candidates (including an American) but Ratzinger having the most votes. The second vote narrowed the field down to four viable candidates (including an American, and 2 Italian cardinals). I assumed the Italians turned and cast their lot with the neo-Italian, conservative Ratzinger than the American in the fourth vote.

Why do I think an American was a viable candidate? During the post-blessing of the new pope, the television camera panned the balconies where the other cardinals were standing above the crowd. Most of the cardinals were talking, waving to the crowd, and were relaxed. One shot of a balcony found a cardinal in the front corner of the balcony, leaning up against the wall and balcony ledge; he had his index finger over his face with the tip pointing to his eye, his middle finger stretched to the

corner of this mouth, and his ring finger pensively under his chin. He was in deep thought and not interacting with his colleagues. His expression was that of "what if?" What if the vote had been different.

I believe that pensive Cardinal on the balcony was Cardinal George.



(Check out the captured news video to confirm my observation that he may have been the runner up candidate because his reaction was totally different from the other balcony cardinals.)

I thought from the beginning that the Church had to maintain Anglo-European connection to the papacy in order for the financial integrity of the church. A third world Pope could further split the connection to the American dollars so needed to fund third world programs and prop up the third world churches in regime settings.

## THE ENTERTAINMENT REVOLT

The movie industry started to the post-school summer blockbuster season by losing gross box office for seven straight weeks. Teens with disposal allowances are the bread and butter (and popcorn) buyer for the entertainment industry. If not in the theaters, where are the kids? What has taken the place of the standard movie fare?

The electronic revolution has seized the high ground in the entertainment spending budget of youth. The Playstation, X-Box, the PSP, and iPods have kids churning their dollars into more games and music to occupy their time.

Consumers can now control more and more of their own escapism adventures. They can be in the anti-hero in their own big explosion movie contained in the latest first person shooter game rather than spending \$15 on a bad special effects remake. People will take the path of least resistance; this principle controls mindless escapism.

Television ratings have been on the skids for years. Executives have no clue that more and more people are getting news, information and entertainment from surfing the internet than watching cable reruns. The growth of the blogger community, where people put their own lives and experiences on the net, is turning into an easy way to kill hour(s) on end wandering through the home pages of strangers.

The trend is against the old guard, the distributors of the old programming choices. More and more people are creating their own music, art, comics, animation, home movies, digital photographs and personal diaries to be updated continually to be shared with the world. The gatekeepers of content have no dam to stop the flow of this free forum of expression of ideas. The distribution monopoly on entertainment has been broken.

This is why Hollywood is scrambling to make deals with game makers to cross-produce the next generation movie-game hybrids. The comic book industry has optioned every old character it has in the warehouse because Hollywood has run dry on new ideas. The target is to try to rekindle the middle agers with some vague childhood comic recollection.

The kids really don't go for their parents memories. They are kids and kids will be kids. They love the weird interactive genre of games: like the video dance pad--- great exercise for the fast food child; a potential emergency room slipped disc for a parent.

The movie theater may be the getaway destination for a few parents while their kids destination is their video controller. It is extended play time after coming inside after playing all day in baseball, soccer, gymnastics, swim team, or some other organized event.