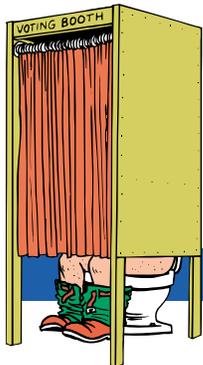




# Onward and butward!

As the year 2001 breaks on the horizon, it doesn't look much like the movie. We do have talking computers, but most of them make very one-sided conversation, often starting with phrases like "Adobe Type Manager has located more than one font named Helvetica," uttered in a riveting monotone. We do have a space station, too, but it bears little resemblance to the huge, shiny, impressive, well-functioning craft of Hollywood. And will it surprise you if 2001 shakes out as a much funkier and less glamorous child than the movie version? 30 years ago the Who posed for an album cover taking a leak on Stanley's monolith. But if 2001 doesn't ring in all the wonders that Kubrick envisioned, it also has a few he never dreamed of. TiVo... online shopping... the *but* single...



# THE NEW BUTOPIAN

JANUARY 2001

ISSUE NUMBER ELEVEN - VOTING WITH YOUR BUTT

FREE



## How Did You Vote?

At the heart of the 2000 Presidential election lies a potential problem that much of the media has so far ignored. According to one prominent political analyst, the lack of a clear and concise election outcome stems from the fact that this year, unlike most recent presidential races, not enough people voted with their butts.

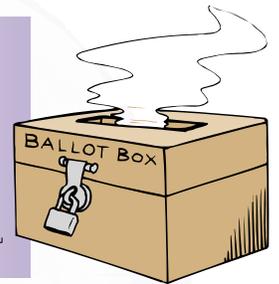
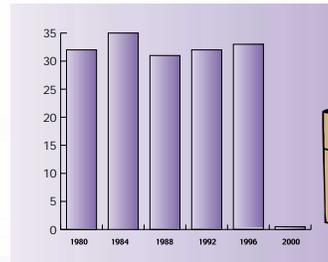
"In any given national election, a good 30 - 35% of eligible votes vote with their butts, and usually these voters will belong to one side in much greater numbers than the other. This year very few voters from either side voted with their butts, which is surprising, given the general lack of enthusiasm for the candidates."

Another analyst agreed. "Usually when a lot of voters vote with their butts, the outcome favors the Republicans, while smaller numbers favor the Democrats. I'm not sure what that *really* says about the way people prefer to vote."

Said a third, "We run all these ads telling people to get off their butts and vote, but we never really think they'll do it! Now look at the mess they've caused!"

In spite of all the court battles and media coverage, no one of any prominence is asking why so few voted with their butts. Is it possible that some butts weren't counted. And should dimpled butts be counted? We think so! We believe that, in the true American tradition, everyone has the right to vote with their butt, if they so choose. And if they do, their butt should be heard. We hope they're listening in Washington, at the seat of our government.

Percentage of voters voting with their butts, by year



### Charting the Vote

This chart shows the odd drop-off in the number of people voting with their butts in the 2000 race. Strangely enough, no one is asking any of the obvious questions, and we wonder why. And these snowballs probably had better odds in hell than Al Gore facing a Supreme Court with 7 Republican appointees.

## BUTZVILLE PICTURE OF THE MONTH



### Joe's Garage

If you believe in coincidence, then it's just a coincidence that we ran the picture of Joe's garage next to the story about poor Joe Camel. If you believe in fate, then it was fate that we did so. Joe's garage in winter is the lion in winter, the all-important car work goes on behind closed doors. Oh, but to see Joe's garage in the summer, with those doors open, engine parts scattered around the surrounding concrete, the smell of oil on the breeze and the sound of an air hammer mingling with the song of nearby birds! Brother, that's when you know you're in Butzville!

## Poor Joe

His face once looked down at us from billboards everywhere. Not that long ago, Joe Camel defined cool as he glanced up from his pool table or sat astride his motorcycle, surrounded by beautiful women. Magazines, TV, corner store posters—where didn't you see Joe?

In late December, Joe filed for bankruptcy in L.A. County District Court. And he didn't look well. The last few years have not been kind to Joe. "I can't work in the industry," he said. "It's not a question of unreturned phone calls. I can't even get past the secretaries and receptionists! No one will talk to me!"

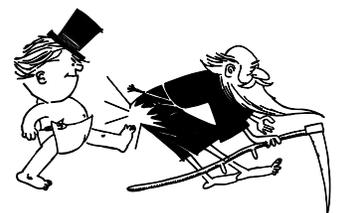
"And I can't take a normal job, I'd never get a minute's peace. If I was behind a counter, any guy with something to prove or a girl to impress is gonna try to pick a fight. Besides, that, who's gonna hire me? I never learned how to do anything but stand in front of a camera and look the way they wanted me to!"

Joe sounded pretty down. "You know all that stuff it looks like I'm doing in those pictures, I never did any of it! They put me on a motorcycle, hell, I could barely make the thing stand up! I'd have been scared to really ride one! Or playing pool, I'm lucky if I can keep the cue ball on the table! Cards, I'm what they call a natural-born loser.

"And sports? I don't think I ever figured out how to hold a baseball bat right. I wanted to play sports as a kid but nobody wanted me on their team. All of the other camels used to laugh and call me names, they never let poor Joey join in any camel games!"

Poor Joe tried to bum a cigarette. So that much was real? "Yeh, I picked up the habit during the early shoots. I always had one of those things in my mouth, sometimes the photographers wanted it lit for effect, I couldn't fight it for long. Wish I could quit, God

(continued on other side)





## IN THE NEWS

"Get off your **butt** and start talking!" advises a new radio ad for **Voicestream Wireless**.

Reporting on ratings for new shows in the fall season, **TV guide** says of *Dark Angel*, "The show also kicks **butt** with boys and men, ranking 5th among teen boys (9.4) and 10th with males 18 to 49 (7.4). They also reported, in reference to its Tuesday night lineup, that "WB can, on occasion, kick ratings **butt**."

"Quit **butting** heads with the people who backed your campaign!" says a character in the recent movie *First Target*.

Actress **Garcelle Beauvais**, speaking about landing a recurring role in *NYPD Blue*, was overjoyed but mentioned that her good fortune came with a hitch: "My manager told me there's a **butt** clause. I said, 'What?' So I've been doing sit-ups and **butt** lifts. I will be ready."

Our favorite **Howard Stern** butt reference this month comes from producer **Gary Dell'Abbate**. When an attractive female guest seemed reluctant to remove her pants for Howard and company, Gary advised her boyfriend/manager, "Your product *is* her **butt!**" Howard also said on a recent show, expressing some dissatisfaction at the results of his personal exercise program, "I can't get my **butt** around - I want to be muscle-bound!" And **Robin Quivers**, parodying a speech by a former member of the *Survivor* clan, said, "We were buddies, but we weren't **butt** buddies."

### Red Cent Records Official Statement, 1/1/01, regarding availability of the *but* album vs. the *but* single:

**The *but* single: is done, available now.**

**The *but* album: is not done, not available yet.**

above drawing by Popa Cork



Kick Butts Day 2001 will take place April 4, 2001. For more info, check out [kickbuttsday.org](http://kickbuttsday.org).

### But Celeb of the Month

This person, question marked at right, pastors the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City. A native New Yorker, he is a viable presence on the streets of Harlem and a member of the advisory board of Religious Leaders for a More Just and Compassionate Drug Policy.

(Answer in next month's TNB)

Answer to December 2000 *But Celeb of the Month*: Buttercup, along with fellow Powerpuff Girls Blossom (top left) and Bubbles (top right).



### But Definition of the Month

**an•ti•sco•r•but•ic** (an•ti•skô•r•but•tik). *Med - adj.* preventing or curing scurvy. - *n.* remedy for scurvy. Since you don't hear much about scurvy these days, you don't hear this word much either, but back when scurvy was a big deal evidently it scored a lot of butts.



*The New Butopian* is published monthly by the Society for a New Butopia, which is solely responsible for its content. We thank Red Cent Records for the use of their staff and facilities. However, the opinions and viewpoints expressed by *The New Butopian* do not necessarily reflect those of Red Cent Records.

## Poor Joe (cont.)

(continued from other side)

knows cigarettes ain't doing me any good these days! I've got a bad cough, I'm probably building up to a good case of emphysema. Hope I don't end up like the Marlboro man [dead of lung cancer]!"

Joe also admitted that he'd changed his name. "No one's born with the name *Joe Camel*. My mother named me Newnan Burgess Camel. The guys at the modeling agency first came up with Joe cause they couldn't remember my real name.

"I didn't go after the modeling job, by the way, *they* picked my up. I was in L.A. looking for construction work, you know, expecting to be just another beast of burden. And I didn't believe the agency guys at first. I mean, somebody who looks like me being a model? My mother used to tell me I had a face only a sock cutter could love. I don't know exactly what she meant but it didn't sound like a compliment."

Did the slight scent of alcohol confirm an old rumor? "Yeh, I started drinking when I first got the modeling jobs. I couldn't handle the pressure, I couldn't get up in front of the camera without having a beer or 2 to take the edge off. With a couple of drinks I did ok, but I never felt like I looked good enough. Everybody on the set would tell me I looked great, they really had to pump me up a lot. When they got me feeling good enough they'd get the shots they wanted. And of course they'd retouch stuff afterwards too. Nothing in a magazine picture is real anymore - nothing! But sometimes I drank too much on the shoot, then I'd just wilt, they couldn't get anything out of me."

And now it's probably worse? "I hardly stop drinking now, I don't think I could make it through a shoot if I had to! Not that I'll have to, not any time soon."

And all the money's gone? "Easy come, easy go. I threw a lot of it away on a good time. And I had a pretty good time while it lasted, but I didn't expect it to end so soon. Or so suddenly. And all those business guys who had a piece of me, they paid off the BMWs and they're still doing all right. Funny how I'm the only one really hurting."

Funny indeed. And more than just a sad commentary on the consequences of transitory celebrity. Joe knows that his 15 minutes lasted a lot longer than many, and he stood taller, but he fell a lot farther, and that fall had to hurt a lot more when he hit the bottom. The look on his face could tell you all that, but you won't see that face in any of the places you once did. And you wouldn't want to. Believe me, it's not a pretty picture, and it wouldn't sell any cigarettes.



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Find us on the web with search engine keyword "Buttville"