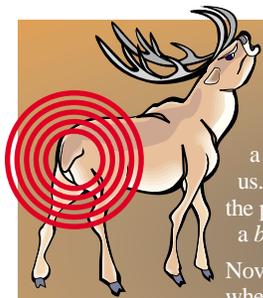


# There but for a But Single...



Welcome to November. A good time for hunters, not such a good time for deer. Also not a particularly good time for turkeys, but a very good time for people who like turkey, especially well roasted. And a good time to reflect on the good things life has given us. This year we can all give thanks for our copies of the *but* single. But let's also not forget those less fortunate than ourselves, the poor and needy who wake up Thanksgiving morning, just as every other morning, and who have to go through their day without a *but* single.

November also used to have Armistice Day. In the 1920s and 30s, Americans celebrated the day when a previously unheard-of level of violence and brutality in Western Civilization had ended. After Hitler & Co. made it clear that The Great War had just been the warm-up act, Armistice Day became Veteran's Day, and wasn't such a big deal, i.e. kids didn't get the day off from school, etc. And they stopped calling World War I The Great War. After all, why single out just one when there have been so many great wars! Let us all give thanks.

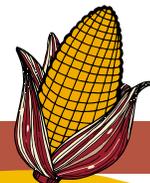
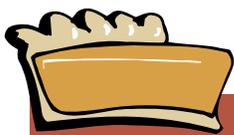


NOVEMBER 2000

# THE NEW BUTOPIAN

ISSUE NUMBER NINE - THE BUTTHEAD INTERVIEW

FREE



## Speaking with Butthead

(TNB recently spoke with Butthead between shoots on the set of his TV show in Hollywood, *Beavis and Butthead*.)

TNB: You've lasted a lot longer on TV than many a critic's darling. To what do you think you owe this success?

Butthead: Everyone knows the importance of timing in comedy, and Beavis and I have always had an intuitive rhythm with each other, we know when to pause and when to deliver a line. So having a partner you naturally work well with counts for a lot. But you can't last in this business without good writing.

TNB: So you credit Beavis and your writers for your success?

Butthead: I don't think I could have done it without them.

TNB: Are the fans ever surprised to see you on the street with a brief case and a suit?

Butthead: I call this my "disguise," because the fans don't recognize me on the street when I'm dressed this way. And I rarely go out without the suit and brief case these days.

TNB: Are you avoiding the fans?

Butthead: I wouldn't say that, but I can get a lot more done if I don't have to sign autographs. Who needs that kind of interruption in their day?

TNB: And what is it you're getting done with the suit and brief case?

Butthead: I manage an extensive portfolio of investments, and I find that the business community accords me a greater degree of respect dressed formally than dressed casually.

TNB: The word around Hollywood is that you're the "brains" of the act. Do you think that's true?

Butthead: If I am, then Beavis is the heart and soul. And in comedy heart and soul probably count for a lot more than brains.

TNB: The two of you have played half-witted teenagers for over a decade now. While your personality bears little resemblance to the character you portray, do you think Beavis really is the character he portrays?

Butthead: Beavis and I don't discuss Tolstoy, if that's what you mean.

TNB: What I mean is, Beavis doesn't have any idea who Tolstoy was, isn't that true?

Butthead: It might be, I've never asked him.

TNB: Well, a fellow actor said recently that while you carefully consider every step, Beavis rolls down the road fat, dumb and happy with his foot to the floor.

Butthead: Beavis isn't fat. But if you equate happiness with a lack of any expressed need for intellectual stimulation, then Beavis probably is happy.

TNB: Your reported net worth is well over \$100 million...

Butthead: You can't believe everything you read in *The Wall Street Journal*, but I'm comfortable financially.

TNB: Your partner Beavis, on the other hand, is reportedly broke, even though he receives the same salary you do.

## BUTTZVILLE PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Sign of the Times

It's the big dead end sign next to Buttzville Court. You couldn't go any further if you wanted to. But why would you want to, when you're butt dead center in Buttzville?



Butthead: If I have to loan Beavis a 50 now and then to tide him over, I can certainly afford it.

TNB: How did you team up with Beavis?

Butthead: We both auditioned for the parts. The producers knew what they wanted. They picked us out from over a thousand who showed up. I knew some of the others who tried out, including a few you wouldn't expect. One of them was a mouse who had been pretty big back in the 50s. Of course he was all wrong for the part, no amount of make-up could have made him look like a teenager. And even if it could have, he's so typecast, it never would have worked. It's sad in this business when an actor throws his money away, sometimes the ride ends suddenly.

(continued on other side)



Butthead as he appears on the set of the TV show (top) and in real life.



## IN THE NEWS



"He has a thing for **butts**. My **butt**, in particular. He always walks behind me. I can never walk in back of him." So said actress **Lisa Gay Hamilton** of *The Practice* when asked about costar Steve Harris.

"She was the **butt** of everybody's jokes," said actress **Sheree North** in a recent biography segment on Marilyn Monroe, referring to how Marilyn was treated by her studio in the 1950s.

"If we don't kick the **butt** of Olympics.com [the official site of the Games], I would be very surprised," said **Tom Feuer**, the coordinating producer of NBC's Olympics Web site ([www.nbcolympics.com](http://www.nbcolympics.com)).

"We're already the **butt** of every joke on the street," says a lead character in the opening show of the new TNT series *Bull*.

A recent *TV Guide* roundup of TV detectives referred to Columbo as "a rumpled, squinty-eyed, cigar-**butt**-chewing and seemingly disorganized LAPD dick who didn't have a first name other than Lieutenant."

Our favorite **Howard Stern** butt references this month come from an exchange with **Robin Quivers** in which she spoke about sitting on an ice pack to relieve her hot flashes. The show's producer **Gary Dell'Abbate** referred to it as her **butt** pack, and Robin said, "I'm going to invent **butt** ice." Howard also recently ran another segment of *Who Wants to be a Butt Billionaire?*



**Red Cent Records Official Statement, 11/1/00, 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.**



### But Definition of the Month

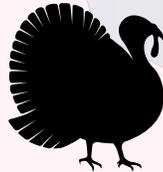
**con•tri•but•ion** (kon'trə•but'ashən). *n.* act of giving money, help, etc., along with others, i.e. putting your little but in because every little but helps.

### But Celeb of the Month

This woman, profiled at right, stars in TNT's action thriller *Witchblade*.

(Answer in next month's TNB)

Answer to October 2000 *But Celeb of the Month*—**Calvin O. Butts III** is the president of SUNY Westbury, whose logo is pictured at left.



# Speaking with Butthead

(continued from other side)

**Butthead:** And, as the old song goes, "Even a living legend's got to eat." Anyway, I was initially skeptical of the partnership, but we read through a few scenes and it clicked immediately. I think we started shooting the next day.

**TNB:** I have a quote here, I think you know the context. "It's one thing to play a half-wit, it's another to be one. I can't spend the rest of my life working with an imbecile!"

**Butthead:** The rumor mill works overtime to make this stuff up. The reporter has an unidentified "friend" who overhears this statement in an upscale restaurant. And no names, no faces, but a description that fits no one else in town but me. And then the reporter suggests that I'm admitting guilt when I call to complain. This business is a lot tougher than most people realize!

**TNB:** Well, on a subject a bit closer to our readers' hearts, how did you get the name Butthead. Is that a tradition in your family?

**Butthead:** Yes. My paternal grandfather's father, *Buttzkopf*, emigrated from Germany in the late 1800s. At Ellis Island, the officer knew enough German to recognize the word *kopf* as *head* in English, so my great grandfather became *Butthead*. He gave his son the same name, but my grandfather didn't speak German too well, so he named his son, my father, *Butthead*. And I inherited the name from him.

**TNB:** Do you have any future plans?

**Butthead:** I'd like to branch out, do some serious roles, maybe off-Broadway theatre. I'd love to do Shakespeare, of course. It's so hard in this business, when you're as successful as I am, to do different roles. The directors don't want to cast you against type. I could just take some time off and try to finish the novel I'm working on. At some point I could take the band [the Buttheads] on the road for a few months, concentrate more on my playing and songwriting. And I'd love to put out that book of poems, though it's not really finished yet either. I have plenty of options to weigh.

**TNB:** What about doing another movie?

**Butthead:** I don't think I'd do another with Beavis. And I wasn't that happy with the script on the last one, I'd like more control over things next time. But I certainly wouldn't mind doing another movie, if the part was right and the script looked good. Again, it would be nice to try a serious role.

**TNB:** Any advice for our readers who might want to try Hollywood?

**Butthead:** I would just say "don't do it." This is a very hard life, fans hounding you for autographs, reporters and photographers following you around all the time. There's all the promotion you have to do to keep the buzz going, radio and TV spots, press dates, photo shoots, looking good, remembering your lines, acting "naturally" with the cameras rolling and a roomful of tech people watching you! Just be happy that you're a coal miner or ditch digger and don't have to go through what I do on a daily basis!

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