

HITCHCOCK HOUSE MINUTES

For the night of April 17, 2003

The Contrabulous Fabprosal of Professor Christian Kammerer

It seems that my proposal at this week's house meeting, delivered through my intermediary Little Christian, created some stir of confusion. Ideas were misrepresented, inappropriate conclusions were jumped to, and so forth. To remedy this, here is an exact transcription of what was stated in the proposal:

"Hello, I'd like to put a proposition before the House. As you know, I put up all the minutes, and this eats up a lot of tape after a while. And, rather than going out and buying tons of tape and eating into my already severely diminished wallet, I was wondering if I could ask the House for three dollars to buy tape and continue bringing you the minutes that you love. All right? Idea? Eh?

"I'd like to be the first to vote on this, and I vote "No", because it's only three dollars, you cheap loser. You can't even buy tape.

"But last year I distinctly remember someone asked the House for a buck seventy-five for a get-well card and it was approved. And the fact that it is a small amount is all the more reason to approve it.

"I guess that's true but it still seems kind of lame. Couldn't you just ask someone for tape?"

"I could, but who's going to give me it? No one. Absolutely no one. So, in conclusion, vote "Yes" for tape, and I pity the poor fool who don't support this proposition! Thank you."

Is that clear? I want some Scotch tape. And yes, I was arguing with myself. Don't ask why, such are my ways.

Other News

What many consider to be Mel Brooks' crowning achievement, *Blazing Saddles*, will be shown after the house meeting next week. It's like *Spaceballs*, only not. (Unlike *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, which is like *Spaceballs*, only yes.) In other movie news, as part of the endless machinations of Stephen Pruitt-Jones (or "PJ" as some may call him), Erika will be showing the zany documentary *Cane Toads: An Unnatural History* this Friday at 11:30 AM in the Rec Room. *Bufo marinus* was never this much fun.

The Veenstra-VanDerWeeles would like to thank everyone who helped at the swing dedication, especially Pete and Lindsey for producing the amazing tarpadillo and Maren, Julia, Jordan, Norval, Ted, all the good folks down at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and Viewers Like You. Because of safety precautions (Max Palevsky has busy, busy hands), the swing will come down for Scav Hunt this year. It will also come down for winter. And during the rain. Or if it's too hot out. And if any insects are around, no way. Ditto on if it's muddy. Or dogs are in the neighborhood, or birds. You can, however, apply for a three minute swing session, with timing and climate approved by the swing governing board. If you make a strong case you might get a few swings in some time in late 2006. And speaking of applications, O-Aide applications are due Monday at 5 PM. It's all the fun of getting to school early with twice the, uh, work of getting to school...early. And if you want to get to school *yet earlier*, apply to work for ResCom—they'll take just about anyone who can pick up a mouse.

Beyond Hitchcock: 1. Drag ball in Hutch. Leave your views on gender identity at the door, breeders. 2. Support your local anime club by buying one of their raffle tickets for a mere \$1 (or 75 billion yen). What can you win, you ask? Nothing short of DVD box sets for *High School Ghostbusters Vs. Pulsating Demon Phallus Tentacles 5*, or maybe *Spiky-haired Doofus, Brooding Loner, and Perhaps Some Manner of Giant Robot: Variant 347*. In America, first you get the Pocky, then you get the power, then you get the weemin. Oh, if that were only the case.

Finally, Ally wants you all to be thinking about Scav Hunt every waking hour of the day, and dreaming of it every non-waking hour as well! To aid her in this endeavor, I'm going to start inserting subliminal scavhunt messages into scavhunt the minutes from this point scavhunt on. Soon your minds will be saturated with the thrill of The Hunt! Do not attempt to resist its power, foolish hu-man! First off, the service auction is coming up soon. Either sell yourself or bid on the labor of another. Anything goes! And when I say anything, I mean *anything*. Look for FishTour 2003, and have your checkbook handy. Think you don't know enough about Scav Hunt? Then enroll in the Berman-O'Sullivan ScavSeminar. All you need to know for half the price! Available in Paralegal, Automotive Repair, TV/VCR Repair, Private Investigation, Practical Piracy, or get your Associate Degree! Today's lesson: Road trip. The road trip is an absolutely essential part of any Scavenger Hunt. It requires one person with a car who can legally drive that car and three costumed accomplices willing to engage in delinquent activities across the country. Sam (or "Charlie", as you may call him) will send you off not long after the list has been read, and you won't be back until Saturday night. One more word of advice: Start scavenging now! There's a broken chair in the dumpster between Ellis and 56th street. Go get it! Get it now!

BONUS FEATURE

An Interview with Andrew Sebastian Ellefson, Wednesday Night, April 16, 2003

CHRISTIAN KAMMERER: In the noble tradition of such secretary luminaries as Will Green interviewing Alec Millar, Ned Tyrell interviewing Eric Fish, and Sarah Innes interviewing Ben Tradewell, tonight I'm here with Hitchcock's own prodigal son, the mysterious and elusive Sebastian Ellefson. Sebastian, like Teiresias of old, you have truly experienced the best of both worlds. What would you say are some of the differences between Hitchcock and BJ in your opinion?

SEBASTIAN ELLEFSON: Are we being serious here or funny?

CK: Either will work.

SE: All right, well, hmmm. Burton-Judson is a larger community, you know, and so each house really is an island amongst the other ones. There is interaction, this has its disadvantages: like you don't get to know everyone, so you can't have the *Cheers* effect that you have at Hitchcock. At the same time, if you want to date someone in your dormitory you do not have the complicated problems of housecest—that can be avoided as well.

CK: Yeah, that is somewhat of an onus in these parts.

SE: Aye.

CK: Okay, question two: As we all know, you're going to be one of the Scav Hunt judges this year. What if anything will you miss about not being able to compete in Scav Hunt?

SE: That's a good question. Scav Hunt is a wonderful, wonderful event and I will miss competing in it. Because of all the wackiness that is thrown at you and you have to deal with and to produce. But at the same time I can be on the other end of it, which I think will have advantages as well.

CK: You were well known for being one of the more hardcore, anything goes Scav Hunters in years past. Are you looking forward to inflicting that upon a new generation?

SE: Yes.

CK: I figured as much. Right then. Word has it you're now a member of the Class of 2003, the Greatest College Class of All Time Including Any Forseeable Future. What's up with that?

SE: [laughs] Well, I mean, I guess technically I will be graduating in 2003, but...

CK: No, you're part of The Class, you can't deny it!

SE: Yeah, but I'm graduating in the fall, and, well, that does cut short my time around here, although I may be around for a bit afterwards as well. It's a more financially sound plan.

CK: Yes.

SE: Plus, I am anxious to get on to bigger and better things, which life will provide. We'll see.

CK: Any plans yet?

SE: Well, I did take the Foreign Service Exam just last weekend, actually.

CK: Really? How'd that go?

SE: Oh, it went pretty well. And I hear about that in the summer, I do, and theoretically I could be hired for that as early as, I don't know, after January of 2004. But usually that takes a bit of time so maybe even longer.

CK: All right, if you were a werewolf, and by definition an American werewolf, what foreign capital would you like to visit?

SE: Um, I think Europe has been really done...

CK: Done to death for werewolves?

SE: Yeah.

CK: I'd agree.

SE: What about *An American Werewolf on the Moon*?

CK: [laughs] That's interesting. I would actually save that; there's been *American Werewolf in London* and *American Werewolf in Paris*—the third I think you should stick on the Earth, 4 is almost always in space.

SE: Okay.

CK: You've got *Friday the 13th 4* in space¹, *Leprechaun 4: In Space*.

SE: *Critters 3*, wasn't that in space?

CK: Well, they went to space—the Critters were all over the place. The Critters, it's hard to keep them down.

SE: Or you could do other places—I mean let's get some creative ideas. *An American Werewolf Crossing the Delaware with Washington*.

CK: You could produce a historical werewolf epic.

SE: *An American Werewolf*, oh, you know...disco style! There are many possibilities which have not been exploited by these strict geographical limitations.

¹ Of course, I meant *Hellraiser 4: Bloodlines*, not *Friday the 13th 4*. Or *Jason X*, which was the *Friday the 13th* movie in space. —ed.

CK: So you'd say that the werewolf genre is a burgeoning one, with many possibilities still to come?

SE: We could see the werewolf be to the aughts as the spy movies were to the 90s, and, er...early aughts.

CK: That would be very cool, I'd love to see that. All right, also, you're quite the scholar of the funny pages. I would contend that the comics are essentially dead in newspapers today. Do you think we'll be seeing a Renaissance in the printed medium, or is the future of the genre resting squarely in webcomics?

SE: Well, yeah, there are a lot of "web-comics" proponents. And I've seen some, although they're not strictly in the comic form, I mean, if you read Scott McCloud he has a nice theory about new mediums and how they arise: they kind of take the old medium and kind of just stick it in a new format, but then, after a while, it adjusts. And I don't think you'll just be, like, reading *Dilbert* comics just online—nobody likes to do that, you have to scroll across. But interactive stuff, like if you check out homestarrunner.com, it's a web site...

CK: [*singing*] And Trogdor comes in the NIIIIIIIGHT!!!

SE: [*screaming*] TROGDOR!!!!

CK: I love that Trogdor.

SE: [*laughs*] That's not a comic, by strict definitions. But that sort of thing, these cult following things I think will grow and grow and those will become kind of the new entertainment medium for the proletariat.

CK: Yes, comics: long the medium of the proletariat.

SE: Yeah. As far as print comics, they really are certainly not like what we had originally.

CK: I mean, I think they'll keep going, but there just won't be any influxes of new ideas.

SE: I mean, you have occasionally good stuff, but those things dry out relatively quickly.

Like *Dilbert* was something quite funny and original, but now it's getting tired;

Boondocks was really clever, but...

CK: But those ones you bring up, also, are really funny writing, they're not necessarily funny "comics."

SE: Hm.

CK: I think those are well written, but would it be that different to have that in paragraph form without any pictures? As opposed to say, I mean 20s work or in the latter day *Calvin and Hobbes* where the motion and the art was part in parcel with the good writing.

SE: Yeah, I see, you have the "talking heads" problem.

CK: It's almost a waste of the medium.

SE: Interesting. Perhaps. I can't really think of any. You've got *Calvin and Hobbes*, um, as far as the Sunday funnies go the comics are dead. You were right the first time.

CK: Okay. This one has bugged me for years: Who were the Mandalorians, and what's so darned special about their body armor?

SE: [*laughs*] A good question. More and more is being developed. You know, history is being, not rewritten, but filled in in such a way which had only been hinted at before, if you catch my drift.

CK: I think I do...and I'm motioning to my nose as I'm saying that *a la* charades.

SE: Obviously Boba Fett and his father, Jango Fett, whom we've met, have some sort of connection with the Mandalorians. But they are a race, or a religion, it's not quite clear—

it's practically synonymous—that were very powerful and their armor was very reputable. Although they were just good mercenaries—warriors. But they, previous to *Episode I*, were wiped out, almost, by the Jedi. Jango Fett...

CK: So they were bad guys?

SE: Well, they're mercenaries, so they can be either good or bad. They have their codes of honor, as are exemplified by Boba Fett in various literary forms. Jango Fett was not a Mandalorian but he was raised by them as an orphan or something. And, then, Boba Fett is his cloned son, and there you go. So you have a particular, er, Boba and Jango have a particular hatred of the Jedi because of their wiping out of their...um...

CK: Foster race?

SE: Foster race. Exactly. So I think there's going to be a lot of neat stuff on them. They're the only ones who seem to be able to do anything against the Jedi besides, you know, the Sith.

CK: Yeah.

SE: I don't really...battle droids: nothing. You know...yeah, exactly.

CK: Well, anything else you'd like to share with the Hitchcock public at large while you have your platform?

SE: Public at large? Oh, goodness. This is a good question...Film Fest is coming up.

CK: Film Fest comin' up!

SE: Pretty big, you should expect Sarah, Corrigan, and I...

CK: Oh, wonderful.

SE: As for the...

CK: Looking back...at Shakespeare...THROUGH some sort of glass.

SE: *[laughs]* Yeah, *Shakespeare in a Glass*, I think I'd like to talk about that for a moment.

CK: By all means.

SE: That was a wonderful project to work on. I don't think it ever quite reached what could have been, at least as far as the project as presented for the Film Festival. It was very enjoyable, but, like all my projects, it was kind of rushed. It was the telling of the making of the movie in the movie which is always a fun idea. But I recall when I came up with the idea for *Shakespeare in a Glass*, we were in Bartlett last year sometime and I was drinking milk and I don't remember why, but I said, "We should do Shakespeare...IN A GLASS!" And both Corrigan and Sarah were confused, but I explained it: what if Shakespeare was in a liquid form in which you could drink? And so we made *Shakespeare*.

CK: Movie history was made...hearkening back to the Norse concepts of meads of poetry, the Odrorir and...

SE: You catch my...

CK: I do, yes, the Scandinavian religious imagery that permeates all your work.

*[speaking like James Lipton from **Inside the Actor's Studio**]* Whitney Houston once said that Corrigan smells like apples...comments?

SE: *[laughs]* Corrigan? I think he kind of smells like physics most of the time.

CK: All right then, thank you very much for letting me interview you.

SE: No problem.

And with that, Sebastian ran back to his Matthews House lair. But that was not all we would hear from the paperclip humanoid-bearing figure that night, for no sooner did I sit down to transcribe this interview than did a knock come to my door. A knock that meant

Sebastian Interview: Part 2: Electric Interview.

CK: And we're back with Sebastian, who has something to add to the previously recorded speech.

SE: So, let's talk about my activities here in the dorm. This is kind of an all-encompassing thing as far as the people of Hitchcock are concerned. I like to come here and do what has been dubbed "peripatetic carousing."

CK: Ah, yes.

SE: Which is, essentially, just going around and seeing lots and lots of people and talking with them. I find it to be an engaging activity. When I go around and do this, one, I tend to leave my cloak or robe places. Now, certain things: people tend to think I've melted into the ground—this isn't true, don't be confused. Other times, people like to think, "Hey, I'll take advantage of this situation and hide it in a clever place."

CK: Someone did that?

[tape runs out here, tape switched]

SE: Yes. Funny? You're probably right, but regardless, you shouldn't do it. And also, when I see people in a surprised-type manner, I often ask, "(insert name here), what are you doing here?" Now, we both realize that the person I'm talking to lives here and I don't, there's no need to point that out. You could come up with some witty or otherwise interesting response—that will make both of our parts in the conversation more enjoyable. That's all I have to say.

CK: Where did you just go?

SE: I went back to Matthews House.

CK: You were like, bookin' over there.

SE: Yeah, yeah, and then I came back here. I had to organize the Penetration Night crew.

CK: What is being penetrated tonight?

SE: Well, actually nothing this week, it got postponed. Too many people out at Bar Night, I can't believe it. Next week: Max Palevsky East.

CK: Ooh, Palevsky East. Nice.

SE: So, all I have to say is, "San Dimas High School Football rules."

CK: Yes it does. All right, thank you.

COME TO MOVIE NIGHTS 9:00 SUNDAY IN THE REC ROOM

Submitted for your approval,
Christian Kammerer