

TOUCHDOWN JESUS STRUCK DOWN BY ACT OF GOD (OR MAYBE AL GORE)

✖ This is perhaps a post that klynn and Leen (and BoxTurtle, too?) will appreciate more than the rest of you. Because they, like me, have undoubtedly almost crashed their car because they were laughing so hard as they drove by Touchdown Jesus, which is a mighty gaudy distraction just east of 75 north of Cincinnati.

Or should I say was?

Because last night an Act of God—in the form of a lightning strike—destroyed Touchdown Jesus. (Thanks to cbf for alerting me of the target of this particular Act of God; for video, go [here](#).)

Though I tend to think it was not so much an Act of God as an Act of (fat) Al Gore—or rather, climate change. After all, climate change is likely the more direct cause of the really crazy weather we're having this year. And this Act of God occurred just one week after tornadoes took part of the roof off Michigan's Cabelas (which, for you arugula-eating Coasters, is a temple to hunting culture much cherished in flyover country), which is MI's biggest tourist site and, like Touchdown Jesus, is also a testament to the hubris of Americans.

I think climate change is trying to tell us something.

(Touchdown Jesus photo by Morhange under *Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 3.0*)

OBAMA MONTY HALL TO GIVE LOVELY PARTING GIFTS TO BP DEATH VICTIMS

Obama has suddenly announced his determination to have an empathy fest with the family and friends of the deceased victims of the criminally negligent BP Deepwater Horizon disaster. they deserve much better, and more, than that.

GEORGE WILL GOES BIPOLAR OVER BROWN

George Will comments on the new Arizona immigration law and proves he is past his "use by" date and needs to be put out to pasture with the other jackasses.

BOB LUTZ HANGS UP ON ED WHITACRE'S GM

With the quick corporate profit vultures and Wall Street wizards flailing about at GM for immediate returns; Bob Lutz, the last real car guy left in key management, walks away.

SCOTUS SCUTTLES PROP 8 VIDEO COVERAGE; THE HISTORY BEHIND THE DENIAL

As you may have heard (See [here](#) and [here](#)), the Supreme Court has entered a last minute stay to put a hold on the video feed of the seminal Prop 8 trial in the Northern District of California (NDCA) to select other Federal courthouses in the country as well as the delayed release of video clips of the proceedings via YouTube. It is a disappointing decision for many reasons.

THE NEW ROBBER BARONS

There has been an unsavory blending of the private interests of corporations and financial institutions with the power and hand of the US government that has created a new breed of robber barons that will prove the downfall of the American society and empire if left unchecked.

THE DOMA DECISIONS IN THE 9TH CIRCUIT

The Obama Administration, which ran hard on relief to the GLBT community and protection and equal protection of their rights, has made a practice of hiding behind the DOMA, which they once scorned when seeking to be elected, to deny

equal protection. Prominent judges, from both sides of the spectrum, are calling foul.

LATE NIGHT: PUNKIN THE WHITE HOUSE

That's punkin, not pumpkin my fellow gobblers and gobblees. Yes indeedy, the White House has been officially punked. Late breaking from the Washington Post:



A couple of aspiring reality-TV stars from Northern Virginia appear to have crashed the White House's state dinner Tuesday night, penetrating layers of security with no invitation to mingle with the likes of Vice President Biden and White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel.

Tareq and Michaela Salahi – polo-playing socialites known for a bitter family feud over a Fauquier County winery and their possible roles in the forthcoming “The Real Housewives of Washington” – were seen arriving at the White House and later posted on Facebook photos of themselves with VIPs at the elite gathering.

...

While the White House offered no official explanation, it appears to be the first time in modern history that anyone has crashed a White House state dinner. The uninvited guests were in the same room as President Obama, first lady Michelle Obama and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, although it is unknown whether they met the Obamas and the guest of honor.

Here is the best part – they had their picture

taken with the one and only *Ron* Emanuel:

But the best was yet to come: Once inside the dinner tent, they got pictures that appeared to show them with ABC's Robin Roberts, Bollywood composer AR Rahman, PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi, Obama Chief of Staff Emanuel (**identified as "Ron" in the couple's Facebook photo caption**) and two with a grinning vice president. (Emphasis added)

So, that is a pretty good story; but here is an even better one of some punkin going on at the White House, courtesy of the inestimable Howie Klein.

Howie tells the story of how he arranged for Lou Reed to attend and perform for an official Clinton White House State Dinner for Vaclev Havel, President of the Czech Republic:

One of the "big" news stories yesterday was the State Dinner President Obama gave in honor of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who, like CNN's Sanji Gupta— a guest— is a doctor. 400 people were invited— probably 200 + 1 each, but I'm not certain— and it was in a heated tent on the lawn. I have a half-baked reason for telling the story of the state dinner I went to in September, 1998

...

I understood exactly what President Clinton wanted— and delivered. Havel and Lou Reed, a Reprise artist and a friend of mine, had such a powerful bond that Havel actually credited him with being part of the inspiration for the Velvet Revolution that freed Czechoslovakia from Soviet domination.

...

Everyone was grooving out (Henry Kissinger, Ted Stevens, Eric Holder, Kurt Vonnegut, Jane Harman, Chuck Hagel and 2 generals, John Shalikashvili and

my new pal, Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff)—not just Lugar—and I kept wondering if anyone had any clue what the lyrics were. Clinton certainly didn't. He got up onstage and played his sax.

Now that is some punkin the White House!

THE POLITICO VILLAGERS GO DEER HUNTING!

Yesterday on Morning Joe on MSNBC, Mike Allen of Politico proudly announced that he, the managing editor at Politico, John Harris, and Politico executive editor Jim VanderHei all went on their first deer hunt Monday. Must have been some event!

MIKA BRZEZINSKI AND HER 7% HUSBAND

Mika Brzezinski says it's harder to find a husband than find a job. I think she needs to do some