

**30 TOMORROW'S MUSIC TODAY: THE ULTIMATE BUYER'S GUIDE!**

# ALTERNATIVE PRESS

#213 APRIL 2006

**WIRETAPPI**  
**THE AP POLL**  
BY SCOTT HEISEL

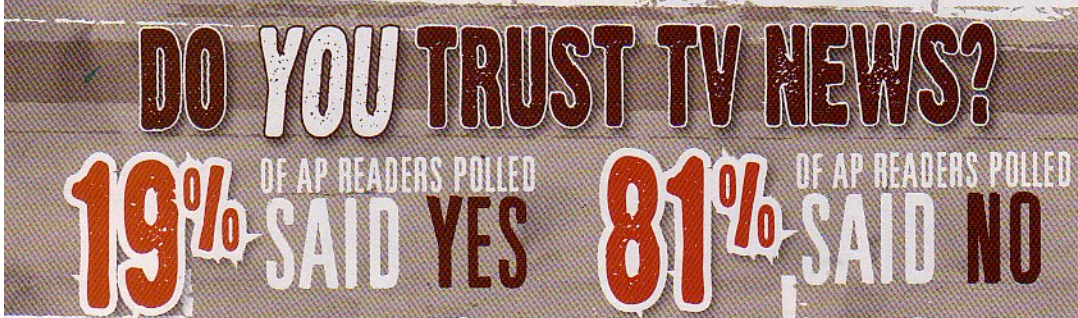
## THE ALTERNATIVE PRESS POLL

I LOST FAITH in the news when I was 8. My Cub Scout den had just finished going on a field trip, and on our way home, our den leaders stopped at McDonald's. As we entered the friendly confines, we had a reporter and cameraman approach our whole group, explaining they were looking for children's opinions on the environment or pollution or something. (What, you expect me to remember all the details?)

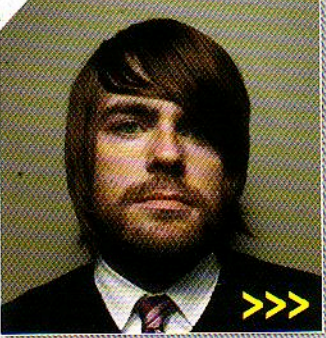
Being the loudmouth I was, I immediately volunteered to be interviewed—I mean, what 8-year-old wouldn't want to be on the news? So I gave my spiel, and afterward, the

cameraman took down my name, indicating I would be on that evening's broadcast. My family and I gathered around the TV that night, waiting for my network-television debut, and finally, it aired. My face was on TV.

With the name "SCOTT HEISEZ" under it. I was crushed. Z is on the whole opposite side of the keyboard from L! How does someone make that mistake? At that moment, I decided to not take everything the news says at face value. I mean, if they can't even spell my last name right, how do I know anything else is accurate?



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Yeah, I trust it a percentage of the time. TV news is influenced by opinion, money and what the audience wants. The audience wouldn't

pay attention to boring news. If people didn't watch, ratings would plummet. When ratings plummet, that affects money. The audience wants excitement and scandal. We can't lie to ourselves and say we're not a part of the problem.

**TOBY MORELLE, Emery**

We used to know this satellite pirate who hooked it up for us when we had a home base. During 9/11, we taped 36 hours of local channel news from every city in the country. There were some fucked-up things that happened in Florida and Philadelphia and other places that they only mentioned once, and then never mentioned again. Everything on the major cable

networks is filtered to fulfill the government scheme of the month. Your government is a bunch of bad actors. The weird thing you notice about the local channels from city to city is that everything is catered to the regional stereotypes. It is alarming: Cowboys are on McDonald's commercials in Texas, but in New York and Chicago, they have kids listening to hip-hop in city streets. And it's like that in every demographic. Be aware of what is in front of your face. Seek the truth in unconventional places.

**VALIENT HIMSELF, Valient Thorr**

No way. The Weather Channel is run by fascist Republicans, and they tell you it's gonna be sunny when it's not so they can rain on your parade. TV news is all subliminal mind control and fear mongering. In closing, I'd like to say that either George W. Bush or Satan—maybe both!—has their hand up Bill O'Reilly's ass and works his mouth like a hand puppet. Can I still say that in America?

**MATT BREEN, Emanuel**

I trust TV news about as much as I trust a Lebanese hooker.

**TAD KUBLER, The Hold Steady**

