

Excerpt from:

“Editorials presaged authorial style, voice”

by Isaac Arnsdorf and Victor Zapana

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“.....While (William F., Jr.) Buckley’s punditry matured in the pages of the (Yale Daily) News, “God and Man at Yale” was born in a 500-seat sociology lecture, when professor **Raymond Kennedy** called Catholicism “a bundle of voodoo mumbo jumbo.”

“Buckley went catatonic” after hearing that remark, recalled fellow News editor Clifford Brokaw ’50.

Buckley wanted to write a “vicious” editorial about Kennedy, who he called “Jungle Jim,” Brokaw said. Aware that he lacked the Board’s support for such a piece, Buckley threatened to resign if his fellow editors did not back him.

After a moment of “dead silence,” Buckley said, “On second thought, I’m not going to resign,” Brokaw recalled.

But he wrote a series of editorials criticizing Kennedy anyway, which some readers thought were excessively vindictive, News Vice Chairman William Carlin ’50 said. When the board met to discuss the controversy, however, the editors decided the chairman should be free to express his opinion, according to Carlin.”

<http://yaledailynews.com/blog/2008/02/28/editorials-presaged-authorial-style-voice/>