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TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2005

CNN's Fact Error: "Awaiting Name of 265th Pope" -- Nope, It's The 263rd Pope

by Michael in New York on [4/19/2005 12:29:00 PM](#)

This confusion arises because Benedict IX held the office of bishop of Rome on three separate occasions in the eleventh century. Therefore, there have been 264 pontificates, if you will, but only 262 Popes counting from Peter to John Paul II. So whomever is named today will be the 263rd man to become Pope. Just one quick way to impress your friends courtesy of Americablog. (MSNBC makes the same mistake and Fox News avoids naming a number, at least on its scroll.)



JOHN'S PHOTOS



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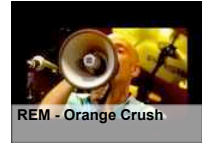
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