

Playboy On The Scene

WHAT'S HAPPENING, WHERE IT'S HAPPENING AND WHO'S MAKING IT HAPPEN



Gonzo but Not Forgotten

A fascinating new book opens a window into the life of Hunter S. Thompson

As things stand now," a 21-year-old Hunter S. Thompson wrote in June 1959, "I am going to be a writer. I'm not sure that I'm going to be a good one or even a self-supporting one, but until the dark thumb of fate presses me to the dust and says, 'You are nothing,' I will be a writer." Of course, you know how the rest of this story goes. What you may not know: This month Ammo Books is releasing *Gonzo* by Thompson, a scrapbook of photos and documents that piece together a captivating portrait of a man who spent a lifetime chasing his muse beyond the barriers of conventional

wisdom and political correctness. A visual biography of sorts, the book includes Thompson's press card for *The Jersey Shore Herald*, where he got his first writing job after leaving the military; notebook scribbles that later turned into *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*; endless photos of and by the master; plus various and sundry bits of Thompson lore. The only thing missing from this celebration of the man is the good doctor himself. (Following his suicide in 2005, his ashes were fired from a cannon on his property in Woody Creek, Colorado.) The book is available at ammobooks.com for \$300.