<u>Cheese White Cheddar Creams With Crispy Bacon</u> <u>(Soup) - The Post & Courier</u>

I think of this as fondue soup. Serves 6

Ingredients

3 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 ½ cups finely chopped onion
1 tablespoon minced garlic
¼ cup flour
4 ½ cups chicken stock
1 ½ cups half-and-half
Cayenne pepper to taste
¼ cup dry white wine
12 ounces grated sharp white cheddar cheese
Kosher salt
6 cooked bacon slices, broken into 1-inch squares
6 green onions, including green tops, or fresh snipped chives

Directions

Heat the butter in a large, heavy pot over medium heat. When hot, add the onions and cook until soft, 3-4 minutes, add the garlic, and cook briefly. Stir in the flour and stir on the heat a couple of minutes. Stir in the stock and half-and-half, bring to a boil, and reduce the heat to a simmer. Add cayenne pepper judiciously to taste, the wine and grated cheese. Taste and add salt as desired.

This can be prepared one or two days ahead, cooled, refrigerated and covered until needed. When ready to serve, ladle hot soup into 6 bowls and garnish with bacon and onions or chives. Serve with good bread.