Queso

Makes: 1 Quart

Ingredients:

Unsalted Butter: 1 tsp. Peeled Spanish Onions, small diced: 2 Tbsp. Fresh Jalapeno Peppers, minced with seed: 3 Tbsp. Green Bell Peppers, small dice: 2 tsp. Red Bell Peppers, small dice: 2 tsp. Diced Tomatoes: ¼ cup Ground Cumin: 1 tsp. Onion Powder: ³/₄ tsp. Smoked Paprika: ½ tsp. Granulated Garlic: ½ tsp. Cayenne Pepper: ½ tsp. Chili Powder: ½ tsp. White Pepper: ½ tsp. Sauteed Vegetable Base: 2 ½ tsp. Heavy Whipping Cream: 1 Cup + 3 Tbsp. Half and Half: 1 Cup + 3 Tbsp. Water: 2 ½ tsp. Sliced American Cheese: 3 ³/₄ oz. Shredded Pepper Jack Cheese: 1 ¼ oz. Plain Cream Cheese: 1 ¼ oz. Thick Chunky Salsa: 1 Tbsp. + ½ tsp. Franks Hot Sauce: ¼ tsp.

Instructions:

- 1. Melt butter in a kettle.
- 2. Add onions, peppers and tomato and sweat for 4-5 minutes.
- 3. Add spices and vegetable base, stir well and cook 2-3 minutes more.
- 4. Add both creams and bring to a low boil.
- 5. Combine water and starch to make a slurry. Add to simmering cream and bring to a low/medium boil for 10 minutes.
- 6. Reduce heat and add all cheeses in batches; stir until completely melted.
- 7. Add whole milk, salsa and red hot, stir through.
- 8. Adjust seasoning to taste and serve as needed or chill and reserve.