

Julie Scott '80

# CHAT



NEWSZINE OF THE CHATTANOOGA SCIENCE  
FICTION ASSOCIATION...

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CHAT is a newszine of Southern Fan  
News, and is sponsored by the Chat-  
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We encourage submissions of art, re-  
views, letters of comment, and news.  
Written material should be concise,  
no more than one page double-spaced  
unless previous arrangements have  
been made with us. While CHAT

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a forum for fanwriters and artists; a

complimentary copy is given to all contributors who aren't already receiving it. Opin-  
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DEADLINE for CHAT 37 - Sunday, September 28, for articles and letters of comment.

*"What no wife of a writer can ever understand is that a writer is working when he's  
staring out of the window." - Burton Roscoe*

**NOREASCON!** Noreascon Two, the 1980 World Science Fiction Convention in  
Boston, with (as of Aug. 31) 5,755 bodies in attendance, became the highest  
attended science fiction convention of all time (previous high was Iguana-  
con in 1978 with 4283 attending). In spite of the large number of attend-  
ees, most program items came off smoothly, and right on time. In fact,  
for a convention that size, there were very few problems of any kind.  
Relative weak points of the convention were the people-moving bottlenecks  
at the entrance to the Hynes Auditorium hucksters area from the hotel and  
the continual (and sometimes interminable) wait on the hotel elevators, and  
the somewhat disappointing quality of many (most?) of the masquerade  
costumes. The Hugo Ceremony itself had a few organizational problems  
(such as Lin Carter not being in attendance to present the Gandalf) and  
and unfortunate presence of a few people who felt they had to shout com-  
ments at the stage proceedings during Toastmaster Robert Silverberg's  
monologue and introductory remarks. However, all these relative problem  
areas were minor compared to organizational strenghts and lack of contro-  
versy. It will go down as perhaps the best run WorldCon to date. (DL)

**ASFICON.** ASFiCon, Aug. 22-24 in Atlanta, drew about 450 registered  
members, making it the fourth largest DeepSouthConvention ever. The high-  
light of the convention was the banquet, which featured a Jerry Page  
roast, and presentation of the annual Southern fandom Rebel award (pre-  
sented this year to Jerry Page) and Southern pro Phoenix award (presented  
this year in absentia to Piers Anthony). Other convention highlights  
were the annual Hearts tournament, won this year by Guy Coburn, and Fan  
GoH Mike Glycer's speech on "jackboot fandom". The relatively weak point  
of the convention was the Art Show which had shortened hours on Saturday  
and the Art Auction which dragged on somewhat and forced an additional  
impromptu auction Sunday in the Art Show room. The Southern Fandom Con-  
federation business meeting Sunday resulted in election of Memphis fan  
P.L. Carruthers as SFC Vice President and the awarding of the 1981 Deep-  
SouthCon to Birmingham, whose bid was unopposed. (DL)





## HUGO AWARD WINNERS

Dramatic Presentation:

Novel: *The Fountains of Paradise*--Arthur C. Clarke

Novella: "Enemy Mine"--Barry B. Longyear

Novellette: "Sandkings"--George R.R. Martin

Short Story: "The Way of Cross and Dragon"--George R.R. Martin

Non-Fiction Book: *The Science Fiction Encyclopedia* (Peter Nicholls, ed.)

Pro Editor: George Scithers (*Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine*)

Pro Artist: Michael Whelan

Fan Writer: Bob Shaw

Fan Artist: Alexis Gilliland

Fanzine: *Locus* (Charles N. Brown, ed.)

## OTHER AWARDS, ETC.

John W. Campbell Award for Best New

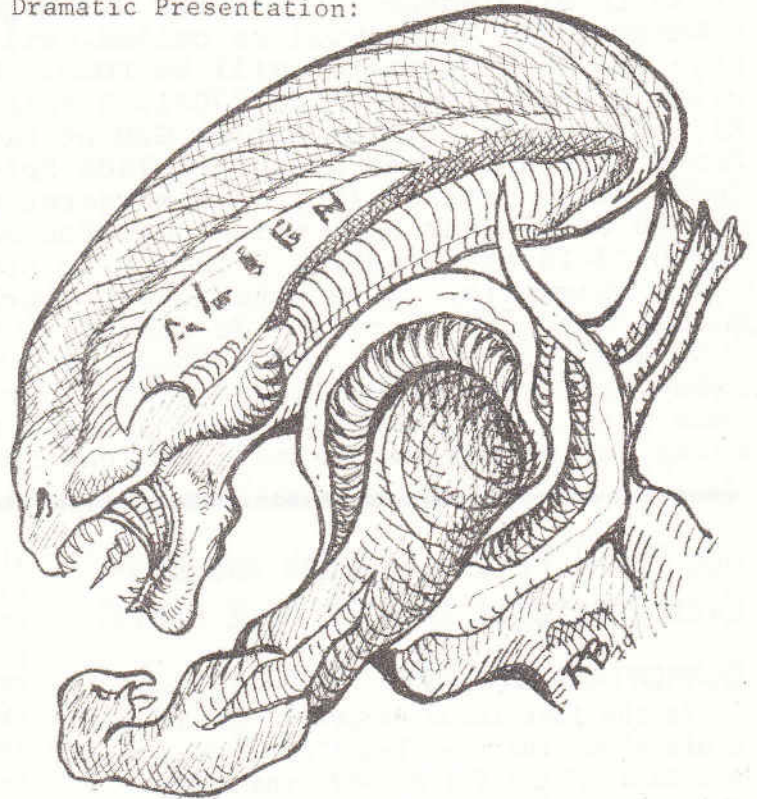
Writer: Barry B. Longyear

Gandalf Award for Grandmaster of Fantasy: Ray Bradbury

First Fandom Award: George O. Smith

Big Heart Award: Lou Tabakow

1982 Worldcon Site Selection: Chicago



**SEPTEMBER MEETING POTPOURRI OF EVENTS.** The August meeting of the CSFA was a farwell-to-summer bash held at the Rustic Village Apartments. Andy Purcell provided the hamburgers for the assembled fen who spent their time swimming, lounging around the pool, playing basketball or tennis, and, (for a few) talking about SF and movies. At the short business meeting chaired by Tim Bolgeo the following change was made concerning club dues: effective at the September meeting, the club dues will be \$2 per meeting. What changes, if any were made in the annual dues, were not mentioned. The \$2 per meeting is PER HOUSEHOLD and has no effect on those who have already paid dues through a period of time. After that business, the party ran until late in the evening. The September meeting will be Sept. 20 at 7:30 PM at the UTC Student Center in the Lookout Mtn. Room. The program will be a lively mixture of sercon and fannish interest. There will be a book discussion lead by Kurt Thompson, of *The Number of the Beast*, the latest by Robert A. Heinlein. Come prepared, for Kurt warns us that he is a stalwart Heinlein fan! Of fannish interest, the club members who were at the 1980 World SF Convention in Boston, Noreascon II, will have a report on what went on and how things ran. The Lynches will also have a display of zines and fliers left over from the Fan Room; all materials will be available for members to take home. On the possible side-there is scheduled to be a 5-minute talk on the history of fantasy minitures and a discussion of "SF and the Movies", the latter being non-existent at the last meeting. All in all, it should be a full evening of interesting things as well as the usual eating-after-the-meeting. To find the UTC Student Center: Take I-124 to the 4th St. exit (last before Tenn. River bridge). Go on 4th St. for about 8/10 mile to Mabel St., and turn right on Mabel. Go 2 blocks (bearing right) and turn left onto Vine St. (which is 1-way). Go 2½ blocks. The Student Center is on the left side; look for its sign. The meeting room is on the ground floor, near the information desk. For questions: Mike Rogers 266-0298. (NWL)



**SOUTHERN CONVENTIONS UPDATE.** The 1981 DeepSouthCon will be held Aug. 28-30 in Birmingham, AL, at the Birmingham Hilton. Guest of Honor for B'hamacon II, as it will be called, will be Jack Vance; MC will be Jerry Page and Hank Reinhardt will be FGoH. Memberships are \$8 to Oct. 15; write B'hamacon (P.O. Box 57031, Birmingham, AL 35259) for more info.// Michael Whelan will be Artist GoH at MidSouthCon, June 5-7 in Chattanooga. Previously announced guests include Spider and Jeannie Robinson (writer GoH), Wilson Tucker (MC), and Margaret Middleton (Fan GoH). Memberships are \$8 until year end; write CHAT for more info.// CoastCon '81 will be March 13-15 at the Royal D'Iberville hotel in Biloxi, MS. GoH will be Jerry Pournelle, while other guests include Wendy and Richard Pini, George Alec Effenger, and Jo Clayton. For more info, contact CoastCon, P.O. Box 6025, Biloxi, MS 39532. // A new Atlanta SF convention will debut next year on Halloween weekend at the Tucker, GA, Hilton (site of this year's DeepSouthCon). No details are available yet on guests, hotel rates, or membership rates. Con chairman will be Rich Howell. (DL)

## HOT DAMN! FLYING SAUCERS AND BUG-EYED MONSTERS! (PART 2 OF 2 PARTS)

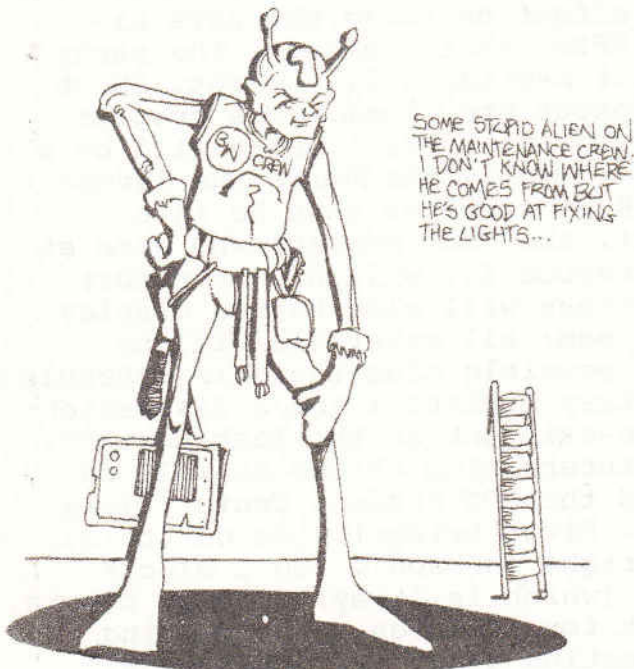
### COMMENTARY BY DAVID PETTUS...

In the last issue of CHAT I talked just a bit about the re-release of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, the movie. This issue I'd like to talk just a bit about "close encounters of the third kind", the phenomenon.

For those of you not in the know, Spielberg's film is *not* just a science fiction movie. Rather, it is a statement--an "update" on the current theoretical scenario (the most popular one, at least) that UFO researchers have been offering us for these past few years. Most of the UFO-related incidents, as well as the aliens

themselves, which appear in the movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind-Special Edition*, are based upon authenticated reports as collected and investigated by UFO research groups like APRO (Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization), MUFON (Mutual UFO Network), NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomenon) and the Center for UFO Studies. And these organizations are not comprised of starry-eyed individuals who think that UFO's are here to invade earth, or save it, as the case may be. Rather, these organizations are comprised of, mostly, intelligent, qualified people with a sincere interest and desire in learning more about the lights that folks like you and I see in the sky. "UFOlogy" is a scientific endeavor.

UFOlogy is, at this stage of the game, an interdisciplinary science. Which is to say that scientists from various fields--physical, biological, and social/psychological science--are involved. And this is certainly a good thing...after all, how can we learn more about, and, ultimately, understand *any* phenomenon if we take only one basic assumption for granted in our study? An interdisciplinary approach is needed in UFO research. Though the extra-terrestrial hypothesis is, by far, the most popular hypothesis regarding the UFO phenomenon, it is certainly not the only hypothesis! In fact, the most creative, and imaginative hypothesis that I have encountered must be the notion, based upon the work of Trevor James Comstable, an aviation and military historian, that UFO's are *not* intergalactic space



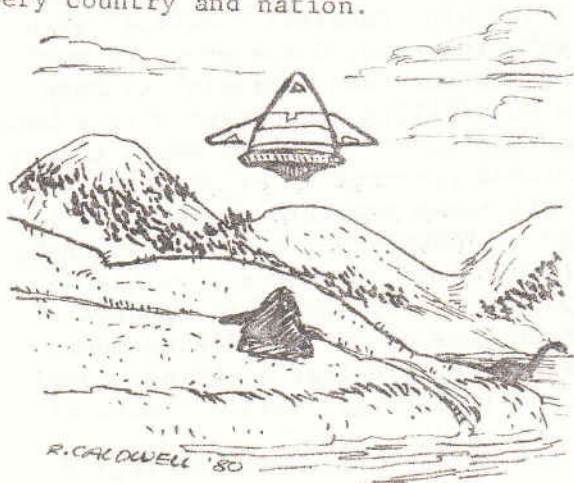
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Hot Damn! (cont.)

visitors--rather, Constable asserts that all of those strange lights in the sky are, in fact, "critters", or nearly invisible biological organisms native to our atmosphere, which can be observed only when specific atmospheric conditions prevail, and which have been living side by side with us, unnoticed, for all these years. You can read more about this stuff in *Skyscreatures: Living UFO's* (Pocket Books, \$1.95), which is a popularized version of Constable's *The Cosmic Pulse of Life* (1976), which is based upon ideas that Constable first put upon paper back in 1958 in a book titled *They Live in the Sky, They Live in the Sky*, a rare classic in the general field of UFOlogy. (Yes, yes!! There are "classics" in UFOlogy, just as there are "classics" in science fiction...more about that later.) In a nutshell, Constable argues that UFOs are *living organisms*; amoebalike life forms existing in the Plasma state. As do most Plasmas, Constable's "Critters" give a solid radar return, even when unseen by the naked eye.

But for me, it isn't what UFOs are that is most interesting. What is important is that UFO sightings, that is the people who report seeing lights in our skies, is a social phenomenon that crosses every social boundry--UFOs are reported by the rich and the poor, blacks and whites, men and women, children and adults, scientists and non-scientist alike. The incidence of UFO sightings is not specific to a particular group of individuals or geographic locale. It may just interest you to know that sightings occur the world over, UFO sightings are not something Americans have copyright on; reports of strange lights in the air are common in every country and nation.



Once and a while, a concentrated group of UFO sightings occurs. UFOlogists call them "Flaps", and it is of interest to note that UFO "Flaps" move geographically over a period of time, and in a specific direction. A French UFOlogist by the name of Jacques Vallee has done some very extensive research in this area of study, and you can learn a bit about his theories in a couple of very good books; *Anatomy of a Phenomenon: UFOs in Space, A Scientific Appraisal* (Ballantine Books, \$1.95) and *Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma* (Ballantine Books, \$1.95).

And what about the UFOs we saw in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*? You guessed it, folks, they are each and every one patterned after the various types and categories of UFOs that researchers like Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director of the Center for UFO Studies, located in Evanston, IL, have catalogued over many years of UFO research and investigation. Hynek, by the way, can easily be considered the world's foremost UFOlogist. He first became involved in UFOlogy (long before the term UFOlogy even existed!) when the U.S. Air Force began their "Project Blue Book", which was an attempt upon the Military's part to collect, evaluate, and explain UFO sightings as reported to them by concerned Americans. The Air Force employed Hynek, then a Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University, as a consultant, and Hynek's association with UFOs has become an increasingly important part of his life. Today, Hynek is a Professor of Astronomy in name only...he is, first and foremost, a UFOlogist!

Project Blue Book was a farce. The Air Force was attempting to explain every single UFO report that they received, and so Hynek had to invent some pretty weird explanations sometimes...if you've ever heard reference to "marsh gas" in relation to an explanation for a UFO sighting, it will interest you to know that it was Hynek who invented the term, in order to explain several sightings that he could not explain otherwise. Fancy words explain fancy sightings, you see. I understand that Hynek is somewhat ashamed of all of that now-a-days, and well he should be. Marsh gas...good God!

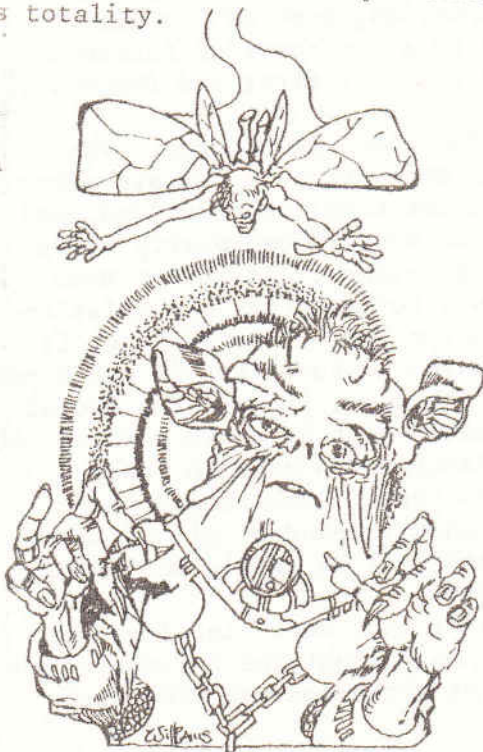
Be that as it may, most sightings are explainable. Only about one percent of the total number of sightings reported each

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Hot Damn! (cont.)

year are labled "unexplained". But, of course, that is one percent of the sightings that no one can explain...and if only one of those sightings is the real thing. Well, I'll let you ponder that for yourself. Hynek acted as Technical Advisor for *Close Encounter of the Third Kind*, and even made a brief appearance in the film near the end of the movie. Hynek worked as an Air Force Consultant for over twenty years, and has just recently published a book, titled *The Hynek UFO Report* (Dell Books, \$1.95), which chronicles his experiences with Project Blue Book. More importantly, however, Hynek is the author of a book titled *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Enquiry* (Ballantine Books, \$1.95) from which Speilberg got the title for his popular film, "close encounters of the third kind". Perhaps I should point out, right now, that the books I'm making mention of here are not "gosh-wow" sensationalized examples of UFO literature. As is the case of all literary forms, ninety percent of UFO-related literature is trash. Not worth the reading. The books listed herein are good books. Each and every one a class act. Not every book accomplishes the same thing that every other book accomplishes, but not every book is meant to do that. Each book helps to "build" upon the other, offering the reader a clear and analytical understanding of the UFO phenomenon in its totality.



Hynek wrote *The UFO Experience* back in 1972. In it, he catagorizes UFO sightings into three major catagories, or classes of sightings. Oddly enough, Hynek's book is the first to do this successfully, despite the large number of attempts by other researcher to do the very same thing earlier. Hynek wrote this book just after the Air Force dumped Project Blue Book into the laps of "The Condon Committee" at the University of Colorado. The Condon Committee was headed by Dr. Edward U. Condon, a Physicist of some reputation in the late sixties, and, after two years of study, a 937 page "Condon Report" was released by the University of Colorado and the results were definitely slanted in favor of the "nothing to be alarmed about folks! There is no evidence that there is anything to this UFO stuff" scholl of thought--this despite the fact that one-fourth of the cases which the Condon Committee studied remained labeled "unexplained". So the UFO problem was dropped. The Air Force didn't want it. The University of Colorado didn't want it. In fact, *nobody* wanted it...except Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

And so came *The UFO Experience*. By now everyone is familiar with Hynek's three major classes of UFO sightings; close encounters of the first, second, and third kinds. A close encounter of the first kind is simply a sighting. You've got yourself a close encounter of the second kind when the UFO leaves some kind of physical evidence behind...indentions in the ground, radioactive debris. In the movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, Roy Neary sticks his head outside his pick-up truck window to see a UFO, and in doing so receives a severe sunburn on half of his face...that is an encounter of the second kind. Of course, a close encounter of the third kind involves "contact" with "animated" creatures; Hynek used the word "animated" rather than "animate" to keep open the possibility of contact with robots, or other non-flesh and blood types that are sometimes reported in sightings. UFOlogist call these creatures "occupants", "humanoids", "UFOonauts", and "UFOsapiens", among other things. Hynek grades his sightings on the basis of "strangeness"...and encounters of the third kind make for some of the strangest sightings ever!

If you'd like to get hold of one very

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Hot Damn! (cont.)

good "anthology" of encounter cases, get a book titled, *Encounter Cases From Flying Saucer Review* (Signet Books, \$1.75), edited by Charles Bowen. Back in 1955 a publication called the *Flying Saucer Review* emerged. It has never ceased publication since that time, and it is considered to be a top flight journal by UFOlogist everywhere today.

Again, I want to stress that, for me, what UFOs are is not at all important. It is the social phenomenon that fascinates me! People see UFOs, people study them, and people read the studies. If you feel that you might be more interested in this "sociological" aspect of UFOlogy, get hold of a book titled, *The UFO Controversy in America* (Signet Books, \$1.95) by David Michael Jacobs. This book is actually a popularized version of Jacob's Doctorial Dissertation in History; and that is just what the book is about! It is a historical

account of the UFO controversy in America, and for beginners, I highly recommend it as a classic introduction to UFOlogy. Arthur C. Clarke has called it "one of the few volumes ever published on the subject that is worth reading". And I'll back that up one-hundred percent.

You will understand, of course, that I've only scraped the surface here, mentioned only a few good books that you might read to get a taste and feel for what UFOlogy is all about. There are other good books, but I simply can't list them all here. But finding out for yourself is more fun! Perhaps next time you see Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* you'll better appreciate where he is coming from, and what he is trying to tell us. It is pretty well summed up in the title of a book, written in 1964 by a guy named Walter Sullivan, then science editor for the *New York Times*, *We Are Not Alone* (Signet Books, \$1.95).

Are we??



## BOOK REVIEWS ... BY BOB BARGER

*Roadmarks* by Roger Zelazny

It seems that I recall, when this book came out in hardcover a while back, that it received mostly unfavorable reviews. I can't imagine why, unless many readers expect more than just an exciting, imaginative, and very enjoyable adventure story from a writer of the stature of Zelazny.

The book is weak on characterization, true. But in an adventure story, I can overlook characterization to a considerable extent.

The major protagonist, Red Dorakeen, is traveling the Road in his blue, beat up, Dodge pickup as the story opens. The Road is much like Zelazny's concept of Shadow as outlines in the Amber books, except here

the Road runs directly from the distant past to the distant future, instead of the sidewise in time shadow-walking of the Amber Princes (although to be sure, by taking the proper side roads of the Road proper one can venture to just about any alternate world that one could wish for). Red Dorakeen is one of the few who can find and travel on the Road. Much like the Princes of Amber, in fact, for it is suggested that only people with the blood of the Road's creators in them are able to find and traverse the Road. At the book's opening, Red is engaged in smuggling guns (M-1's and Browning Automatic Rifles) to the Greeks at the Battle of Marathon. If the Greeks win, he thinks a new sideroad will be opened. Red has been traveling the road forever; he has forgotten from whence he came, but thinks that maybe if this sideroad is opened it will take him home. In the process of his adventures, he meets all sorts of interesting people, including Adolf Hitler and

"A big golden-eyes guy with one hell of a suntan," he said. "I met him at a rest stop back on the Road. Driving a hot little 1920's roadster. Had on a torn shirt. Said he was going to do a lobotomy on you with an ice-pick."

The above Red tells an assassin who is attempting to off him at a rest stop on the

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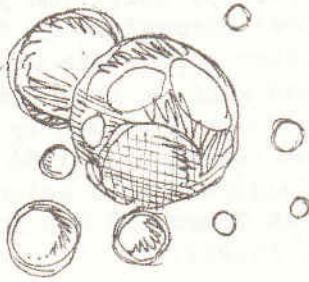


Book Reviews (cont.)

Road. And he isn't telling an untruth either.

This isn't suppose to be a serious book. I think many people lose sight of this facet of Zelazny. Namely, that he's not only a writer who can inject deep Meaning into his best stories, but a writer who's also one of the finest adventure writers in all of fantasy and SF--and probably the most imaginative, too.

This is a very enjoyable book, It doesn't have a Message, but it is one hell of a good story.



*Lord of the Trees and The Mad Goblin* by Phillip Jose Farmer

Perhaps the best known SF pornographic book ever written is *A Feast Unknown*, which purports to relate the real life stories of the real Doc Savage (in real life known as Doc Caliban) and Tarzan (in real life supposedly known as Lord Grandrith). It shows what a child raised by apes would really be like, as well as what a superman like Doc Savage would be like raised in a civilized environment. The two books above, which have always been published together, are both sequels to *A Feast Unknown* -- though carefully toned down in the sex if not in the violence.

*Lord of the Trees* deals with Lord Grandrith's adventures after *A Feast Unknown* until such time as he meets up with Doc Caliban again; likewise *The Mad Goblin* relates Caliban's adventures until he again encounters Grandrith.

Basically, Grandrith and Caliban, who have discovered they are half-brothers, have set out to destroy the Nine, who secretly control the world. I love it! A wonderful tribute to the pulps.

If you've avidly read all the Tarzan books and Doc Savage books, and still want more, then you have it with these books. Philip Jose Farmer loves the Tarzan and Doc Savage stories, and it shows in these books. He makes changes, but only those changes which logically follow from his

supposition that Tarzan and Doc Savage were real people, and that ERB and "Robeson" changed the real-life characteristics of these two heroes for the publication in the pulps. Somewhat idealizing them in some ways (for afterall, even if they are superhuman in some respects they do have human foibles).

Excellent pulp style adventure!

*The Number of the Beast* by Robert A. Heinlein (excerpted from an article to appear in SFPA)

I went out and bought a copy of Heinlein's new book, *The Number of the Beast*. Why not? *Time Enough for Love* got uniformly bad reviews, yet I found enough good parts in it to justify the price paid. I thought maybe I would like this new book. And anyway, I had to give my boyhood hero another chance to redeem himself fully after the fiasco that was *I Will Fear No Evil*. Heroes die hard.

Besides, Heinlein was reported to have had an operation which had increased to normal the blood flow to his brain. Rumor had it that he had thrown out the novel he had been working on as worthless and had started another (which was *Number of the Beast* one assumes). Certainly a constricted blood flow to the brain could explain the past three books... I could imagine Heinlein, in his new and revitalized state, running around to book store after book store and buying up copies of these last books and burning them in a big bonfire in front of his mansion, then cancelling contracts on all of them...you get the picture. I was, in short, looking for a miracle. In a sense *Number of the Beast* does have a miracle attached to it.

It seems a miracle that even Robert Anson Heinlein, the greatest SF writer to ever live, could sell this gobbler.

This sort of novel should have been cut onto mimeo stencils and ran through an apa; it's pretty good faan fiction, at least in a sense. What it is not is a good SF novel. The basic idea of the book isn't all that bad actually, a Heinlein of 20 years ago could have made a very enjoyable book out of it. Something on the order of a somewhat more fannish *Glory Road*. But this, this...Arrrgguuhhh! This book is an embarassment. Much the

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Book Reviews (cont.)

same as Johnny Weismuller's mental infirmities were an embarrassment (you remember when all the papers carried stories about the ex-Tarzan running amuck, giving his Tarzan yell repeatedly and swinging from trees?). What Heinlein is doing in this book is the literary equivalent of giving

Tarzan yells and swinging from the trees. Forgive me, for I have no desire to be cruel, especially to one of the true great men of SF, but if you are going to read this book be prepared to be embarrassed and to feel shame. I wish this book had never been published.

Let us take off our hats to the memory of a once great man.

EDITED BY NICKI LYNCH



Barney Neufeld  
2713-2nd Ave. So. #307  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

I kind of like  
this cover (34),  
even if your  
spaceman does

look like he's in pain.

There have been reports and rumors of Midwestcon changing hotels (again) ever since they moved to the current site, The Holidome. That is a sprawling monster which offers a vast and varied recreation area (all indoors) to play around in, but has none of the cozy-close feeling of Midwestcons before it. Quite a few have voiced consistent discontent with The Holidome, and I am not surprised that this Midwestcon is reported to have been a small one. Lou is intractable, however, and I'll congratulate him on his wisdom in changing sites when I actually see it happen.

Ralph Roberts makes some interesting points. But, he forgets one significant one. Fans (and writers), being slans, are

too ~~paranoid~~ intelligent to get involved in such a lost cause as he proposes. The impossible we may tackle ~~on Thursday~~ for the fun of it. The unalterable is beyond even our expertise.

I'd love to write to write more book reviews. But, I can't promise anything. Before you can review a book, you have to have time to read it, and I have so little of that these days that I'm lucky to have completed the few examples of my work you've been able to see. I am trying to better distribute the time I have available, and I shall definitely keep you in mind when (and if) I start reading again.

Re *The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy: RUNE 60* (coming to your mailbox RSN) has an article by Matthew Tepper which lists addresses for the record company and several (British) fanzines involved with it. You might be able to get information, or copies, through them.

((I believe I heard a rumor to the effect that the new Midwestcon hotel would be in KY next year. But I haven't seen it written anywhere, yet. It may become a southern con if it does relocate in KY.

Hope you can read and write some more books and reviews. Thanks for thinking of us!

Thanks for the tip about the HHGG article in *RUNE*; it is a fun article and I, for one, would like to get some of the zines devoted to HHGG.))





Lee Pelton  
2533 Lyndale Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

Am in receipt  
of CHAT 35 and  
thought I'd drop  
you a brief LoC,

partially spurred on by Mike Rogers' mis-  
assumptions upon my part re: my LoC that  
appeared in CHAT 34.

First, to address Mike and his idea  
that I am inadvertantly slamming zines  
like CHAT, when I say that writers like  
Deb Hammer-Johnson should get more exposure.  
In no way *should* Deb have to write for  
RUNE, or any other large circulation zine,  
to break into a nebulous Big Time zine.  
The fact is, and I believe that CHAT's  
circulation will confirm this, that a  
writer who can be entertaining and read-  
able, even thought-provoking like Deb,  
does *not* get well known outside of a  
small number of readers without appearing  
in a larger publication. Whether she  
*wants* this or not, I don't know. I'd  
like to have her contribute to RUNE be-  
cause I like the way she writes, and RUNE  
goes out to app. 1,000 fans all over the  
US, Europe and Canada. The matter of ex-  
posure is evident, I think. Any fanzine  
editor in his/her right mind would look  
at her skills, not her credits, but how  
the hell do they get to see her skills  
without any examples??? It's like the old  
case of the unemployed trying to find work  
in a field they want but are constantly  
rebuffed because they are told they "lack  
experience". Whether it's true or not is  
moot. People want what they see, not what  
they are told is good but have nothing  
else to go on. There is no insult in-  
tended to any of the publications she has  
appeared in. Perhaps its just that my  
view of fandom is much larger than your  
and it is there that we differ so greatly.  
Frankly, I wish people like you who com-  
plain without knowing what they are com-  
plaining about should think twice before  
putting it into print. It is to be expect-  
ed, I guess, that I found Mike's LoC as  
insulting to me as he found mine to be.

Odds are that I will be huckstering at  
the next MidSouthCon. Southern cons have  
always been something I have wanted to at-  
tend and always financial considerations  
have made any such ideas ridiculous. But,  
now that I am managing a store (SF & comics)  
I can go to a larger number of cons and  
make them tax-deductable. Joy, oh rapture.  
Perhaps I'll see you there?

On other fields, David Pettus' com-  
mentary on CE3K, Vol. II, were interesting,

and convincing enough for me to skip the  
new release.

The lettercol was interesting, and much  
superior to the CHATs of as recent as 6  
issues ago. Obviously the interaction  
with CHAT readers is increasing and this  
is always a Good Sign.

((What I perceived was this-"a large  
circulation zine will give the people  
writing for it a larger audience to talk  
with/to, thus more exposure". It seems  
obvious to me. While CHAT doesn't have  
nearly the circulation that RUNE does (the  
idea of a circulation THAT large scares  
me, not to mention being a bit out of place  
for a clubzine like CHAT) I think we have  
given some exposure to fan talent. After  
all, you did see Deb here, didn't you lee?  
I have the feeling that talent finds its  
market or readers, sooner or later.

(Hope you can make MidSouthcon this  
June! Spider Robinson and Jeannie Robinson  
are GoH and Michael Whelan is Artist GoH.  
Better get on the stick for tables, though,  
if the response is anything like Chattacon!

(Well, the lettercol goes as we get the  
letters. If we get good letter, as we  
have been things go well. As you point  
out, it is a Good Sign.))





George Laskowski, Jr.  
47 Valley Way  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013

Ralph  
Roberts'  
con report  
was mildly

interesting, especially his comments about Gordie Dickson. The next few days after Mysticon Gordie was the guest lecturer/author at Jim Gunn's Intensive English Institute, of which I was a member this summer. ....

Mike Rogers' call for the Southern fans to rally and take pride in their regional identity should be heeded. Legends and myths abound in any region of fandom, but they should be preserved from one generation unto the next. As a member of Midwest Fandom, I try to keep on top of our legends and myths, and pass them down to the newer fans who join. As far as I know, I am not part of any one of them...unless my coonskin cap counts as one. Still, there is no real place for sending out various legends to for the purpose of collecting them into a Mythos of the Midwest. Does sound like a good idea, though...

Well, not much else for commenting. Some nice pieces of artwork scattered throughout, and only a hint of color on the cover. Well with Worldcon to prepare for and this issue to get out beforehand, it is understandable. Anyway, keep up the good work.

((I thought many of the myths of Midwestern fandom were preserved in *Fancylopedia*, updated to about 1959 and still available from Mirage Press. Still, it would be an interesting project to gather fan myths of, not only the Midwest, but all the regions of the US. The hardest part is keeping up with the ever growing number of myths and versions of them. I do believe that Bob Tucker is doing a bit of cataloging for fandom.

((We also had RiverCon and DeepSouthCon to attend in August, as well as WorldCon. Thanks for the kind words!))

\*\*\*\*\*

Tony Adrian Cannon  
Box U-122  
College Heights  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Liked the  
cover of #35,  
but you may  
want to start  
watching your

mail for a letter concerning copywrite infringement from those representing the W. Disney Empire. Not that *your* ducks look like *their* ducks, it's just that they sometimes act like they own the rights to all ducks.

If it bothers Dave Pettus to spend \$\$\$ to see a film a second time in its re-release why does he do it?

Incidentally, sorry to disillusion you, Dave, but Spielberg had admitted he actually wrote only about 1/3 of the CE3K novelization. I don't know who finished it, but the last I checked suspicion had centered on Alan Dean Hack...ah...Foster.

To Deb Hammer Johnson; you must remember that *both* parties are controlled by the Illuminati for their own purposes. So anyone claiming to be an Illuminatus is probably a Discordian involved in some part of Operation Mind-Fuck. (Unless the Illuminati felt it in their interest to campaign openly, though that Illuminatus might really be a Discordian double agent, who might really be an Illuminati triple agent, who might *really* be...).

((Well, if Taral hasn't been bothered by his drawings of ducks, I doubt we will. Ducks seem to be a part of the fannish conscience, for some reason, and even Disney can't so a thing about that!

Why do I get the feeling there is an Illuminati in our midst? Ot perhaps a Discordian disguised as a Illuminati. Or maybe.....))



Wade Gilbreath  
4206 Balboa Ave.  
Pinson, AL 35126

While spending the  
long 4th of July week-  
end at Camp Pennem-  
ley on Lake Michell

in the wilds of central Alabama, I received a revelation. Why I was chosen, I have no understanding.

I had just finished going through Elst Weinstein's fannish dictionary when I

continued on page 12



\*\*\*\*\*

Wade Gilbreath LoC (cont.)

picked up CHAT 33 to reread. I was admiring Teddy Harvia's rendering of the Chat constellation, when it hit me. I was all atremble with the mystical jeebies.

Perhaps, it was the combination of fannish lexicography followed by the glimpse of Harvia's inspired cover, or, perhaps I would have received the revelation anyway (say, in the dead of the night). In any case, I *knew*.

The fannish ghod Chat is no minor deity rising to take its place in some subechelon of fannish mythology. Chat is a member of the Triumvirate revealed. As Foo is the ghod of mimeography and Chu is the ghod of ditto, Chat is the patron ghod of photocopy, in strength, rising to pre-

eminence.

There, I have let the Chat out of the bag. Tarals of the world, BEWARE! Chat is all-powerful.

Er, Nicki, you would do well to reconsider this fall away from the true new faith to that old time religion. I have it *on very good authority* that a certain all-powerful fannish ghod is displeased and may take his business elsewhere.

((Thanks for sharing your revelation with us, Wade. I'm afraid that mimeo is the only way we have to do CHAT for the nonce. I guess we'll just have to hope to get along by placating Yog-Zipcode by placing our tongues on the reverse of his images. It's worked so far! Thanks, again!!))

\*\*\*\*\*

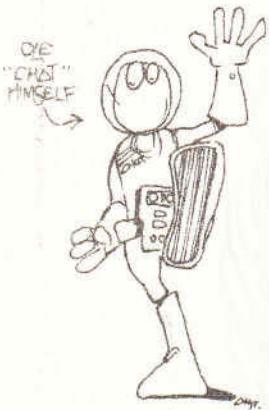
We also heard from: Guy H. Lillian III, Ben Fulves, Teddy Harvia, and Andy Andruschak (who wanted us to remind everyone his new address is: P.O. Box 606, La Cañada-Flint-ridge, CA 91011).

Artist credits: Julia Scott - cover; Jerry Collins - pages 2, 10; Bob Barger - page 3; David Heath, jr. - pages 4, 7, 8, 9(middle), 12; Roger Caldwell - page 5; Charlie Williams - page 6; Arthur Hlavaty - page 9(bottom); Ted Guerin - page 11. More, please!

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NEXT CSFA MEETING: SATURDAY, SEPT. 20, 7:30 PM, UTC STUDENT CENTER in LOOKOUT MTN. ROOM. PROGRAM FEATURE IS RECAP OF THE BOSTON WORLDCON.

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CHAT  
DICK & NICKI LYNCH  
4207 DAVIS LANE  
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