

MEMPHEN

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Particulated by the MID-SOUTH FANTASY ASSOC.  
Perpetrator-at-large, GREG BRIDGES - 140 Eastview  
Dr., Memphis, TN 38111 USA (Ph-458-1596). Avail-  
able per the usual or membership in Msfa. If  
your label is attended by the dread RED czech,  
contact must be established with FRANK JORDAN or  
myself. Msfa dues are \$4/yr., checks made out to  
Frank Jordan, our Treas. His address is 1922  
Ezell #5, Memphis, TN 38111(Ph-685-1049).  
As Ever, So Available ©1980.

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Our next meeting will be at FRANK JORDAN 's,  
1922 Ezell #5, Sunday Nov.23 beginning at 3pm  
with an absolute cutoff time(due to an occulta-  
tion) at 9pm.

Now as an attempt at directions, Ezell is a  
block short street between Barr and Goodlett Rd.  
(which is it-self an, even shorter street and not  
part of Goodlett St.) This is just south of New  
Willow/Willow between Getwell&Perkins.

Frank has a number of films on VMS tape, such  
as Robinson Crusoe on Mars, etc. He will show  
one of these at 6pm.

Frank will also give a short discussion of  
stellar occultation by an ~~Aphrodite~~ asteroid, one  
of which should occur later that evening which is  
the reason that the meeting will end at 9pm. We  
can of course rearrange ourselves at another loca-  
tion.

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Rusty Smith, 2977 Sycamore View, Bartlett, TN  
38134(Ph-372-7701) is working on a fanzine he  
hopes to have out before Chattacon(Jan.16-18).  
He needs articles, book&movie reviews, artwork,  
etc. He already has a fair amount of material  
for the first issue but he still needs more. I  
am going to help him on the production of the zine  
to be called THE MIDNIGHT SON.

For that matter Nancy Collins would also wel-

come similar contributions since she edits her own fanzines, BAMF(a comicszine) and RAZED CONSCIOUSNESS(an SF genzine).

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The Empire Strikes Back:

or

The Bad Guys ear Black

The Empire Strikes Back is a very good film; in many ways better even than Star Wars. The special effects are spectacular, the action is fast, and the characters are well written. Han Solo and Princess Leia (and what is a princess doing fighting to re-establish a republic?) are still zooming around the galaxy in the Millenium Falcon playing catch-me-if-you-can with Darth Vader and the Imperial Fleet. Harrison Ford as Han Solo has most of the good lines, the best one being, "I know", Han's solumn reply to Leia's declaration of love seconds before Darth Vader is to put him into a potentially fatal suspended animation. Carrie Fisher still plays Princess Leia as sullen and snappish as she plays all her roles. The droïds are back, too, but are less central in this film than in Star Wars. See-Threepio's main function seems to be annoying Han, and Artoo-De-too's, worrying over Luke. As for Luke, played by an almost unrecognizable Mark Hamill, he spends most of the film training as a Jedi knight on Dagobah, a serpent-infested swamp of a planet more suitable for training herpetologists than Jedi Knights. Now we know why the Jedi were always the elite few: most of them died of swamp rot.

Literally and figuratively TESB is a much darker film than Star Wars. While Star Wars was full of light and open spaces that seemed to offer safety, in TESM most scenes occur in small, dimly lit areas and large spaces are never without menace, serving primarily as arenas for battle. And in Star Wars no matter what Luke, Han, and Leia did, they remained immaculate. Our heroes could be trapped in a ship's trash compactor and emerge clothes spotless, hair clean and fluffed (not to mention weapons undamaged). Being pure of heart seems to work better than Scotch

Guard for keeping clothes clean. In TESB Leia still ends up in her virginal white and Han can prowl around in some creature's stomache and come out looking crisp (despite Leia's jib that he is scruffy looking). Han, the good-hearted scoundrel, still dresses in his black and white, but , after torture, white begins to predominate. Darth Vader, of course, wears black. His men, not quite so evil, wear gray (and are all but indistinguishable - I could have sworn Darth Vadar killed the same man two or three times).

But what of Luke? No longer the innocent farm boy of Star Wars, he now wears gray himself, and as he struggles through the mud of Dagobah, he looks increasingly scoungy, his clothes darker. He's not even blond anymore. He has great rapport with the Force, but Yoda was almost unwilling to accept him into training and never seems satisfied with his progress. Does Luke lack the calmness and confidence necessary to control the Force? Might the dark side, being "quicker, easier", be more seductive to a boy who "has no patience"? And when Luke leaves Dagobah against the urgings of Yoda and Ben, he looks dirty, tired - even damaged perhaps. In fact the film almost begins and ends with Luke's mutilation (and true heroes might get killed but they don't get hurt, do they?) Luke finds, when he faces Darth Vadar, he must also face the dark side of the Force in himself. Like Vader, Luke is permanently disfigured in his struggle with another disciple of the Force. He resists Darth and the dark side only by literally casting himself into the void (how he lives thro that fall I do not understand). Both Han and Leia have been held captive and tortured by Vader. Why would it have been worse for Luke to be in Vader's hands? So much worse that almost certain death was preferable to capture? If Vader had taken Luke would he have been able to resist, or would he have joined him? But Luke escapes. As TESB ends Luke has been at least repaired, if not healed and seems to be in white - until he puts his arm around Leia, and, next to her shining white, we see his is still in gray. The question remains.

TREASURER'S REPORT ---Frank Jordan

REVENUES - Memberships.....\$80.00  
 Donations.....75.57  
 (booksales, etc.)  
TOTAL \$155.57

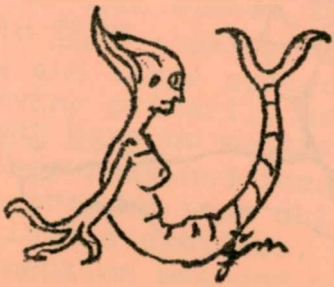
EXPENSES - Postage.....\$67.80  
 Other.....1.52  
\$69.32

BALANCE 1/1/80 . . . . . \$20.00  
 REVENUES THRO 11/15/80 . . . 155.57  
 175.57  
 EXPENSES . . . . . -69.32  
 106.25

Balance beginning 1/1/80.....\$20.00  
 Balance ending 11/15/80.....\$106.25

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The books donated by Nancy Collins, & Mike Brown have done quite a bit toward making the club financially more viable. we have only sold about half the material that they donated so we should make a bit more yet



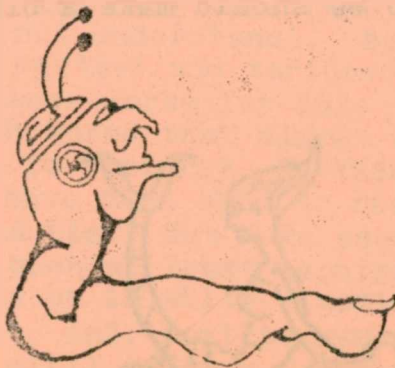
MSSfa Newz

Dan Henderson gave a reading Oct 28 at Memphis State UC in the Delta Lounge which was sponsored by MSSfa. The reading consisted of segments from a novel that Dan is presently working on. The work is actually finished except for getting the manuscript ready for submission. The reading was well received, so we may schedule more at a later date. Dan wrote "Carruther's Last Stand"(Analog,6/78) which was in last year's DAW's Best SF. Dan also writes for the Commercial Appeal, doing feature articles for The Midsouth section of the Sunday Paper.

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With the MSSfa budget as replete as it now is, we intend to use some of the money to get subscriptions to various SF prozines for the Memphis State Library which has no money for any sort of new Periodicals. We intend to include a number of currently publishing fanzines such as Science Fiction Review, Algol/Starship, Locus, SF Chronicle, etc. Funds permitting.

The Memphis State library presently takes only ANALOG, THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY & SCIENCE FICITON, and SCIENCE FICTION STUDIES(an academic journal). I think the Memphis Public Library is even worse in its selection of SF periodicals.



FANZINES

FOR the uninitiated, a fanzine is an amateur SF fan publication(to give one definition) Some are not so amateur - Locus, which is very good nonetheless, is not at all amateur altho it started out that way.

There some difficulties involved in getting fanzines. By far the greatest problem is just locating where to get the better ones. Some of the prozines used to run fan columns which as a regular feature reviewed fanzines but I think those columns are largely defunct now. It would seem that the best present source as to the addresses is

THE WHOLE FANZINE CATALOGUE

Brian Earl Brown  
16711 Burt Rd #207

Detroit, Mi 48219 which is pubbed quarterly at 50¢ each or 4/\$2. Brian is attempting to review all the zines in SF fandom(as opposed to comics fandom which is another whole catfish). he limits himself to only those that actually pass his mailbox orifice which is still quite a few. This is the best bet to get an idea of what is available, patois, and types.

The most enjoyable(for me, anyway) are the genzines(general fanzines). These are usually individual's publications. This is a tremendous effort so they don't last too long before they burn out at it(a year and a half as a rule). THE MONTHLY MONTHLY (\$1 each)

c/c Robert Runté  
10957 - 88 Ave.  
Edmonton, Alberta

Canada T6G 0Y9 seems to have gotten around that by making the editorship a rotating affair. They have just gone bimonthly, tho.

SF REVIEW.....is another good genzine

Richard E Geis which is available for  
PCB 11408 \$1.75 each. This is a

Portland, Ore. 97211 quarterly, has lots of book reviews, fairly good articles, and some news. #36 has an odd inter-view with Robert Heinlein.

SCIENCE FICTION THEATRE OF THE AIR

IS what NANCY COLLINS is calling the show on WEVL(90.3FM) that she does on Saturday nights from 8-10 pm. I had intended to help out on the actual show(which is live) but since I generally work Saturday nites I will be mainly supplying material to use on the air and moral support. The show is every week and our intent is to make this a fanzine of the air. We may attempt to do some original SF Radio Theatre later once WEVL gets settled into their new quarters. They need volunteers and money so give them a call at 722-8787. If you live outside the expressways it is very difficult to pick up the station. It helps to have a good FM antenna oriented North-South.

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ARTWORK LAST ISSUE - Colophon - BONNIE MURPHY  
p2 - Niki Chatal  
ARTWORK THIS ISSUE - Cover - DAN STEFFAN  
p5 - BONNIE MURPHY  
p7 - George Bradfute

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