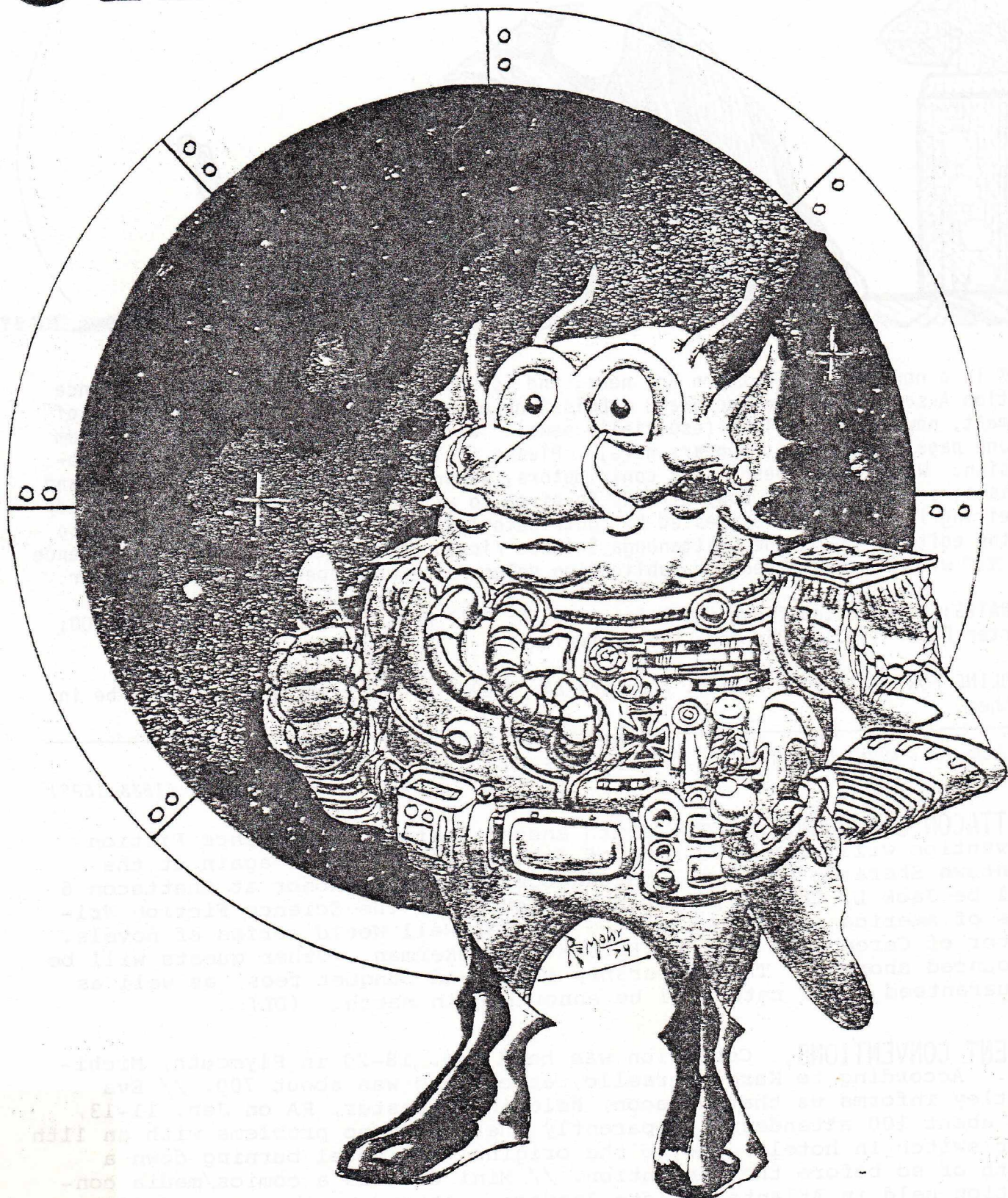


# CHAT

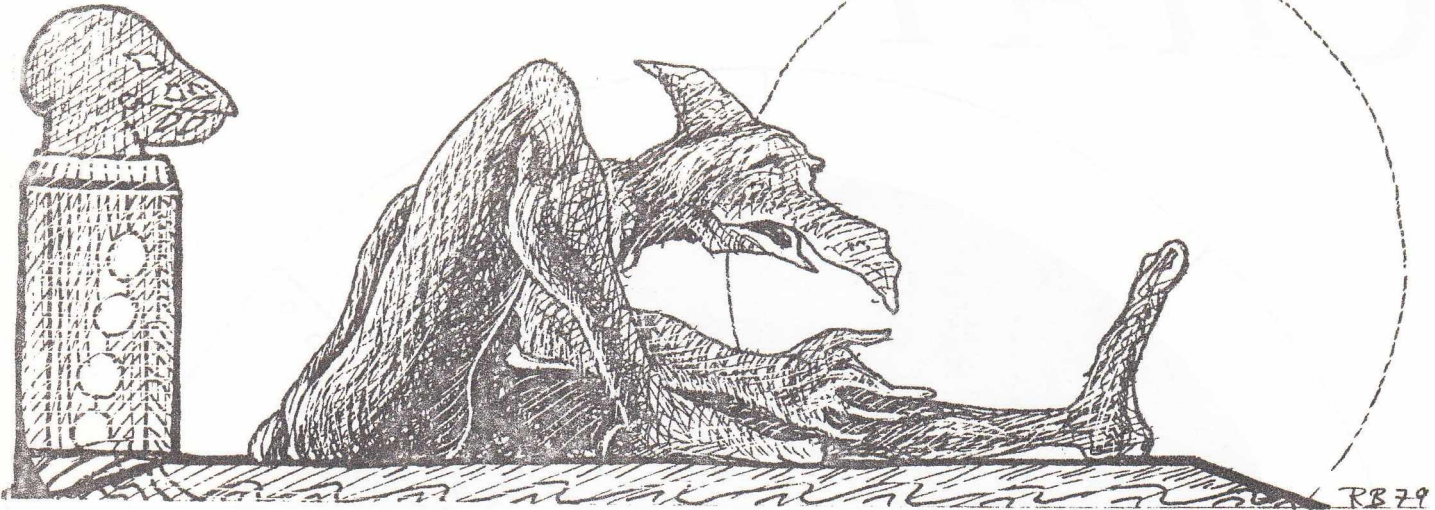




# CHAT

February, 1980  
Vol. 3 No. 5  
Issue 29

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*CHAT* is a newszine of Southern Fan news, and is supported by the Chattanooga Science Fiction Association. We encourage submissions of art, reviews, articles, letters of comment, news, and the like (especially news). Written material should be a maximum of one page typed (as it appears here). Please include name and address on the submission. While *CHAT* doesn't pay contributors, we provide a forum for fan writers and artists; a complimentary copy of *CHAT* is given to all contributors who aren't already receiving it. Opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily represent those of the editors, or of the Chattanooga Science Fiction Association. All correspondence to *CHAT* will be considered for publication unless otherwise specified by the writer.

AD RATES: Pre-printed flyer inclusion - \$7.50; Full Page - \$7.50; Half Page - \$4.00; Quarter Page - \$2.50; 25¢ per Line Equivalent.

DEADLINE FOR *CHAT* #30 - Sunday, February 24, 1980. All articles and LoCs must be in by then.

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*"I know well what I am fleeing from but not what I am in search of."*

- Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

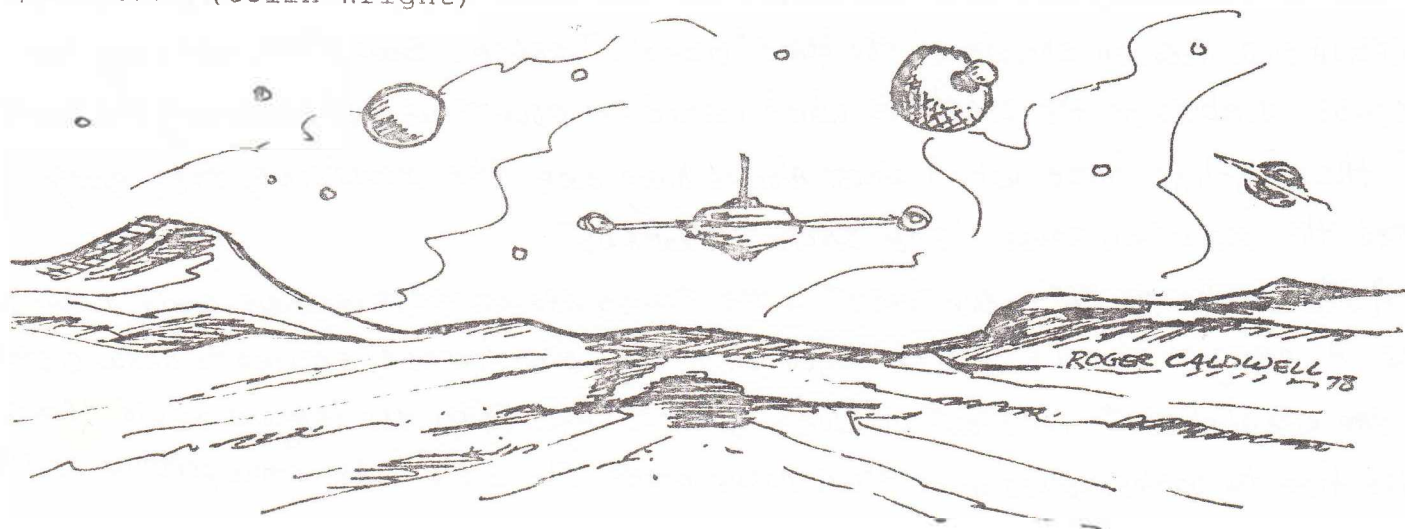
**CHATTACON 6 ANNOUNCED.** The sixth annual Chattanooga Science Fiction Convention will be the weekend of January 16-18, 1981, again at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel in Chattanooga. Guest of Honor at Chattacon 6 will be Jack L. Chalker, current treasurer of the Science Fiction Writers of America and author of the popular Well World series of novels. Master of Ceremonies will be Forrest J. Ackerman. Other guests will be announced shortly. The membership rates and banquet fees, as well as a guaranteed hotel rate will be announced in March. (DL)

**RECENT CONVENTIONS.** Confusion was held Jan. 18-20 in Plymouth, Michigan. According to Karen Persello, attendance was about 700. // Eva Whitley informs us that Hexacon, held in Lancaster, PA on Jan. 11-13, had about 100 attendees. Apparently there were no problems with an 11th hour switch in hotels, due to the original con hotel burning down a month or so before the convention. // Mini Con was a comics/media convention held in Atlanta in late January. Attendance was around 600; according to Irvin Koch, the hucksters room was about 80% comics, 15% nostalgia, and 5% SF. (DL)

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**FEBRUARY CSFA MEETING FEATURES AUCTION.** The January meeting of the CSFA was a well attended one, drawing 25 people, many of them new members and some of the older members not seen in a while. First on the program, after the announcements MCed by Tim Bolgeo, was a panel of three TVA engineers (Tim Bolgeo, Norm Michals, and Keith Petree) who answered questions about the nuclear industry at large and the local Sequoyah Nuclear Power plant (not yet on line) specifically. It was a well attended discussion with many lively questions. The next item was the book of the month discussion led by Nicki Lynch on *Spacial Delivery* by Gordon Dickson. The last, but not least, program item was a discussion of alien technology by John Campbell, who used a blackboard to outline various ideas. This discussion was also very well received. The after-the-meeting-meeting was at the usual place (Pizza Inn on Hwy 58) and well attended and enjoyed. Frank Doss, a Nashville fan, was also in attendance. The next CSFA meeting will be 7:30 PM, Feb. 16, 1980 at the UTC Student Center in the Lookout Mtn. Room. The feature (and it is a popular one) is the ~~infamous~~ CSFA Auction of SF memorabilia and junkie. The auction will feature all sorts of goodies: pulp magazines, a Wilson Tucker Beam's Choice bottle (empty, natch) signed by the author, a set of NASA color prints from the Voyager-Jupiter missions, another NASA set of color prints of the Space Shuttle in Huntsville, a Charlie Williams sketch of Alan Dean Foster (signed by Foster) from *Chattacon 4*, Bob Tucker's number set from *The Last Whole Earth Bob Tucker Roast*, miscellaneous movie memorabilia, and more. The book to be discussed will be John Varley's *The Persistence of Vision*. We will also be nominating selections for the 1979 Hugo Awards to be given in Boston this year. Come prepared to shout out your favorite novel of this past year. Future books to be discussed will be *A Canticle for Leibowitz* by Walter Miller, led by Colin Wright, in March; *Image of the Beast* by Philip José Farmer will be the book of April, with discussion led by AJ Bridget. Please contact Andy Purcell at the meeting if you need any or all of these books. To get to UTC: Take I-124 to the 4th St. exit (last one 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 one-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, call Mike Rogers at 266-0298. (NWL)

**CSFA TREASURY REPORT.** The balance as of the end of December was \$106.40. Income in January was \$51 in club dues and \$30 from book sale profits at Chattacon. Expenditures were \$30 for CHAT #28. The new balance is \$157.40. (Colin Wright)

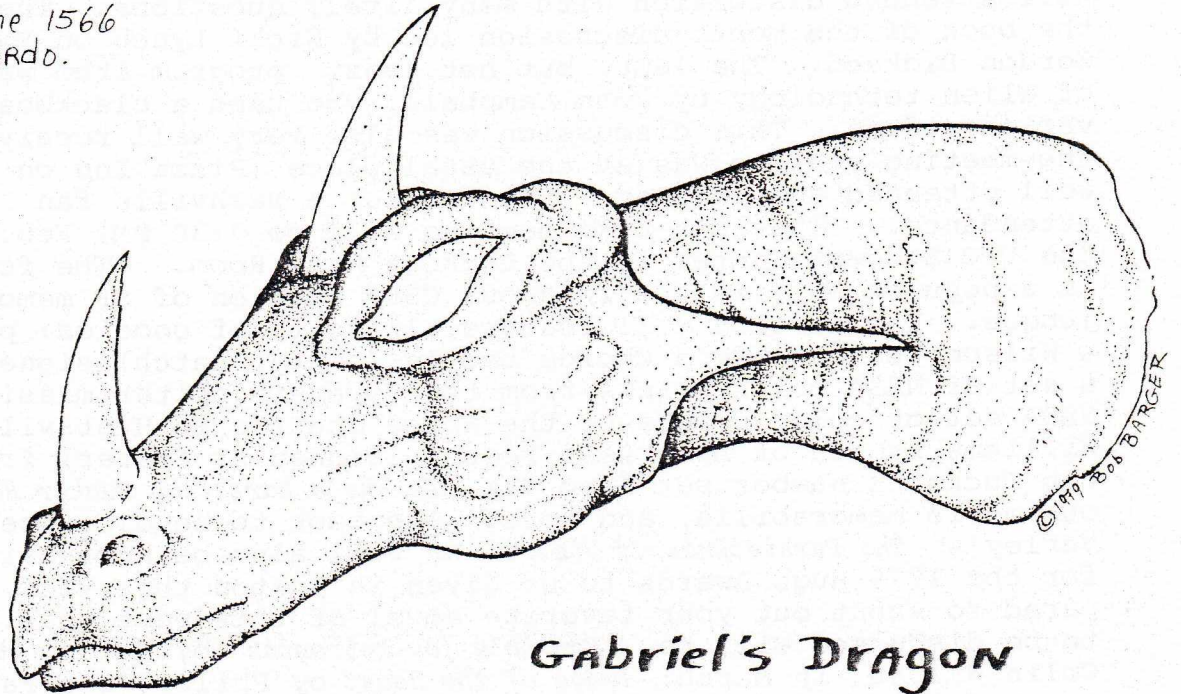




## The Dragon in East Tennessee History - PART 2

According to some, the first Europeans to venture into what is today known as East Tennessee were a group of Welshmen who, legends avow, tramped into our area after having made landfall somewhere along the Gulf of Mexico, sometime in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1539 to 1544 Hernando de Soto and his party tramped through the East Tennessee valley. The surviving records of this expedition are poor and few in number, as are the records of the 1566 expedition of Juan Pardo.



Gabriel's Dragon

HOWEVER:

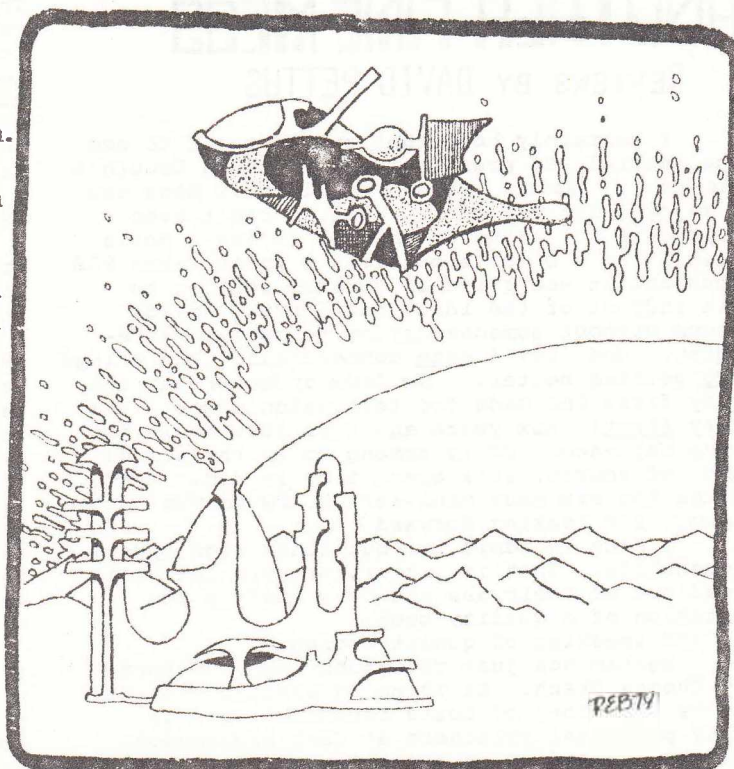
In the year of 1673 James Needham and Gabriel Arthur came into the valley from the settlements then flourishing in Virginia. Traveling by foot over the mountains they very soon encountered a dragon of considerable size and ferocity. Gabriel Arthur managed to put a rifle ball through its skull, but not before it had, with its fiery breath, scorched the seat of Needham's buckskins and singed Arthur's beard. In honor of his friend's expert marksmanship, Needham christened the beast "Gabriel's Dragon". Soon after, realizing the immense numbers of the creatures which roamed the mountains and realizing the source of the fog-like haze which almost always hung over the mountains, they aptly named the mountain range "The Smokey Mountains."

As late as the mid 1960's any tourist in the towns around the mountains could many times see a dragon of this species caged on a busy street corner, serving to draw customers to the establishment in front of which sat the cage. Often the dragons would drink sodas from the bottles, opened with their horny beaks. The S.P.C.D. halted this practice in 1967.



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ONE LINERS. During his recent writers workshop in Knoxville, Barry Longyear was briefly hospitalized from a bout with pneumonia. John M. Ford filled in. // Sharon Webb's latest story "Variations on a Theme from Beethoven" is in the February issue of *Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*. // Charlie Williams informs us that East Tennessee Comics has moved -- across the hall at their current location on Homberg Drive in Knoxville. // *Galileo* magazine has bought ailing *Galaxy* magazine from UPD Publishing Co. *Galaxy* will be edited by an assistant editor of *Galileo*; former *Galaxy* editor Hank Stine will be retained as Contributing Editor. The new payment rate for stories published in *Galaxy* is \$100 to \$250, depending "on the needs of the magazine". The new submission address is: 339 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02115. // CSFA member Nicki Lynch has been elected Secretary of the Chattanooga Shuttle and Fiber Guild. // CSFA member Dick Lynch has received notification of publication of two more U.S. Patents, each for chemical process innovations. // Noreascon Two, the 1980 World SF Convention, now has over 2700 registered members. Artists who will be exhibiting in the art show there and have not yet received art show entry forms should immediately write the convention (P.O. Box 46, MIT Branch Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02139), as no artwork will be accepted without prior space reservation. // The New Orleans bid for the 1981 DeepSouthCon has been shelved, according to *Jambalaya* (New Orleans area newszine, Dana Longo, ed). // Hugo winner C.J. Cherryh will be Guest of Honor at CoastCon '80, March 14-16 in Biloxi, MS. // Leigh Strother-Vien has resigned as editor of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society newszine *De Profundis*, for personal reasons. No announced replacement yet. // The new president of LASFS is George Jumper; former president Dan Deckert chose not to run for re-election. // Wade Gilbreath has resigned as editor of the Birmingham Science Fiction Club newszine *Anvil*. Jim Gilpatrick will take it over. // The World Space Federation, Inc. (P.O. Box 293, Grandview, MO 64030) is a non-profit organization formed to "get America's space program going again". For info, send them a SASE. // The Nebula Awards banquet is scheduled for April 26 at the Los Angeles Bonaventure Hotel; David Gerrold is toastmaster. // Film buffs: the OE of film APA CAPRA is Jon Liggett (1611 Adams St., Denver, CO 80206). Dues are \$3.00 yearly and minac is one page every other (quarterly) mailing. The most recent mailing (#25) had 50 pages. // There is at least one opening on the Chattanooga committee. Interested persons should notify the Chattanooga committee (P.O. Box 21173, Chattanooga, TN 37421) in writing by March 15. (DL)



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\* You might be wondering what happened to the final episode of Charlie Williams' \*  
 \* graphic serial 2063 AD. Due to (ahem) unforeseen problems interfacing with \*  
 \* the U.S. Postal Service, it will not make this issue. Next time (promise!). \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*



# \*\*\*\*\* ANOTHER FINE MESS

REVIEWS BY DAVID PETTUS

I certainly hope that everyone got to see the special PBS presentation of Ursula LeGuin's *The Lathe of Heaven*. It was really well done and I enjoyed it very much. Hell, I can't even criticize it. Kind of unusual to see a movie that I can't bitch about.... I don't watch PBS much and it was quite an unusual feeling to sit in front of the idiot box for two solid hours without someone trying to sell me something. God, how I hate commercials! But things are getting better. *The Lathe of Heaven* was the very first PBS made for television movie. The very first! Six years ago this just could not have happened. SF is coming up in the world! And, of course, it's about time it did. Next comes the six hour mini-series, *The Martian Chronicles*. I'm looking forward to it.

I hate to admit it, but television can be worthwhile. That is, when producers get their head out of their ass and do a quality adaptation of a quality book.

And speaking of quality books....

Bantam has just re-issued *Camp Concentration* by Thomas Disch. It is an undisputed classic. It is the story of Louis Sacchetti, one of many political prisoners at Camp Archimedes, who is exposed to an experimental drug, called Pallidine, which chemically induces increased intelligence in its victims... I call them victims because Pallidine is a hybrid strain of syphilis which acts to destroy the central nervous system in a nine to ten month period. Very nasty thing, this Pallidine. But the drug really works, and individuals exposed to it become extremely intelligent in a very short period of time. And so the prisoners at Camp Archimedes are daily becoming smarter and smarter, while their bodies become ever more frail and feeble. And so it is that in a camp full of geniuses, one of them, a black man named Mordecai, who is a genius among geniuses, saves the day by figuring out a way to beat the drug...to think and live!

The novel is written in a journalistic format, much like Keyes's *Flowers for Algernon*, but, unlike *Algernon*, the reader does not get to see the protagonist move from one extreme of intellectual capacity to another. Rather, the change has already taken place and Disch focuses upon the effect that extreme intellect and bodily disfunction has upon the prisoners, as well as the Camp officers who interact with them. Everyone has heard the term "concentration camp". Disch takes this term literally and writes about an honest to God concentration camp! A camp full of individuals who, even as they go blind and cope with decaying bodies and intense depression, must concentrate! For it is the curse of the genius to think.

Very highly recommended, folks.

A bit late in coming, but well worth the wait, is *Nebula Winners Thirteen* (Harper & Row, \$10.95). You won't find a bad story in this collection. Too, 1978 was one of those years when the readers and the writers didn't very much disagree regarding their choice for best novel, novella, novelette, and short story of the year, 1977. Fred Pohl won the Nebula for *Gateway*, and the readers gave him the Hugo also. Included in *Nebula Winners Thirteen* is the novella "Stardance" by Spider and Jeanne Robinson.

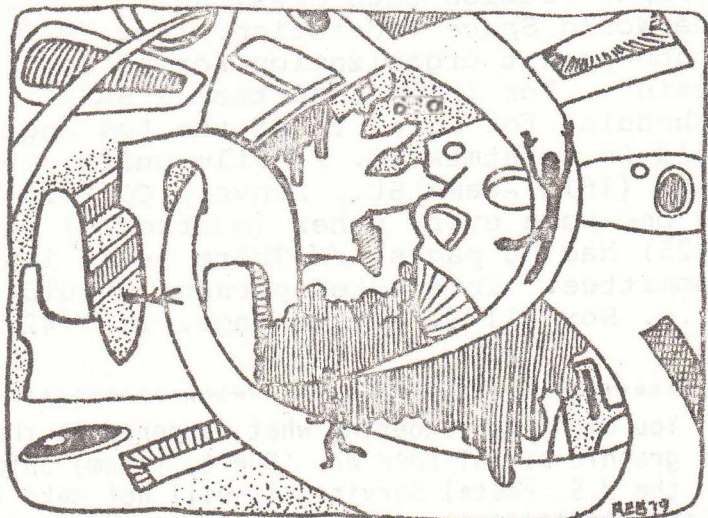
This is a really wonderful story about a dancer and her dream to dance in zero gravity. It is also a story about alien invasion, or at least the potential for it in a not too distant future. The writing is quite vivid and the characterization is much above average. Readers gave "Stardance" the Hugo, and I liked it so damn much that I have written a folksong, a ballad if you will, about it. Really excellent writing! (The story, not the folksong!)

"The Screwfly Solution" by James Tiptree jr./Raccoona Sheldon is a fine piece of fiction. It won the Nebula for Best Novelette. The story is well executed, but Sheldon seems a bit preoccupied with the double standard, the war between the sexes and all of that. Her fiction never fails to be entertaining and well worth the reading, however, all of her have essentially the same theme, and this is a problem. How many ways can one illustrate the same point? Sheldon is just a little bit like that Southern preacher who first tells his congregation what he is going to say, tells them, and then tells them what he said. Here the readers disagreed; they gave the Hugo to Joan Vinge for "Eyes of Amber". I agree; Vinge's story is better.

Harlan Ellison's "Jeffty is Five" is a stunning story that does something magical with the notion of nostalgia that readers everywhere will enjoy. It is one of the very best stories that Ellison has written to date. And it won both the Hugo and the Nebula.

There are also three runners-up in this collection. "Air Raid" by John Varley is a story about the most unusual hijacking of an airplane that you are likely to read about anytime soon. Like everything Varley writes, this story is strangely thought provoking with a number of interesting ideas implied. "Particle Theory" by Edward Bryant was, at first reading back in 1977, not an extremely good story. However, on second reading two years later, I see that I missed something first time around...Bryant is saying something. And that is that in the end; you just can't win. Entropy will catch up with you!! Not so very bad after all, though it is still the weakest story in the collection. And there is Vonda N. McIntyre's "Aztecs", a beautifully written love story. McIntyre won high acclaim for her *Dreamsnake*, which was an expanded version of her

continued on page 7





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## "ANOTHER FINE MESS" (CONT.)

1973 Nebula winning novelette "Of Mist, and Grass, and Sand" (for my money she could have left good enough alone!). I would like to see her expand "Aztecs". It could be quite good.

Very highly recommended.

The newest Star Trek "experience" from Bantam is a book called *Perry's Planet* by Jack C. Haldeman II. This one was a lot of fun to read, and the book wasn't bad at all. The crew of the Enterprise travel to a planet where there is no violence. There is no violence because there is a virus which the inhabitants of Perry's world are exposed to which causes an individual to black out at the slightest thought of violence or wrong-doing to others. The Enterprise crew gets exposed, of course, and so they are unable to retaliate when a Klingon ship wants to do battle with them. Now, you may think that ol' Doctor McCoy will save the day with an antidote... but it is Scotty that manages to save the day with a really brilliant maneuver that will both surprise and please the reader to no end.

A lot of people are kind of down on Trek... but I really enjoy reading the books. I find it enjoyable to pick up a novel once and a while and read about characters that I already know. I don't have to gear myself to the personalities in the Trek novels; I am already familiar with them, and so it makes for, I admit, easy reading...but a totally enjoyable experience too. Aw, hell...it's a lot of fun, OK?

J.O. Jeppson is a Manhattan physician and the wife of Isaac Asimov. Her second novel, *The Last Immortal*, is just out from Houghton Mif-

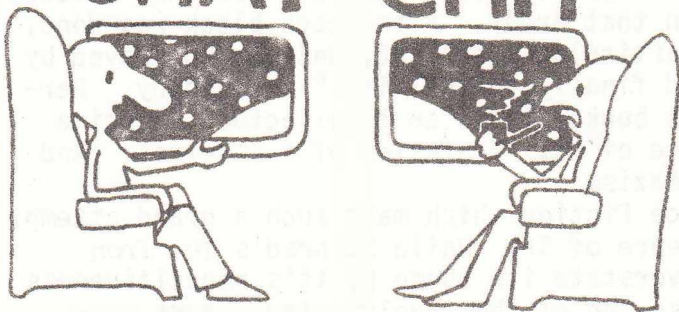
flin Company (\$9.95) and is a novel about a robot named Tec, who is actually older than the universe because a group of aliens from a twin universe (Alpha Universe) dumped him into our universe (Beta Universe) when they traveled here via passage through a black hole in Alpha Universe. There is the Big Bang, you see, and when one universe is created, another universe is destroyed. The aliens, who call themselves the Roliss and very strongly resemble dragons, can travel from one universe to another, and so are the only sentient creatures known to be *truly* immortal, in that even the end of the universe does not stop them from surviving.

If I did not know better, I would swear that this book was written by Isaac Asimov. Please understand, there is no doubt that Jeppson *did* write this novel. But there is just as little doubt that she has been very strongly influenced by Asimov and his works. *The Last Immortal* reads like an Asimov novel from beginning to end. Certainly, Jeppson has been influenced by Asimov's robot stories (this much is *blatantly* evident!) and even the style and characterization in the novel is Asimovian in scope, which is to say that there is very little of either. This is not necessarily bad. Asimov has quite a following, not so much because of his ability to use pretty words, as for his idea orientation and scientific content in stories. And you will find plenty of this in Jeppson's novel too. Readers will, for instance, find everything in this book from sentient turtles to sentient galaxies. There is plenty of action also. Basically speaking, if you like Isaac Asimov, then you will like J.O. Jeppson.

See you next month!!!

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## CHAT-CHIT



### LETTERS OF COMMENT

EDITED BY NICKI LYNCH

Deb Hammer Johnson  
2 Tyler St.  
Rome, GA 30161

((On CHAT 27)) I haven't heard anything new on the grapevine (sounds better than grapevine)

on the Nashville situation. I can't help but think that the ABC could work out something to avoid this in our area.//The info about the profitability of cons brings to mind some of *File: 770* coverage of the Doug Wright controversies. \$8700!!!! Gadz!!! I can't conceive of what a group would do with the money. Any DSC ((ASFICON-ed.)) profit goes back into ASFIC, which will make me happy. Good to hear that Half-a-Con made it out of the red, especially because it meant they could afford a nice Christmas party \*yum\*./I feel that the tone set by the

CSFA November bash will be that for ABC happenings. We have plenty of video people, a big appetite for food (especially pizza), and the ability to have a good time.

After having met and talked with David Pettus at the con, I can follow his column by ear as well as eye. *FAN PLUS* took my breath away, and I am pleased that he asked me to do a submission. The man is blunt and strictly from the hip, but those are qualities I enjoy a great deal, and hope he keeps his contris to CHAT up. If I hadn't talked about this column for two hours with him already, I'd do you a printable paragraph.//I've managed to add *The Black Hole* and *Star Trek The Motion Picture* to my list of recently missed films. But I'll catch them someday, I will...heh-heh.

Jerry((Alexander-ed.)) is someone I remember from occasional *Baryons*, and I'm surprised that I haven't seen him before. But then, I've only been reading CHAT closely for about a year.//A teenie LoC column this time around. For shame, on some of your regulars who slouch off on the job. For shame me for this one, too, but being a completist, I want to touch down every zine that comes my way.

Artwise:Kurt's cartoon on pg. 3 is superb. Whatta pun! I hope that Charlie reprints the entire strip.//Otherwise, kudos to Bob Barger's "Dragon in East Tennessee History". It's things like this that give CHAT a great deal of variety in layout, and make it so interesting to read.//Earl's cover is weird, but I see he got around the dodge of having too many aliens-within-aliens by sticking the *ad infinitum* into a corner.

continued on page 8

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## BOOK REVIEW

BY VERNON M. CLARK

*The Iron Dream* by Norman Spinrad. HBJ/Jove Books,  
1979 \$1.95

What if Adolf Hitler had failed as a political reactionary in post WWI Germany? And instead emigrated to the United States where he became an SF writer and illustrator for the pulp magazines?

This is the framing question asked by Norman Spinrad in his alternate world tour de force *The Iron Dream*. Creating a fictional book, *Lords of the Swastika* written by the fictional Adolf Hitler, Spinrad tells a story about a fascinating alternate future as it would have been told by Hitler. Playing a literary god, Spinrad assumes the mentality of Hitler, and through Hitler's eyes, Spinrad spins an imaginative triumph.

Through Spinrad's Hitler we read of Feric Jagger, who is a true human living in a time after a nuclear war. Most of the world is inhabited by genetic mutants. Only one country is inhabited by true humans (those with uncontaminated genes)-Helder, which is a German root generally meaning "hero". Jagger becomes a citizen of Helder and forms an organization meant to rid the country of the Dominators, people who have a strange mental power and are set on corrupting the human race of true humans with mutant blood. Jagger is absolutely ruthless, killing everybody who gets in his way. His symbol is the swastika, an ancient symbol of racial purity and he uses this as a rallying point against the Dominators and Dominator controlled Zend, which is an all mutant country enslaved by the Dominators.

Into the post holocaust themes Spinrad injects a multilevel significance beyond the simple tale. For Spinrad closes the book with a psychologist's view of Hitler, the "author", where Spinrad underscores the point for any reader who misses it by saying that anyone who thinks that Zend is meant to be the Soviet Union, and the Dominators are meant to be Jews is wrong. Of course, that is not true - they are meant to be exactly those things. Spinrad had combined Nazi philosophy, such as Hitler expounded in *Mein Kampf*, with a history of the rise of Nazism as seen from a pro-Nazi viewpoint, to make up his story.

William Shirer in *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* said that Josef Goebbels, Hitler's propaganda minister, as a parlor trick used to give 15 minute speeches advocating Democracy, Communism, and Nazi Aryanism in that order. After each block was done, the listeners were almost persuaded to that particular viewpoint, only to be swayed by Goebbel's oratory ability to the next one, and finally to the "True" philosophy. Perhaps Spinrad is doing the same thing with this book - it is an intellectual exercise in Nazism. Certainly he's captured the essence of Nazi fantasies of themselves. And at the same time captured the true horror of Nazism.

Few are the books in the genre of Science Fiction which make such a grand attempt to weave both the art of literature and the genre of SF. While Spinrad's *The Iron Dream* is flawed because of its tendency to overstate its theme by its repetitiveness in certain instances, this book is nevertheless one of the truly unique books produced in the genre in the last twenty years. I urge you to read *The Iron Dream*. You will not regret the effort.

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## LoCs (cont.)- Reply to DHJ

(( So far we've had no news from Nashville about the outcome, if any, of the club charter.

Well, there are three things that come to my mind on what a group can do with the money from a con-(1) split it among the core members; such as was done with the past New Orleans DSC; (2) put it into the club's treasury; as you said the Atlanta club will do; or(3) put it toward next year's con; as ChatCon does. If a con is done right, and yearly, it can make money.

I hope ABC will have a good time; we plan on it!

We also hope David keeps giving us columns.

Jerry Alexander is a long time CSFA member who is kept busy with his work and studies. His review was

his first submission to us and, we hope, not the last. Jerry also just pubbed a fanzine called L.O.C.C.

Glad to see you back and don't worry about being behind in LoCing.))

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

Another good  
issue of CHAT.  
I am anxiously  
awaiting the

final installment of Charlie Williams' strip.

The ChatCon report was interesting and amusing and slightly horrifying. The intelligence level of most fans is higher than av-

continued on page 9



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## LoCs (CONT.) - MORE FROM LAN

erage, yet they pull some stupid stunts like firecrackers and smoke bombs. That is mundane behavior, something fans try to avoid doing, especially at a con. I also applaud you on handling the underager who removed his designation as such; the last thing you would have needed was a police bust---but those people never think of things like that. Again, mundane behavior.

An unfortunate happening at Nutriacon. Hugs and warm feelings to Karl Edward Wagner for bailing out the concom. Even though Bob Tucker had to pay his own travel expenses and hotel room, he did come out slightly ahead with a pair of edible underwear!

About Ken Scott's review of STrek: The Motion Picture: I agree with much of his criticism of the film, but I would like to address his comments on Alan Dean Foster. Alan may have come up with the basic idea (a variation of "The Changeling", yet still with a slightly different twist) but not all of it may have been in the picture. I haven't read the book yet, to see the parts left out of the film; and the novelization was not written by Alan--but by Roddenberry, on Alan's idea. I've heard fans say that Foster is a hack writer, but in all the works of his that I have read, there is a distinctive quality in his writing. He has a knack for characterization. He can fill in background and make a stilted story more pleasant. Dave Pettus sarcastically calls him a "highly original writer", which might be somewhat true. *The Tar Atym Krong* was an original idea, as was the method of star drive (a gravity well in the front of the ship pulls the ship), although the writing was not his best. Still, that was his first book. Alan's strength lies in his ability to characterize. His novelization of *The Black Hole* certainly shows this, when compared to the actual movie. ...

I think Dave is a bit too optimistic on STrek: TMP. \$40 million spent, of which half or more was wasted on experimentation with special effects. None of that footage was used.

On the other hand, I am looking forward to reading Clifford Simak's *The Visitors*. I like first-contact stories myself. Although I would have read it anyway, he's made it a little more interesting for me.

I hope that your switch-over to mimeo isn't too traumatic.

((Thank you, but kicking out the kid did little good. He was in the masquerade, which I ran! Oh, well.

Actually turning CHAT over to mimeo is a lot easier, we can get a page done on the spot. The really traumatic part is when the cost is added up!

Ian puts out a fanzine-LAN'S LANTERN which is an excellent zine.))

Arthur D. Hlavaty  
250 Colligni Ave.  
New Rochelle, NY 10801

Thanks for CHAT  
28. I must say I  
am utterly croggled  
by your remark

that you are switching from photocopy to mimeo even tho mimeo is more expensive. I tend to think of mimeo as a form of repro that bears an alarming & obscene resemblance to work and thus is indulged in only by those who cannot afford photocopy or other more contemporary forms of repro. (Unless of course you have ac-



He who licks too many stamps  
develops a mailing lisp.

cess to free photocopy. in which case all I have to say is \*envy\*envy\*. ...)

You mean Lezettes aren't tiny Lesbians?

As to Lynne's (*Holdom*) idea of using the Iranian crisis to unite America behind the space program, here's my plan: Everyone knows that the crescent moon is one of the sacred symbols of Islam. Therefore, what we want to do is land people on the moon & next time there's a crescent moon, have them put up a great big sign (in Persian) saying, "Dear Ayatollah: Let the Americans go at once or it's your ass./Signed/ Allah." I realize there are a few holes in this idea, but we are trying to sell it to the American people & (easier still) congress, not a bunch of fen.

The original fairy tales that Grimm tells are bloodthirsty enough to make Keith Laumer seem like a pacifist, but when Lynne & I were children, the fashion was to tell the kids expurgated versions & "protect" them from the nastier parts. The pendulum has swung on this. Bettelheim (*The Uses of Enchantment*) says that being exposed to the violence & death in fairy tales is good for kids since the tales have a built-in catharsis.

According to Franson & DeVore's history of SF awards, the first year there were fan Hugos (1967) Jack Gaughan won both fan & pro awards. The next year, Gaughan withdrew his name from the fan competition & won the pro award again. Since then, no one has been nominated in both categories at once.

((Well, with mimeo we will be able to use colored paper, do covers in color and run the zine at OUR convenience, i.e. anytime. It will be a change from running it only during business hours.

Gee, I beleive we have a copy of that award book somewhere. It is very helpful, too, if one can find it!

Arthur's zine, *DIAGONAL RELATIONSHIP*, has just come out again. If you haven't seen it, drop Arthur a note and a buck and see what all the excitement is about.))

Yet more LoCs start next page.



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Brian Earl Brown  
15711 Burt Rd. #207  
Detroit, MI 48219

Ken Scott wants better effects from *Star Trek* (and some could be improved) and "a grander

scale; fundamental questions and speculations of the nature of the universe." What could be grander than a solar system broad energy cloud? What could be more speculative than pure logic raised to god-like consciousness? Just what does Ken want from *Star Trek*?

To Dave Pettus: Shatner, Nimoy, etc. aren't quite considered big name stars except by Trekkies. They have little film exposure and their performance in the movie was typical of their TV show performances. People just expect better from a movie.

The idea that humanity (and not just men) are creating a new, machine, life-form dates back to the thirties. John Campbell wrote a moving story about the idea as 'Don Stuart' - "Twilight". And John Wyndham also made use of the idea, but I don't know which story came first. But even then the idea isn't old because a machine civilization is still very much a possibility; in fact, more so now than 50 years ago.

One of the general criticisms of the TV program was that the character of the characters never changed. Spock could never resolve his conflict between logic and emotion. Kirk was solidly faithful to his command, etc. This was dictated by the serial nature of the TV program. But in movies, as in books, people are expected to change, to react to the things that happen to them. Thus it was good Spock saw that logic doesn't exclude emotions and Kirk's attitude towards command and the Enterprise reflected a real growth in his character (albeit an unpleasant one). And some people in the area have been noting that Kirk assumed command of the Enterprise just for the V'ger emergency. Now that it's over he should naturally return to base and resume his proper post as an admiral. Instead Kirk directed the ship to go "out there somewhere, thattaway" something that looks for all the world like mutiny.

The movie cost \$40 million to make because the first special effects director screwed up royally and everything had to be scrapped. Dykstra and Trumbull were called in 9 months before release and given carte blanche to do the effects. Considering that the film was over 50% SFX photography, the movie was essentially shot twice.

I suspect that a sequel to *Star Trek* will be filmed and be given a better chance to succeed because it won't have to be a 'Trekkie wet dream' but could explore a concept to a fuller extent.

Lynne Holdom also edits *Juneaux*, a Darkover gazette, and one of the best sercon zines today.

Andy Andruschak mentions the "mass driver" in his letter. I don't know about other people, but I find that term confusing. It sounds like one of those miracle spaceship propulsion systems-inertialess flight or anti-gravity or some specific, non-reaction mass thrust system. What Andy is calling a mass driver is simply a magnetic catapult, a linear accelerator that could on the airless surface of the moon accelerate a sled to launch velocity without the use of any rockets. Whether called a mass driver or a magnetic catapult, it is a good idea. I just find "mass driver" a very non-descriptive term for it.

Using that white Xerox paper for CHAT fooled me into thinking this issue was still all Xerox.

but a closer inspection shows that all but the cover and Charlie Williams page were mimeoed. Even the small print in the letter column came out well except for the replies in "Light Italic". ...Perhaps you ought to try a different typeface for the replies to the letters, something that will reduce better.

I look forward to the reviews of LeGuin's *The Lathe of Heaven*. I thought they'd done a fine job adapting that novel. It's an inspiration for what an SF movie could be.

(( Re-STAR TREK-I always thought that Kirk would do anything for the Enterprise and to captain her, so I wasn't surprised. It also seems to me that there were clues all through the series. Actually, he and Spock were the only STREX characters that 'grew'.

You are absolutely right about which were the mimeoed pages. We are looking for a better typeface for replies and shops to have it RSN. Until then, hang in there. Thanks again for the advice with electrostenciling!!!)

\*\*\*\*\*

Eva Chalker Whitley  
4704 Warner Dr.  
Manchester, MD 21102

In his ((George Las-  
kowski-ed.)) letter he  
alludes to a "Liber-  
tarian" SF story,

which he credits to Poul Anderson. The story he's talking about is Eric Frank Russell's "And Then There Were None" ...and that particular story has or should be anthologized hundreds of time over.

I really liked your ChatCon report, even though it reminded me I'm several con reports behind for *File 77a*. Sorry you had so much trouble with the hotel coffee shop. I expected to have problems, but actually things worked out well. //I thought Jack did a spectacular job on the Tucker Roast, but then I'm prejudiced. Be nice if the concoms for a future Worldcon were there to notice.// There are rumors here in the great Northeast that Atlanta is going to bid for the 1986 Worldcon.//I had a first at ChatCon this year: I spent Saturday night of a con at one party--the Upersouthcl ave bidding (is that the right term for it?) party. As always, it was Very Good.//Thanks for making me a judge in the masquerade & putting me in the panel. I really enjoy it every time it happens.

I wonder if some of the problem with ST-TMP isn't that "Hollywood" had to be suckered into paying all that money for "sci-fi" by really watering down the script to tried and true elements? Then, if this movie makes money, the next one in the series will have a better script, better editing, etc. I suppose that this argues that we should see ST-TMP as often as possible, but I couldn't bring myself to do it.

The irritating thing about all this renewed emphasis on ST is it revives the new indoor sport of tearing apart Alan Dean Foster. It pisses me off that a lot of people put him down for doing novelizations of media things, but yet never bother to read anything of his that ISN'T a novelization. How can you criticize him if you aren't willing to give him a fair chance?

Listen, if anyone wants to see if a pro could win 2 Hugos in the same year for both pro & fan writing, I'll get Jack to do an issue of MIRAGE, his fanzine, and all your readers

continued on page 11



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## LoC FROM EVA WHITLEY (CONT.)

can lobby for a pro Hugo for him. ((In his list of pros who are still fen, Brian Earl Brown left out Jack & Robert Silverberg who are both in FAPA!))

... I don't think Brian realized that 100,000 copies is a good-seller for a book but MILLIONS of people watch TV. That's why ST is going to make lots of money--even if they only got the number of people who regularly watched the show during the 3rd season to go to the movie, it would still be the largest grossing movie of all time.

... I enjoyed this issue--I'll have to keep writing you to make sure I keep getting them!

((I knew someone would know the story! I also got the correct answer from one of the club members.

Yes, Jack did do a wonderful job at the Roast and the art auction and his reading and...well, everything! I believe he also got the highest marks from Tuck as well.

The Bowling Green people have Uppersouthalave, and are not bidding, to my knowledge. I understand that a long, long time ago, Uppersouthalave was a bidding con, but it was dropped. But they do give great parties, just the same!!

As far as I know, the Atlanta bid IS just a rumor.

I don't know why anyone else throws cons, but I help put on ChattaCon to promote fandom in Chattanooga and to get my friends to visit us, sort of to return the hospitality of the other cons. So far, I've made many friends because of ChattaCon I doubt I would have made any other way. That is what makes cons valuable to me.))

\*\*\*\*\*

Barney Neufeld  
2726 Girard Ave. S. #B-1  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

I borrowed my  
roommate's trade  
copy of CHAT (one  
of the advantages

of living with a faned) to read, and thought I'd let you know I like it.

Hmmmm. Being an outsider, I should probably just nod sagely and keep my mouth shut about the Nashville nastiness. But, I'll take heart from your de Beaumarchais quote and say a word or two. Incorporation is a ticklish business. It can be a good (and protective) thing. It can, also, be something of a straight-jacket. It may so both sides of this dispute good to stop and look at their motives for a moment. Are Mr. Chapdelaine's actions due to "sour grapes", as your article seems to imply? Or are they entered into for the good of the club? Are the club's actions a reflection of the sincere belief of the membership? Or are they more in the nature of revenge? I don't know enough about the situation to judge, so I make none, but these are questions that should be asked.

((Well, we don't have enough data to answer your questions, as valid as they are. I wish we did. I guess until some news comes from Nashville, we'll just have to wait.

Barney's roommate is John Purcell who pubbs the perstine, THIS HOUSE. ))

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Lynne Holdom  
P.O. Box 5  
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442

Got CHAT; thanks.  
You seem to be lucky  
in that I get your  
zine when I have time

to LoC. At the moment I'm not working due to illness and so ~~get bored easily~~ have plenty of spare time.

The worst con I ever heard of was one where the hotel staff walked out while the con was in process. The hotel ended up suing the con committee and vice versa. The congoers got annoyed by the lack of services occasioned by the strike and did some damage and the hotel had reneged on a banquet, among other things. I never did hear how it turned out. Luckily I don't remember where this con was which is just as well. But it was quite a while ago. ...

I am probably the only person who hasn't seen Star Trek-The Motion Picture but Ken Scott's review sounds familiarly like the one Sally Syrjala did for my zine. ((NSF's T'ight Beam-ed.)) Even David Pettus sounded familiar.

It seems to me that Spacial Delivery was published under another name. Was it? ...

((I had the same feeling when I read SPACIAL DELIVERY, but there is not mention on the book. I do remember a short story by Dickson that had the same characters as the book, but I can't remember the title. I believe the book may be an expansion of that short story, but I don't know.

Good hearing from you, Lynne!))

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Harry "Andy" Andruschak  
6933 N. Rosemead Blvd. #31  
San Gabriel, CA 91775

Received CHAT  
#28, and as always  
liked it.

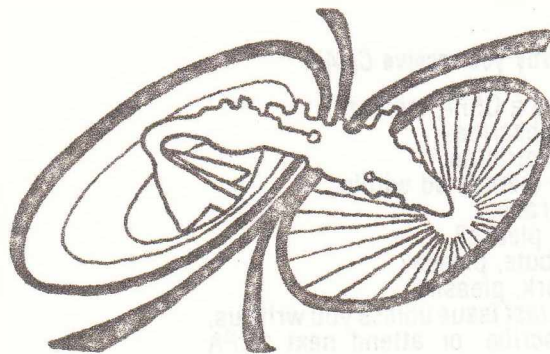
Concerning your comment to my LoC...the place to start is Congress, and put money into the space program. At the moment, with one thing or another, there is a good chance that the 1981 fly-by of Saturn by VOYAGER TWO will be the last gasp of the US planetary space program. Due to lack of public interest it is very likely that GALILEO, SOLAR POLAR, and all the other 1980 plans are doomed.

As such, interplanetary travel seems unlikely in your lifetime.

((True, Congress is the place to start, but we (the public) are the ones to start Congress. I know that the message of hope in ST:TMP is a powerful one. Maybe something will get started.

Not in my lifetime, huh? Well, I guess I'll have to put off that vacation to the moon.....))

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Paul A. Flores  
3551 Victory Dr. #302-D  
Columbus, GA 31903

Good luck on your  
switch to mimeo.  
I believe that it  
is a step in the

right direction, even tho it is a bit more expensive that what you've been using and means losing a little ground on repro quality. 'Tis the faanish thing to do.

I very much enjoyed your ChattaCon report. It's nice to see how the events of a con looks through the eyes of other people who were also there. I feel, however, that I must make one little correction on your report, for personal reasons. You mention twice that I was 'of help' at the con, when, truthfully speaking, I was of little or no help at all (other than moral support); though not because of lack of trying. Could it be that you are getting me confused with some other 6'3", bearded gentleman? ...

I would personally like to see what kind of fans the members of the Syndicate will turn into a few years hence. They proved themselves at ChattaCon to be a credit to Chattanooga, especially Colin and Kevin Wright. ~~AND IF ONLY THEY'LL RETURN MY MALLS!~~

Changing the subject, you will note that since the early 70's, the growth of Southern has been phenomenal. No where, no where, in that same decade has there been a city or region that could compete with our growth. I predict that in 5 years, all of fandom--West, East, and Overseas--will be looking toward us

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WE ALSO HEARD FROM: David Thayer, Sharon Webb, Bob Tucker

ARTIST CREDITS: Randy Mohr - cover; Robert Barger - pages 2,4; Roger Caldwell - page 3; Rusty Burke - pages 5,6,7,11; Teddy Harvia - page 9.

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NEXT CSFA MEETING: SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 7:30 PM AT UTC STUDENT CENTER IN LOOKOUT MTN. ROOM. \*\* AUCTION \*\* HUGO NOMINATION BALLOT \*\* MORE \*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

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#### Why you receive CHAT:

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- ☐ Trade, please?
- ☐ Contribute, please?
- ☐ Art work, please?
- ☐ This is /ast issue unless you write us, re-subscribe, or attend next CSFA meeting.

with envy. The South, as a region, will be THE Fan Center of the 80's. I think that the ABC could be the embryo of that fan center. Give it 5 years.

And speaking of taking over apas for The Southern Cause, I am currently running for the CMship of NYAPA (New York APA). It's a general interest apa that has over 80% of its membership living elsewhere other than New York. If I win the upcoming election, I am going to start a membership drive--in the South. ...

My compliments to you and Dick for publishing such an exceptionally interesting club news-letter, and also for running such an excellent con. I'll be back next year; there's no way you could keep me away (weeeell, for \$100, I might consider...).

((Thank you and we think that we'll be able to have a color capability that we didn't have with photocopy.

Well, I could have you confused, but Dick doesn't have a beard and Rusty is a bit taller than 6'3".

Thank you for the interest in SAPS (Spectator Amateur Press Society) and I think there will be a few more than 3 or 4 from the South in it. Good luck on the CMship race.

Thank you. Some say a Con Board runs on money, but I think they run on good will and kind thoughts.

Paul also asks about the availability of past CHAT issues. We have most of the back issues available for the usual rate of 3/\$1 or 35¢ each. However, some of the issues are sold out. ))

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