

BOB PAVLAT

AN APPRECIATION BY TED WHITE

Bob Pavlat died today, June 13, 1983, while under hospital treatment for pneumonia, and I am shocked and saddened.

I met Bob in 1954, shortly after I joined the Washington SF Association. The club had dwindled in the previous year or two to a half-dozen people who played cards and knew little about fandom. Bob Pavlat and his fellow founders of the club Chick Derry and Bill Evans, had stopped attending meetings. But that fall as younger, fanzine-oriented fans like myself joined the club the older fans like Pavlat came back. I'll never forget his surprise on meeting me and discovering I was only sixteen years old: "From your letter in GRUE I had you pegged for your late twenties, at least!"

Bob had been most active as a fan in the late forties and early fifties and by the time I met him was restricting his activity to FAPA. But he managed to keep up with contemporary fannish goings-on quite well, joining enthusiastically in WSFA ghoddminton games patterned after the legendary games played in Walt Willis' Oblique House, and attending many of the conventions of that era. Bob Pavlat, Bob Madle and I drove in Pavlat's car to the 1957 Midwestcon (my first), and Pavlat and I drove to the West Coast for the 1953 Solacon. Bob had been attending Worldcons all along, of course, and among the other things for which I valued him was his ready fund of stories about conventions past. He had a wry sense of humor, and laughed easily. He also worked hard to establish (or re-establish, since there had been two at the beginning of the 50s) the annual Disclave, and was one of the driving forces behind the unsuccessful DC bid for the 1960 Worldcon. Additionally he was one of the "DC Slate" of fans who ran for FAPA offices and ran FAPA in the late 50s (the others were Evans, Dick Eney and myself). During the five years I lived in the DC area and was active in WSFA in the 50s we were close friends.

We continued to run into each other at conventions after I ((continued))

File 770

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moved to NYC in 1959, and Bob even wrote me sporadic letters of comment on my fanzines of that period (he wrote such letters infrequently, referring in each to the size of the unread piles of fanzines and the age of those longest on the pile, his letters usually catching up on several issues none of them less than a couple of years old). Bob had been married and divorced before I met him; in the 60s he remarried, marrying Peggy Rae McKnight. At about the same time his close friend, Bill Evans, married Peggy's recently-divorced mother, making Bill now Bob's father-in-law, a relationship about which they occasionally joked. Remembering Bob as I do from the 50s, and Peggy as I do from the early 60s, it's a little hard for me to realize that Bob and Peggy were married for around 20 years, successfully raising a family during that time.

When I moved back into the area in 1970 we renewed acquaintances, and Bob and Peggy had us over to dinner, but so much had happened to us in the interim that we never resumed the close friendship we'd once enjoyed although we always remained friendly. Neither Bob nor I attended WSFA meetings regularly, I dropped out of FAPA, and we ran into each other less and less often.

But in the back of my mind I always held the possibility of events bringing us back into closer contact once again. It was easy to exchange grins and "Hey, howya doin'?"s at the Disclave only a couple of weeks ago because good old Bob would always be around later for that long-overdue catchup chat.

Now, suddenly (and it was very sudden: he'd gotten sick only three days ago), Bob is no longer "around" and that long-overdue catchup chat will never happen. I procrastinated too long; I put too much faith in Bob always being there. I regret that a lot.

-- TED WHITE

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Harry Warner Jr. wrote, adding, "Bob might not be too well known to younger fans today, but for many years he was very active in District of Columbia fandom, both as a member of the WSFA and in con capacities. His biggest feat in fanzine fandom was compilation, with the help of Bill Evans, of the Fanzine Index during the 1950s, a 141-page listing of virtually every issue of every fanzine known to have been published. It appeared first in sections, then was reprinted in the mid-1960s as a single, bound volume by Harold Palmer Pinner.

"In more recent years, Bob had remained active in FAPA, doing much compilation of statistics and other data on the organization's history. At the time of his death, he was serving as FAPA's co-secretary-treasurer, with his wife Peggy Rae Pavlat."

Seth Goldberg, Official Editor of FAPA (Fantasy Amateur Press Association) states, "I am planning to have an appreciation section in the next Fantasy Amateur and the one after that also for Bob. I would appreciate it if you would mention in FILE 770 that I would like to receive short appreciations from anyone who knew Bob. Anyone sending one who is not currently a member of FAPA would receive a copy of the FA's." (Seth Goldberg, PO Box 7309, Menlo Park CA 94025)

Scott Dennis, on behalf of the ConSettlation (Worldcon) committee, issued a memo with the news of Pavlat's passing, including the word, "Don't worry if some convention work is on hold for awhile. For anyone with questions regarding Bob's department /Function Space Coordinator/, decisions will be made and announced in a few weeks. You may call Carolyn Fowler, Jim Gilpatrick, Fred Isaacs, Gary Oleson, Fred Ramsey or Ben Zalow for information about Peggy Rae's division /Fluid Functions/ for the time being."

DATELINE: BOSTON

Any fanzine in its sixth year of publication ought to learn to overcome a few minor obstacles in its path towards timely publication. Minor ones, like having the editor removed 3000 miles from his mimeograph... On July 12 I received four days' notice that IRS was sending me to Boston for training between July 17 and August 3. So I swept together the contents for F770:42 and its half-stencilled pages, toted my old manual onto the plane, and tonight sit in the Howard Johnson-Kenmore Square annoying the surrounding residents with the pound-pound-pick-pick noise of stencil-cutting. With a little luck this issue will go out from Boston, crediting an assist to Claire Anderson and perhaps other hardened newzine-producers in the neighborhood.

In the meantime, as we segue into the colophon, FILE 770:42 is edited by Mike Glycer (5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401) and appears every six weeks, unless it is published either later or earlier. This zine of news, hot gossip and carefully mongered rumors is available for \$3/5 issues, for contributions of news, leads, artwork, and expensive long-distance phone calls to the editor (NOT COLLECT!) at (213) 787-5061. The zine may also be obtained by arranged trades, primarily for other newzines and clubzines from which juicy items may be borrowed.

STILYAGI'S DAY IN COURT

Like a bride and groom who give up the idea mere yards from the altar the opposing Stilyagi Air Corps and Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association, Inc., made an "out-of-court" settlement in the hall outside a circuit court in Ann Arbor on July 13. Three officers of the Stilyagi Air Corps and Tara Edwards had joined as litigants, serving papers on the four board members of AASFA Inc. Legal action had been discussed ever since the board of AASFA Inc. had walked away from Stilyagi with the rights to the sf convention Confusion and a \$5700 bank account (filled with the profits of prior Confusions). It had been the board's contention that inasmuch as AASFA Inc. had been a separate entity to shield Stilyagi from liability for the potential losses etc. Confusion might incur, the corporate board had the authority to operate without the club. The plaintiffs' suit tried to contradict that point of view by claiming that Tara Edwards had been installed as the president of AASFA Inc. as part of the process of electing her Confusion chairman.

Leah Zeldes, who described herself sitting on a bench outside the courtroom, watching the opposing lawyers go back and forth to confer, states that the out-of-court settlement is a complex agreement which will return AASFA Inc. to the control of Stilyagi Air Corps

by September 1984. Genuine Confusion will be held as planned. During 1984 the directorate of AASFA Inc. will be expanded to include sufficient members elected by the Stilyagi Air Corps that the Corps will have a majority on the board.

Incidentally, by joining forces with the 2nd Science Fiction Oral History Association conference, Genuine Confusion expects its guests to include Phyllis Eisenstein, Lloyd Biggle Jr., Frederik Pohl, Joe Haldeman, Gene Wolfe, Stanley Schmidt and Don & Elsie Wollheim.

FOOTNOTE Roger Reynolds, whose resignation from the Genuine Confusion Committee was reported last issue, phoned to explain that his action was due to personal reasons, and unrelated to the feud.

BILL EVANS HOSPITALIZED: "Bill Evans suffered a heart attack about two weeks ago /appx. June 1/ and was hospitalized for treatment. But word I received tonight was good: he is back home and recuperating well," reports Harry Warner Jr. "Bill is also a long-time FAPA member, served as an officer for many years, and his involvement in general fandom goes all the way back to the 1940s."

PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK -- ELLISON LEGEND GOES DOWN UNDER

Syncon '83, the Australian National SF Convention, was enhanced by the presence of its guest of honor, Harlan Ellison. As John Foyster explains, "At an Australian convention of around 500 attendees, all kinds of weird things happen, anyway. I was congratulating Karen Lewis on wearing one of the few heavy make-up costumes in recent history which didn't cast doubt on the sex of the wearer, and she was not quite knowing how to respond, when I and several others realized that she hadn't quite caught my reference to the fact that the winner seemed to have been assisted by the miracles of modern surgery. (Attendees at the '75 Aussiecon may recall a similar winner in one category) Harlan Ellison did a lot of dancing with this winner and several other of the costumed ones as part of one of the most extended performances by a visiting GoH in years. He did his stuff, or various aspects of it, for about two hours a day during the convention, and made a lot of friends. He also bluffed Justin Ackroyd convincingly at an auction."

According to con visitor Lee Smoie, Ellison found time to give Australia its own Harlan story on the way to a fannish barbecue at Hanging Rock. A VW in the fannish caravan, ahead of Ellison's car, had some Jesus freak bumper stickers. At successive stoplights Ellison did a one-man Chinese fire drill, stripped off the bumper stickers, and dashed back to his car. The driver was mollified neither by offer of payment nor Ellison's attempts to stick the mottos back onto the bumper. The appropriate tut-tutting is left as an exercise for the reader.

It is rare that anything upstages Ellison, but Eric Lindsay, Lee Smoie and John Foyster were still in stitches when they /turn to
back page/

AUSTIN DISCOVERS STUFF(BALLOTS) DREAMS ARE MADE OF

FILESEVEN-SEVENTYPOLL

Perhaps the most stylish exhibition of ballot stuffing in fannish history was organized by the Austin in '85 NASFiC bidding committee, which accounted for 41 of the F770 Poll ballots mailed in. Day after day I watched as my mailbox filled up with those white envelopes, each bearing a computer-printed F770 and return address, each containing a xerox of the original ballot, with a label in the upper right corner announcing "Official Austin in '85 Ballot Stuffing." However, each ballot also contained the voter's signature and address, as required, and better still, 90% of them contained a subscription. Several fans even included Robert Taylor's cover letter, highly complimentary of FILE 770, which explained: "...an above-board ballot-stuffing campaign has several advantages. It tests our organizational ability, it allows Mr. Glycer a way to discern between ballot stuffing and more... um, how shall I put it, spontaneous votes." The campaign worked delightfully.

The New York in '86 committee watched this effort from the sidelines for a few weeks, then could restrain itself no longer. Copies of the ballot were circulated at Lunarians, and forwarded in a batch. Not one subscription in the lot, ~~so~~ *naturally these ballots were discarded...* *cheep*

PARTICIPANTS: Russ ANGLITZ, David M. AELER, Michael BEITNEZ, Kurt BATY, Charles A. BELOV, Perdita BOARDMAN, Andre Barker BRIDGET, Lester BOUTILLIER, Seth BREIDBART, Richard BRANDT, Diane BALL, Valeria BEASLEY, Terry CARR, Paul E. COOPER, Carolyn E. COOPER, Dennis CASEY, Sandy COHEN, Robbie Bourget CANTOR, Jack COLLINSON, Larry CARMODY, Walt R. COLE, Scott A. CUPP, Jackie CAUSGROVE, Kelly CASS, Rachelle S. DuBEY, Robert DOUGHERTY JR., Michelle DOTY, Ira DONEWITZ, Linda DENEROFF, Allyson DYAR, Phyllis EISENSTEIN, Tara Anne EDWARDS, Yale F. EDEIKEN, Marjii ELLERS, Arthur Paul FLORES, Gary Keith FELDBAUM, Gary FARBER, George FLYNN, Moshe FEDER, Catherine FitzSIMMONS, Seth GOLDBERG, David GOVAKER, Patrick GIBBS, Jim GILPATRICK, Mike GLICKSOHN, Kim GOLDENBERG, Alexis A. GILLILAND, Regina GOTTESMAN, Georges GIGUERE, Gay HALDEMAN, Nora HENDRICKSON, Mark HAMBLIN, Anne M. HANSEN, Arthur D. HLAVATY, Jim HUANG, James HILTON, Sandra HUNT, Sydney F. HENDERSON, Janet INGBER, Steve JACKSON, Richard JENSEN, Ken JOSENHANS, Deborah KILGORE, Sven KNUDSON, Neil KADEN, Rick KATZE, Paul KOCH, Samuel Edward KONKIN III, Jerry A. KAUFMAN, Irvin KOCH, Elizabeth KOENIG, Mark KELLER, Johnny M. LEE, Anthony LEWIS, Devra LANGSAM, Fred LERNER, Elan Jane LITT, Anne Laurie LOGAN, Guy H. LILLIAN III, Christine Pasanen MORRIS, Patricia A. MUELLER, Becky MATTHEWS, James MOORE, Teresa MINAMBRES, James R. MADDEN, Cindy McAULIFFE, Steven MILLER, Craig MILLER, Patrick NIELSEN HAYDEN, Teresa NIELSEN HAYDEN, Robert A. NEWSOM, Pat O'NEIL, W. PITCHFORD, Kenndey POYSER, Andy PORTER, Mary S. PRICE, Richard PRICE, John PRENIS, Ron ROBERTSON, P. RABUN, Mike ROGERS, Dave RIKE, Roger REYNOLDS, Elyse ROSENSTEIN, Sharon SBARSKY, William SIROS, Mary Anne STROM, Beth SANDERS, Art SAHA, Ira STOLLER, Ricky SHEPPARD, Steve ROSENSTEIN, Sheila STRICKLAND, Joyce SCRIVNER, Jon SINGER, Joe SOKOLA, Dick SMITH, Steve STANLEY, Greg THOKAR, Peter TOLUZZI, Roy TACKETT, Eric TRUAX, Amy *sigh* THOMSON, Robert K. ROSE, Mike RESNICK, Steven Keith TAIT, William TROJAN, Kim SMITH, Gregg T. TREND, Marianne TURLINGTON, Galen A. TRIPP, Robert R. TAYLOR, Tom VEAL, Dennis VIRZI, Lew WOLKOFF, Mary Lynn WEXFORD, Ted WHITE, Elizabeth WARREN, David WEINER, Laurine WHITE, Walter K. WILLIS, Ben YALOW, Leah ZELDES; (plus 7 unsigned ballots)

FAVORITE FANWRITER

104 Votes

rank votes name

1.	33	Mike GLYER	
2.	16	Dave LANGFORD	
3.	12	Richard E. GEIS	
	12	Teresa NIELSEN HAYDEN	
5.	9	Avedon CAROL	
6.	8	Claire Graham ANDERSON	
7.	7	Christine ATKINSON	
	7	Dave LOCKE	
9.	6	Charles PLATT	
	6	Arthur HLAVATY	
11.	5	Ted WHITE	
12.	4	Harry WARNER JR.	
	4	Patrick NIELSEN HAYDEN	
	4	Bill GLENN	
	4	Larry CARMODY	
			<u>3 VOTES:</u> Marc ORTLIEB, Richard BERGERON, Malcolm EDWARDS, Eric MAYER, Marty CANTOR,
			<u>2 VOTES:</u> Mike GLICKSOHN, Bill BOWERS, Don C. THOMPSON, Lon ATKINS, Dick SMITH, John D. BERRY, Andrew PORTER, Linda PICKERSGILL, Cathy BALL, Bernadette BOSKY, K. SMITH, Christopher PRIEST, Kim BALL, Darrell SCHWEITZER, Jon SINGER, D. WEST, George FLYNN, Johnny LEE, Neil KADEN, S. MATTHEWS, A. ZEEK, Mark BLACKMAN, Charles N. BROWN
			<u>1 VOTE:</u> 75 individuals.

FAVORITE FANARTIST

107 Votes

rank votes name

1.	37	Stu SHIFFMAN	
2.	35	Alexis GILLILAND	
3.	18	Joan HANKE-WOODS	
4.	13	Bill ROTSLER	
5.	12	Dan STEFFAN	
6.	11	Steven FOX	
7.	8	Brad FOSTER	
8.	6	Kurt BERGSTEIN	
	6	Charlie WILLIAMS	
	6	Victoria POWSER	
11.	5	Steve STILES	
12.	4	TATAL	
	4	Teresa NIELSEN HAYDEN	
	4	Linda LEACH	
	4	Doug POTTER	
			<u>3 VOTES:</u> Mel WHITE, Phil FOGGIO, Harry MORRIS, C. CLOUTIER, Richard BERGERON, Ken FLETCHER, Grant CANFIELD, D. HARRIS,
			<u>2 VOTES:</u> Jeanne GOMOLL, Jerry COLLINS, William WARREN, Linda MICHAELS, R. HANSEN, Lucy HUNTZINGER, T. HAMILTON, Wendy PINI, Steve FABIAN, KOWALSKI, PROVEE, RYLANDER, BAAKE,
			<u>1 VOTE:</u> 49 individuals.

"Maybe I'm being incredibly obvious, but I always thought the primary consideration in selecting Guests of Honor should be 'are they worth honoring?' with a secondary nod to 'Have they been over- or under- honored lately?' Naming names, I seriously doubt that Gordon Dickson's contribution to our community has been 947 (or whatever) times that of Ed Ferman, yet I have yet to hear of a concom even asking the editor of F&SF. (I'd like to hear that I'm wrong.) People who are electrifying on program items or jolly good fun at parties will show up to conventions in any case; the main justification for the institution of GoH-ships has always seemed to me to see and hear the people we might not normally see at any panel or bid party." -- Patrick Nielsen Hayden.

OPINION POLL

QUESTION 1: Rank the following functions of a convention Pro Guest of Honor in the order you assign to their importance:

(141 Votes)

ITEM:	PLACEMENT:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Guest of Honor Speech		35	32	30	19	19	2	
Panel Participation		47	49	30	11	2	0	
Contribute to Con Publications		1	15	18	36	43	10	
Party-Going		23	28	32	38	9	0	
Name drawing-power		22	11	19	20	37	8	
(other) High visibility		10	3	4	4	0	3	(24 write-ins)
(other) To Be Honored		5	0	1	0	0	0	(6 write-ins)

The write-in vote placed a high premium on the Guest of Honor's personality and friendliness, preferring someone "having a genuine interest in things fannish (not just coming to cons for publicity & SFWA smoffing)." One con chairman specified for his Guest of Honor a "non-megalomaniac; at least civil to con staff, ideally with an open and likeable nature." Or as someone else more simply put it, "must/ withstand hordes of fuggheads without becoming paranoid." A minority stressed such points as "legibility of signature" and "ability to sign collector's edition copy of rare book..."

QUESTION 2: You have 10 points to distribute among the pros you feel have done the best job as Guest of Honor at one or more convention(s). You may give all 10 points to one person, or distribute the points among a maximum of 5 names.

Editor's comment: This question is basically a fanaticism index, since a pro could finish high in the standings either by getting a few fans to award him/her all 10 points, or by getting many fans to give him/her one or two points. The top twenty are listed.

112 VOTES

rank	points	name	rank	points	name
1.	102	Harlan ELLISON	11.	28	Robert BLOCH
2.	63	C. J. CHERRYH	12.	24	Larry NIVEN
3.	49	Joe HALDEMAN	13.	23	Harry HARRISON
4.	44	Wilson TUCKER		23	Theodore STURGEON
5.	43	James WHITE	15.	22	Kelly FREAS
6.	38	Howard WALDROP		22	Robert HEINLEIN
	38	Isaac ASIMOV	17.	21	Robert SILVERBERG
8.	36	Frederik PCHL	18.	18	Fritz LEIBER
	36	Samuel DELANY	19.	16	Roger ZELAZNY
10.	34	Gordon DICKSON	20.	15	Chad OLIVER

QUESTION 3: Are you a member of the 1983 Worldcon (Constellation at Baltimore)?

YES: 117

NO: 32

TOTAL: 149

For a change, the vast majority of poll respondents claimed to be members of this year's worldcon, and therefore potentially eligible to vote in Site Selection. Therefore I did not break down those questions on that point as I have in past years.

QUESTION 4: If Melbourne, Australia (presently uncontested) wins the right to host the 1985 Worldcon, a NASFiC (North American Science Fiction Convention) will be held that year in the Central Zone. Which of the following qualified bids do you prefer -- please rank in order: Austin TX, Columbus OH, SE Michigan.

Editorial note: This is the moment Austin in '85 ballot stuffers have been waiting for -- drum roll, please:

	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	143 Votes
AUSTIN	86	20	29	
COLUMBUS	23	55	32	
DETROIT	34	39	45	

Although 41 voters for Austin used their official stuffing forms, Austin wins by a runaway even without counting a single one of those votes. Let it be noted that the stuffed ballots came from many places outside Texas, particularly Boston-area fandom, and Illinois.

QUESTION Rank the following 1986 Worldcon bids in order of preference: Atlanta GA, New York NY, Philadelphia PA.

	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	141 Votes
ATLANTA	74	36	26	
NEW YORK	38	43	47	
PHILADELPHIA	29	51	50	

In this category the results were heavily influenced by ballots stuffed on the part of Austin, and others stuffed on behalf of New York. For the sake of curiosity, here are the results when all stuffed ballots are set aside:

	<u>1st</u>	
ATLANTA	43	After skimming through these numbers,
NEW YORK	20	I'm sure Guy H. Lillian III, the flower
PHILADELPHIA	28	of Southern chivalry, will be amazed
		to see how unaffected backing for the

Atlanta bid seems to be by the controversies associated with its committee.

QUESTION 6: As of March 1, 1983, how many of the 23 Nebula Award-nominated stories and novels had you read?

<u>None</u>	<u>1-5</u>	<u>6-10</u>	<u>11-15</u>	<u>16-22</u>	<u>All 23</u>	129 Votes
15	63	22	18	11	0	

Anne Hansen, who tallied this question, concluded from the ballots that New Yorkers either don't read, or won't admit to it...

QUESTION 7: Can you suggest another name for our activity than "science fiction fandom"?

Editorial comment: Despite the figures above, in Question 6, and the dismal showing last year on a similar question about the Hugo nominees, some people stiff, didn't understand why I was looking for a new name for fandom... On the following page are suggestions made by those who did Get It.

ALTERNATE NAMES FOR FANDOM:

1. sfolatry
2. purveyors & partakers of alternate realities
3. Fandom (c)
copyright the World Science Fiction Society (R)
4. Phredd
5. Phrogging
6. Carousing
7. FAAn Fandom
8. Fun
9. Crazy
10. Parafanalia
11. Sci-fi freaks; Uncle Hugo's Hussars
12. Row boating
13. Nutdom
14. Party-party
15. Scientifology
16. Those interested in "unsciolistic creation"
17. Fandom (with a capital 'f')
18. Skiffolds
19. Chaos
20. A happy-go-lucky group
21. SF CON-DOM
22. Real life funnies
23. Timebinding
24. Condom
25. The Hugo Gernsback Drum & Bugle
Marching Singenbunt (aka
Cosmic Chaos)
26. Emotional attack therapy sessions.
27. Lonely heads club
28. "futurists"
29. Fiction Readers Support Groups
30. The International Pro-literate
31. Speculative fiction appreciation
32. Creative insanity
33. Stupid...er?
34. An enjoyable pasttime
35. This Thing of Ours (in Italian)
36. Fearful Fan-dom
37. Jerking off
38. The Community of Fan
39. Miniature golfing
40. Dementia praecox
41. "the association for asocial mesomorphs"
42. mutual multifarious masturbation
43. "my writers group"
44. The Overpeople
45. "Imaginative Literature Activism" or based on fan feuds, "The Hatfield-McCoy Veneration Society"
46. Marinus van der Lubbe Fillbombing & Fellatio Society



QUESTION 8: Judging by a thundering silence in Hugo Awards audiences the past few years, Dick Geis has been unable to locate anyone to accept his Hugos at the ceremony. Would you be willing to get up in front of the audience and accept on his behalf next time he wins? YES: 39 NO: 101 (140 responses.)

Although my promise of confidentiality prevents me from listing their names for Dick's benefit, if he inquires I will act as intermediary... The legitimate yes voters (as opposed to one who said, "Would I give it to him afterward? No, probably not.") include 2 past Worldcon chairmen, a Hugo nominee, a member of First Fandom, two members of the Cult, and two out of the three former administrators of the FAAn Awards! One volunteer would accept the award "anonymously, in a funny suit & Groucho nose & glasses, wearing a sign saying 'Dick Geis surrogate.'"

QUESTION 9: Which of the following do you find makes the most boring and repetitious reading? Similar to the way you answered question 2 above, you have 10 points to distribute among the following choices:

<u>rank</u>	<u>points</u>	<u>item</u>
1.	282	Discussions of whether L. Ron Hubbard is alive.
2.	210	Dick Geis on the subject of economics
3.	163	Southern fan feuds
4.	118	Isaac Asimov's introductions to his own stories
5.	100	Transcripts of Bill Bowers' annual speech at Confusion.
6.	46	Boring poll questions (write-in)
7.	43	John Alderson writing about anything
8.	36	Any fan feud (write-in)
9.	25	Judith Hanna's convention reports
10.	18	Fanzine Hugo eligibility discussions (write-in)
11.	14	Media vs. trufann:shness (write-in)
12.	10	All of the above except Southern fan feuds (write-in)
	10	Fritz Leiber (write-in)
	10	All of the above (write-in)
	10	Con politics in FILE 770 (write-in)
	10	Sword & sorcery/adventure fantasy (write-in)

In conclusion -- thanks go to Anne Hansen, who tabulated most of the answers to these poll questions; and thanks to the Austin in '85 bidders, Larry Carmody, and Gregg Trend, for circulating their own editions of the ballot thereby helping to boost participation.

PONG POLL RESULTS: FILE 770 readers received a distribution of the PONG Poll ballot several issues ago, and for anyone who has not already heard the results I have a note from Ted White listing the first-place winners. 70 ballots were turned in:

BEST FANWRITER: D. West	BEST NEW FAN: Steve Bieler
BEST FANARTIST: Dan Steffan	FUGGHEAD OF THE YEAR:
BEST FANEDITOR: Malcolm Edwards	Seth Breidbart
BEST SINGLE PUBLICATION: WARHOON 30	
#1 FAN FACE: Dan Steffan.	

Ted mentions that Steffan only edged Teresa Nielsen Hayden by 1 point in the #1 Fan Face category. He also adds "all the votes for Seth for Fugghead came from the NYC area on xeroxed copies of the ballots, representing block voting -- but each ballot was legitimately signed by a fan whose name we recognized, so we had no choice about accepting them." Runners-up, names of voters and other data are supposed to appear in a Poll Results publication for all voters.

HALIFAX FAN FUND: Evidently based on the popularity of their visit to California's 1982 Aquacon II, Spider and Jeanne Robinson are the beneficiaries of a fan-run campaign to finance the duo's trip to the 1984 Worldcon in Los Angeles. An update flyer circulated at Westerchron over the July 4th weekend reports that the fund has raised enough to cover the pair's memberships, but it needs to hustle up over \$100 a month between now and LACon II to pay for the airfare etc. For info contact either: Teri Lee or Cathy Cook (Off Centaur Publications, PO Box 424, El Cerrito CA 94530) or Amy Carpenter (7356 Haskell Ave #7, Van Nuys CA 91406). Loot can be directed to the El Cerrito PO Box, and should be identified as a donation to the HFF.



TED WHITE

THE
WAILING
WALL

BOONFARK #8: (Dan Steffan, 1010 N. Tuckahoe St., Falls Church VA 22046; available for The Usual, old fanzines in trade, or \$2.50 a copy.) With this issue BNF is nine years old, despite having seen only eight issues. This issue follows almost on the heels of #7, going into the mail less than six months later, but there probably won't be another issue before the end of the year. The reason is that BNF is one of those rarities, a high-quality fat genzine, and no matter how much Steffan would like to make it smaller and more frequent, it seems to end up thick and infrequent. Twice in a year is an achievement. Despite the foregoing, #8 is smaller than usual, running only 58 pages, and it lacks some of the overall sparkle of earlier issues. It's not easy to pin down the reasons for this slightly-lower quality, but I suspect it lies with the regular columnists (of which I am one, *sigh*). Rich brown's "Totem Pole" is uncharacteristically short and minor. My own "Minac" may have been a mistake: an attempt to describe and recreate the effect of Harlan Ellison's 50s fanzine, SFB/DIMENSIONS, which was so long that it had to be divided between two issues and lost much of its original cohesiveness in the process; this issue has the second half. Gary Hubbard's "The Cracked Eye" is long and anecdotal, but is too low-key to sustain itself over eight pages. And that only leaves two "outside" contributions: Jim Benford's "The True Story of VOID" is of considerable fanhistorical interest since Greg Benford's twin brother has been seen rarely in fanzines since he stopped coediting VOID with Greg in 1968, but it is a minor piece of writing; Steve Stiles' "Younger in New York" on the other hand is engagingly written and tells some rather funny true stories about NYC fandom in the 60s, making it the best piece in the issue. Malcolm Edwards reviewed an earlier BNF as a "pizza" rather than the expected "steak" because it lacked the fanhistorical material for which the fanzine had become known. He won't have that problem with this issue, since virtually all the material in it is in one sense or another fanhistorical: Hubbard on earlier times in his life, Benford on the 50s VOID, Stiles on 60s Fanoclasts, me on Ellison in the 50s, brown on mid-60s Fanoclasts. That leaves only Steffan's editorial (rebutting Brian Earl Brown's Sixth Fandom Nonsense for what can be hoped to be the last time; Brown himself seems to have dropped the subject), Steffan's comic-strip adaptation of THE ENCHANTED DUPLICATOR (Chapter 3), and twelve pages (in double-columned micro-elite) of letters. Much of the art is excellently hand-stenciled: the Ray Nelson and

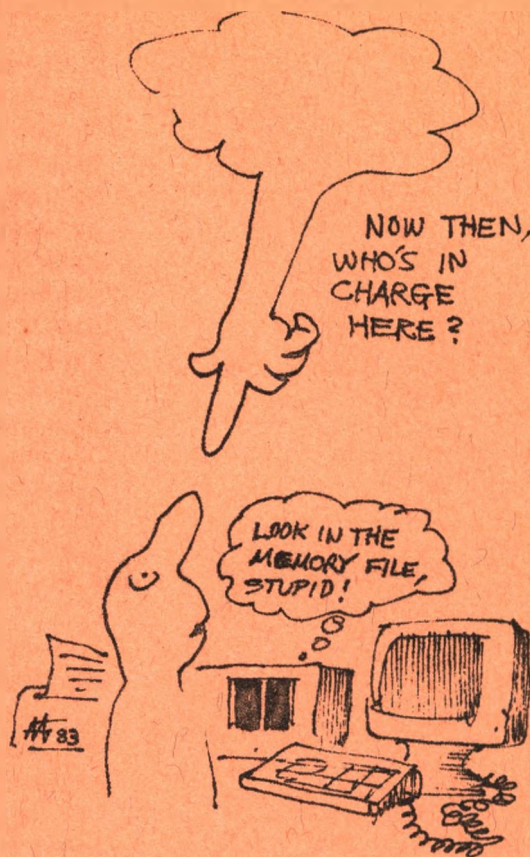
Steve Stiles art is an example of how hand-stencilled art can out-class electrostencilled art when done well. And this issue Steffan takes advantage of my acquisition of a second Gestetner to run a second color, most effectively on the Dave English art which introduces the Benford piece. The editing is solid, the design is good and developing more of an overall coherency, and only Steffan's editorial writing still lags a bit. This is one of the two or three best fanzines being published in the US. Contents: 7 Appearance: 7.

NOTHING LEFT TO THE IMAGINATION #5

(Alina Chu, 72 Orchard St. NYC NY 10002 & Teresa Minambres, 218 W. 22nd St. #3FW, NYC NY 10011; available by whim, for The Usual, or \$1.00 a copy.) NLTTI started out a gossip sheet and has evolved into a solid and interesting fanzine. Some of the credit must go to Larry Carmody, whose "On the Anvil" column reviews fanzines in depth, but it is obvious that the editors are developing both as fanwriters and editors, and they've evolved a healthy lettercolumn for the zine. This one is definitely on the way up. Contents: 5. Appearance: 5.

NEW CANADIAN FANDOM #6: (Robert Runte, editor; Michael Hall, publisher; PO Box 4555, P.S.S.E., Edmonton ALTA T6E 5S5 Canada; available for The Usual, 5 issues for \$4, one free sample available on request.) NCF tries hard, and fails to cut it. Much of the issue is physically ugly, produced on a word-processor then electrostencilled with gray blurry type which is hard in spots to read. The editorial tone matches the print: stolid, earnest, dull. Only when the subject of American Cultural Imperialism comes up does Runte wax passionate -- and fuggheaded. Much of the issue is devoted to reports on minor conventions by people with little to offer but complaints about fuckups. Striking a blow for Canadian Culture, the issue was printed with very narrow margins and comes unstapled -- loose pages in an envelope. Old Canadian fandom produced better fanzines. Contents: 3. Appearance: 3.

MICROWAVE #5: (Terry Hill, 41 Western Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8NE, U.K. Available for The Usual or Walt Kelly Pogo material.) This is the quarterly MICROWAVE's first Annish and it weighs in with 80 pages crammed with material by old-time Brit fans like Walt Willis, Arthur Thomson, Terry Jeeves, Mal Ashworth, Vinø Clarke and Sid Birchby; newer Brit fans like Steve Green, Paul Skelton and Chuck Connor; and a couple of Americans like Lee Hoffman and myself. Plus 20 pages



of letters! Hill was a complete neofan when he put out #1 a year ago, and better known as a collector and bibliophile who, in the process of tracking down pre-WW2 material, had stumbled upon and revived interest in fandom in 50s BNF Vinç Clarke (who had been resolutely gafia for more than 20 years). Hill has progressed quickly; by the third issue MICROWAVE was a solid, interesting fanzine, and the Annish is stunning. By reactivating Brit fans of the 50s Hill has produced a fanzine with a unique mix and attitude, especially when one takes into account the Young Turk attitude of modern Brit fandom which says that last year's BNF is, this year, deader than a doornail. Hill has held to a very regular quarterly schedule for MICROWAVE, despite time spent in a hospital donating one of his kidneys to his brother. As I write, he is preparing #6 -- which may be out before you read this. Contents: 7. Appearance: 6

RATAPLAN #22: (Leigh Edmonds, PO Box 433, Civic Square, ACT 2608, Australia; available for The Usual for 3/\$2.) Published bimonthly, RATAPLAN was, only two issues earlier, ORNITHOPTER, having made the transition back to Edmonds' earlier title with ORNITHOPTER 12/-RATAPLAN 21. Under either name, this is Australia's best current fanzine, far eclipsing Q36, WAHF-FULL, and other fanzines presently emanating from that continent, and the only Australian fanzine that can hold its head up in the company of WARHOON, TAPPEN, and the other major fanzines of the English-speaking world. Chatty, carefully informal in presentation, but intelligent and literate, RATAPLAN blends the sercritical excellence of the best Australian fanzines of the early 70s (of which only Bruce Gillespie's SF COMMENTARY remains, on a less-than-annual basis *sigh*) with contemporary fannishness, of which a good example is Edmonds' thoughtful and detailed fanzine reviews. Also in this issue: Paul Stokes on the Louvre (yes, the Louvre!), columnist Rob Gerrand on BLADERUNNER, Bruce Gillespie on Lee Harding's wedding, a book review by the editor, letters and editorial commentary which runs through and ties the issue together in much the same fashion as TAPPEN. Contents: 7. Appearance: 4 (functional; no interior art).

THIS NEVER HAPPENS #3: (Christina Lake & Lilian Edwards, 20A Chatsworth Parade, Queensway, Petts Wood, Kent BR5 1DF U.K.; available for The Usual.) This is another photo-offset, half-A4-size fanzine, much like fellow UK fanzines TYPERS and CRYSTAL SHIP, and like TYPERS much is written by the editors (although Dave Langford is one of the outside contributors). It's engagingly done, and quite well illustrated, sporting much more art than most Brit fanzines, and taking good advantage of the possibilities in offset. Dave Harwood, who did a lovely cover, is one of the standout artists in the issue; he also has a comic strip of near-pro-quality. Contents: 5. Appearance: 7.

TWLL DDU #20: (Dave Langford, 94 London Rd., Reading, Berkshire RG1 5AU U.K.; available by whim and for donations to TAFF.) Dave Langford is one of the best fanwriters around, a TAFF winner, and in his spare time, a working physicist and professional sf writer. He puts out DRLKJS, an all-too-infrequent genzine (with Kevin Smith) and the Brit newsletter ANSIBLE. But every once in awhile he also does TWLL DDU, a self-written (plus letters) quasi-

personalzine, when things get slow. As usual, TD 20 is quietly brilliant, full of tossed-off lines like "Richard Bergeron has discovered the 'ensmalled fanzine,' Joseph Nicholas is working on the 'ensmalled sentence,' /and/ Malcolm Edwards convalesces from his invention of the enbigged fanzine which is always 36 pages too long...." Contents: 7. Appearance: 5.

STICKY QUARTERS #4: (Brian Earl Brown, 20101 W. Chicago #201, Detroit MI 48228; available for 25¢ or by editorial whim.) Brown endeared himself to me by quoting out of context a few sentence-fragments from a several-page letter I'd written him, in an attempt to make me look as bad as possible thereby in SQ#3. For that reason I decided to never again write him any letters, and I crossed his name off my list of those I consider to be human beings, concurring with Leroy Kettle's characterization of him as a "fat American twepr." However, fairness impels me to note that SQ is not without its merits, especially now that Brown has apparently abandoned his asanine "Sixth Fandom Fandom" hobbyhorse. * This issue devotes considerable space to the ConFusion coup and letters, but the best item in its 12 pages of reduced type is Eric Mayer's appreciation of Donn Brazier's 70s fanzine TITLE. ("Seventies Fandom Fandom," anyone?) Eric loaned me a few copies of TITLE and I thought it a crudzine, but he explains here how its monthly publication created a community among its readers, a community which apparently tolerated with pleasure the insane ravings of the late Richard Shaver, and "in which Doctor /Frederick/ Wertham could participate without being reviled" for the fugghead he was. I guess you hadda be there. Contents: 4. Appearance: 3. (messy)

ON COMPANY TIME #3: (Steve Bieler, PO Box 1870, Seattle WA 98111; available for The Usual.) If Bieler is who I think he is, he used to be the art director of the local monthly Washington DC UNICORN TIMES, an entertainment paper, and his connections to fandom are largely social. In ON COMPANY TIME (named for the way it is produced) there is little if anything about fandom, but Bieler writes engagingly about the topics which interest him like models, baseball and -- in this issue -- the subject of writing itself. As a consequence he won this year's PONG POLL as Best New Fan, and his fanzine despite its tangential connections with mainstream fandom has been well received. Contents: 6. Appearance: 4. (functional; no art)

Correction: In my last column Malcolm Edwards' DRUNKARD'S TALK was typed as DRUNKARD'S WALK, which may be of only academic interest since the last issue I've seen appeared with the Nielsen Haydens' flyer announcing the effective suspension of IZZARD (with which DT hitched rides as a frequent fanzine...*sigh*... -- Ted White

* ((EDITORIAL COMMENT: I am dubious about printing this item, although there is certainly nothing here we haven't seen published before, elsewhere. I do find it a shade harsher than ironic to see my fanzine as the vehicle for an accusation which I myself have previously levied against Ted. Brian can have 3 lines of reply if he elects; thereafter I serve notice the matter is dropped from these pages.))



" HE KNOWS SO LITTLE -- AND KNOWS IT SO FLUENTLY. "

48,000 TREKKIES SHOW ELRON THE DOOR?

Shortly before Westercon the second issue of BASFAX NEWSLETTER was circulated to the Bay Area Science Fiction and Fantasy Society. The June issue included the fascinating headline "L. Ron Hubbard Evicted from Dr. Who Con."

The item read: "SF writer and founder of Scientology, L. Ron Hubbard, made a brief appearance at the North American Doctor Who Appreciation Society (NADWAS) convention held in Palo Alto on May 27, before being evicted by a security guard. Hubbard, who is reported to be living in seclusion near Hayward, was in the process of organizing a panel on the first day of the convention to discuss the merits of his most recent SF novel, the Hugo-nominated BATTLEFIELD EARTH, when a member of the security staff noticed that he was not wearing convention name badge. When informed that he would have to purchase a membership badge, an argument ensued and Hubbard was asked to leave the hotel's premises. Convention officials declined to comment on the incident. The convention itself, held over the Memorial Day weekend, was considered a success, with the overall attendance for the four days estimated at 48,000. -- P. Thorne"

Paul A. Flores, BASFA founder wrote after Westercon, "As you've probably realized by now, from the first issue of the newsletter, the resignation letter written by Thorne soon afterwards, and the most recent issue of the newsletter which contained Thorne's erroneous and libelous Hubbard article, both the Society and its newsletter, which I had created with the best of intentions, are flundering in confusion and controversy. The credibility and reputation of the newsletter have been shot to hell and back.... During the last minute paste-up and printing of BASFAN #2, Thorne turned in the Hubbard article, which he had assured me was quite true and confirmed by the Dr. Who concon. Under pressure of a tight printing

deadline, and trusting Thorne's word, I did little more than glance at the piece (I had heard previously that Hubbard was alive and active again). When I turned the layouts over to him for final proof-reading (he's the English major -- I'm still learning to spell), he tampered with and altered other items in the same issue without my knowledge or permission (claiming later that it was his way to add some needed humor to the ish), and proceeded to print the issue.... At Westerchron I spoke with several persons who were part of the staff and security at the Dr. Who Con, all of whom denied any knowledge of the incident. Sunday night I confronted Thorne with this information and he jokingly admitted that the article was a hoax, written with the intent to discredit the newsletter and myself, in retaliation for having removed him from the editorship."

Fred Harris, of Authors Services Ltd. (BATTLEFIELD EARTH's promoters), and Paul Flores both independently assured me that each spent part of Westercon gaslighting the other. How they could both have succeeded at this, I wonder. However, anyone who wasn't aware of the hoax after reading its last reference to 48,000 attendees at a Dr. Who con may be more than a bit literal-minded.

WESTERCHRON TICKED

San Jose, CA, played host to the 1983 Westercon (nicknamed Westerchron) and its estimated 1700 attendees. The con was an odd combination of failings and virtues. The Bay Area Westercon has a tradition, established by the SAMPO committees of the 1970s, of chaotically disorganized programming, feeble hotel relations, fabulous art shows and masquerades, and a sense of adventure for attendees. The Westerchron seemed to reverse everything. Generally, the Red Lion Inn worked out well -- I heard no complaints about its handling of parties, or the usual hotel functions; even the coffee shop was comparatively popular and accessible in late hours. Programming -- with the exception of room conflicts about the time of Sunday's Business Meeting -- ran pretty much as scheduled. However there was just one fannish panel in the entire schedule, unless you're willing to count the several panels on masquerade costuming. The Masquerade itself could only be viewed by 700 ticket-holders, and the quality of the closed-circuit broadcast throughout the hotel was terrible -- dimly lit, and indistinct colors.

The Westercon Art Show -- especially in the Bay Area, where Barr, Austin, Kirk, etc. once dominated -- hit a recent low point this year. Most of the items on display were indicative of a level of competence usually seen in high school art classes. The cream of the exhibition was hard to find -- and too often the best pieces were merely print #350 out of 400, and have been making the rounds of every con in the country for the past two years. This was very disappointing, with even the best-known artists represented by minor drawings and paintings. Following on the heels of the 1982 Westercon art show in Phoenix, one of the best in years, the dropoff was shocking.

The association of Phoenix with the word "shocking" occurred more

than once on the July 4th weekend. Feuding factions of Phoenix fandom were promoting two different convention bids -- one group, led by Terry Gish, was partying every night in hopes of returning the Westercon to Phoenix in 1985. Elsewhere the Phoenix in '87 Worldcon bid, represented by Bruce Dane, repudiated any connection with the other bid to anyone who would listen. The CASFS (Central Arizona SF Society) circularized the con claiming that they had run last year's Westercon and emphatically did not support the current bid.

Sacramento's 81 Westercon committee was seeking another shot at the con, with their bid for '85. Although its dissidents had spent much of the previous year trying to divert support from the bid, few cities can rival the fans of Phoenix when it comes to alienating voters. I, personally, had ribbons or stickers put on my membership badge uninvited half a dozen times by Phoenix proponents, which turned me off. The Phoenix bidding parties, along with promotional parties being staged by Portland (84 Westercon), Baycon, NY in '86, and Sacramento created a heavily-attended party row on the hotel's second floor -- and it wasn't possible to pass through the Phoenix party without becoming a walking billboard.

According to Fred Patten, the final bid vote looked approximately like this: Sacramento 458, Phoenix 148, None of the Above 16, Oakland 1, San Jose 1, No Preference 15 (total: 639).

Bids for '86 are San Diego and Vancouver. LA has a bid for '87, as does the Santa Clara Valley.

CON SITES PICKED

The Third Annual Space Development Conference, sponsored by the L-5 Society, will be held April 20-22, 1984, at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Tim Kyger and Maxwell Hunter are co-chairs.

The World Fantasy Convention will be held in Toronto in 1984 and in Phoenix in 1985. The latter convention will be chaired by Randy Rau. (source: MAW v.2 n.1)

THE BEAM'S CHOICE BOB TUCKER
Special Label Project has been cancelled, reports Sourdough Jackson in DASFAX v.15 n.6. He says, "I talked briefly with Jan Howard Finder, organizer of the project, at Leprecon 9, and he told me that there were nowhere near enough orders to meet the required minimum of 150 cases."

PBS & BRSFL

Ancient but still humorous is this report from the May issue of the Baton Rouge Science Fiction League's BRSFL NEWS: "The Throngs that are BRSFL once again invaded the usually quiet hall of Louisiana Public Broadcasting this past March and helped out the many obscene callers who usually spill their guts to the awe-struck volunteers during these call-ins. Most of the really disgusting calls could be easily pointed out by the twisted smiles on the faces of those who had them on the other end of the line. (Of course, you could usually follow that line and find it connected to another studio phone with another strange smile there, breathing deeply into the little yellow phones!)."

The SUSAN B. PETREY Memorial Scholarship was awarded to (cont'd)

Mona Clee, a law student from Austin, TX. The \$611 check will cover out-of-state tuition to the Clarion Science Fiction Writers Workshop. (source;PULSAR)

WHAT'S JOE ROSS been doing lately? Since you asked, Joe replies: "Since the return to office of /Massachusetts/ Governor Michael Dukakis in January I've been serving on the Governor's Advisory Committee on the Homeless, chairing a subcommittee on preserving the existing low- and moderate-income housing stock. In February at a local Democratic caucus I was elected a delegate to the Democratic State Convention, which was held in April. Because there was a presidential straw poll at the convention, we were courted heavily by the Democratic presidential candidates and I got to meet and shake hands with Walter Mondale, John Glenn and Alan Cranston. I actually got to have some conversations with Mondale and Cranston."

MARIE BARTLETT has once again become the proud parent of four kittens, born May 6. Reports Sherry Katz, "Marie's home for unwed cats has swelled to the bursting point and she desperately needs good homes for them real soon now. At least this bunch has a mother of their own -- no more 4 AM feedings for Marie this time around (or attending Chicon meetings with a basket full of hungry babes. On the chance she may not have yet found homes for the new brood and their slutty mother, please print this to help her out!"

DAVE LANGFORD'S ANSIBLE 33 runs a Puzzle Corner: "Which leading newzine complains about fans reprinting material without permission, yet swipes ANSIBLE news without permission (which I don't mind) and without giving credit

(which I do)? Clue: not FILE 770."

NESFA/LEXICON AUCTION REPORT:

In INSTANT MESSAGE 338, one discovers that George Flynn was able to auction off his extra copy of F770 for \$2.89. This was remarkable, because the copy had a page missing. The full significance became apparent when IM 340 noted that, at Lexicon, the August issue of SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE had fetched only 2¢. This issue had all its pages. Carried to its logical extreme, I suppose in a couple of months Andy will send them a few blank pieces of SFC letterhead stapled together, and the sales price will be enough to pay off the NESFA Clubhouse.

A NEW SETTLEMENT OF OLD SCORES will be the title of the Brunner book being pushed to completion in order to be sold at Constellation. NESFans have been working til 3 and 4 in the morning at marathon proofreading sessions, under the direction of Greg Thokar.

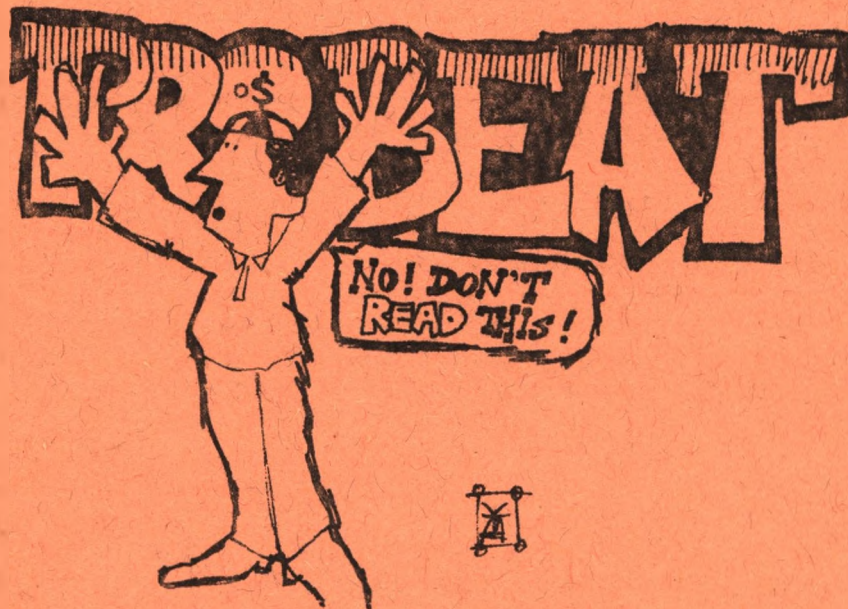
NESFA CLUBHOUSE: OOPS! Per IM 340, the NESFA's active search for a clubhouse had produced a very promising building, but the club's selection process wasn't fast enough to prevent the building from being bought out from under them. Henceforth, the club's Exec Board will review good possibilities within 24 hours.

MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION FANDOM INC. -- who brought us Noreascon II -- has created Fellowships, grants-in-aid, to bring people to worldcon's who otherwise couldn't do so. According to Tony Lewis, Spider and Jeanne Robinson are the first recipients, and will be able to attend Constellation as a result.

JEFF SCHALLES is currently building ferro-cement boulders and fiberglass trees in the Bronx Zoo's new Jungle House, opening 1985.

HARTWELL LEAVES PB

The Scott Meredith Literary Agency has retracted the plan it announced June 15 to supersede David Hartwell as the editor and packager of science fiction books for Pocket Books. As described in June 16's THE WASHINGTON POST, the Meredith group would have provided 48 books per year for the renamed Starscope line. In that article SFWA President Marta Randall was quoted, "our objection stems from what we think is probably a conflict of interest. We fail to understand how a writer can benefit /from an agent/ who is in a position,



in effect, to sell the work to himself." Ronald Busch, president of Pocket Books, said, "The paranoia in science fiction people is a little higher than most. We thought there would be a fuss, but if they would quit crying wolf until the wolf is at their door, they'd see that the conflict of interest doesn't exist. Scott Meredith said, "It's really a joining of interests. We check every deal with our clients anyway, and the client ultimately makes the decision and won't take anything he doesn't like. It's nonsense to assume that we're going to buy our own people too cheaply."

Ted White had commented at the time: "There is absolutely no way Meredith can do the job Hartwell was doing -- sleaze has been Scott's middle name since before he changed his last name to Meredith, and I speak as a former employee (who was fired for getting sick during the week -- rather than on the weekend).... I might add that one reason for poor sales of the Timescape line might be that the sales department -- not Hartwell -- determined the print runs and promotions, and all 'reprint' books, like my BY FURIES POSSESSED and Leiber's THE SINFUL ONES, were effectively given no chance at all, with initial print runs of 35,000 to 40,000 copies and no newsstand

distribution (specialty bookstores only). My royalty statement shows Very Few Sales for my book... Hartwell rejected BATTLEFIELD EARTH. I wonder if Meredith will rush to buy the paperback rights."

Evidently Meredith, nor Hartwell, will be buying anything for Pocket Books, and its sf line editorship remains vacant at this writing. Friday June 24 the controversial alliance between PB and SMLA was cancelled, and a release dated June 28 formalized the dissolution. The release said, "Pocket Books remains strongly committed to publishing science fiction," although the Timescape series will end next spring as originally planned.

Norman Spinrad, SFWA grievance committee chairman, credited the authors' intervention with breaking the deal, and termed the breakup "the single greatest labor relations victory ever won by a writers' group in this country, except for Hollywood and the screenwriters." PB president Busch rebutted, "They're entitled to their point of view, but you would really have to question anybody who thinks that this is a labor victory. It's a business decision."

CONSTELLATION PROTOCOLS: Some time ago in PR4, the WorldCon committee issued a large quantity of information, including the following items that fascinated me more than most:

Page 7: Ellen Franklin has been promoted to Queen of ConStellation. The gist of the idea seems to be to get somebody who has the time to meet and deal with the public (unlike our beloved Chairman), and who has enough ability to keep that news footage from being left on the cutting room floor. The Queen should also come in handy if Miss Universe tries to muscle in on the worldcon.

Page 24, 25: The Hugo Awards Ceremony will be preceded by a Crab Feast. Only the Hugos, JWC, and First Fandom awards will be presented at this ceremony; every other award will be offered time in an International Awards Ceremony earlier in the day.

Page 37: The Masquerade has incorporated a dandy idea -- every entrant will be photographed for the benefit of the judges, so they can be sure that they're all talking about the same costumes.

Page 45, 46: For 1987, Phoenix and San Diego have tossed their hats in the worldcon ring.

NASFIC VOTING ACCORDS: Setting aside the worldcon committee's refusal to participate in Nasfic selection until the moment that Melbourne officially secures the '85 Worldcon at the Business Meeting Sunday, September 4, the Austin, Detroit and Columbus committees have agreed on NASFiC selection methods. There will be a \$15 voting fee. The alternatives on the ballot will be the three cities, plus Other, No Preference, and None of the Above.

NASFIC BIDS LEAP TO THEIR DEATH: Michigan fandom's plight has been discussed at length these past several issues. Now it develops that the Columbus leg of the Nasfic bidding triangle has also encountered several internal dissension. In her letter dated June 7, Columbus in '85 Chairman Cecilia Smith fired Mark Evans and

Elizabeth Gross, indefinitely suspended Robert Hillis, and relieved Margaret Henry of her duties and Recording Secretary. Mark Evans has xeroxed many pages of reports and correspondence associated with the events that led to his firing, and distributed the copies to SMOFs across the country. Needless to say, this has zoomed to the top of the charts as a conversation-starter among SMOFs on the summer convention circuit.

Last March 17, Tom Huff, Barb Alexander, Larry Smith, Celia Smith, and Tom Van Horne were listed as cosigners of a memo to all Marcon stff (Marcon is the annual con held in Columbus; and the '85 bidders' showpiece). The memo, entitled "The 'Marcon Attitude'", dissected what they perceived to be fandom's attitude towards Columbus and Marcon, in sum: "To outside fandom -- we are thought of as ARROGANT, EFFICIENT, DULL, assholes." And: "The real flaws in Marcons past are that we have run conservative, efficient, cheap, boring, mediocrely programmed and unmemorable conventions." In retrospect, because of the vitriolic feud that stemmed from Marcon, most readers have pinpointed these quotes as the source of tremendous humor. However, in context they ought to at least get credit as an attempt at objective self-criticism.

The Marcon committee members turned in post-con reports on the functioning of their departments. Robert Hillis' reports were quite critical of Larry Smith and Tom Huff, and these viewpoints seem to have been widely shared. The chairman of Marcon, Mark Evans, also submitted a review of each department, voicing his views. In his letter of June 7, Larry Smith, President of OSFS Inc., voided out Evans' corporate appointments, and Cecilia Smith's letter sent the same date reformulated the Columbus Committee including herself, Van Siegling and Larry Smith (assistant chairmen), Jean Airey, Barb Alexander, Tom Huff, Sally Kobee-Ludwig, John Ayotte, and Tom Van Horne.

Mark Evans concludes, "If you are interested in my personal judgement as to how this will affect the NASFiC race, I think that Columbus has just been relegated to last place. I base this opinion...upon the fact that one of the major assets Columbus has had has been destroyed. The credibility that we have built up over the years has been dealt a heavy, if not fatal blow. Columbus is now another fannish feud city, as opposed to the somewhat stable, and a little dull, image we had until this happened."

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE OK CORRAL: No news has come my way about the Atlanta in '86 bid, although I have some remarks from Guy Lillian to feature next issue in connection with his DSC report. I can quote the agreement I referred to last time between Penny Frierson and Angela Howell, last May 1. "If nothing nice can be said about someone it will not go in print. Worldcon Members will leave Asfic alone and Asfic will leave Worldcon alone. Anyone who wishes to support the Worldcon bid can do so by sending in their pre-supporting memberships to the Worldcon bid. Those who do not, don't. So far this agreement has worked out fine and we are hoping that it will stay that way in the future." It adds, "We (Penny and Angela) have come to an equitable agreement that anything in print or continuous feuding could only hurt both Asfic/Atlanta Fandom and the Worldcon Bid. So we both decided to the agreement, and leave dead dogs lie." /sic/

((continued from inside)): ((Editorial excuse -- this Australian conreport picks up in the middle of nowhere because the previous stencil is across town and Foyster's letter wasn't marked. We resume)): Down-Under Fan Fund Winner Jerry Kaufman, and unindicted co-conspirator Clifford Wind spent Syncon promoting a Seattle in '5 bid to stage the Australian national sf con. Quoting Foyster, "A somewhat shaken Jerry Kaufman and Cliff Wind, who thought it a rather good joke bid, found themselves on the wrong end of the joke when the... business session awarded them the '85 convention 21 votes to 18 over a bid from Adelaide. Some quick negotiations after the decision mean that there will be a convention in Adelaide that year, but the 'official' convention will be in the United States.

GUFF: The Get-Up-and-Over Fan Fund (or whatever) was unable to get candidates the follow Joseph Nicholas' act, and run for a trip between the UK and Australia. Nicholas won the southbound leg. Now candidates for the northbound leg in 1984 will be, according to Jean Weber, Weber herself, Roger Weddall (THYME editor) and Justin Ackroyd. The winner will attend Eastercon, which happens to be merged with the 1984 Eurocon.

DUFF: Although the controversy dates back to Easter and Minicon, it appears that the Down Under Fan Fund fell victim to voting irregularities. The official deadline, March 31, was supposed to close balloting prior to Minicon (where the North American portion of the votes were counted). Joyce Scrivner, apparently at the request of Jack Herman, extended voting through the Easter weekend for the benefit of Aussie voters. However, additional votes were solicited at Minicon and counted. It appears that information was leaked that Finder had a lead, and his opponents rounded up more ballots. I cannot determine whether this actually changed the result until I reach Peter Toluzzi who was in charge of that phase.



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Expired if marked _____

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