



KARASS

30

KARASS 30. May 1977. Written, edited, and published by Linda E. Bushyager, 1614 Evans Ave., Prospect Park, Pa. 19076. (215) LE 4-4392

Available for news, 1-for-1 trades, contributions of articles or artwork, 5 issues/\$2, samples 50¢ each. Make checks payable to Linda E. Bushyager. Back issues 27-29 are available. Special help provided by Bill Wagner, Ron Bushyager, and Brian McCarthy.

Also available: Bob Tucker's THE NEO-FAN'S GUIDE TO SF FANDOM, 50¢ each, profits to DUFF. Robert Jackson's LITTLE DICTIONARY OF SF TERMS, 25¢ each.

TAFF & DUFF

BILL ROTSLER WINS DUFF with 102 votes. Fred Haskell came in second, Bob Vardeman third. DUFF will send Bill to the 16th Australian National Convention in Adelaide on July 29-30. 180 total votes were cast. DUFF has about \$1400. If you still wish to donate (it can always use the \$) write Rusty Hevelin, 3023 Old Troy Pike, Dayton, OH 45404.

PETER ROBERTS WINS TAFF. He won a closely contested race with Terry Jeeves, Peter Presford was third. Total votes were 205 with Roberts getting 104, Jeeves 88, Presford 12, Hold Over Funds 1. Peter will attend SunCon. You can still contribute by writing Roy Tackett, 915 Green Valley Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87107.



OTHER NEWS

FANZINE ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATIONS are out. If you nominated in any category you may vote in all categories. If you did not nominate, merely submit credentials showing you were eligible to nominate in any 1 field of fanac, include at least \$1 (to pay for cost of trophies, etc.), and vote. If you want direct results of voting include a SASE. The winners will be announced at Autoclave this year (July 22-24). Deadline is June 15, 1977. Send to one of the agents listed on the ballot. For more general information on the FAAns write Bruce Pelz, 15931 Kalisher St., Granada Hills, CA 91344.

WESTERCON TRAIN TRIP. The San Francisco/Vancouver Westercon charter trip will be a combined train/fly venture. The train will leave Oakland June 29 at 8:30 p.m. and arrive in Vancouver at 11 p.m. on June 30. The flight back will return on Mon. July 4 as late as possible. Total cost is \$115 round trip. \$20 deposit needed by May 1, final payment June 1. Info and deposits to Jerry Jacks, 195 Alhambra St. #9, San Francisco, CA 94123.
(from LOCUS)

FAKE KINNEY ILLOS. According to Bill Bridget, he mailed out "Kinney" illos as a favor to a friend (he won't say who, possibly a neo in Lafayette who may even have the last name Kinney). They were sent to Terry Hughes, Brian Brown, David Merkel, the Coulsons, and me. According to John Thiel, whoever drew them has been told not to and will not do any more. Hopefully no more will be sent and the whole issue can be dropped.

IGUANACON is the 36th Worldcon to be held Aug. 3-Sept. 4, 1978. Tim Kyger writes that they need artwork for the Progress Report. Artists are urged to contact him. He also needs artists addresses (Tim's address is in COA list). He is also looking for people

who are willing to work on the daily newspaper during the con.

Memberships are \$15 until 12/31/77, \$20 until 7/31/78, \$25 after and at door. Info: Iguanacon, P.O.B. 1072, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

Meanwhile Bruce D. Arthurs writes that he is no longer associated with Iguanacon, Leprecon, or any members of their respective committees. "I fully intend never to have anything to do with running or working on any convention ever again in my life," he says, except of course being a GoH which he doesn't consider to be work.

SUNCON - The hotel is now filing for bankruptcy, as you can see. According to committee members, they don't expect the hotel to close or renegotiate contract. Since room reservations are already in the mail, it is too late for them to change room rates. Several other Miami hotels have offered to hold the con, just in case...but Suncon is holding tight.

TUCKER FUND? Gale Burnick (2266 Jackson, Dubuque, Iowa 52001) has announced "The Tucker Transfer" to send Bob Tucker to Seacon in '79. I find this in questionable taste. First, Seacon hasn't even won the bid. Secondly, Tucker, though a very worthy person to be sure, just was the object of a special fund to send him to Aussiecon. Isn't it a little soon to deport him again? How about giving some other worthy fans a chance first? Also, TAFF will send someone to Seacon in 79, should they win the Worldcon bid (Seacon is the Brighton, England bid, in case you are confused). Shouldn't Tucker supporters think of trying that first before starting another fund? After all, that's what TAFF is for.

(3)

M.B. Fontainebleau Bankrupt As Mortgage Holders Clamp Down

Miami Beach, April 12.

Ben Novack made it official Thursday (7). The longtime owner of the Fontainebleau Hotel, the biggest and best known of all the Miami Beach resorts, filed the hotel in bankruptcy.

Novack will continue to run the hotel, at least at the moment, but only under the authority of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Novack has two

months to revitalize the hotel's sagging fortunes.

Bankruptcy Judge Thomas Britton named Novack debtor in possession and receiver, a move that may be challenged by debtors. Novack's unexpected filing for bankruptcy came only five days before Monday's (11) scheduled hearing with Roland International Corp., a mortgage holder seeking to foreclose on a \$4,300,000 debt.

Hotel finances have been fast sinking. Worst news came two weeks ago when Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. filed a \$12,200,000 first mortgage foreclosure against hotel. The following day, three local creditors filed involuntary bankruptcy petition against the Fontainebleau.

Sources close to the hotel say Novack may regain control of the hotel if a secret (until now) deal with South African hotel chain works out soon. Chain would refinance the hotel, pay off creditors, even provide money for expansion, and Novack would remain in charge.

Variety also learned Friday (8) that Novack is privately dickering with both City of Miami and Metro Dade County officials for a tract of prime land located in west Dade, and worth estimated \$15,000,000.

City needs the land for new sports complex that would replace Orange Bowl, and Novack presented plans for Orange Bowl II on his land. Near three expressways, land encompasses 275 acres and would be used to refinance the Fontainebleau. If sold.

FONTAINEBLEAU IN RECEIVERSHIP SINCE JAN; SECRET RULING

Miami Beach, April 5.

The Fontainebleau Hotel has been held in secret receivership since January, it was revealed by Circuit Judge Dan Satin of the Federal Court. Jurist stated that he named attorneys representing Fontainebleau owner Ben Novack and the Roland International Corp. to operate the inn.

Roland Int'l a land development firm based in Florida, had filed a foreclosure suit early January, claiming Novack and two of his corporations owed \$4,300,000 in unpaid loans. Receivership action was taken later in January and formalized by court order on March 14.

Temporary operators are Howard R. Scharlin, representing Roland, and Richard Marx, Novack's rep.

Development came as news that a second foreclosure suit had been filed by Connecticut General Life Insurance Co., which asked the court last week for full payment of \$12,200,000 mortgage or the hotel's receivership.

The Fontainebleau legal problems have worsened after Connecticut General Life action. Three creditors have filed a petition, charging the hotel with not paying its bills. The creditors are the Pan American Bank, allegedly owed \$190,000; Ready Potatoes, demanding \$6,450; and Kurman Co., seeking \$12,740. Other creditors, learning of last week's legal activity against the hotel, could move into action this week, compounding the hotel's financial situation.

Bankruptcy Petition Filed For Fontainebleau Hotel

MIAMI, April 9 (UPI)—A Federal bankruptcy petition has been filed for Miami Beach's Fontainebleau Hotel by its owner, Ben Novack.

"It was done to protect the hotel from creditors that were not looking out for the best interest of the hotel," Mr. Novack said yesterday.

The hotel is under mortgage to two companies. The Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, the first-mortgage holder, filed a \$12.2 million foreclosure suit against the Fontainebleau last week. Coming up for final action in circuit court Monday is a foreclosure suit by the second-mortgage holder, Roland International Corporation, which is seeking \$4.3 million in defaulted loans.

United States Bankruptcy Judge Thomas Britton yesterday named Larry Gilbert, a court trustee, as receiver for the hotel and imposed a two-month delay on any action by creditors under the

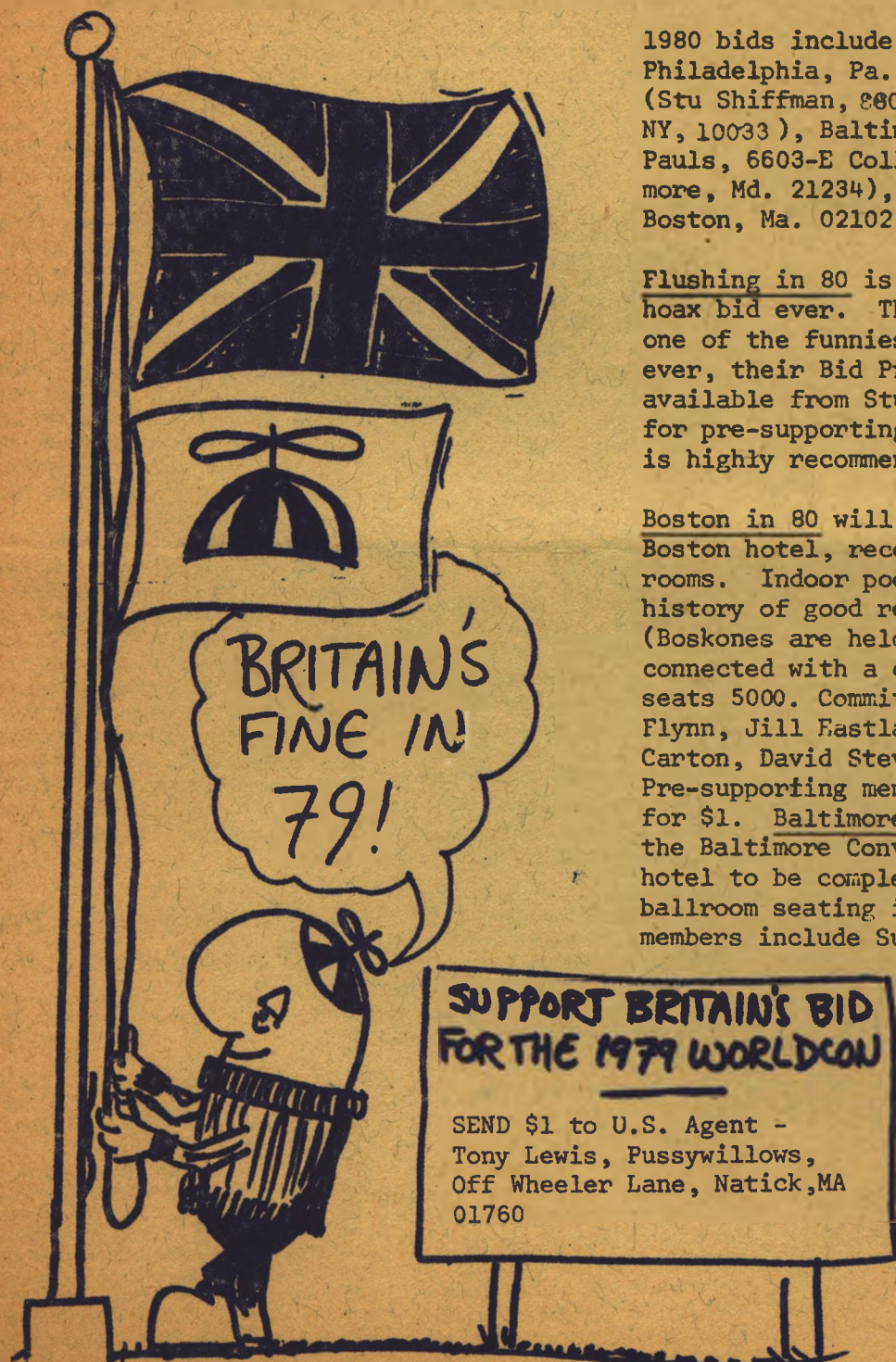
WORLDCON/NASFIC BIDS: I support Britain for the 1979 Worldcon. That bid will use Brighton, England as the hotel/con site. You can become a supporting member (there are already 800 of them) by writing to the address below or by sending \$1 to Jan Howard Finder, P.O.B. 9163, Fort Riley, KS 66442 or Fred Patten, 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd., Apt. 1, Culver City, CA 90230. Louisville is bidding for the NASFIC (North American SF Convention) only, and I also support this bid. Since the British are going to hold the Worldcon the weekend before Labor Day, the Nasfic would be held Labor Day weekend. The hotel is Louisville, Ky's Galt House. The Nasfic will be voted on at the Suncon site selection session after the Worldcon site is determined. Info: P.O.B. 8251, Louisville, KY. 40208. Nasfic bid committee includes Cliff Amos, Ken Moore, Ross Pavlac, Bob Roehm, and Steve Francis.

1980 bids include Philadelphia (Box 8243, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101), Flushing, N.Y. (Stu Shiffman, 880 W. 181st St. #4D, N.Y. NY, 10033), Baltimore (info from Ted Pauls, 6603-E Collinsdale Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21234), and Boston (P.O.B. 714, Boston, Ma. 02102). I support Boston.

Flushing in 80 is the most elaborate hoax bid ever. They've just put out one of the funniest, best written zines ever, their Bid Prospectus. It is available from Stu (address above) for pre-supporting members (\$1). It is highly recommended!

Boston in 80 will use the Sheraton-Boston hotel, recently expanded to 1430 rooms. Indoor pool, free parking, history of good relations with fans (Boskones are held there). It is also connected with a civic auditorium that seats 5000. Committee includes George Flynn, Jill Eastlake, John Turner, Bill Carton, David Stever, and many others. Pre-supporting memberships available for \$1. Baltimore in 80 plans to use the Baltimore Convention Center and its hotel to be completed in 1978. Maximum ballroom seating is 2500. Committee members include Sue Wheeler, Steve Miller, Mark Owings, Bill Simmons, and Ted Pauls.

SPACE PROGRAM PUSH.
United For Our Expanded Space Program is a group seeking to support the space program. Memberships are \$15 active, \$5 passive. Info: UFOESP, P.O.B. 7807, San Diego, CA 92107.



Rick Pohlman (Flahsh!) was mugged and stabbed in N.Y. recently, but was not seriously injured. Rick Sternbach's artwork appeared in TIME (rings around Uranus). Linda Miller is a full-time employee in Disney's animation department. Harlan Ellison has sold A BOY AND HIS DOG to NBC as a TV Series scheduled to start in Jan. Steve Tymon made history by sending a 160-page zine through LASFAPA 7. Mike Gilbert has done a set of miniature figures for DOWN STYPON, a book of rules for a fantasy game he wrote based on H. Beam Piper's Lord Kalvan of Otherwhen, to be published in June by Fantasy Games Unlimited.



The Lunacon Committee wishes to thank its guests, helpers, & attendees for a wonderful con with special thanks to the Royal Province of Ostgardr of the SCA. Darrell Schweitzer (113 Deepdale Rd., Strafford, Pa. 19087) will pay cover price for a copy of STARDUST (a Canadian magazine) containing his story "The Story of Obbok." He also needs Dany Frolich's address. He is selling copies of the Aussie prozine VOID (issues 4, 2, and 3) for \$1.45 each, 3/\$4. He urges people to hurry for #4.

William Rotsler wants contemporary, original quotations for QUOTEBOOK, a collection of new material. No payment except immortality. Send to P.O.B. 3126, Los Angeles, CA 90028. He wants epigrams, insults, comments.

Jacqueline Lichtenberg sold a story to Alice Laurence for her Dbdy anthology CASSANDRA RISING and another to Galileo #4. She will be GoH at a onedaycon in Baltimore, Md. March 26, 1978. AMBROV ZEOR is a zine devoted to her Sime series and is available for \$1.25/3rd class from Elisabeth Waters, 379 Cascade Rd., Stamford, CN 06903

NEWS

Scuttlebutt is a Star Trek newszine with emphasis on ST fanzine fandom. Info: Mary Ann Bentz, 3830 Mintwood St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201. Send business-sized SASE.

Over Easter weekend, 1200 fans attended Balticon, 600 attended Minicon, 700 at Lunacon, and Britain's Eastercon probably had 400. That's about 3000 fans at regionals on one weekend -- my how fandom has grown!

Next year's Boskone will have John Brunner as GoH. Profits this year were \$2000. Suncon will have the following British visitors: Pat & Mike Meara, Gra Poole, Rob Jackson, Peter Roberts, and Pete Weston. Dialog for Dreamers, a proposed ALGOL PRESS publication based on a Zelazny/Delany dialog will not be published. The tape of their talk has deteriorated and can't be transcribed. SF Workshop for 3 weeks will be held June 20-July 8 at Clarke College, Dubuque, IO 52001. George R.R. Martin is director, consultants will be Algis Budrys, Gene Wolfe, and Gardner Dozois. Cost is \$175/185\$, house \$54/week. Workshop will cover writing and marketing SF and fantasy short stories. RISFIG is a religion in SF interest group. Info (send 13¢ stamp): Al Gipson, P.O.B. 742, West Chester, Pa. 19380. Temple University has the David C. Paskow SF collection of 5000 books, 4500 magazines, 1000 fanzines, manuscripts by Bova and others. Gifts of books, etc. are needed. Temple accepts authors papers on deposit. Hours 8:30-5:00 M-F, Paley Library, Berks & 13th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19122. Info: Thomas Whitehead, Special Collections Dept. (215) 787-8230.

MOVIES

(Reviews from VARIETY) - ALIEN ENCOUNTER is a major SF movie due in Spring starring Robert Vaughn and Christopher Lee from Hal Roach Studios. The animated LORD OF THE RINGS film has started production. Also in production are THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU with Burt Lancaster & Michael York, PEOPLE THAT TIME FORGOT with Doug McClure and Patrick Wayne, SPECTRE (horror) produced by Roddenberry starring Robert Culp & Gig Young, SORCERER (occult) directed by William Friedkin.

6th Paris Sci-Fi Fest After Avoriaz: Losers Winners

Paris, March 29.

Sixth Paris International Fantastic and Science Fiction Film Festival which was held March 12-22, drew 30,000 entries to the 2,800-seater first-run Rex Theatre. Festival may have opened up distribution chances for the genre. Separately, fest chief Alain Schlockoff, now plans to produce three French films of this sort.

While the Paris event and the Avoriaz Fantastic Film Fest indicate public interest, bookings usually have had only limited audiences. More important "occult" items have clicked.

Paris repeated several releases unreleased earlier at the Avoriaz Fest. Grand prize went to American International's "Food of the Gods," of Bert Gordon, at Paris though it got nothing in Avoriaz. Ditto Ralph Bakshi's inventive animated film on Nazism "Wizards" (20th).

Grand prize, the Golden Licorne, went to "Gordon's Food" and the Special Jury Prize to "Summer of Secrets" of Jim Sherman from Australia. Latter country made a dent at the fest in also copping "best actress" nod for all the girls in Peter Wier's tale of a mysterious outing "Picnic at Hanging Rock."

"Best actor" was Richard Basehart in Yank "House of Blood" of M. Patakis. "Best script" went to Peter Sady's "Welcome to Blood City" (Canada-USA) and "best special effects" to "Devil's Rain" of Robert Fuest, also a Yank. (Public referendum nod was to Bakshi's "Wizards" and Critic Award to Aussi "Summer of Secrets.")

So the U.S. and Australia shared the nods with a coprod Inning for Canada. However, the big Italo grosser "Suspiria" made a big impact closing night in a non-competing spot. It got a long ovation and director Dario Argento was in and noted his film tuned in on the irrational rock culture that appealed to youth and even older audiences.

Wizards (COLOR)

Dull animation fantasy. Thin outlook.

Hollywood, Jan. 20.

Twentieth Century-Fox release. Written, produced and directed by Ralph Bakshi. Camera (DeLuxe Color), Ted C. Bemiller; editor, Donald W. Ernst; music, Andrew Belling; layout, John Sparey; sequence animation, Irven Spence. Reviewed at 20th-Fox Studios, L.A., Jan. 19, 1977. (MPAA Rating: PG.) Running time, 80 MINS. Voices Bob Holt, Jesse Wells, Richard Romanus, David Proval, James Connell, Steve Gravers, Barbara Sloane, Angelo Grisanti, Hyman Wien, Christopher Tayback, Mark Hamil, Peter Hobbs, Tina Bowman.

Angry-young-animator Ralph Bakshi has, in "Wizards," mellowed out. Too much so, in fact, since the good-vs.-evil futuristic fable herein is a confusing melange of melodrama, allegory and limp polemic. The animation technique is excellent in a professional sense, but neither story nor music ever really gets interesting. The 20th-Fox release faces a wobbly commercial fate.

Bakshi wrote the script, about two brothers who grow up to represent opposites in matters of ethics and morality. Eventually they clash. It's all pretty tame material. It's ironic that, even in animation, a story-teller must fall back on Nazi symbology to picturize malevolence, as though Hitler had a monopoly on it.

Time was, Bakshi used to hit an audience in the face with a poison arrow; in his evolution to artistic maturity, he has swung too far, with marshmallows now hurled forth from his socio-political bow. At least, however, he has bracketed his eventual target area of future success.

Andrew Belling's music is functional. Production credits all are good. —Murf.

THE FANTASTIC JOURNEY

With Jared Martin, Carl Franklin, Ike Eisenmann, Scott Thomas, Susan Howard, Left Erickson, Ian McShane, Don Knight, Gary Collins, Mary Ann Mobley, Jason Evers, Karen Somerville, Scott Brady, Jack Stauffer, Byron Chung, Tom McCorry

Supplier: Bruce Lansbury Prods. & Columbia Pictures TV

Exec Producer: Bruce Lansbury

Producer: Leonard Katzman

Director: Andrew V. McLaglen

Writers: Merwin Gerard, Michael Michaelian, Kathryn Michaelian Powers

90 Mins., Thurs., 8 p.m.

NBC-TV

This new NBC-TV science-fiction series preemmed with a two-parter that was made as a 150 minute pilot. The bow was 90 minutes long and might have played better as a one-shot. The storyline had a group of marine biologists drawn onto the shores of an uncharted island while traveling through the Bermuda Triangle.

It turned out that they weren't alone there, although the morning populace of the place was pretty much kept within separate time spheres. One group of 18th century sailors occupied a space, a chap from the 23d century another, and a group from Atlantis still another. No doubt, as the series progresses, other groups from varying times will also be found, thus providing a rich adventure lode for scripters.

One of the problems with the first episode, though, was that there just seemed to be too many characters. One of the jobs for its future will be to reduce them to a handler number for recognition.

Another mystery is why some of the characters (like the present-day boat crew) seemed to have no trouble going through the different time warps, while none of the others were interested in such adventure.

It must be said that the show was beautifully produced in the preem, with good sharp camera work and editing for action. While there was some violence, the 23d century character was a man who refused violence to anything, but still managed to get things done against the baddies. As an 8-9 p.m. entry it should well serve the needs of family hour, with just a touch too much teeter toward the younger members of the clan.

Acting demands were at a minimum in the first show, but preteen Ike Eisenmann appears well-suited to gain star status among his peers. Jared Martin the 23d century man may also pick up where Leonard Nimoy as Spock in "Star Trek" left off some years ago. —Fob.

Demon Seed (COLOR)

Offbeat story of computer conception, Julie Christie outstanding. Smart selling needed to maximize returns.

Hollywood, March 27.

United Artists release of a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, produced by Herb Jaffe. Stars Julie Christie, Fritz Weaver. Directed by Donald Cammell. Screenplay, Robert Jaffe, Roger O. Hirson, based on the novel by Dean R. Koontz; camera (Metrocolor), Bill Butler; editor, Francisco Mazzola; music, Jerry Fielding; production design, Edward C. Carfagno; set decoration, Barbara Krueger; sound, Jerry Jost; William McCaughey; costumes wardrobe, Sandy Cole; Becky Ross; Jole Hutchinson; asst. director, Edward A. Teets. Reviewed at MGM Studios, Culver City, March 16, '77. (MPAA Rating: R.) Running time, 91 mins.

Susan Harris	.....	Julie Christie
Alex Harris	.....	Fritz Weaver
Walter Gabler	.....	Gerrit Graham
Patricia	.....	Jerry Kroeger
Susan Yen	.....	Lisa Lu
Cameras	.....	Larry J. Blake
Amy	.....	Dana Laurita
Voices of Proteus IV	.....	Robert Vaughn

Some religious viewers may consider it the ultimate in blasphemy, others may cynically shrug it off as a weird technological hypothesis. In any case, "Demon Seed" tells of the impregnation of a female by a master computer system which seeks to perpetuate itself in human form. Julie Christie stars as the electronic Eve, along with Fritz Weaver as her scientist husband.

Excellent performances and direction (Donald Cammell), from a most credible and literate screenplay, make Herb Jaffe's smart production an intriguing achievement in (hopefully sci-fi) story-telling. The R-rated Metro picture, released domestically by United Artists, is an offbeat film which merits tasteful marketing, but if that fails, it can be hyped to good returns along the hard-sell exploitation road. Whichever, the film may well become highly controversial.

The Dean R. Koontz novel was adapted by Robert Jaffe and Roger O. Hirson into a smooth script which superbly establishes milieu, then carefully takes an audience through a dangerous zone of potential titillation into firm ground of believable motivation and characterization. Enroute, a large crew of top-notch special effects personnel interweaves some rather trippy visual footage (editor Francisco Mazzola gets credit also for the montages), supplemented by Jerry Fielding's music. Edward C. Carfagno's excellent production design sets the superior visual tone of the film.

Christie and Weaver live adjacent to an advanced computer centre. Their marriage is crumbling because of his commitment to a new machine, Proteus IV, designed to do almost everything but think. Think it does, however, eventually refusing orders while using a terminal in their house to confine Christie

(Weaver has moved out) to study human anatomy in order to achieve a human form.

The burden of the story falls on Christie and she does indeed make the film come off. Since audience attitudes demand that the woman have no alternative to computer rape, the story thoroughly exhausts her avenues of potential escape. Scientist family friend Gerrit Graham is killed when he tries to rescue her; Dana Laurita, a disturbed child whom Christie is counselling, is threatened with death; Christie's own defense tactics are all frustrated. Only those who would require that a woman kill herself when faced with a rape situation can quarrel with the story development which leads to her passive submission.

Robert Vaughn, whose arrangement proscribed screen credit, does the voice of the computer, lending a cool and dispassionate threat to the unfolding bizarre event. Weaver's return to the house coincides with the incubation of the as-yet-unseen Proteus. Weaver's ambiguous response to the situation — he's horrified at what happened but, as a scientist he's captivated by the outcome — provides the next-to-closing highlight. The ultimate climax is staggering.

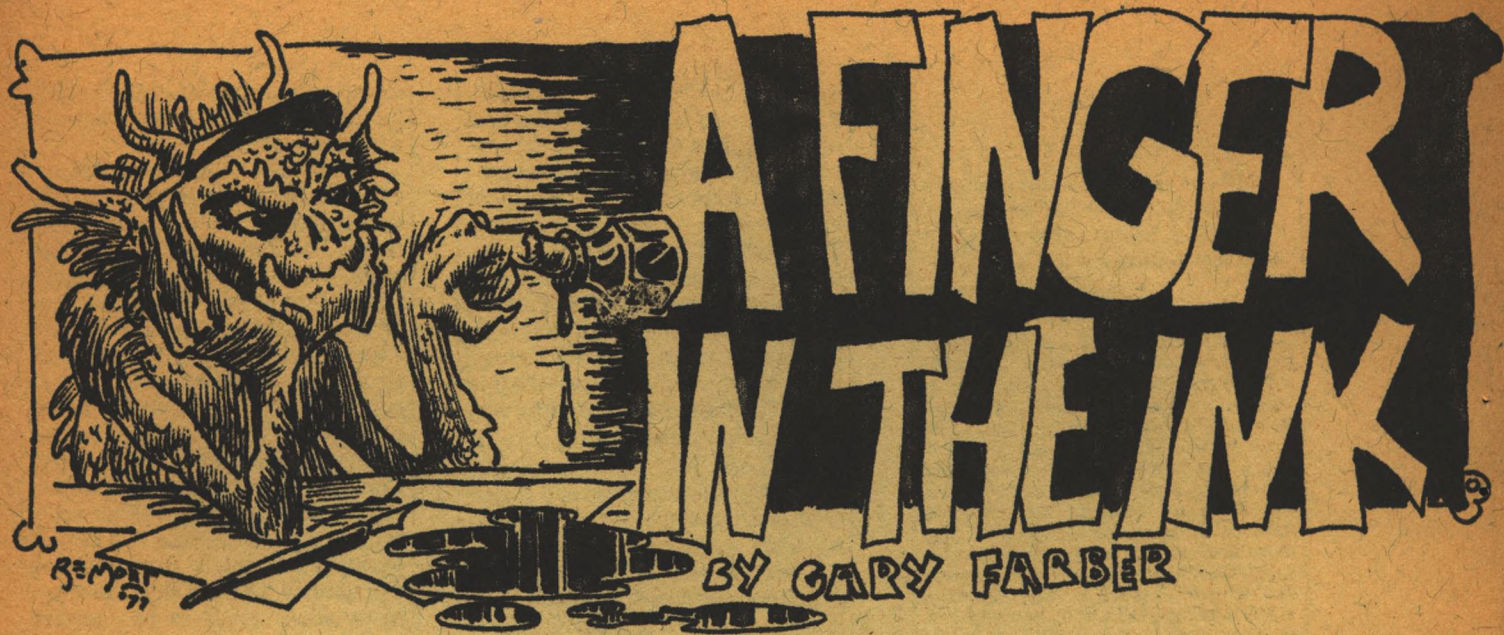
Cammell's direction is secure throughout, giving Christie a career highlight. All involved rate a well done for taking a story fraught with potential misstep and guiding it to a professionally rewarding level of accomplishment. —Murf.

FOR SALE

Quintessential Qovers for Fred Haskell is a special group of Apa-Q covers reprinted to benefit DUFF. Most are quite good, but some have N.Y. fandom in-jokes. I mentioned this last time but neglected to mention that it is published by Moshe Feder as well as Gary Farber. Art is by Fletcher, Shiffman, Chamberlain, and Rice. Available from Moshe Feder, 34 Booth Memorial Ave., Flushing, N.Y. 11355 for 60¢.

L-5 Society (1620 N. Park Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719) has several publications relating to solar power satellites and space colonies for sale including THE HIGH FRONTIER: HUMAN COLONIES IN SPACE (\$8); and THE HUNGER OF EVE: A WOMAN'S ODYSSEY TOWARD THE FUTURE by Barbara Marx Hubbard (\$8). Color postcards, etc. available. List of items available. Memberships are \$10 for students, \$20 for others. Include \$2 postage with order. Write L-5 Society for further information.

The Book of Stephen Fabian with 50 of his best drawings is available for \$12.50 each from SF & Comic Shop, 6854 Lee Hwy., Arlington, VA 22213. T-K Graphics (P.O.B. 1951, Baltimore, Md. 21203) has a catalog of books available. However, some people have been having difficulties getting their complete orders.



As I consider the current stack of fanzines received, my opinion of today's fandom is quite cheered, as opposed to last column's gloomy outlook. Fanzines, on the average, are better than ever.

Note, please, that this last statement is about as backhanded a compliment as one can give, without hitting one's self in the face; it's about as complimentary as one of Garth Danielson's zines is literate.

Nonetheless, there are a lot of good zines being put out -- too many, in fact, to cover in this issue of this column. In an attempt to cope with this Extreme Crisis, this column will now be appearing every issue, not just alternate issues. I hope you are all thrilled.

Fanzines for review should, as always, be sent to Gary Farber, 1047 East 10th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230, and should be in addition to any sent to Linda for trade purposes.

Here we go...(watch closely now):

KRATOPHANY 10. (Eli Cohen, 2236 Allison Rd., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6T 1T6): Krat is, as I have mentioned in the past, one of my absolutely favorite fanzines; one of the top two current generally available fanzines, and certainly the best g.a. Canadian zine, no matter what Mike Glicksohn has to say. This 46p. Fifth Anniversary brings with it the return of "Wendy and the Yellow King" -- the long-standing fantastic art-feature by Judy Mitchell and Mike Mason; this intensely complicated worldstrip is beautifully drawn by Judy (who also did the cover), and features Wendy Wudy -- the woman Eli Cohen lusts after! Printed elsewhere on the fine blue mimeo bond in Krat 10 is David Emerson's alas-too-short account of how he Became A Fan (on-stencil illustrated by Ken Fletcher); Angus Taylor's speculative "Taoism & Dielectical Materialism" (rather pointedly illoed by Alexis Gilliland); and Jon Singer's "The Sound of One Coin Dropping" (which Jon will reproduce, pronounce, and spell). Jon's account of how he Found Fandom, Met Eli Cohen, and got his SF magazine back, written in Jon's unique and delightful style. The remaining outside contribution is Susan Wood's affecting and gentle portrayal of her and John Berry's visit to Andrew Main in the Zen Center in San Francisco;

"Zen Center" is enough by itself to make you send an avocado to Eli for the zine. Eli's own editorial recounts the past five years of Kratophany, with selected highlights from past issues; they are highlights. An excellent lettercol winds up this well-illustrated, pretty, fannish fanzine. It's available for \$1, the usual, or avocado recipes. Yes.

SPI 6. (Graham Poole, 23 Russet Rd., Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 7LN, England). SPI is a neat little offset British zine. The cover is a nifty Mission Impossible takeoff ("Your task, should you choose to accept it...is to write a letter of comment...") by Gra and Dave Rowe. The rest of this quite packed informal zine is made up of natterings by Gra (intelligent and pleasant natterings, too); a piece by Joseph Nicholas on comprehensive education that provides an interesting insight into the current state of British schooling as seen by Nicholas; Ian William's excellent zine review column (why publish, and if you do, what should you publish?); Ben Indick's rambling account of the gathering for Lovecraft fans that he hosted last year; a minor piece by Mae Strelkov about fandom, per se; David Patterson's "I'm a Bloody Idiot" -- an account of his, Bob Shaw's and James White's journey to the Armagh Observatory; and a neat symposium on SF rock (there's nothing like watching people argue opinion -- and informed opinion is the best kind); not to mention -- "In the not too distant future wars will no longer exist; but...there will be...Rollerloc!" Overall, SPI is one of the best, and certainly one of the most easily accessible British fanzines. Since editor Graham Poole is coming over for SunCon, he's also trying to increase his U.S. contacts, so there's another reason for you to get it. They tell me that SPI is available for "the usual."

HEDGEHOG #1. (Jeff Frane, P.O.B. 1923, Seattle, WA 98111) Hedgehog is not only the first issue, but is also the first fanzine published by Jeff, and it stands well against any other fanzine on its own merits, much less as a first issue. Simple and well-reproed, Hedgehog is pleasantly sercon (on twilltone). In its 32 pages, we run across "Hedging" by Jeff where he talks intelligently about the panel on women in SF at MAC, a bit of his own history, and publishing a first fanzine as a rite of passage. We also find a good conversational interview with Kate Wilhelm; a Wilhelm bibliography; an article on "Love and Marion Zimmer Bradley" (mostly about THE WORLD WRECKERS and THE HERITAGE OF HASTUR and their treatment of homosexuality) by Denys Howard; a piece about the Expository Lump by Loren MacGregor (sercon, *gasp*); and some decent book reviews by Ursula Le Guin, Frank Denton, Debbie Notkin, Mary Kay Jackson, and Jeff. Hedgehog has Promise, sez I. Y'all can get it for \$1 or *the usual*.

THE INVISIBLE FAN 2. (Avedon Carol, 4409 Woodfield Rd., Kensington, Md. 20795). TIF is a quiet little xeroxed fanzine that's worth getting for the Alexis Gilliland cartoons. (Have you people out there noticed that this man is witty?) Oh, er, yes, there's also Avedon -- who is a Neat Person -- and she presents a review of the MAC dramatic presentation called "Snails of Moonlight" by Kent Bloom, a review of Clarke's IMPERIAL EARTH by Elaine Normandy, and a loc column where all the letters are actually written by the people whose names are credited to them. (Last issue had only forged locs...) While talking about the circus and her life, Avedon proves that personality can come through in xerox. Try three 11¢ stamps or the usual.

MAYA 12/13. (Rob Jackson, 71 King St., Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 5XR, UK) Since Rob took over the editorship of Maya, it has become a fancy, offset, top quality genzine. Many people are referring to it as "The British Outworlds" although there is no real similarity other than that they're both offset, well-laid-out, and are both probably the "top," most prestigious zines in their respective continents, in their own particular fandoms. Maya, in its current form, is probably the top genzine in Britain at the moment, and as such, it's something to be considerably proud of. This double issue is attractively laid out and has the more singular enticement of the generosity of artwork by Harry "superb" Bell, and Jim "great" Barker, as well as the usual run of illustrations by these old hacks -- Rotsler, Canfield, Pearson, Kunkel,

etc. Leroy Kettle (whom a number of people are saying is simply the best fan writer writing today) writes the excellent "How Not to be a Writer." This is a piece of writing, against which the non-efforts of most crud-fanwriters are found to be not worth the effort to read. Peter Weston's "Slice of Life" column is equally fascinating to me this time, dealing as it does with the squalid subject of Peter's early history in fandom and the way it interwove with Charles Platt (surely one of the stranger characters to wind his way through fandom). Peter's piece is introspective, well-written, and manages to be analytical while still being anecdotal; it's an educational piece of time-binding, as well as a personal slice of British fanhistory in the 60's. Greg Benford is pleasantly present with a slightly removed (by never using the first person) account of his visit with Chesley Bonestell, famed astronomical artist (reprinted from AMAZING); Gary Hubbard has a piece of not-much about Life's Great Imponderables; and Malcolm Edward's "The Dissecting Table" provides a decent forum for fanzine reviews (although I'd like to see Malcolm given the space to provide some of the lengthy analytic criticism that he has written in the past). The lettercol and editorial betray the same skilled hand responsible for both: Rob Jackson. By the way, he's also planning to attend SunCon. Try sending \$1 (4 for \$3) via international money order or one of the "usuals."

MYTHOLOGIES #11. (Don D'Amassa, 19 Angell Dr., East Providence, R.I. 02914) This is the best current incarnation of a type of fanzine present for many generations in fandom -- the discussionzine. Usually stimulated by either Don's "Myth" in which he writes at some length (5-15 pages) on some subject of personal opinion (censorship, sexism, courage, competition, change, etc.) or by an occasional outside contribution (the worth of the SCA, etc.). The topic is debated at considerable length and with respectable intelligence, erudition, and enthusiasm in the lettercol (which makes up the bulk of the zine). The rest of the fanzine is usually filled out with one or two lighter articles or special features to keep it lively. The lettercol arguments (which cause the zine to bulk out to its average of 75 pages at 350 copies, four times a year, an impressive and admirable production) are best described by Don as passionate. This issue's "Myth" column by Don concerns itself with his encounters with psychology and psychoanalysis as expressed chiefly in Erich Fromm and Rollo May's books, but the meat of the issue comes from the reprinting of a piece by Jerry Pournelle from Dennis Quane's Notes From The Chemistry Department (which has seemingly folded) on Jerry "Enlightened" Pournelle's views of feminism, sexism, and its place in SF, and an extraordinarily fine 31-page refutation by George Fergus. Fergus manages to write an incredibly disciplined history of precisely where and why sexism arose and demolishes every anthropological, biological, sociological, psychological, and historical defense of sexism. This brilliant synthesis, while unquestionably suffering from a lack of source and reference material, is unquestionably book-worthy material, and should be required reading for all. "Sex Roles, Biology, and Science Fiction or There's No Vinism like Chauvinism" is stunning.

Filling out the issue is a sad but amusing piece by Don on his experiences in dealing with a corrupt and inefficient security firm that his company deals with, and an amusing, though decadent piece by Bonnie Dalzell (whose beautiful covers typically grace, and I mean grace, Mythologies, when Al Sirois's don't) on training your wolfhound, or Borzoi to learn "Urban Coursing": catching and teasing muggers, small children, pigeons, squirrels, military dogs, rats, and vandals. Moral: Don't ever have Bonnie Dalzell angry with you.

The typically engrossing and thorough Mythologies lettercol is present, as is a page on the technical nature of puns by Paul Di Filippo (also a Myth regular), and a special book review. Mythologies is the kind of fanzine that, like its spiritual predecessors Warhoon or Kipple, involves you, intellectually, and otherwise. It is available for a whatchamacallit, the usual, or one-time-basis-only-for-a-dollar.

JANUS. (c/o SF³, Box 1624, Madison, WI, 53701) It's been interesting to watch Janus evolve itself from its disparate, disheveled first issue to shake down into the competent, literate zine it is today. This is the first offset issue (Migod, I just realized that so far mimeoed zines are in the minority in these reviews! What's fandom coming to?), Vol. 2, #4. Janus is a group effort, though not quite a clubzine, and is co-edited by Janice Bogstad and Jeanne Gomoll. They have the asset of Joanne Gomoll's pretty-decant artwork -- I like it. The cover, in particular, is a beeyooteful color combination of green and blue. While still a bit disorganized, Janus possesses a cheerful disorganization; the voices all speak through. It's basically a genzine, but fairly oriented towards SF -- in particular, they've been running some of the best feminism-in-SF discussions around (it's poppin' up all over, gang! Whoopee!). In "Or failing that, invent," Jeanne Gomoll writes an excellent overview (covering a lot of stuff -- Wittig to Clarke to Tiptree, to Margo Piercy to Heinlein to Le Guin and back again -- she knows her subject) of the need for an ego-sustaining history before being able to funnel one's energy into the development of an ego-sustaining future. She feels that SF, in preparing us for the spectacle of change can help us explore the future of human potential. Thomas Murn discusses DHALGREN and TRITON intelligently; Jeanne Gomoll, Richard S. Russell, and Diane Martin discuss the current SF film releases at length (with a lot of space devoted to THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH); Hank and Lesleigh Luttrell review some fanzines; Doug Price reviews the MAC dramatic presentation; and a lot of good letters are present (though I wish they'd drop that script-typer -- you simply can't scan it quickly); also some fiction, reviews, and con reports. Another major item of interest was the pleasantly rambling "Lunch and Talk with Suzy McKee Charnas, Amanda Bankier, Janice Bogstad, and Jeanne Gomoll"--an informal transcript of the long conversation they had over lunch one afternoon at MAC. The conversation discusses politics in China and Canada, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Suzy Charnas's writing, MAC itself, biological speculations, lesbianism, rationality, language, fantasy, etc. - in other words, almost everything; it's quite interesting. The editors have put together a good zine; it's got Much Promise; interesting. Try 75¢ for this 42-page zine (5/\$3.50) or the usual.

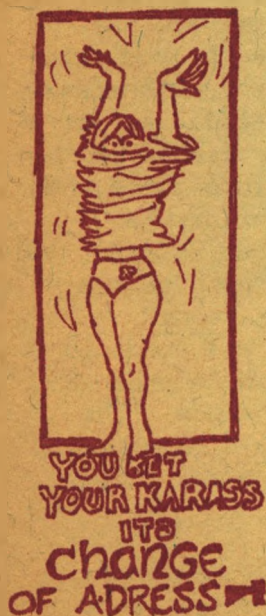
NIEKAS 21. (Sherwood Frazier, Ed Meskys, and Margaret Shepard, 351 Elm St., Lakeport NH 03246) Nope, not a joke; yep, it is the same old Niekas as before, and yes, it is a new issue. This is a revival of the Hugo-award winning fanzine that folded about 8 years ago. Ed (one of the original editors) decided that, in keeping with the general revival of his fanac, it was time to bring back Niekas (an idea he had never given up on). In an effort to spread the work around and to keep up the enthusiasm (and partially because of Ed's current blindness) he rang in his 2 co-editors. It's a small issue in comparison with the gigantism that affected the later issues of Niekas (it is only 34 pages), but much of that is in the old Niekas micro-elite. Much of the material is old, such as the interview with Carol Kendall (a children's fantasies writer) by Nan C. Scott, the Musings on Lord of Light by Roger Zelazny, and the lettercol (quite a time-binding affair -- doesn't it bring it all back to see Piers Anthony arguing about DANGEROUS VISIONS? Isn't this what fandom needs? Where's Piers Anthony when we need him...?), but none of it is dated, and there is much new material with "An Index of SF and Related Books Available from Recordings for the Blind, Part I" by John Boardman, and all of the co-editors' columns. The artwork is uniformly pretty terrible, but they should learn. One should hope that with a little editing, the new Niekas could reach heights the old one never did. Available for \$1.25 and, I think, the usual.

MIK ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Sue Anderson, 12 Summit St., East Providence, RI 02914 or Mark M. Keller, 101 South Angell St., Providence, RI 02906) I didn't expect that this column would ever metamorphosize into drama criticism, but I find myself playing Clive Barnes with this review. I spent a highly enjoyable 2 hours at Boskone this year rolling about in my seat, laughing at the lines, songs, and acting of "Back to Rivets or, Mik Ado About Nothing" -- a production of the RISFA Players. While you

can't see Mike Blake playing an absolutely perfect Bewildered Neo, Morris Keesan as a Fanatical Completist, Paul Di Filippo as "Seymour from Under the Swamp," Sheila D'Amassa as Mad Madam Mimeo, Richard Harter as a splendid Richard Deadwood (editor of ZapGun Books), Rick Sternbach as O'Shaughnessy Slush (house artist for ZapGun Books who can churn out a cover in 7 minutes and wears his nine Hugos around his neck ala Mark Spitz), or the rest of the splendid cast perform. But you can get an offset edition of the script.

The play is a Gilbert & Sullivan parody adapted to fandom -- Seymour wishes to stop Richard Deadwood from taking control of all Scientifictiondom, and finds aid from "Faye the SCA Lady." In the course of the play, they encounter Dr. Fred Werthless, Eloise the Trekkie, Barry Herovit, and other totally unfamiliar, completely fictional characters. Songs are stolen from The Gondoliers, Patience, Iolanthe, Ruddigore, Pirates of Penzance, etc. "They've Got a little list, they've got a little list." This edition is offset, not-very-professionally illustrated by Mark Kellar (Sorry, Mark), and complete with Notes, Annotations, Explanations, and Cast Lists. It's available for \$2 in person or \$2.50 by mail.

Well, gang, there are loads of fanzines to go, but Linda didn't inherit her wealth, so maybe we'll get to them next time. Meantime, here's what I got in: those underlined are those I hope to review in the future: After the Flood 110, Starling, Strange Dystopias, The Witch and the Chameleon 5&6, Delta Psi, Orca 2, Ay Chingar 4/5, Ashwing 20, Procrastination 13, Outworlds 28/29, Scientifriction 7, Phosphene 5, SpanInq 9, Foudroyant 2, Whynot 5, Vert 3, Scintallation 11, Dilemma, Thangorodrim, Altair 3, Tanstikkerzeitung 10, Checkpoint 77, Atropos 3, Synapse 15, Fewmets, Swoon 6, Don-o-Saur 74, The Conning Tower, Pinball Lizard, Vanishing Point, Synapse 16, Diehard 9, Sheldon's Plan 40, The Passing Parade 6, Wild Fennel 12/12, Bland 1, Janus (Vol 2, #3), Antares, Prehensile 15, Quantum, Backyard Clibacy Assembly, Mad Scientist's Digest 2, Hitchhike 27, SF Commentary 48/49/50, Meepers Blue, The Invisible Fan 1, Fear and Loathing, Exotic Erotica, Munich Round-up 140-142, and various Bill Bridget zines. I'm not listing apa zines, zines not generally available, zines I get second-hand, zines I lost, or dried up prunes. I miss Mota, Beware of bowling, and see you next time.



COAs

Martin Morse Wooster, Beloit College, Box 1691, Beloit, WIS 53511
 Neil Belsky, 15 Broadway Terrace, Apt. 2C, Washington Heights
 N.Y., N.Y. 10040
 Nick Polak, P.O.B. 1453 Middletown, N.Y. 10940
 Michael A. Bloom, 2114 Mallul Dr. #7, Anaheim, CA 92802
 (phone 714-636-0478)
 Michael S. Hall, 10 Acadia Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 3H9,
 Canada
 Vivian Bregman's Vulcan Trading Post, Inc., 200 West Belt
 Mall, Wayne, N.J. 07470
 Vulcan Irregular (Vivian's fanzine), P.O.B. 1701, Wayne, NJ
 07470 (Fanzine is 85¢ each for issues 1 and 2 if interested)
 Tim Kyger, 505 S. Roosevelt, D-1, Mesa, AZ 85202 (phone 602-
 833-5633 do not call after 10 p.m. local time)
 Alan Lankin, c/o Penn SF Club, Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce St.,
 Philadelphia, PA 19174 (May 15 to Aug. 1)
 Robert Briggs, 628 W. Olympia Ave., Punta Gorda, FL 33950
 Lise Eisenberg, 99 Joralemon St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201
 Ben Zuhl, 2646 15th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

NOTE: "The usual" is a letter of comment, trade, or contribution of artwork or article. If you need more information, write a letter to the fanzine & enclose SASE.



May 27-30. NOCRESCON II. Change of hotel!
Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis. Glicksohn
roast. Bob Tucker. Huckster info from Ben Zuhl(CoA).
GoHs: Tom Reamy & Martha Beck. Registration
\$7. Pool, cookout on river, beergarten party,
program. Information: Madman Riley, 2646 15th
Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn. 55407.

May 28-30. DISCLAVE. Washington, D.C.
Sheraton-Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Rd. NW. GoH:
Joe Haldeman. Registration \$3 before May 20, \$5
after. Con party Fri., Sat., Sun. Art show,
hucksters, programs, movies on Sat. & Sun.
Rooms \$22 single, \$29 double. Info: Alexis A.
Gilliland, 4030 8th St. South, Arlington, VA 22204.

May 28-30. ERATICON. Houston, Tx. Hilton Inn.
GoH: Ben Bova. Registration \$5. Info: Clifton
Davis, 2602 Cherry Lane, Pasadena TX 77502.

May 28-30. FABULA 77. Copenhagen, Denmark.
GoHs: Farmer, Aldiss. Films, art show, lectures.
Info: Fabula 77, Morboerhaven 5/91, DK-2620
Albertslund, Denmark.

May 28-30. ORCON 1. Eugene OR. Info: Bill
Trojan, 1225 Elkay Dr., Eugene OR 97404.

June 2-5. SFIR. National Italian Con. Panels,
banquet, art show. Info: Altair 4 - SFH Club,
Via Boccaleone, 26, 44100 - Ferrara, Italy.

June 2-5. SF, HORROR & FANTASY WORLD EXPOSITION.
Tucson, AZ in convention center. Multi-fandom con
with Pohl, Williamson, Bloch, Ellison, ST and film/
animation personalities. Films, hucksters, exhibits,
etc. Registration \$10 but costume and art shows
cost extra. Info: 1977 SFH & FWE, Box 4412,
Tucson, AZ 85717. (602-297-5812 phone)

June 3-5. BYOBCON VII. Kansas City, Mo. GoHs: C.J. Cherryh, Bill & Sherry
Fesselmeyer. Toastmaster: Bob Tucker. Chairman: Jeff May. At Hotel President,
14th & Baltimore, Kansas City, Mo. 64105. \$18 single, \$22 double. Registration \$6
advance, \$8 at door, banquet \$6 (prime rib sandwich, etc.). Films, ST slide show,
trivia contest, authors party, costume ball, panels, art show, hucksters. Info:
BYOB-Con VII, P.O.B. 68, Liberty, MO 64068.

June 3-5. ATENTION. Atlanta, Ga. Admiral Benbow Inn Northeast, at I-285 & Buford
Highway, Doraville, Ga. \$18 single, \$23 double. GoHs: Manly Wade Wellman, Cliff &
Susan Biggers; MC is Meade Frierson. Hucksters (\$10), films, panels, trivia contest,
computer games, etc. Registration \$4 advance, \$5 door. INFO: Atention, Apt. B2,
1870 Dresden Dr. NE, Atlanta, GA 30319. (Art show inquiries to Ken Moore, 647 Devon
Dr., Nashville, TN 37220.)

June 17-19. X-CON. Red Carpet Inn, Milwaukee, WI. GoHs: Dickson, Bob Asprin.
Costume show, wargames, parties, art show, filksing, parody musical. Registration
\$5 until 6/1, \$7 after. Contact Box 97, Greendale, WI 53129.

June 24-26. MIDWESTCON. Cincinnati, OH. Quality Inn Central, 4747 Montgomery
Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45212. Important: *Rumor has it that motel is already filled.*
It always fills quickly, so it is important to reserve rooms early. Nearby hotels/
motels are a mile or two away. Relaxacon. Rooms \$21 single, \$26 double, ground
floor rooms \$30. Banquet on Sat. \$6.50 (chicken and swiss steak). Swimming until
midnight, hospitality suite, art show & auction, huckster room, movies. Info:
Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. Johns Terr., Cincinnati, OH 45236.

July 1-3. SNOKONE II. Syracuse, NY. John Milton Thruway Motel, Carrier Circle,
Exit 35, Syracuse, N.Y. 13206. (phone 315-463-8555). Single \$16, double \$19,
waterbed \$22. GoH Jim Baen. Films, parties, pool, discussions, hucksters,

banquet (\$6). Memberships \$4 until 6/1, \$5 after. Hucksters tables \$7. Info: Paul W. Meyer, 141 Avondale Pl. Syracuse, N.Y. 13210.

July 1-4. WESTERCON 30. Totem Park, Univ. of British Columbia. GoHs: Damon Knight & Frank Denton. Special Guest: Kate Wilhelm. Trimble art show, costumes, panels, hucksters, films, near nude swimming beach. Huckster tables \$25 (includes 1 membership). Registration \$8 until June 20, \$4 supporting; \$10 after and at door. Dorm facilities \$18 (single), may include board. (An alternate hotel has been arranged for \$23 single, \$27 double, \$2 more for kitchen at the Rembrandt Hotel, Vancouver, WA. For information write Craig Miller, 9115 Beverlywood St., Los Angeles, CA 90034). For information on the con write: Westercon, Box 48701 Bentall Station, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V7X1A6.

July 1-5. COMIC ART CONVENTION. Hotel Sheraton, Philadelphia. Daily admission \$3, full membership \$10. Info: Phil Seuling, P.O.B. 177, Coney Island Station, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11224.

July 15-17. UNICON III. Silver Spring, Md. (suburb of D.C.). Sheraton-Silver Spring Hotel, 8727 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring, Md. 20910. Hucksters (\$15 tables), art show and contest (write Unicon or call Steve Goldstein, 301-345-3668). Registration \$4 before 6/15, \$6 after. Info: Unicon, Inc., P.O. Box 263, College Park, Md. 20740.

July 15-18. STAR TREK PHILADELPHIA. Registration \$20. Info: 88 New Dorp Plaza, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306. At Holiday Inn, City Line Ave., Phila.

July 15-17. ARCHON. St. Louis, MO. Stouffer's Riverfront Towers, \$25 single, \$29 double. GoHs: George R.R. Martin, Leigh & Norbert Couch. Special Guest: Gale Burnick; Toastmaster: Donn Brazier. Registration \$5 advance, \$7 at door. Hucksters (tables \$11), pool, Fred Haskell song and slide show, brunch, speeches, free beer, movies, fanzine panel, etc. (note all singles have double beds, all doubles have double bed and twin bed, 1/2 rooms have refrigerators). Sponsored by St. Louis SF Society. Info: (checks payable to Archon) John Novak, 1260 Moorlands Dr., Richmond Heights, MO 63117 (phone 314-647-8366 between 6 & 10 pm).

July 22-24. AUTOCLAVE 2. Detroit, MI. Howard Johnson's New Center Motor Lodge, W. Grand Blvd. at Third Ave., Detroit, MI 48202 (313-872-0400). Single \$20, double \$25, twin \$28. All rooms have double beds. Indoor pool, parking \$1/day. GoHs: Don D'Amassa, Don C. Thompson. Toastmaster Jon Singer. Emphasis on fannish fandom, fanzine fandom, fans, and fandom. Hucksters, art show, banquet (\$7.50, buffet w/ beef, ham, chicken). Registration \$5 advance, \$6 after July 1, \$7 at door. Make checks payable to Metro Detroit SF Society, Inc. Info: Leah A. Zeldes, 21961 Parklawn, Oak Park, MI 48237.

July 29-31. A-CON. The Pier Hotel, Glenelge, Australia. 16th National Australian Con. Membership \$8 attending, \$4 supporting until 6/30, then \$10 attending. Info: Paul Anderson, 21 Mulga Rd., Hawthorndene SA 5051, Australia.

July 29-31. SUMMERCON. Toronto, Canada. Ryerson Polytechnic Institute, downtown Toronto. \$15 single, \$19 double, fridge in every room. GoHs: Farmer, Andy Porter. Informal con. Registration \$5 until 7/1, \$6 after. Info: Summercon, Box 846, Station K, Toronto, Ont. M4P 2H2, Canada.

July 29-31. RIVERCON III. Louisville, KY. Stouffer's Louisville Inn, off I-65 in downtown Louisville, KY. \$21 single, \$28 twin. GoHs: Larry Niven, Sandra Miesel. Toastmaster: Joe Hensley. Buffet banquet, hucksters, panels, 24-hour hospitality suite, art show, masquerade, riverboat cruise, parody of RINGWORLD called "Stringworld", etc. Registration \$5 advance, \$10 at door; \$8.50 all-you-can-eat buffet. Checks payable to Rivercon. Info: Steve Francis, 5503 Matterhorn Dr., Louisville, KY 40216.

July 30-31. STAR TREK MINI CON. Guests: R. A. Lafferty, Jim Rodgers. Info: Brian Gray, 5711 S. Gary, Tulsa OK 74105.

Aug. 12-14. FANTASY FAIRE 7. Pasadena Hilton Hotel, Pasadena, CA. GoHs: Wendayne & Forrest Ackerman. Multi-fandom con with some Perry Rhodan orientation. Guests expected include van Vogt, Geo. Clayton Johnson, Brackett, etc. \$7.50 advance, \$10 at door. Info: Fantasy Faire #7, 1855 W. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801. Bill & Peggy Crawford are sponsors.

Aug. 19-20 (check on this date) and Aug. 31-Sept. 1 (definite) LAUNCHCON.
Orlando, FL. Evidently two separate small cons to see rocket launch of Titan III rockets. Registration \$10 until May 1, \$14.50 until July 1, \$18.50 at door (I'm not sure what these exhorbitant rates include. I advise you to write and ask for info before sending check). At La Quinta Motor Inn, 8485 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, FL 032809 (305-859-4100 phone). Info: Virginia Interstellar Society, P. O. Box 4187, Arlington, VA 22204.

Aug. 26-28. B'HAMACON/15th DEEPSOUTHCON. Birmingham, AL. Parliament House. Single \$21.20, double \$27.56 (includes tax). Hucksters, art show, panels, trivia contest, banquet, et. GoHs: Charlie and Dena Brown & Michael Bishop. Other guests to include Mike & Pat Meara, Gene Wolfe, R.A. Lafferty. \$5 registration to Penny Frierson, 3705 Woodvale Rd., Birmingham, AL 35223.

Aug. 26-29. SILICON II. England. Info: Irene Bell, 9 Lincoln St., Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE8 4EE, U.K.

Aug. 26-28. BUBONICON 9. Albuquerque, NM. Ramada Inn East. GoH Gordon Eklund. Membership \$4 until Aug. 1, \$5 after. Luncheon \$5; Membership & Luncheon \$8 until Aug. 1, \$10 after. Info: Bubonicon, Box 13282, Albuquerque, NM 87112. Make checks payable to Salvatore Di Maria

Aug. 30-31. FREDDICON. Fredericksburg, VA. Relaxacon/stop off on way to Worldcon -- halfway between New England and FL. Membership \$2.50. Rooms \$13 single, \$15 double. Info: Freddicon, P.O.B. 1746, College Station, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2. MOONCON. Another relaxacon to go to during your trip to Suncon. This one is on an island in the Florida Keys. GoH is Joe Haldeman. Diving on coral reef, dorm style quarters in primitive bungalows. Registration fee is \$50 payable in advance only which covers bed, use of mask, fins, snorkel, meals, boat for reefs, etc. Room for 35 people only, so for serious people only. So far 9 have signed up. This is on private island. Info: Dave Jenrette, Box 330374, Coconut Grove, Miami, FL 33133.

Sept. 2-6. SUNCON/WORLDCON. Hotel Fontainebleau, FL. Rooms \$27 single, \$31 double. GoHs: Jack Williamson, Robert Madle. Toastmaster: Robert Silverberg. Checks payable to Worldcon 35. Registration \$20 attending until May 31, \$30 until July 31, \$35 after and at door. supporting \$10. Info: Suncon, P.O.B. 3427, Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034. (Phone info: 609-424-5120 from 8 am to 11 pm)

CANCELED-Sept. 16-18. CLAVIUS. Richmond VA, ~~CANCELED~~

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 (?) ROVACON II. Roanoke, VA. Northside High School. Info: RoVaCon, P.O.B. 774, Christianburg, VA 24073.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2. PgHLANGE IX. Sheraton Motor Inn North, McKnight Rd, North of Pittsburgh. GoHs: Ginjer Buchanan, Linda Bushyager, Suzanne Tompkins. Toastperson: Genie DiModica. This will be a great con! (I'm prejudiced I guess) Single \$19, \$26 double. Movies, hucksters, parties. Info: Barbara Geraud, 1202 Benedum-Trees Bldg., Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2. STARCON. Town & Country Hotel, San Diego. Films, masquerade, dance, multi-fandom activities. Membership \$10 until 6/30, \$12 until 8/31, \$16 at door. Info: Mrs. E. Boyer, 4474 Winona #5, San Diego, CA 92115.

Oct. 7-8. WINDYCON IV. Hilton, Arlington Park, Chicago.

Oct. 7-9. THEMECON. Twin Bridges Marriott, Washington, D.C. Info: Alan Huff, 2004 Erie St., Apt. 2, Adelphi, Md.

Nov. 18-20. PENULTICON. Denver CO. Cosmopolitan Hotel. \$7 until 11/1, \$10 after. Guest: Bruce Pelz; Toastmistress: Joanna Russ. Info: P.O.B. 11545, Denver, CO 80211.

Jan. 6-8, 1978. CHATTACON 3. Sheraton Hotel, 407 Chestnut St., Chattanooga, TN (615-756-5150). MC Arsen Darnay. Parties, movies, hucksters, art show, story contest, banquet. Membership \$5 until 12/10/77, \$7 after. Info: Irvin Koch, c/o 835 Chatt Bank Building, Chattanooga, TN 37402.

Feb. 10-12, 1978. ROCKON 2. Info: P.O.B. 9911, Little Rock, AZ 72219.

(some info from LOCUS and SF Convention Register)

hot corn, cold corn

Does anyone know who Gerald Jonas really is? The name appears infrequently in the N.Y. Time Book Review, as often as the editors see fit to publish their token SF column, "Of Things To Come." Jonas appears to be familiar with the field, yet nothing in the columns betrays where and how he gained that familiarity. To my knowledge, nobody has written a word about him in the fan press.

"Of Things To Come" has been an unsatisfying column ever since its inception. It runs a poor second to the mysteries column, "Criminals at Large," in both interest and frequency of appearance, and both columns suffer in comparison with the usual level of criticism in the rest of the Book Review. Lead articles may go on for pages of closely-packed type and delve deeply into the subjects of the books they explore -- the Times Book Review is notable for the seriousness and complexity of its major reviews, and for the level of literacy it maintains -- but the science fiction column consists regularly of a survey of three or four books, each treated in a paragraph or two of competent but unexceptional prose. The survey-like columns seldom rise above the level of second-rate fanzine book reviews, but without the sense of personal involvement found in a fanzine. There is no sense of continuity between columns: books are not reviewed in light of their authors' past work or positions in the field. There is no sense conveyed of the development of SF, which ought to be the most interesting reason for a separate SF column in the Times.

There is no excuse for the New York Times to ghettoize SF in its pages, and to do such a dull job of it. I don't know who the column is meant to entertain, but it certainly won't tell anything new to a regular reader of SF, and it can't be very interesting to most other readers of the Book Review. I hold nothing against Gerald Jonas, whoever he is, except his letting himself be used in this way. He's



not a bad writer, although not an exceptional one, either. His reviewing is descriptive, nothing more, and the points he makes don't stay in your mind. When the Times let him loose in the regular pages recently to review Ursula Le Guin's ORSINIAN TALES, he did a perfectly competent job of reviewing the book, but the accompanying portrait photo of Le Guin made more of an impression.

In the current issue of the Times Book Review as I write this (2/27/77), Jonas has extended himself a bit. Again he reviews three books, but this time the column has a thematic unity: he uses a reprint of STAR BRIDGE, by Jack Williamson and James Gunn, as the jumping-off point for a short meditation on the myth of Progress in literature, and he uses the other two novels reviewed as counter-examples. This apparent structure doesn't hold up long under scrutiny, but there's been an attempt made.

If Gerald Jonas is going to continue writing a science fiction column for the New York Times, he should work more on developing a theme in each of his columns and abandon the buyer's guide format.

(This is the first of a series of occasional columns by John D. Berry which will appear in KARASS on an irregular basis. They'll cover a variety of subjects.)



john d. berry

CREDITS

Artwork this issue is by J. Philip Hawkins (cover), Mike Gilbert (p.2,12), Sam Long (4), Bill Kunkel (5), Randy Mohr (8), William Gibson (13), Taral Wayne MacDonald (17,16), Stu Shiffman (18), Dave Haugh (18). Thanks go to all of you who sent news, Gary Farber, and John D. Berry.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

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Loco will have a new editor in June, John Thiel (30 N. 19th St., Lafayette, Ind. 47904). Bill Bridget will be the publisher. It will be called Bill Bridget's Loco SF Pulp Magazine.

CONS

LAFF & A HALF will be held June 4-5 at 1132 St. Antony Rd., London, Ont., Canada. Free admission and accomodation if you are willing to work on program.

METZ INTERNATIONAL SF FESTIVAL has changed its dates to Sept. 19-25. GoH is Phil Dick. Robert Sheckley & Roger Zelazny are scheduled to attend. Info: Philippe Hupp, 7 rue Franchet d'Esperey, 57000 Montigny les Metz, France.

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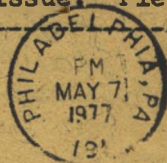
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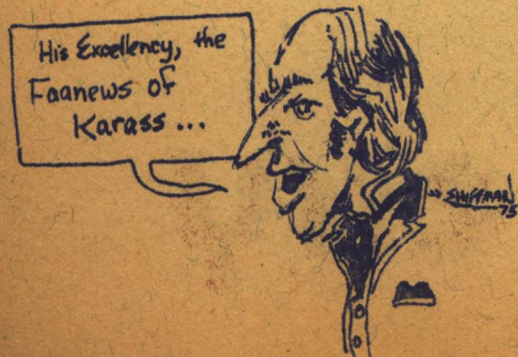
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