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MEMPHEN 71 - Perpetrated by Greg Bridges for the Memphis Science Fiction Association and as a tradezine. Edited by Frank Jordan. The mailing address for MEMPHEN is 266 Garland, Memphis, IN 38104. Club Dues for the Memphis Science Fiction Association are \$5 per annum and should go the club address which is P.O. Box 12534, Memphis, IN 38182-0543. Meetings for the MSFA are the second and fourth Sundays of the month (times and places announced in this bulletin. This is our 14th year of publication. COPYRIGHT 1984

JUNE 1984 MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

JUNE 10 (SUNDAY) We will have the pleasure to convene at the abode of the Dr's Coger at 1433 W. Crestwood. The time of convening is 4:00pm, West Crestwood is a few blocks east of White Station road in east Memphis. Their phone number is 682-7046 so you can determine what is necessary to bring to provide refreshments. Bring you swimming gear just in case they have their pool ready for aquatic activities such keep the ball from Max(?). SEE YA' THERE or eYee.

JUNE 24 (SUNDAY) For those of you who are not attending DeepSouthCon on this particular weekend, there will be a meeting of the MSFA at the residence of Greg Bridges at 266 Garland near midtown. Garland is between Cleveland and McNiell and Greg's place is one block north of Poplar. The soiree starts at 6:00pm so maybe some of the early returnees from Deep South can attend. Greg's phone er... phone number is 274-7355 so that you apprise yourself of what victuals are needed for the evenings repast / Boy, what a mouthful! DO NOT FAIL TO ATTEND if ya' know what's good for ya'.

The Final Word (an editorial) Frank Jordan

As some of you may know this is the last Memphen that I will edit. I have taken on the task of starting a newsletter of another group, the Memphis Kaypro User's Group, and I am not able to keep both tasks in the air at the same time. I have enjoyed being editor what, ne worry for this has been an unusual experience for me. I am giving the reins of the Memphen back to Greg for his editorial guidance or to see if he can suck er... don er... don't hand it to another person for editorial guidance. I am also giving up the position of Treasurer of the MSFA and there will be a financial report in the next Memphen from me as to the number of members and how much cash we have on hand for club activities. So until we get another Treasurer send your checks to Greg Bridges for your membership dues.

A SHORT(?) REVIEW by Frank Jordan

INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM

a Lucasfilm Ltd. production,
directed by Steven Spielberg, produced by George Lucas

Before he had the opportunity to raid the Ark of the covenant, Indiana Jones had had a number of opportunities to 'make' his reputation not as a college professor, but as a ~~grave-robb~~er obtainer of rare items. The story of the film starts with one of his more unsavory rendezvous' which leads him into the main plot of the story.

In one fantastic escape after another, Dr. Jones winds his way through the Temple with his sidekick, a young chinese boy, and a cabaret singer from Shainghai *Hai (by way of Missouri). In fact there may be too many fantastic escapes after another in this episode presented by Mssrs' Lucas and Spielberg. In Raiders the escapes were not as often and were a little more believable [Oh really(!), riding on the top of a submarine for hundreds of miles without drowning is more believable! Oy vey, give me a break, already!]. The story concerns the theft of a 'magic' stone from an Indian village. The stone protects the village as the villagers believe. From the description Indiana realizes what the stone is, one of five stones given by the god Vishnu to man to safeguard him from evil. The stone has been stolen by a cult known as the Thugee, whose chief aim in life is to provide living sacrifice for their god. Indiana and his companions decide to help the villagers recover the stone and their children.

The movie is technically well done. I could detect only a few flaws, but the story once the action starts is perhaps a little too action packed. However, I do recommend it especially to those of you masochists who like roller coaster rides(?).

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SIX MONTHS FROM TEN YEARS AGO.

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BOOK REVIEWS - JACKIE WATKINSON A PALE HORSE - Piers Anthony (Del Rey, 232 p., \$12.95 hb)

With this novel Piers Anthony departs from the world of XXANTH to begin another set of novels entitled the INCARNATIONS OF IMMORTALITY. The story basically depicts a few days in the life of Zane who meets Death, beats him at his own game, and then must assume the role of Death himself. Needless to say there are other subplots, contrivances, and of course, puns. Overall ON A PALE HORSE is a humorous fantasy; but on a deeper level it is a scathing satire of modern life, especially of the medical world.

THE INTEGRAL TREES - Larry Niven (Del Rey, 235 p., \$14.95 hb)

Once again Larry Niven has created a unique and interesting world; here he presents humans who live in freefall within a gas torus circling a neutron star. Many of the isolated tribes inhabit these integral trees, and the story chronicles the quest of a small band of these humans in search of new food supplies as their tree migrates away from the median of the Smoke Ring.

THE INTEGRAL TREES is just one more credit to Niven's ability to create fascinating new worlds and beings. And while this novel relies mainly on humans (as opposed to moties and kzin), there are still some new animal forms. Excellent Niven reading.

MOVIE REVIEWS - Jackie WatkinsGREMLINS

They're billed as cute, clever, mischievous, intelligent, dangerous. They start out looking like a fuzzy ET with Yoda ears but if you feed them after midnight they go into an ALIEN egg metamorphosis to emerge resembling the early muppets from Saturday Nite Live. Then they wreck havoc.

Spielberg has taken his Disney approach too far this time. Any semblance to horror he might have achieved is lost with his comedic interpretation of scenes. He apparently forgot how to build and hold suspense from Poltergeist. The movie comes off more like a Three Stooges romp than a "we've got to save humanity from them" duty even though this is the major premise of the last part of the flick.

I was really suspecting a spielberg horror show with little monsters; what I found was terminal cute with heaps of confectioners' sugar. If you're looking for something light and funny GREMLINS is a great comedy.

FIRESTARTER

This is one of the better King translations to film. It follows the storyline from the novel closely and the few changes do not detract from the original. The cast is superb, especially George C. Scott as Rainbird. The major problem is with Charlie McGhee's dialogue - it's done much too adult for an eight year old; Drew Barrymore could have done better with a more realistic script. Overall the special effects were good; the one flaw was Charlie's handling of bullets. Supposedly she exploded them in mid-air but on the screen it looked more like they bounced off her like Superman. Good entertainment.



NEBULA AWARDS

NOVEL - STARTIDE RISING by David Brin(Bantam)  
 Novella - "Hardfought" by Greg Bear (Asimov's 2/83)  
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MILLENNIUM - John Varley (Berkeley)  
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