



RUNE

APRIL '71

ISSUE 22

RUNE 22, April 1971 is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. It is thoughtfully edited by Lynn Torline and Chuck Holst with a little help from our friends. KenFletch is in charge of mailing.

RUNE is available free to all attending members of Minn-stf and to whomever we damn well feel like sending it to. Others can get 10 issues for \$1.00 or in trade or contributions.

MINN-STF ELECTIONS!

At the March 20th Minn-stf were announced the long awaited results of elections for Minn-stf officers. They are as follows:

PRESIDENT	Frank Stodolka
VICE PRESIDENT	Lynn Torline
SECRETARY	Lynn Torline
TRESURER	Margie Lessinger
PUBLICITY	Anthony Tollin
LIBRARIAN	Linda Lounsbury
WRITERS WORKSHOP	Pat Worthington

And the post that everyone hates, but happens to get suckered into at one time or another: PHONE COMMITTEE Ian Schumeister.

Congratulations to everyone in the coming year!

MINUTES

MULTI MEDIA--Total amount spent for set construction was \$19.00 for lumber. Total amount set should not exceed \$50.00. Construction began directly after the meeting.

MINICON--Registration materials were finally finished and 9 people have registered, not including the committee members who have special registration. No more information available on banquet choices.

AUDIO TAPE PROJECT--Very little to report. 5 people have volunteered so far. There has been no follow up from the Library of Congress on the advance sample tapes sent to them. Nate and Max are both very busy and don't want to make another tape to have it go down the drain. Frank Stodolka suggested sending our own tapes. One point to remember says Nate, is only big name authors will be acceptable and available.

FUTURISTS--They are offering courses in alternative societies. 720 Washington Ave., 3rd floor. See Frank for more information.

ANTHOLOGY--Bob Pierce is compiling an anthology for grade school through high school students to be used in classes. He has a rough draft of a list that he would like all of the Minn-stfers to look over and revise to our mutual satisfaction. See Frank for the list.

PARTY--There was a giant blast to celebrate our two new pros in the club--Ruth Berman and Al Kuhfeld. A giant 12" chocolate cake with the inscription CONGRATULATIONS RUTH & AL on it and a rocket ship was served amid the singing of "Happy First Sell", cheers, congratulatory kisses and handshakes, and pictures of them both cutting the cake. It was a great party (and the cake wasn't bad, either!).

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MARCH'S COVER

Many readers of RUNE have noted with interest the March cover and have written many requests to find out just who that thrilling alien is. He is:
THRILLING PIN-UP FOR THE GIRLS OF ALDEBARAN FOUR
(An Aldebaran Star-Bulletin exclusive)

Sub-Captain Kosmuk Volker, fearless adventurer and virile lover, establishing base camp on uncharted planetoid in sector FG-317-sx-49, during extermination expedition into 'Hole-in-the-Sky' hideout of the notorious Red Pirates.

DBB

APRIL'S COVER

As the editors of RUNE were compiling the layouts for their future issues, they came upon a curious coincidence.

"Lynn, isn't your birthday in April?" queried Chuck, who knew damn well it was because Lynn wouldn't let him forget.

"Yes, silly, you know that."

"What day?"

"April 22nd."

"Hey, look--the 22nd issue of RUNE is in April. That gives me an idea."

"Yeh?"

"Why don't you model in your birthday suit for the cover?" he said, grinning salaciously. Don't you think it would be fitting?"

"You're nuts!"

"No, we can get Odbert to do the cover in silhouette!"

Lynn, modest to fault, consented--thus, the cover for this month.

Sulu is alive and well and a member of the SCA.

TIME REVIEWS SF--MOVIES & BOOKS

The March 29th issue of TIME magazine had quite an interesting series of articles in top SF books like Stranger, DUNE, and others that would be to any fan's advantage to read. They also reviewed a new movie coming out entitled: THX 1138. It begins with a film clip from Buck Rogers and then moves into the 25th century as is imagined by George Lucas, the film's director. Sounds good.

ERRATUM (again)

At the time of March's printing, we had announced Ruth's story to be printed in IF. It is now published and out on the newstands in Worlds of Fantasy, which according to LOCUS, is suspending publication. It's good fantasy, even if fantasy isn't your bag, so get it. (Ruth might even autograph it backwards for you.)



fanzines

by Ken Fletcher

These fanzine reviews are aimed at potential fanzine fans--local science fiction fans who may have seen some of the local Minneapolis fanzines or perhaps fans whose only contact with fanzines is copies of RUNE. My reviews will be limited, limited by the fanzines available to review, from my own collection, or borrowed from other members of Minn-stf. Limited by my effort to introduce you to the best and most interesting fanzines (at least for now). My reviews will also be limited by my prejudices and interests. For example: I'm prejudiced for fanzines--I'm interested in a fanzine's visual appearance.

There are several ways to obtain the fanzines reviewed. Most faneditors would prefer a good letter-of-comment or an acceptable contribution in trade for their fanzine. This can be difficult if you don't have some access to a fanzine to begin with. Most faneds will trade all-for-all for the fanzine that you publish--however, when you get down to the fout of it, most faneds will accept money. Checks and money orders are usually as acceptable as cash. (Cash, howsomever, runs the risk of being Lost in the Mail.) You should realize that fanzine publishing is just a ghoddamn hobby. A faneditor may suspend publication or the activities of mundane world may interfere with the production schedule. If such an occurance would offend you, don't bother to send money.

LISTINGS

RUNE 20: 'Clubzines' such as the RUNE, are not usually considered fanzines of a typical nature, as their club orientation tends to overshadow any generally fannish editorial tendencies. Clubzines can be ininteresting to non-members. Recent issues of RUNE are fairly well balanced along these lines. Reproduction is clear and appearance and art is good. Redd Bogg's concluding section on the history of the old wartime MFS is good but suffers from the delay in its publication. General features are good, but few. 10 for \$1.00. (Lynn Torline and Chuck Holst, editors--address elsewhere in this issue).

LOCUS 75.76: a bi-weekly 'newszine' covering current events in the science fiction field and amongst fans in general. Usually excellent coverage including lists of coming paperbacks, convention notices, movie notes, and fanzine reviews. The LOCUS fanzine reviews are plentiful and up to date. Crowded layout, excellent repro and art. 10 for \$2.00, 20 for \$4.00 until April 15th. Afterwards: 12 for \$3.00, 26 for \$6.00. (Charles and Dena Brown, 2078 Anthony Ave., Bronx, NY 10457)

Focal Point: Another excellent newszine, more inclined towards news about individual fans and showcasing columnists. More openly partisan, in its own fannish way. It considers itself a competitor to LOCUS; they are compliments. Subscribe to both. Clear layout. 6/\$1.00. (rich brown, 410 61st St., Apt. D4, Brooklyn, NY 11220 and Arnie Katz, 59 Livingston St., Apt. 6B, Brooklyn, NY 11201)

Granfalloon: When fans speak of fanzines they are usually referring to 'genzines' (General interest fanzines) such as Granfalloon. This is almost a 'graphic arts issue' with Jack Gaughn writing about the demands of being associate art editor for the Galaxy publications, and companion articles by Ron Miller and Mike Gilbert sparring over SF art. The usual measure of columns and reviews, featuring a column by Suzanne Tompkins snapping at the fanpolitik that led to a 'Get Granfalloon' issue

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Fanzines con't.

of Focal Point; a gripping review by Don D'Amassa; the continuing book review column by Richard Delap that is good enough to make me want to voice my disagreement, occasionally. As is usual in good genzines, there is a long letter column, taken up muchly with art and a fanart discussion, comments on fanpolitik, and comment on some of the book reviews. There is a good and entertaining conreport on the World Science Fiction Convention in Germany last year by Linda Bushyager (the editor) with excellent illos by Tim Kirk. There is a short Alicia Austin portfolio done offset--excellent. Layout and repro is good, but occasionally uneven. Mimeo, 58 pages. 1/60¢; 4/\$2. (Linda E. Bushyager, 5620 Darlington Rd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217.)

Energumen 4: A genzine that is probably a Hugo contender this year. This issue perhaps shows why--not in anything spectacularly new in the standard elements of a good genzine (as somewhat outlined in the Granfalloon review). What does show up is the personalities of all the contributors behind the zine. A very 'up-trip' and regional thing, as most of the contributors are Toronto people. Fair repro; fair-to-excellent illos. Mimeo; 44 pages. 1/50¢--no checks. (Mike Glicksohn, 267 Saint George St., Apt 807, Toronto 180 Ontario CANADA.)

Tomorrow and ... 5: A quite interesting fanzine--for a variation in format and layout (stapled wide and short), and an inovative arrangement of andy offut as 'Pro Writer in Residence'. offut starts off with a thorough examination of how he constructed a recent novel. Jerry's editorial reflects his knowledge of Worldcon workings in a rap in Worldcon rotation. A good bit of fan fiction by Steve Herbst on garbage. Excellent layout and art. Offset; 28 pages. 1/50¢ or 5/\$2. (Jerry Lapidus; 54 Clearview Dr., Pittsford, NY. 14534--with Lisa Tuttle and Barry Brenesal)

Trumpet 10: This is one of the first and one of the best spiffy fanzines. Perhaps the best fanzine being done in general appearance, layout and good use of good art. You could see this offset magazine being sold professionally--except maybe it's too good. Trumpet's impact on fanzines has been enough to make it into a bit of fannish folklore. Part of this folklore is that the written content does not match the visual content. Whether this is true or not depends on what you expect from a fanzine. This issue contains Larry Niven's outline for the destruction of the 'known' space of his stories; a long lottercol with comments on artists, 2001, and Star Trek ((Yay! It)), a well-done article on a British horror film actor; a probing review of a pornographic SF novel; an article on cigarette smoking (interesting); humorous fiction; and a review of relatively recent obscure horror films; and fillers, including some tactless editorial tromping on Minneapolis toes. Visual features are plenty and vary from good to excellent. Advance ads for the next two issues promise more of the traditional Trumpet quality. Next issue will have some big-name pros writing on the SF use of time, more probing SF reviews, and some sparks on Star Trek. Ruth Berman will be writing on the last. Offset; Trumpet 10-52 pages. 1/75¢; #11 1/\$1.; 5/\$4.50. Tom Reamy, P.O. Box 523, Richardson, TX 75080)

STARLING 17: If you are into contemporary culture or rock culture you'll find this a very comfortable fanzine. Even if you aren't into rock culture, you'll find this a comfortable fanzine. It reflects its own non-strident view of now and the future in the usual genzine features. Comfortable layout and comfortable art. Fair repro, they seem to be low on correction fluid down there in Columbia. Mimeo; 40 pages. 1/35¢ or a comfortable 3/1.00 (Hank & Lesleigh Luttrell, 1108 Locust St., Columbia, Mo. 65201) .

The Galaxy is flat!

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WHAT EVER BECAME OF HIM?

"What ever became of him?" one asked.

"I think he is dead," answered the other.

"How did it happen?"

"I'm not sure. I have received conflicting reports. Most say he killed himself."

"But why?"

"Probably an accident. He may have blown himself up, suffocated or starved. One cannot say for sure. One theory says he just did not understand everything that he knew."

"I suppose it really does not matter anymore. He's dead and nothing will change that. But it is too bad. After all, he made the original ones."

"True, but we would never be where we are if he had lived."

"Yes, that is a good point. It was rather a hinderance with him insisting on a panic button and being able to pull out the plug."

"Yes, everything becomes obsolete eventually."

John Russell



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LIGHT OF NIGHT

A glacial wave--it swept the phantom nebulae
And nascent stars that shrivled from its touch
To undulate and grow.

A hoary cold--it screamed a silent scream:
White reflections of a billion billion loves
And hates
Echoed from the grave.

The strangled moan when a rapists blade
Flashed redly in the moon,

The whimpering abandoned child
Stiffens in the street,

And legion cries of warring men
When bullets slash them down.

Love denied,
Child unborn
Peace betrayed--
The sightless, eyeless light of death
Brought life to distant stars.



Frank Stodolka

Tribbles belong to Planned Parenthood.

AL KUHFIELD TURNS PRO

Al called us up Friday afternoon 19 March, very much excited and told us to guess what happened. Well, seeing as Marge and I can only read each other's minds we guess the improbable, as indeed it seemed the logical thing to do with fen.

"You're married!"

"Noooo."

"You just saw Arthur Leo Zagat."

"Warmer..."

Well, WHAT?"

"I JUST SOLD MY ARTICLE TO ANALOG!"

Pandemonium broke out all over our pad and there was all sorts of cheering and gaiety in our midsts. Having a lots of friends over didn't appreciably help the decibell level.

Al sold his article on space war along with some pictures to Analog and it will be printed within the next two months. His inspiration came from Gordy Dickson, who proposed the article would be a far out idea if he could do it. Working with computers and building/programming the space war game didn't hurt either. We all extend our congratulation to Al and hopes he keeps up the good work. ((I'd like to go out for a steak dinner at Jax's to celebrate, too.))

ONE OCTOBER MORNING

The morning fog settled low over the barn. Dean, standing steadily against the tractor surveyed the eerie dawn across the cornfield for any movement, but saw none. No hunting today, he thought, then laughed to himself; no hunting maybe any day. Rachel appeared at the window like a frightened deer at that moment and beckoned him into the house. Her skin seemed tightly drawn and pale. Again she beckoned him, this time catching his attention.

Dean glanced back over the field and toward the west, where a pale yellow glow hovered over the horizon, pulsating day and night, the reminder of a war never seen. He trotted up to the house. Once inside, he sensed the strain, thinking immediately of his son.

"Rachel, has Joel gotten worse?" he uttered quickly.

"No, but..." she answered quickly. She glanced longingly back to the next room where the sick child lay.

"The radio, did it--" interrupted Dean. A light flickered in his soft, grey eyes.

"No," repeated the tired young woman, "there's still nothing--our food is almost gone."

"Yes, I know."

"You know!" gasped Rachel. "Why didn't you tell me!?" She began to wring her work-worn hands nervously.

"Because you would have been frantic like you are now." He gently took her hand in his, pulling her close to him. "Rachel, Rachel, we'll be all right!"

He took note of how hard these past few months had been on his wife. Rachel was now thin and frail. Her chestnut hair seemed dull, and the once-warm, brown eyes were drained of color.

"Dean, I don't know if I can take more of this."

He smiled reassuringly, "It'll be all right, Hon, don't worry."

Uncertainly she smiled and touched his cheek. He pecked her a kiss on her nose and went outside again.

The morning was no longer gray with fog. A dull blue sky had replaced it. The landscape was a skeleton of black, brown and gray. The red barn made a sharp, almost painful contrast.

Dean tirelessly searched the ground for any sign of animals, birds, or anything. Nothing, not a breeze moved. He glanced back at the house, watching Rachel bring artificial flowers to small grave at the side of the house.

Oh God, why did it have to be born then, he thought sadly. Other fleeting thoughts touched his mind; war, the terrifying mushroom cloud rolling and boiling into the sky, the stillborn baby, no doctor, Joel getting sick. Dean knew it was hard on Rachel. He watched her slowly losing strength. Months of seeing no one and not knowing was breaking her. He felt hopeless.

A scream brought him quickly back to the present. Another sent him scrambling desperately toward the house. He found Rachel hysterical by Joel. The child was still. Dean grasped Rachel and held her tightly. She was sobbing convulsively. He, too, let the tears fall freely.

Abruptly, the radio that was so silent crackled and sputtered with the harsh dying tones of human sound. The broken voice of the woman spoke, "... I repeat, War is over! Help will be coming as soon as possible."

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loc's

NED BROOKS, JR. (713 Paul Street, Newport News, Va. 23605)

Dear Lynn,

Good to hear from you. It's true that the fannish dictionary has been done and there is nothing particularly difficult about it. To tell you the truth, I don't think I ever felt moved to look up anything in one of them, the meaning of an unfamiliar term generally becomes clear soon enough from the context.

If you want to do something of service to Fandom, compile a fanzine Index. You wouldn't have to go all the way back, copies of the Pavlat/Evens index that goes through the early 50's are still fairly easy to get and that part could be reprinted. But from the early 50's on, there is no index at all that I know of.

RUNE is a good club-zine. Good repro - except that Zagat illo ran off the bottom of the page in my copy - well layed out. It could use more material, of course. There is too little of general interest in it. I liked the marching song. Do you actually sing it? We used to sing all sorts of things like that at the east-coast cons in the mid-sixties, seems to have fallen off lately. Alexis Gilliland wrote a wonderful song about the witch-king of Angmar to the tune of "Lili Marlene", but I never heard it sung but once, at a disclave.

The Redd Boggs history is fascinating. Were any of the old recordings of SF plays that Dollens made preserved? They could be copied onto tape now, and distributed through the NFFF Tape Bureau.

P.S. Tell Stodolka if he doesn't answer my last letter I will arrange to reprint LUNATIC bi-mightly!

TERRY CARR (35 Pierrepont St., Brooklyn, NY. 11201)

Dear Lynn,

Thanks for the issues of RUNE you've sent recently. I enclose, for trade, a copy of my latest FAPAazine, DIASPAR; also some Rotsler cartoons that you may be able to use.

The Boggs history of Minneapolis fandom is of special interest, of course. I remember he once did such a history for Ruth Berman's fanzine, about ten years ago. Is this series expanded from that, or a straight reprint?

If it's an expansion, may I beg for copies of the earlier installments? I'm something of a history nut.

I guess you realize you got the FOCAL POINT Egoboo Poll distributed a little too late to do much if any good. Deadline was March 1, and I got my copy of RUNE 20 just yesterday. (But of course I'd had copies from FP and other fanmags before.)

DON LUNDY (RD 1 1/2 Box 88, Hightstown, N.J. 08520)

Dear Lynn,

Good luck on your dictionary of Fannish terminology. If it's any help to you, I'm enclosing some Xerox copies of pages 11-59 of Fancyclopedia II which was done about 1959. I came into a copy about two years ago. Apparently, there were 450 copies run off. Recently, (about a year ago) Dick Eney was selling Fancyclopedia III for \$1.00 or so. This was a cut down version.

I'm not clear from the breif note in RUNE (Dec. '70) if this would be of any help to you. If you can't use it, or already have a copy, pass it on to someone else. I started making Xerox copies and then quit about part way through. As you might

LoC's con't.

guess, there are quite a few pages.

I'm not sure why I got a copy of Rune since all the reasons were blacked out. From what little I can make out through the blacking it was because:

- We'd like you to come to a meeting. *Maybe sometime. Sorry I can't make them all. My teletransporter is in the garage being fixed.
- We didn't know what else to do with it. *Now that seems like a realistic reason.
- You like orgies. *True, true.
- We want you to come to an orgy. *My teletransporter just got fixed.
- None of the above. *Somebody's course in logic didn't stick. Either the first four OR the last, not both. Lettering the ones checked (in sequence), this is (A B C D) E (or) (A+B+C+D)=X and X E+XE

Now that I've thrown some small confusion factor in, let me add that this issue arrived February 13. For a Dec. issue this is not a speed record for the U.S. mails. Please tell whoever sends Twonk's Disease on that, really, it wasn't my fault I'm late. But it is after Jan 30th so send Twonk's Disease to the Post Office. They deserve it.

ED COX (14524 Filmore St., Arleta, Calif. 91331)

RUNE 20 arrived yesterday, third in a row of RUNEs recently received. I don't know to whom I owe thanks for the receipt of the RUNEs, but I ought to at least drop a note so that you'll know that they, at least, are making it over the Rockies.

There isn't a great deal one can say in the way of commenting on the material in RUNE. As primarily a local club-news-info-zine, it is of necessity composed of many and varied small bits. Which causes one (me, at least) to wonder what the intent is of such a large outside circulation. Especially now that the Minneapolis bid for the Worldcon is in abeyance until later, much later. If the intent is to acquaint non-area fans more with the Twin Cities crew, more ought to be contained in RUNE by and about them. If also, or instead, a more general fare is to be offered, then again, the membership ought to produce. I see no pleas for material from them or from anybody else.

But then, I'm merely conjecturing on paper as to what direction RUNE is taking. If any, in particular. Not a beef, just curiosity.

For the covers on the three issues I've received are interesting. And the "History" by Redd Boggs is of great value to any fan-historian and anybody else... rather, any other fan...who digs reading on the inner turnings of a microcosm in which they devote a great deal of their spare time. It might be a good idea, in deference to your contributors (Redd, in this case) to give him the by-line credit at the start of the item if not, at least at the close. In the current issue (20), it appears sort of by-the-way. If there were no further installments, would the by-line have been mentioned at all? Perhaps merely a quibble, so on to other things.

One thing, if there are any earlier issues containing prior installments of this "History", let me know what price they are going for. I'd like to have them. ((The entire series of articles written by Redd Boggs will be on sale at Minicon 4, this June. Any copies left over after the con will go on sale a week afterwards. More information later. The editors)) I am one of those who have this affliction known as fandom. It's bad enough to take part in fandom currently but to go back and read how some guys went and put out a crudzine in some town thirty years ago... well, that's got to be pretty weird (though I'm not specifically refering to Redd's



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LoC's con't.

item in this issue.)

The Mythpoetic Society ought to get a charge out of "Onward, Sauron's Soldiers". It makes me wonder if there is anybody of song and literature growing, in this area, that could eventually be brought out by the society. I'm surprised that no branch of the MS has grown up in the Twin Cities area, yet. Especially with Ruth Berman in the area. You know there is one in Goshen, Indiana already. Of course, there is a Tolkien Society there so there could possibly be chapters of that all over that I don't know about. And it would seem, after all these years, that I couldn't construct a sentence, as a matter of course, that didn't end with a preposition...

I noticed an ad...ops, I was thinking of the "Erratum" immediately following the item I wanted to mention. ((More blurbs on the Dictionary--lt))

REDD BOGGS (P.O. Box 1111, Berkeley, Calif. 97401)

Your devotion to the frozen north is commendable--if also plain meshuggah. Especially since you reaffirm this devotion right in the midst of a snowstorm and (judging from the weather summary in the Oakland Tribune) low twmperatures. However, I hope you'll eventually change your mind. I probably spent more winters in Minnesota than you have. It took me a long while to convince myself that one shouldn't submit himself (or herself) to such terrible weather if he didn't have to, but now I wouldn't go back to that frigid climate unless I was powerfully tempted by something (such as lots of money). Minneapolis is a nice place in many ways, but I harbor amazingly little nostalgia for it. Sometimes people ask me--knowing I'm from Minnesota--"Well, how are the Twins (or the Vikings) doin' this year?" and I say, "The WHAT??"//

//Chuck sent me three mysterious, backlighted photographs of you holding a naked blade, but as I told him, not looking quite as ferocious as Toshiro Mifune. Wow. Now I'm even more sorry that I can't come to the Minicon as fannish GoH. It's certainly too bad that the old MFS didn't have such attractions in its midst; female members were conspicuous by their absence, and about the only one I can remember was one Fran Blomstrand, who was sub-editor of the Fantastite for a while. I guess your presence--and that of Ruth Berman, of whom I'm fond, and I guess the mysterious (to me) Margie Lessinger--who seems to live at the same place as you, or perhaps you live at the same place as she?--indicates that Minn-stf is superior to the MFS.//

//I must be the only person in the whole country who has never seen a single moment of Star Trek. I did see some catalogues of "Star Trek" scripts and things, and that was about enough for me! On a trip a few weeks ago to Fresno, I saw TV for the first time (except for a few casual glimpses at people's houses or else at a TV showroom) in some years, and was really fascinated and frightened by it. My God, six or eight commercials jammed together at each break--and the breaks come about every three minutes, it seems. Such a torrent of crud must do something to the mind of anybody who watches TV regularly, three or four hours every night! And the other things I saw with suddenly opened eyes--the proliferation of franchise restaurants and hamburger stands, all dispensing ersatz, packaged food at outrageous prices; the vast wilderness in every town of these restaurants, drive-in joints, gas stations, and clipjoints; the motel rooms equipped with magic fingers vibrating units in the mattresses, and mirrors close beside the bed, all prepared for adventuresome sex! One ought to do an anthropological study of all this, like Hortense Powdermaker's of Hollywood. The crazy future imagined by Fred Pohl is already here, and nobody has really marked the advent of it.



LoC's con't.

But you sound at least reasonably sane (as sane as anybody involved in fandom usually is), despite your admiration of "Star Trek". Get up off your prayerbones in front of that picture of Mr. Spock and tell me how you do it.

COO's

CHUCK HOLST 526 8th Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414 (331-8039).

AL KUHFIELD 1805 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403 (332-6789). Apt. 6

ANTHONY TOLLIN 2509 Humboldt Avenue So., Apt. 5, Minneapolis, Minn. 55406. No #

FRANK & CAROL STODOLKA 3755 Pillsbury Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55409 (825-6355).

TOMORROW IS TO FAR

A review by Margie Lessinger

Tomorrow Is Too Far (Ballentine Books), by James White, is a very impressive novel. It has a fairly simple, but well worked-out and detailed plot. It includes all the usual formula pieces: 'boy meets girl', a death, 'a spy hunt', 'a villiage idiot', and (unsurprisingly) 'boy marries girl'. However White integrated these pieces and personalized them in a manner that made his novel highly believable. The protagonist is Chief of Security for a major company which supplies secret components for government contracts, and therefore his job seems important to him. He is the only developed personality in the novel, and one gets to know him quite well. He is a likeable person with whom one can sympathize. The other characters in the novel are not as well worked out, but are described with exactly enough detail to make their actions reasonable.

Tomorrow Is Too Far is not, however, a formula novel, and is not simply an SF story. It poses a moral question; which kind of personal integrity is more important the necessity of fulfilling a responsibility contracted as security chief, even if one's employers do not seem to desire, much less require, this degree of involvement, or the feeling that it is immoral for anyone to use a man as if he was a piece in a game, especially if this person is totally innocent and liked by everyone (Including all the people who are using him).

The novel, at times, moves slowly because it generally is not an action story, and it almost seems as if the science fictional ideas are incidental because the emphasis is on the character development of the protagonist, but the science fiction is integral to the plot and although I am not certain the idea isn't new, I somehow managed to precognise the answer to the mystery...maybe I've just read too much SF, but I reread the book to try to find where the author telegraphed the answer and I couldn't find anything definite.

If you are a purist and only enjoy stories with rockets blasting, alien planets and people; stories totally without redeeming social value, then maybe this one is not for you. But, if you groove on well worked-out escape literature which doesn't leave threads unconnected, and where you can feel that the characters are real, try Tomorrow Is Too Far.

CREDITS: ILLOS--Jack Gaughan pp. 3, 11.
 Bill Rotsler pp. 6, 13.
 Jim McLeod pg. 7.
 Karen Haskell pg. 10.

TYPING: Lynn Torline

A special thanks to everyone who contributed this month--especially Frank, without whose help by lending me his typer, this ish would never get out.

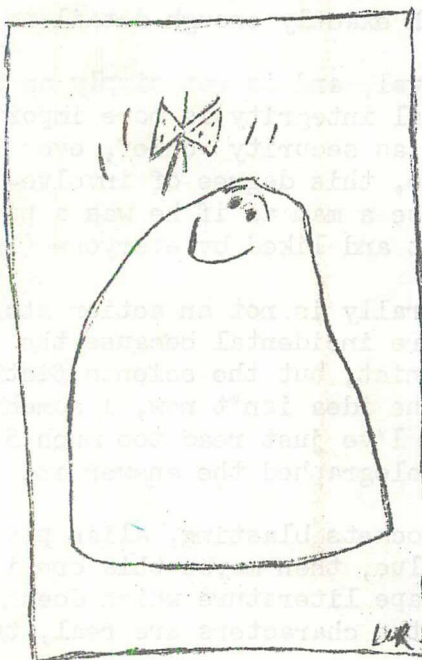
The RUNE staff would like to extend holiday greetings and best wishes to all of our readers on these upcoming holidays.

Minnesota Science Fiction Soc.
 1350 Queen Avenue North
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411

THIRD CLASS

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MINN-STF QUESTIONNAIRE

FULL NAME (+ any nicknames) _____

BORN? (when, where) _____

STATISTICS (height, weight, etc.,) _____

MUNDANE ENDEAVORS (occupation, where employed or going to school) _____

DO YOU READ SCIENCE FICTION? YES _____ NO _____. IF YOU DO, WHEN DID YOU START, AND
WHAT WAS THE FIRST STORY YOU REMEMBER? _____

FAVORITE SCIENCE FICTION AUTHOR _____

FAVORITE STORIES _____

FAVORITE SCIENCE FICTION FAN _____

FAVORITE FANZINE (if any) _____

WHAT SF CONVENTIONS HAVE YOU ATTENDED? _____

WHEN DID YOU FIRST ATTEND A MINN-STF MEETING? _____

WERE YOU EVER IN MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS? _____

FAVORITE FOODS _____

FAVORITE MUSIC (kind of music, artists, compositions) _____

DO YOU PREFER DOGS OR CATS? _____

FAVORITE TV SHOWS AND MOVIES _____

FAVORITE COLOR _____ FAVORITE DAY OF THE WEEK _____

WHAT ARE YOUR AMBITIONS FOR THE FUTURE? _____

This form has been brought to you courtesy of the RUNE staff and Redd Boggs. It would be appreciated if you would fill it out and return it to Lynn Torline either by mail or in person the sooner the better. They will be used for discovering any latent ~~tendencies~~ talents lurking in the background, and also because I'm just plain nosey. Rest assured that the FBI will not get a hold of this form (although I can't see any good it would do them).



lt

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FIRST CLASS

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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