

BOZO





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a dietary suppliment to the Rune Boy's last issue of
RUNE, numbered 71. Volume 10, number 10, because we
said so.

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about Willy.

It's been real, and sometimes it's been fun, and every once
in a while it's been real fun. Be real. Watch for HARDCORE
and other projects of ours in the future. If you can't bee real
be clean. It's too late for some of you, but I guess that's
alright, too.

The following is the text of the letter we (the RUNE editors) sent to the Minnstf Board of Directors (and which was posted at meetings).

This is to notify you of our resignation as the editors of RUNE. Between our flagging interest in editing the club fanzine, and the lure and pressure of other interests and commitments, we find we no longer want to spend the time on RUNE which it requires. We will put out the pending issue ("Sci-Fi People Weekly"), which we regret, is rather late, since it entails more work than we had assumed. As a companion to SFPW, we will be publishing (by mimeo) an expanded EINBLATT, including some letters and short features.

This is the last issue we will put out. However, assuming you wish to continue RUNE, and depending on the plans and desires of our successors, we would be quite willing to make the following issue a "transition issue", lending as much help as necessary. If there are competing proposals for the future editorship of RUNE, we may make a recommendation (as has often been done) at the appropriate time.

We have found editing RUNE to be an enjoyable experience, overall, and have tried to keep it a lively fanzine. We hope it has been of interest to you and the rest of Minn-STF.

* * *

The Board has chosen the only applicants for the job, M. K. Digre and Erik Biever, as the new co-editors of RUNE. M. K. is probably best known for his droll humor fanzine QUINAPALUS; Erik has been running the Minicon mimeo room in recent years, and has worked on various magazines. Good luck, suckers!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my co-editors: the officially appointed ones, David Stever, and Garth Danielson (who often said he was quitting but never did); and the unofficial ones, Joe Wesson and Karen Trego, who could not easily avoid helping by virtue of sharing living quarters with other editors. —JB.

* * *

Upcoming meetings:

5 February Minnstf meeting at Elaine Barrett's and Sybil Smith's: 3143 1st Ave. S, #1, Mpls, 55408; 825-1547 (this was not absolutely certain at press time).

19 February Minnstf meeting at Denny Lien's and Dan Goodman's (again): 2528 15th ave. S, Mpls, 55404; 722-5217.

* * *

For those of you who are confused about what issues of RUNE we published (like we are, sometimes) here's a list. This comprises Volume 10 (it has been customary for each new set of editors to have their own volume).

#62 -- Controversial Larry Becker cover.

#63 -- Disliked sideways format. "Altered States" issue. Ha.

#64 -- Ignored "Politically Correct" issue.

5(#65 -- Stever's issue.)
{ "St. Paul Double" #66 -- Joe's "Travel Issue" } Back-to-Back

i(#67 -- My "Alternate Universe" issue.

n(#68 -- Garth's issue (it was a like a really good Boowatt)

1(#69 -- Karen's half-size letter issue ("We couldn't be trusted with #69.")

#70 -- Err...umm...I forget. Oh yeah! "The Exciting Fanzine"-The Best of Rune 70.

#71 -- "Sci-Fi People Weekly" - first all-offset issue of RUNE.

One last Bitter, Cheap-Shot Editorial by John Bartelt

Does anybody remember Crazy Minneapolis Fandom? Do you? Did you move here because of "Crazy Minneapolis Fandom"? A lot of people did; even I was influenced by fandom in my move here. That flow of fans from around the country has virtually stopped. (Out-of-sequence aside: do you remember when Minnstf had a reputation as "That group that hugs"? Remember that? Wow.) Anyway, Minnstf continues to grow, but now its locals bringing in new locals. Of course, there's nothing intrinsically wrong with that, but it doesn't have the cross-fertilization effect that the first process does. Minnstf has become isolated. Within the incestuous world of fandom, Minnstf has x become its own bastard child.

In particular, I've been upset with the way the Minicon committee has been going. One acquaintance has suggested that Minnstf is in its adolescence: too big for its old patterns, not yet entirely able to deal with its size and power. That's an interesting analogy for the whole of Minnstf. But when you get right down to it, it's a matter of personalities. And there is a powerful clique within Minnstf which has been basically getting its way with Minicon ("clique" may not be the perfect term; I perceive it as something a little more amorphous; but it's the best word I have). Last year they tried to ram through their choice for Pro Guest of Honor, but failed. This year they got their choice, but he couldn't come (just a little irony). But they did manage to choose the Fan Guests of Honor. Both of them (until fairly recently) lived in Minneapolis. Neither of them is being "honored" for his or her contributions to science fiction or fandom at large. They were chosen because of their friendship with the power clique. They, in fact, helped create the power clique by bringing some of them into Minnstf. Sure, they've both worked on Minicons and made contributions to Minnstf, but so have a lot of other people--and some of them have done a lot more. What about the Foundling Fathers, for instance? Ken Fletcher was Artist Guest of Honor a few years ago; Nate Bucklin and (I think) Fred Haskell were Musician Guests of Honor. Jim Young was Guest of Honor at the second Anokon, and isn't readily available any more. That leaves Frank Stodolka, one of the people most instrumental in bringing Minnstf into existence. He has yet to be honored in any way for his role. That's one of the problems when you start choosing locals (or the equivalent thereof): there are too many people to honor for their many and varied contributions. Another criterion I think should be considered when choosing guests is selecting people who would not otherwise come to the convention. These two certainly don't fit that category.

And: a local artist who was Artist Guest of Honor a few years ago was nominated again this year. I have no objection to the original honor in this case, but let's not repeat it every other year. Let's x show a little imagination. And these aren't really isolated examples: I've seen the same things happening when Minnstf nominates members for the Board of Directors. What it comes down to is stroking: you're in my clique, so I'll nominate you--stroke, stroke. You nominated me, so I'll nominate you--stroke, stroke. And so it goes.

So there are people winning guests-of-honorships who, in my opinion, should never have been nominated. There has also been some very questionable maneuvering regarding this year's Artist Guest of Honor. Conditions were imposed on the invitation to the first choice of the committee, after the invitation was made. These conditions (which have never been explicitly been imposed before), in effect, withdrew the invitation. This stinks. (I confess I missed the meeting where the new conditions were imposed.) The second choice turned down the invitation (as expected), which it brought it to the third choice: a local artist who is a very nice person, but only a competent artist, at best. But he/she's in with the power clique, so what does it matter, eh? He/she had the good grace to defer to the fourth choice, who accepted. Hell, if they offered me a guest-of-honorship at Minicon, I might take it; that sort of thing is hard to turn down. But not impossible.

Minicon used to draw a lot of editors and writers; it used to (and still does, really) draw a lot of fans. But not quite as many as last year. For the first time in as long as most of us can remember Minicon, the number of members declined. And after several years of constantly worrying about how big Minicon was getting, and trying to keep the numbers down, the committee is now in a tizzy about the small decline. Well it might have been due to publicity problems, or the economy, or something else. Or maybe it's just that Minicon isn't as much fun any more. E.g.: last year's Omni theater program ~~h~~ was a big hit, and it will be repeated this year. But when the man in charge of programming mentioned that two shows had been arranged, and that we would be charging Minicon members \$3 (a slight profit for us); the Minicon treasurer piped up and said, "Let's charge \$4, so we make more profit." He had to back off when it was pointed out that the normal admission charge is \$3.50. But the whole "more profit" mentality is repulsive to me. We've already hit them for \$8 or \$10 or \$15 or whatever we're charging this year; let's not start milking them for every penny. (There are a limited number of seats in the Omni theater, so it makes some sense to charge for the tickets. And I am not ignoring the fact that it is the Minicon profit that pays for RUNE.) But "more profit"? Why don't we start charging for admission to the regular movie program too? Or to the programming? And ~~h~~ let's throw out the mimeo room, because that just loses money—and then we can put in more video games and collect more quarters. Which is more fannish, anyway?

It boils down to this: Minicon has been getting more and more organized. And while some of it is necessary, some of the people imposing the organization take it so seriously they may be driving out some of the people who have done a lot of work on previous Minicons (and this is not a veiled reference to myself; my participation in Minicon has been minimal the last few years).

So this is my last chance to gripe in RUNE. You can write to me or write to RUNE and tell me what you think. It's just one more plea for insanity.

EDITED BY GARTH DANIELSON AND JOHN BARTELT while STEVER AND JOE are at the Como Zoo. Today is Sept 25, 1982 and this is the first issue of Bong. The new letterzine from the Rune Boys. Published as part of the Rune that is Sci-Fi People Weekly. Published by the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, POBox 2128 Loop Station Minneapolis Minn. 55402.

Burt Libe POBox 1196 Los Altos, Cal. 94022

July 19,82

Rune #70 arrived 7/17/82. The guy on the cover looks like me contemplating the dullness of past Rune's (one of which is probably lying to my left.) The Morse-Code "5" in my "thought" balloon would reflect the rating of that Rune (out of a possible "10"). What's going on here with #70? I'm a bit confused. Was another #70 sent out earlier? If so, I never got a copy. Apparently I fell to the vultures with the editing/loss of pages 65 to 76. So, I'll have to talk about something else this time.

[We're puzzled to. The Rune that was sent out and the actual Rune that arrived were TWO DIFFERENT RUNES. We were ASTONISHED to say the least. Things around the Rune Boys headquarters, centered in St. Paul, have been rather strange to say the least. When we looked at the Runes we mailed to ourself, they were differert. The pile of Runes left over from the collation, as well as the left over pages have all disappeared. No one knows where they are. Garth.]

Looks like the planet of Minneapolis is starting to get its act together. Perhaps my lighting off some roman candles up a few asses did help. Unbelievably, this issue isn't too bad. Are you sure this was done by RUNE people? Carol Kennedy's article on the popular science mags is the first good thing I've seen from her. I've sampled these mags on and off, but always wondered how others felt about their content. Well done. Bartelt's article wasn't too bad either. [Garth here again. You know how John feels about the science mags. I don't personally read any of them with any great interest. I look at the pictures. They all pass my desk being in charge of the mags at work. I like the magazine wiwth the underwear ads. Those are my favorites. Garth]

And now a yuk.

Rune boys.

How do you expect me to escape from this box if I don't have any strawberries? That's my secret. I've been here over sixty years, and haven't been able to leave.

I'm allergic to strawberries. As I said, that's my secret. They nailed down the lis to this box, and put it six feet under. Normally I'd wait a while, eat a stawberry and wait a few minutes.

Then I'd break out.

Harry Houdini
Still Waiting.

[It's no surprise to me, with jokes like that. Garth]

Harry Warner, Jr., 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, 21740.

July 18, 1982

This new Rune isn't as confusing as the previous batch....

I've never looked through the magazines Carol Kennedy describes. But she makes them sound very much as if these up-to-date periodicals based on modern science are nothing more than revivals of old Uncle Hugo Gernsback's Science & Invention and perhaps one or two of his other science-oriented publications. He offered the very same mix of science fact and science speculation that these four magazines apparently feature. Moreover, he included an occasional science fiction story, just as one of the modern publications does.....

I don't know what may have been on all those missing pages. But I do know that this issue enabled me to set a new record for quick reading of a fanzine whose last page was numbered page 80.

[80? You mean you didn't get the last 40 pages either? Geez; I just don't know what the heck is going on. -John]

[A postcard from Jon Singer:]

Dear Sirs: I opened your magazine and found Bob.

[How.]

Ned Brooks, 713 Paul St., Newport News, VA 23605

July 18, 1982

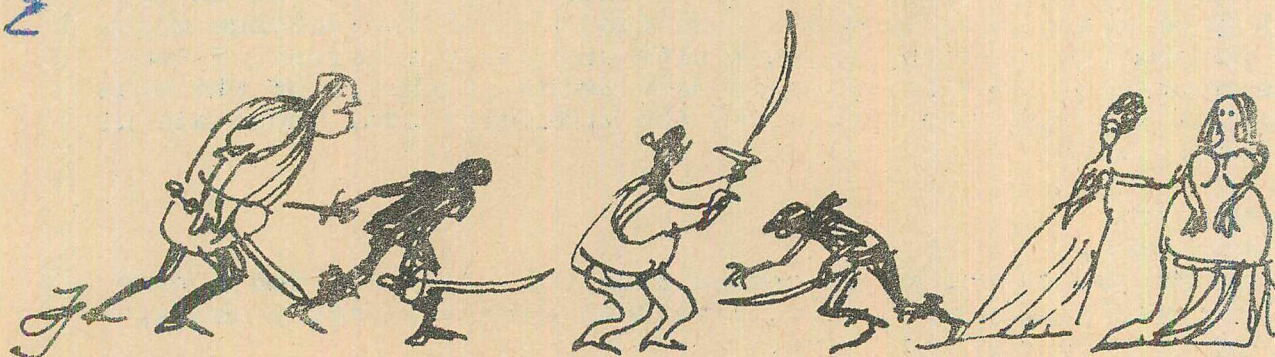
Dear Roonts,

The reason you don't get letters is that RUNE is a humor zine, and what the hell can you say about a humor zine except hahaha ha heeheeheeheeheehee.

Sorry, got carried away there... At least the cover isn't funny, that's the most depressing piece of art I've ever seen on a fanzine.

Inclosed is my entry to BIG CONTEST #2, contiguous with a comment [on the] designer of the contest. [Ned sent along a hexagonal steel nut, with the correct answers written on it. Sorry about misquoting you--I got the number of "ha"s and "hee"s wrong. --John. Now, a comment from Stever, who's still at the Zoo: Maybe we're the "Flo and Eddie" of fandom (there really is a thin line between Joni Mitchell and Yoko Ono).]

2



[Some good letters on past issues didn't make it into the last issue, because they were at Stever's, and he was in New York for a couple of years. This is one of them. It really came in the mail. --John]

Beaver Cleaver, 1958 Disney St., Anywhere, USA

When I opened RENE 64 and saw on the contents page Jeanne Gomoll's article on 'Better Head' there was no need to read any further; I knew then that everything they had been saying about RENE was true. Please cancel my subscription to your shabby little rag. You are just going to have to curb your penchant for frankness and interesting ideas, but until then you will remain another tasteless, incestuous clique of fanzine fans puking out your resentment and hatred for every thing good in fandom. I've tried to straighten you guys out by talking behind your backs so that when you do get around to addressing my complaints, people will know where you're coming from--pure meanness, stupidity and egotism--but you still don't understand and I'm afraid I'll have to send you this cruel and anonymous letter.

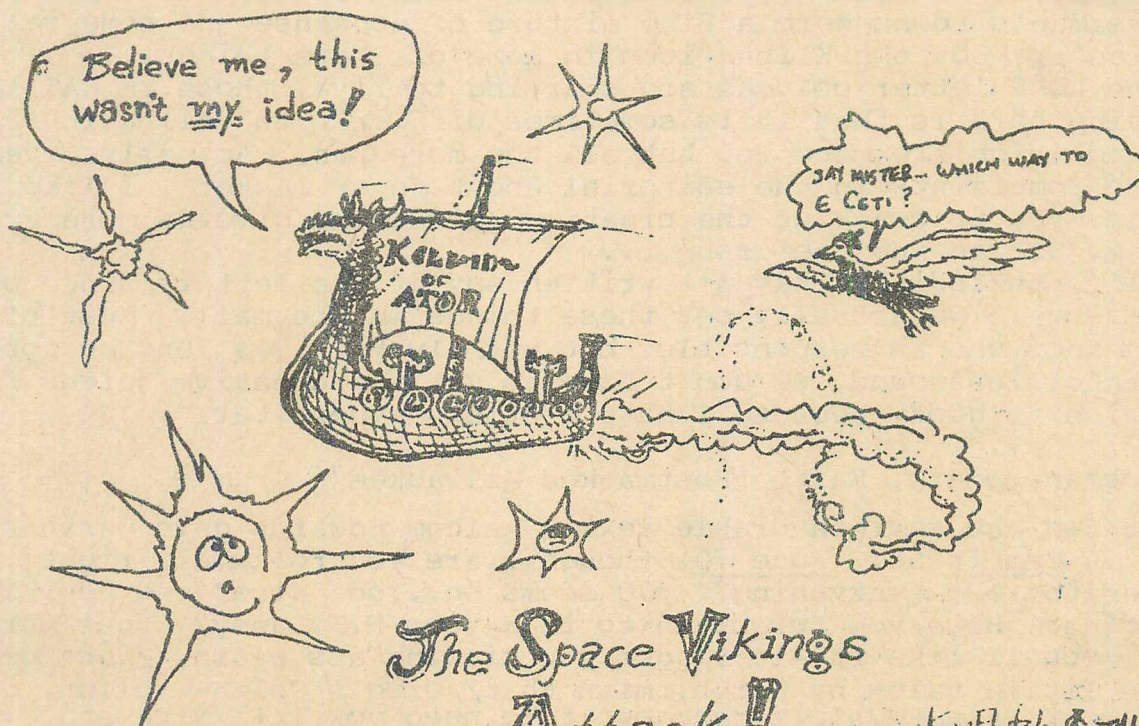
You think fandom has something to do with creativity. Creativity comes from having lots of ideas, throwing out the 90% that aren't good ideas and working with the rest. Fandom is fortunately like most of the world, aggressively mediocre (god bless em!) and will be happy to inform a person at stage one that he or she is a complete asshole. You are at stage one. You are also pedantic and boring--I counted 8 words of more than three syllables on the Contents Page!--and you enjoy playing with ideas more than is becoming a fan. It dint hardly have no pitshers neither, though I did like the one on p.58.

Lastly, in changing RENE you are fucking with perfection and are insulting anyone who's ever worked on it in the past. (Frankly RENE in the past wasn't any good either but at least it wasn't so thick).

Also, my cub scout pack doesn't want to see your carrot any more. Go away.

United under Disney: Forever let us hold you banner high...

A Friend



[We got another letter from Beaver,
this time on some of Jeff Ford's
stationary]
Beaver Cleaver, 1244 S. 19th St.,
Milwaukee, WI 53204

I think you have a nice fanzine.
Thank God for boys & girls like
you. You keep America big &
strong.

PS: The offer to make Aunt Ger-
trude into soap & candles is still
good.



Dear sir:--

I am one of the mutant fanzine
people. You can tell when we send
you a fanzine. The reproduction
will be off.

Fred, a mutant
Akron, Ohio

Brad W. Foster, 4109 Pleasant Run,
Irving, TX 75062

Was pleasantly surprised to get RUNE 70 so soon after that giant
package of multiple-issues last time out. Figured that had drained
the resources for the next year at least! And this doesn't look like
leftovers; fine material in here.

Liked Greg's observations of people's reactions to Harlan's ti-
rades. True in any situation in life that, in most cases, the people
to whom criticism is directed usually don't recognize themselves in it.
... Being too terribly dense to understand even the most simple state-
ments in science-oriented magazines I shall have to bypass Kennedy's
article, although will say I read it and found it at least interesting.

Ackerman's toons were a fine mixture of nonsense and some really
fine pieces. Got the Kliban itch in some of those things....

The RUNE letter columns are starting to rival those in NAT LAMPS.
Only thing here is that it is sometimes difficult to tell which are
legit and which are made up, but all the more fun. Actually, even
with the complaints in the editorial about fewer letters, I like it if
it forces you to crank up the creative juices and give us more from
Hinckley, Tarzan and the group....

[Actually, the editors haven't written any of the letters since our
second issue. We actually get these things in the mail. Most of the
time we know who is responsible, but not always. As long as Robert
J. Whitaker is around, we don't have to get the creative juices flow-
ing; which is good, because I hate a sticky typewriter. --JB]

Homo Cosman, Ozark, Earth [Postmarked Milwaukee]

Congrats on the semi-favorable review Malcom Edwards gave Garth's
stuff, in Gambit 56. Rune 70, though...are you folks all right? Had
your Geritol and everything? #70 seems so...so "Nice" and legible &
everything. Have you forgotten to read your F.T.Laney? Your Burbee?
Try it, you'll like it--it'll get you kicking ass again.//None of those
strange little tales by Garth, miss that//Greg's Colmn--xcllnt, lookng
forwd to "Elitism"//hlp!m rnng out f rm, need vowels!//Nice stuff:Pop
SciMags;Worley;Varley int.;Minnstf Busnss//Like Trego's Reviews,White

Hotel esp.//Bob Dobbs is Dero Plot! You are warned//Lettercol is pretty good, but do you really read that shit?// Cartoons uneven in quality, but that's Rune for u.//Too bad Luke McG can't get a better selection of sf fmz--Rune improving spastically, sothat'll change. .

Thank you have a nice day

[Since I think fandom sucks the big Twinkie, I may be theright/wrong person to answer this letter. They just said that I can't type Fuck in the next letter. There aren't any laney's or Burbees in fandom anymore. And I cain't type worth a damn when I'm stoned. -JW]

Tony Cvetko, 20750 Colwell apt. 1, Farmington Hills, MI 48024

Dear Rune,

Hello. How are you? I am fine. How are the throbbing F*** Tools? Glad to hear that. This issue is okay. Liked your cover. Reminds me of most fannish types, slugs. Inside front cover is okay. "Bob" is okay. John's editorial is okay, rather short. Carol Kennedy's column is okay. Astronomy and Science News are the best, Followed closely by National Geographic and MIT Technology Review. Yay Science. Kate Worley's article is okay. Yay Nuclear Death. The Foster/Fletcher sketch is okay. Yay Slime. The John Varley interview is dull. Boo Sci-Fi. Luke McGuff's column is Okay. Boo Sci-Fi fanzines. Rev. Mike's column is okay. Yay Bob. L of C is okay. Yay everybody who still reads Rune. It seems that you have brought forth another fun issue, good job.

Your throbbing F*** tool,
Tony

Pottymouth. JW]

Hey you,

Do you think They'd have gotten so pissed If I were hung up on Karen, instead? Hey, that gives me an idea. Who's the biggest name fan, nowadays?

Sincerely,
John Hinckley jr.

My fellow Americans,

So the fools thought they were rid of me, Eh? Well, the laugh's on them, I'm getting my revenge. I'm back in the White House. Oh happy day when I met that faded B actor with dreams of making a comeback..Don't tell anybody though. Wouldn't want to jeopardize my plot. Ah, revenge is sweet.

Sincerely,
Richard M. Nixon

Well,

Okay, maybe I've been a little too heavy handed, but I can't think of anything more. I'm running out of ideas. Al baby and Dave are, too. Nancy's really getting pissed. George, is about to get some coll. Barbie is growing unhealthily stimulated. And I'll stop smiling one of these days. Any more demands, or am I on your mailing list?

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan

[Sincere aren't you. -JW]

Joseph Napolitano Box 1651, Covina CA 91722

July 14, 1982

Nice article by Kate Worley. But I don't think what she's doing will do much good. Writing letters and marching in parks isn't going to stop guys like Raygun. A guy like him probably just thinks that anybody who is opposed to his policies is a rotten commie so why listen. As for the freeze idea, that won't work. In order to make the world safe it would be necessary to rid the world of nuclear weapons all together. Now think about it- if people won't give up their handguns, what makes Kate think that they'd be willing to give up their H-bombs? But she's right about one thing, we have to start somewhere. And she's right about one other thing, life would be a lot rougher without toilet paper.

[having just rebuilt the bathroom in my house, I'd like to say that life would be a lot tougher without flush toilets, too. Stever]

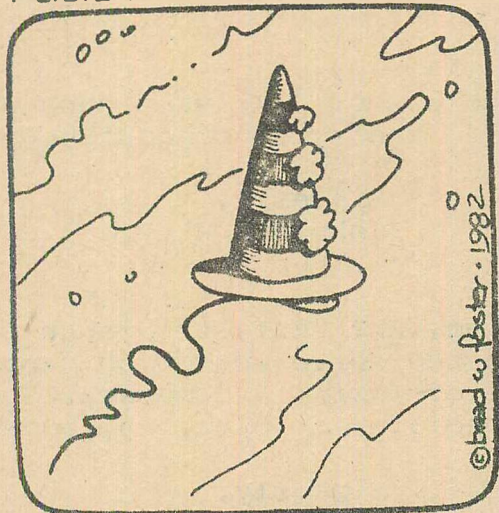
One last thing: Please tell Karen that John Cleve is not a pen name of Andy Offut. I have it from reliable sources that John Cleve is a pen name of David Rockefeller, he of Trilateral fame, or infame (which all depends on who you identify with). Rocky types up the stories while presiding over Mason meetings. Sometimes he wears a black mask. He does better when he can't see the keyboard.

Best, Joe

[Do you know Tony Renner? Mister Lizard? How about Robert Whittaker? With a mind like yours, you should be in fanzines... Stever]

Prof. Alfonzo Winkelbeen, Jr. c/o
Mid Continent Van Service Inc.
1601 Penn. Ave. St. Louis Cty.
MO 63133 July 15, 1982

FUNNY SEX #7:



—SPERMATOZOON IN PARTY HAT—

...It was an interesting issue with some good cartoons and some worthwhile writing. I especially like Brad Foster's "A Slightly Overweight Bird Explaining..."

A few years ago, when I was first getting into this fandom business, I would have been greatly impressed with the article on the science magazines. I probably would have even gone out and bought a couple of titles and maybe even have subscribed. Oh, my, the ramifications of that... I could have even have taken science courses in college...I probably wouldn't have met Terry, who led me to Alex, who can be cited as

the cause of the degeneration of my life. (not really, but you don't know what the fuck I'm talking about so I can say any damned silly thing I want.) Anyway I was an impressionable lad and would have done what RUNE told me. I know I started listening to the Firesign Theatre because of RUNE. Thanks.

[Of course, a few years ago, there wouldn't be much more than three or four science magazines around, so it was easier to miss them. It's OK Alfonzo, we forgive ya. Stever]

Richard Brandt 322 Limonite Cr. El Paso TX 79932

August 4

You can never have too much Brad Foster, or enough of Ken Fletcher (Why didn't you have enough Ken Fletcher?). Lot of cartoons, good cartoons. After complaining about Garth's exclusive use of clip-art last time, I have to admit the piece on pg. 52 is kind of hilarious, in a NatLamp kind of way.

Greg Ketter's pissing and moaning session does tie in with some of my own concerns. I'm a little sad that fannish legends and personalities that were all the talk when I was starting to read fanzines ten years ago are no more than dust on the memory banks; a lot of the fans who were doing the reminiscing then are out of the scene now. A lot of folks coming in via the mass media and whatnot don't have any idea why Bob Tucker and his soulmate Wilson are considered so important in the folklore of fandom or SF.

[Some of us who have been around for the same decade or more don't even know the reasons for that question... Garth had another answer, but the general concensus of the room is that we shouldn't print it.]

ESTEY 600 South Kent St. #G45 Kennewick WA 99336

July 16

Paranoid Rune Crowd:

Not a bad issue tell Luke he's welcome at Thelema Two just tie the Dominatrix to the back of the ruby hearse and visit us via Nildesperandum...Karen's welcome also but not John rumor has it he's a pink boy- student of science yet!

[Boy, these envelope of comment are really tiring when you strain for the punctuation marks that just aren't there...]

Frank Denton 14654 Eighth Ave S Seattle WA 98166

July 12

It's been a ton of years since I have written a loc, but RUNE arrived today and being newly retired and not much more to do than write several magazine articles, I'll take a little time out out to write one to you. There's a lot of silliness in RUNE these days, but that's to be expected. Having recieved Garth's zines over the years I've gotten a feeling that he may be getting older, but hasn't lost a sort of gonzo attitude towards life.

[Yeah, and he does weird things with his upper teeth, but this is a family magazine. Harharharhar.]

Such a lot of artwork is this issue. But I'd particularly like to congradulate Stu Shiffman for the piece on pg. 17, Dennis Wolf for the piece on pg. 18, and Tom Foster for the piece on pg. 29. Artists all too often are neglected for the work they do for fanzines. A little egoboo is the least we can give them.

[Thanks for the artists and thanks for me. Garth.]

Mister Lizard 3842nillegible Lane St. Lo~~is~~ Mo 63110

Mister Lizzard says: What is this bullshit. Mister Lizard says he wrote you people a letter. But was it printed? No. And worse, your editorial complaint that you didn't get enough interesting letters. Pshaw. Mister Lizard says Pshaw.

Be that as it may, this issue was pretty good. It should make everyone all over the world happy. Somehow.

Personally, I think paper sucks.

Love and kisses, Mister Lizard.

[Stever said he was interested in trying to make all the women in the world happy, but we told him that that was an old joke. We all went out to Perkins.Garth]

Lee Carson 3304 Calwagner Franklin Park 60131

Have been meaning to Loc Rune 70- responding in particular to the thin reproachful tweet of the editorial. As you know, I would gleefully write long and informative locs all the time, but you would either A) publish them without editing if particularly incoherent, B) edit them to make them seem more incoherent (D!Amassa used to select the most ridiculous or offhand remark in a long letter to print); or C) not publish them at all (which as a former fan I know onw should draw no inference, yet there is a pang amidst the general sense of relief.)

Rune 70 seemed sullen low-key-censored-in fact (seemed)-yet retaining its distinguishing Anima, mediated by the incursive G.E.D. persona. We are waiting for a rebirth of wonder.

While I sympathize with Greg's lament, I suspect it is less true than it seems to him or me, and that if he were to run down hotel halls giggling and singing and popping into unknown rooms etc & once again enjoyed a sense of hypermystical pomposity (which I own) he could find the same inspirational settings, In essence, as those that fired his wild youth before he became another Old Fan and Tired. Twenty years ago I recall much sentiment that fandom had died gorged on a modest popular success-bemoaning worldcons over 500 people- all good fanzines had been pubbed--neos all were products of watching "Voyage to the bottom of the sea" on tv and had never read Olaf Stapledon in the original Swedish-some could go on for hours explaining how the "Dean Drive" worked-there was some controversy over charges that a group of newer writers were adulterating the field with character psychology (don't look over your shoulder, but it's there) and social commentary (of all the wrong sort, that is). To apply Big-Bang (which is all right as a "localized" phenomenon)-fandom burst forth in the 20th C.-expanding-evermore diffuse (it is just such a diffusion that allows life-as-we-know-it to exist at all). So greg should not lose hope that spontaneity & profundity may yet await him if he can better elude the Time-trap of the Soulless Huxsters.

Lee.

[These guys are bored with fandom. Like most things it's cyclical. Current sense of wonder and a stab of cynicism (for those who are a little more older and tired) can be found in the SubGenius Foundation. Get in now on the bottom of this wonderful pyrimidal sales scam.

I myself get rather tired about ^{hearing} all the complaining about the state of fandom. It gets old fast, as they say. Garth]

Ed Rom 2600 1/2 Calihan Ave. Bemidji, Mn. 56601

I have something to say about Greg's column. Almost ever since I've been going to Minicons and made the acquaintance of fans, people have been bitching about the cliquishness of certain elements within Mnstf. I'm not saying that there is no validity to the charges, I'm just saying that there's nothing new about the whole situation. I, personally, have memories of conventions, especially Minicon, that are not especially pleasant. I'm speaking of attending room parties sponsored by different groups from around the country- almost invariably, the "Mpls in '73" parties had the least friendly atmosphere of any of these. You might get a hospitable reception if you're a well-known BNF, but if you were not of this description, you'd get a remarkable sensation of being alone in a crowd. This was almost unique-anywhere else, you seemed to have a better chance of meeting people and having interesting conversations. Maybe some of this is my own fault, but all of it certainly isn't. For some reason. I seldom go to Mnstf meetings. It's hard enough to go to a stranger's house across town, but it's downright demoralizing when you go and spend your time there entirely bored because no one seems to want to speak to you.

Maybe there is some kind of cycle operating here, a group comes together, everyone is thrilled by all the new friends, there's a lot of stimulating conversation, then they get into a rut, which anyone in the group scarcely notices. People who formerly would have been welcomed as new and interesting acquaintances/friends now become classed as outsiders. People within the group, as ai have said, scarcely notice the process, more perceptive members, and, of course, outside outsiders, find the situation exasperating and irritating. Gradually, everyone will become bored with the whole thing and the whole cycle will start over again.

[I've rather butchered ed's letter on this side of the page but the general thoughts are there, just drastically shorter.

Time is a very big consideration in dealing with a large fan group. The more meetings that you attend brings the chance of being in with the in crowd closer to your lap. Unlike the people who believe that fandom is a sort of meritocracy, where your doings indicate the standing you attain in the culture, i'm of a mind that the more time that you put in the more people know you. Without trying, over the years, i've managed to be introduced to a lot of people in fandom, through no effort on my part. That's a generalization. You have to go to the meetings every week, you have to sit in the kitchen talking to the few people that you know. They might know only one or two other people there, but that's the key. Things don't happen very fast in fandom. It's a slow moving beast interested in it's own.

Large groups tend on the whole to be more cliquish than smaller groups. Being from Winnipeg, where at the time the fan group was small, and I mean small. How small was it? If you stuck Mike Hall in the keyhole, you'd break the window.

If you're from Tiny town, Ohio, you'd be more interested in meeting people at your first convention, or exposure to a large fannish situation. People from a small group in the Dakotas, dressed with bunny ears a number of years ago at Minicon and they were noticed. Perhaps I wouldn't have dressed up like that but there are ways to work your way into the group. Time is the main one. Go to the meetings every week, sit on the edge of a discussion, interjecting when the time is right. I've seen it many times. People hanging around, standing near not saying anything, eventually there one of the crowd. That's the rub, time. You've got to spend it. Garth]

John Hinkley, Jr. Washington DC Close to heart

I got the latest issue of Rune. Thanks for publishing my letter. That was nice of you. I hope you sent a copy to Jody Foster so she'll fall in love with me.

It is boring and hot here. The Washington Star isn't returning my calls anymore. My doctors give me drugs that make my handwriting shakey.

I hope you guys can send me a copy of 'How to Pick Up Girls' After they let me go. I think I'm going to need some pointers so I can get Jody Foster to fall in love with me. I've sent a love song to her.

yours very truly John

untitled song follows

I love you Foster, Jody and that's no Balogna
I want you and no one else
that's a promise on which I won't welsch
Hug me tenderly till I can't see
I love you lots I'll give you all I got
I'll tell all the world about you I'll even shoot Ronald Reagan for you
Give me your love give it too me and I'll hug you till you can't see
or I'll blow your brains out.

John Hinkley, Jr. July 20, 1982
[I guess that Ronald reagan will always remember Jody Foster in a

odd light. That's one of the more interesting thoughts on the whole issue. Garth]

Dear Rune:

Do you want to know a secret? Do you promise not to tell?

Let me whisper it in your ear: Do you know those columns I write for Starlog? They're supposed to be funny, but none of them have ever been.

David Gerrold, Still getting it to scan, California.

Hulk and Tarzan angry. Hulk and Tarzan not use personal pronoun. Make Hulk and Tarzan seem stupid. Hulk and Tarzan want to join up with American Indian Fictional People in Hulk and Tarzan's Crusade.

Hulk and Tarzan.

Society for the Advancement of Non-Personal Pronoun Users.

Dear Rune.

Incidentally, I have never been a "Bob"/. The name is "Robert" and I've always been a Robert. Get your facts straight.

Robert Whitaker

Not Responsible for John Hinckley, Jnr.

[None of us are responsible for John Hinckley, Jnr. and none of us are "Bob" s either. Strange isn't it. Garth]

We also heard from Woody Herman, who dropped off a load of bad jokes none of which are worth repeating even in a bad sense.

Robert Briggs wrote thinking we did a good job on the average. We're just average guys trying so that made us happy.

Larry Becker wrote some weird shit and drew a picture too.

George Perkins wrote to ask where his star trek bllooper reels are. If you know there are two of them and his address is #11 East Medary Trailer Park Brookings SD 57006. He'll even pay for the return postage to anyone who happened to find them.

Isaac Asimov wrote talking about the correctness of sucking donkey dick. The letters are at Stevers waiting to be looked at. Phone ahead because he's often not home, preferring to spend his free time on the street looking for things to take home.

Jerry Falwell wrote a letter I wouldn't publish, especially in Rune. Those one can be obtained as a photocopy pasted to the wall of the porno bookshop on the corner of Chicago and Lake or by writing to Stever and enclosing a buck to cover the expenses. If you send even more money we can get a typist and have these stencils typed up with fewer mistakes.

Nancy Reagan parrots her husband with her own letter talking about farting in public. Even with the clothes she wears I can't imagine her farting up at the white house. The CIA would shove it back in I'm sure Who's John Babcock.

Tony Renner entered the contest (No. 2 by writing on a rubber band. Now he has cancer.

Bob Lee writes wondering what he's still doing on the mailing list after not contributing. How do we know.

Jeanne Mealy writes extolling the virtues of Mark Clifton. I've just read his They came from outer space and thought it was great.

Jim Meadows writes telling us that "Bob" doesn't travel well.

Garth.

Not some capsule book reviews. I've been keeping this pile around to do that for over six months. Garth

The World according to Garp -John Irving. I liked this rather sprawling highly detailed life of TSGarp now made into a movie.

Satellite City - Mack Reynolds. I went down to Uncles and bought a couple of Mack's books after reading Mark Clifton's They come from outer space. I read this one first. It's good adventure science fiction. The story is tight, action packed, pretty much and the characters do the right things. worth reading.

Bedrooms have Windows-a.a.Fair. Eile Stanley Gardner writing a humourous hardboiled detective series. The first ones were better. I read a lot of these when I was about 13-15 and they were memorable this is one of the latter ones it's more formula. They still have a warm spot in my pants.

Home Sweet Homicide - Craig Rice. Now here is a great mystery. The main characters are a trio of kids who solve the mystery. Their mother is a single parent who writes mystery books, she spends nearly the whole book writing, while the three kids, acting very hard boiled, solve the murder. Unfortunately it's hard to get Craig Rice's books. Lament.

Operation Ares - Gene Wolfe Apparently this is Wolfe's first book and it's pretty good. Mars was colonized and the earth cuts them off. Twenty years later they invade. Lots of good story here.

The Glass Sided Ants' Nest - Peter Dickinson. Very good police detective story. Hadn't read any Dickinson before. I was impressed.

Space Lords - Cordwainer Smith. These are great stories of the future. I like the wild plots, wilder characters and the writing is marvelous. Nothing but praise. N

Hegira- Greg Bear. Nothing great. Dull in spots.

Wolfbane - Pohl and Kornbluth. Of course these guys are great. Good story lots of action, interesting culture. All of their books are worth reading.

The Best of Fredric Brown. Lots of good stories. I found a trend of negativeism toward man. Man is doomed and heading for destruction. Lots of interesting ideas.

The High Window-Raymond Chandler. I like Chandler. This is another really good story. The writing is descriptive, some of the best I've read and Marlowe is comfortable.

But the Doctor Died-Craig Rice. The character John J Malone is a rather low class lawyer living in Chicago. He gets involved with spys and the story is good. Not as good as Home Sweet Homicide but still worth the read.

Special Deliverance - Clifford Simak. I had just finished reading the first two books in the book of the new sun by Gene Wolfe and the first impression that I had about this new Simak book was that the writing wasn't very good. I finally settled into the lack of infinite detail and finished with a liking to the story. It's like Simak. It's pretty good. Nothing much new.

Rain in the Doorway - Thorne Smith. I really liked this book. It's so hilariously funny. If you don't get a good charge out of the book you're probably sick/

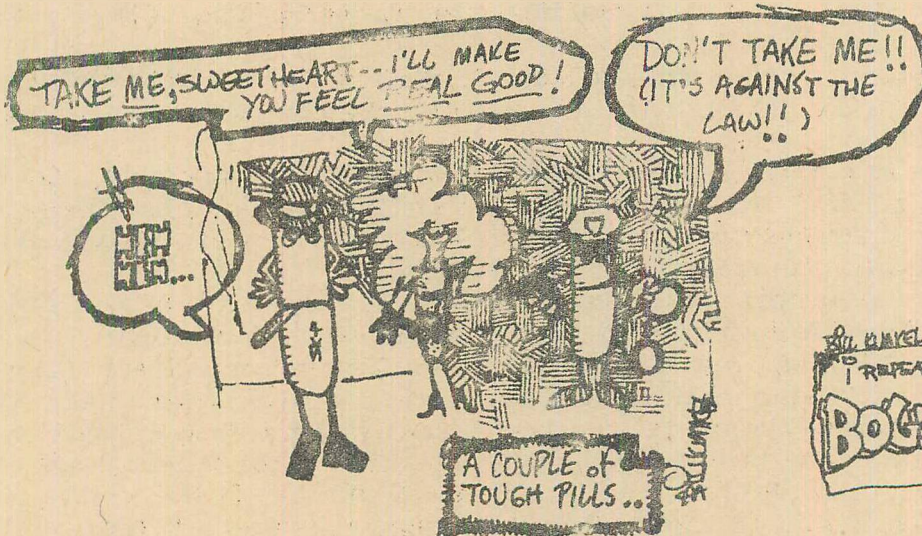
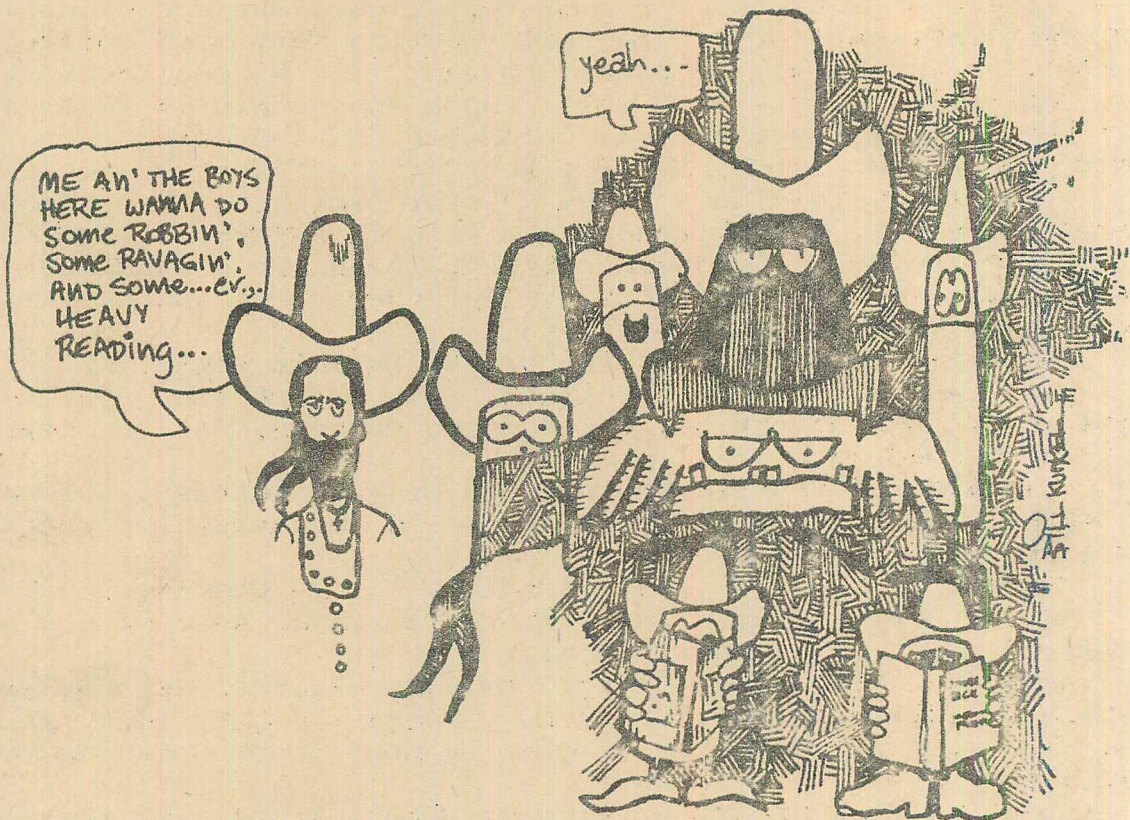
Serenade-James M Cain. I liked this. The writing is good. So many better writers out of the sci-fi field. I can't believe it. There is a pretty good story here. Keeps you interested. Cain also wrote Double Indemnity and The Post man always rings twice.

Windhaven George Martin and Lisa Tuttle- Boring old crap. Sold it.

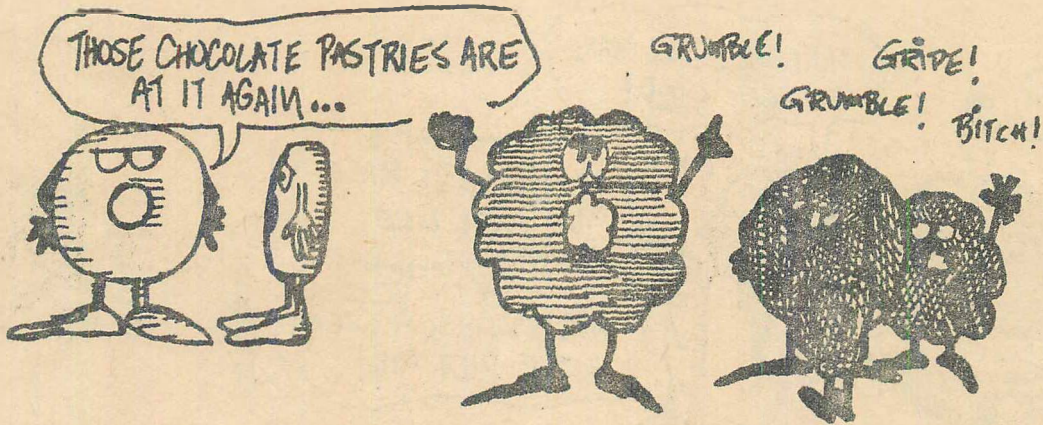
The Shadow of the Torturer and the Claw of the Conciliator - Gene Wolfe. Wolfe is one of the few really good writers in science fiction. Try reading some mainstream and then read some sci-fi. There are better writers where the better money is. Wolfe could hold his own with any one. Marvelous story, the third book, the The Sword of the Lictor is less of a solid book but rather the first half of the last book. Now I hear that there is a fifth book planned. Hope it doesn't get to be like Dune. Don't let us down Gene. These are great. buy them. There isn't enough violence to offend anyone. It's tasteful. Very believable and real.

Garth

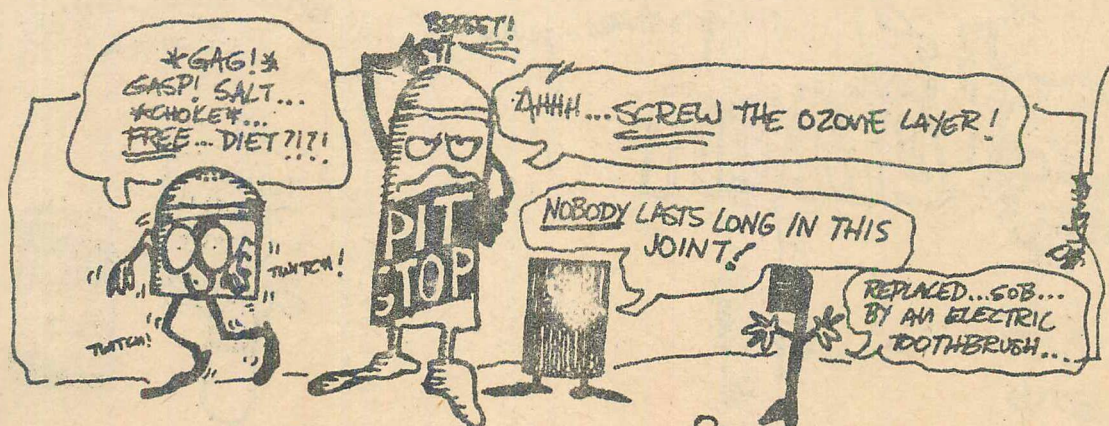
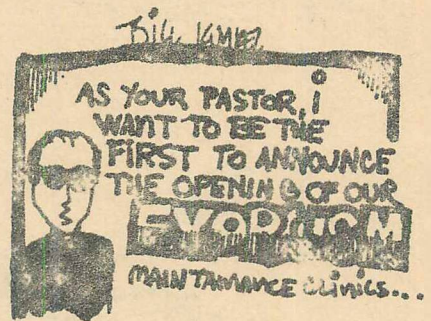
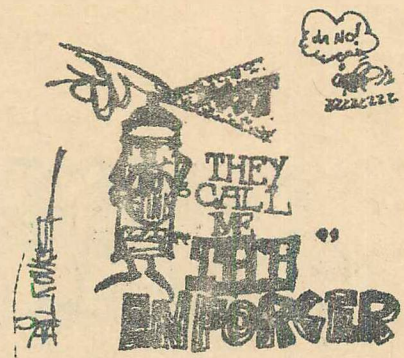
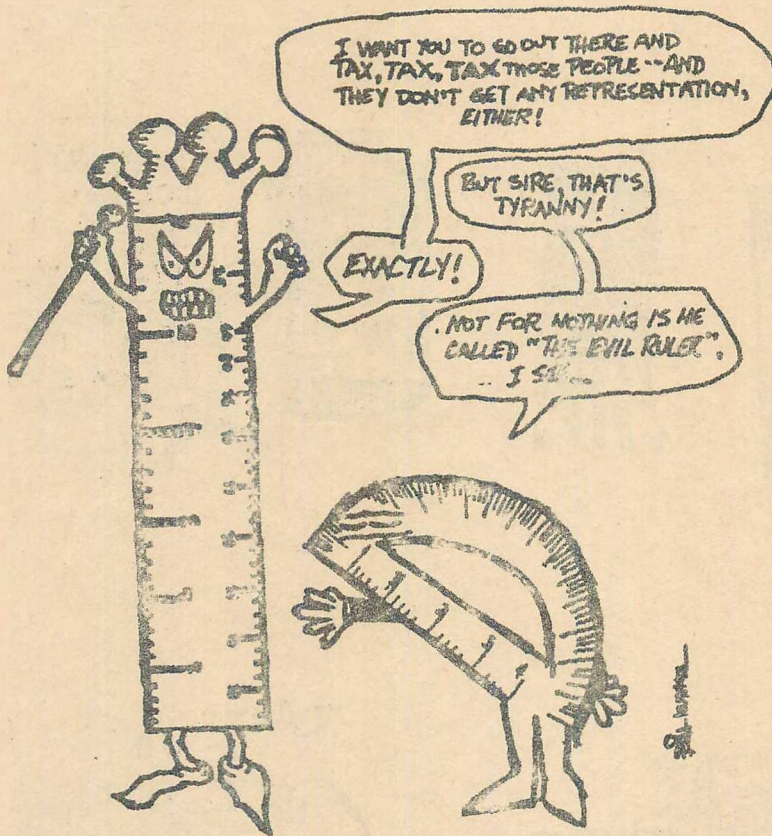
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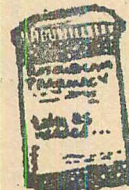
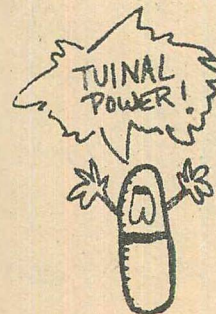
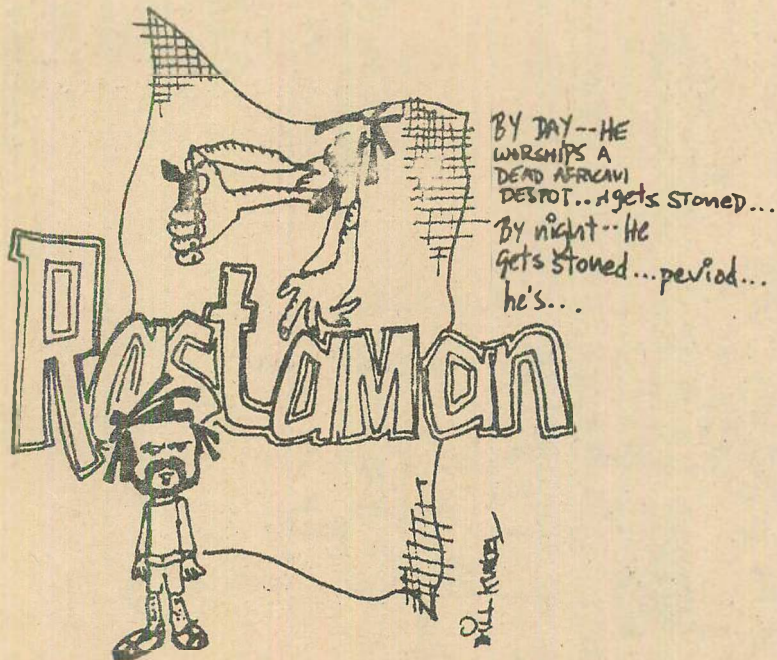
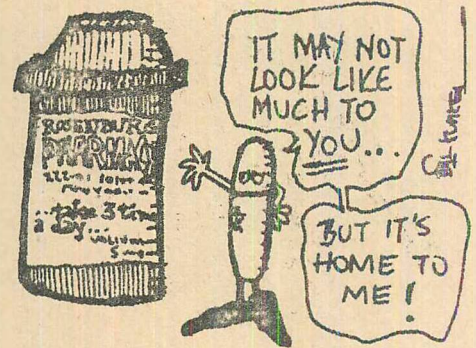
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BOGUS & BEST



Out of control



SOME HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
"SOUND OFF"



**NEW
WAVE**
RECORDING ARTISTS

AT
**BREAD
AND
ROSES**



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**EBENEZERS
BLUDGEON**

SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 13th, 9-1
TWO BUCKS ADMISSiSSiON

